

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1186 Jason Drive, Greencastle, PA

TLC Renewals



We want to be a congregation who continues:
Trusting God
Loving and Connecting with God and one another
Reaching out to all God's children

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 15, 2024 10:15 AM

Rev. Denise Horn – Interim Pastor
Ministers to the World – Congregation of Trinity Lutheran
Mission – *To Share Christ in Word and Deed*
Office Phone – 717-597-9348

WE WELCOME ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE THIS DAY!

- If you are visiting with us, we are honored by your presence. If you are seeking a church home, please contact the Pastor.
 - Holy Communion is celebrated in this morning's worship. All are welcome to the table. Young children should follow the practice of their home congregation.
 - The Worship Service will be available on You Tube and the Website after the service.
 - Congregational responses are in bold.
- * *Please stand*

Welcome, Announcements, Opening Prayer

GATHERING

Prelude

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn (ELW #242)

*Advent Litany

○ Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, mightily ordering all things:

Come and teach us the way of prudence.

○ Adonai and ruler of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the Law on Sinai:

Come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.

○ Root of Jesse, standing as an ensign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:

Come quickly to deliver us.

○ Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one can close, you close and no one can open:

Come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.

○ Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting:

Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

○ King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone uniting all people:

Come and save us all, whom you formed out of clay.

○ Emmanuel, our king and our lawgiver, the anointed of the nations and their Savior:

Come and save us, O Lord our God.

***Gathering Hymn**

Hark the Glad Sound (ELW #239)

***Greeting:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day:** We pray together: **Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Lesson – Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
“Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
¹⁸ as on a day of festival.”

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6 (Read responsively)

² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my
salvation.

³ **With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.**

⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this
name is exalted.

⁵ **Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.**

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Advent Prayer and Candle Lighting

Blessed be God, the eternal ✠ One-in-Three,
who was, and is, and is to come.

Blessed be God forever and ever.

As the night grows longer, and the shadows settle in,
we ponder your marvelous designing.

When our hearts are wintering, weary with grief and woe,
we ponder and seek your wisdom beyond our understanding.

In each moment fleeting, each fragile life beholding, in each gift of your
bestowing,

we ponder and trust your promises fully.

Come, O Christ, and set us free.

Come, Emmanuel, bring in your reign of justice and peace.

We wait for a new heaven and a new earth,

where righteousness is at home.

Advent Wreath Hymn

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You

1 Jesus, come! for we invite you
Guest and master, friend and Lord
Now as at Your incarnation
Speak and let us hear Your word
Lead us through our need or doubting
Hope be born and joy restored

2 Jesus, come! surprise our dullness
Make us willing to receive
More than we can yet imagine
All the best You have to give
Let us find Your hidden riches
Taste Your love, believe and live!

*Prayer

Second Lesson – Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Hallelujah! Words of Life!

A Gospel Acclamation

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps. Above the staff are the chord markings E, A, and E. The lyrics are: Hal-le - lu - jah! Where else would we go? Hal-le - lu - jah! Words of. The second staff continues with the lyrics: life! Hal-le - lu - jah! Where else would we go? Hal-le - lu - jah! Words of. Above the staff are the chord markings B, E, A, A, and B. The third staff continues with the lyrics: life! Hal - le - lu - jah! Words of life! Above the staff are the chord markings C#m, E, B, and E.

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*The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel: Luke 3: 7-18**

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What, then, should we do?” ¹¹ In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³ He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸ So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Sermon

Time of Silence: *At our best Trinity is passionate about God. We respond to God’s love becoming still, closing our eyes and opening our heart spaces to God’s presence.*

*Hymn

Lord Jesus is Coming

1 Lord Jesus is coming, let all people sing
With voices together to welcome our King
It's Advent; we're happy for Jesus is near
O come and live in us, our Savior so dear

2 Lord Jesus is coming and so we prepare
Our home and our lives for the Child so fair
We love You, Lord Jesus, we feel Your embrace
Your kindness and mercy, Your goodness and grace

*Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

***Prayers of the Church** - *(Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy,". The Congregation responds "receive our prayer.)*

*Sign of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** *(If you are joining us on Facebook, please share Christ's peace with one another in the comments.)*

MEAL *You are invited to come forward for the traditional distribution of Communion or if you prefer, take a prepackaged kit available from the Usher and remain seated. The Pastor will give instructions to you prior to communing the Assistants.*

*Offertory

Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

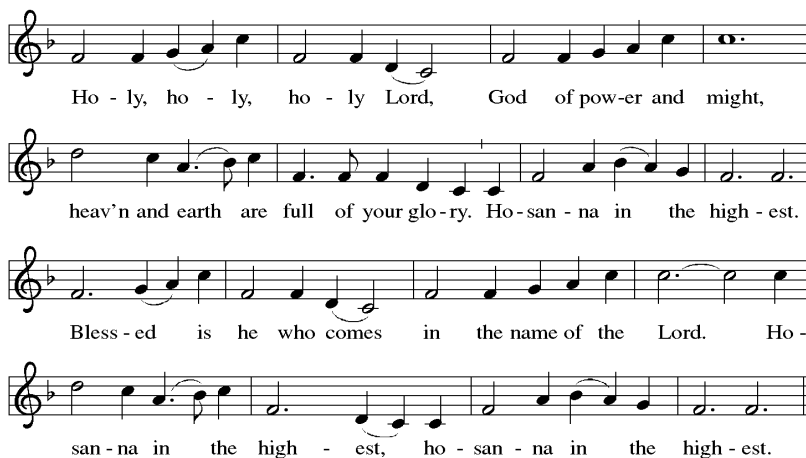
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san-na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

***Words of Institution**

The night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

***Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

Pew Communion: *Those who wish to commune from their seats using the prepackaged kits please open them now. Take and eat and drink, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.*

Assistants Commune

Communion

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

Communion Hymns:

When Love Was Born (CCLI #2823825)

1 Starlight shines, the night is still
Shepherds watching from a hill
I close my eyes to see the night
When love was born

2 A perfect child gently waits
A mother bends to kiss God's face
I close my eyes to see the night
When love was born

3 Angels fill the midnight sky and they
sing
Hallelujah He is Christ our King

4 Emmanuel, Prince of Peace
Love come down for you and me
Heaven's gift, the holy spark
To light the way inside our hearts

5 Bethlehem through your small door
Came the hope we've waited for
The world was changed forevermore
When love was born

6 I close my eyes to see the night
When love was born

*Bernie Herms | Mark Schultz | Stephanie Lewis © 2009 My Maxx Songs; Songs of Razor and Tie;
Stephanitely Hit Music; BanaHama Tunes; Crazy Romaine Music; Curb Word Music*

Now We Join in Celebration (ELW #462)

Rejoice in the Lord Always (CCLI #2823825)

Rejoice in the Lord always
Again I say rejoice (repeat)
Rejoice rejoice
Again I say rejoice (repeat)

Evelyn Turner © Words: 1967 Curb Word Music; Music: 1967 Curb Word Music

***Table Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

***Post Communion Prayer**

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. **Amen.**

SENDING

*Benediction

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✠ bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

*Sending Hymn

All Earth is Hopeful (ELW #266)

*Sending for Service

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel. **Thanks be to God.**

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SERVING TRINITY TODAY

Director of Music – Sandra Wingert

Assisting Minister – Charlie Ford

Communion Assistants – Donna Wolfe and Mary Thomas

Communion Cups – Josie Thomas

Singers – The Choir

Usher – Alice Marsh

Greeter – Shirley Freeman

IT Ministry – IT Team

Communion Preparers – Alice Marsh

TODAY WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Gust Barbuzanes, Marie Dean, Sue Deardorff, Mary Effisah, Terry and Laura Ellis, Shirley Freeman, Nancy Freshman, Sally Funk, Sue Gardenhour, Desarie Dean Gregory, Erma Horn, Jake Johns, Roger Johns, Tracy Loucks, Cheryl Luger, Doug McCullough, Beth Miller, Lisa Peters, Don Swart, Bud and Donna Wolfe, the family of Charles Freshman. *The prayer list will be purged at the end of the month. If you wish a name to be retained (other than homebound members) please call or email the office – 717-597-9348/ tlcsecoffice@gmail.com.*

Each week we also remember four members and friends of our congregation: Peggy Potter; Tammy Potter; Rob, Erin, Dorian and Lydia Pryke; Kathy Saczawa.

