

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1186 Jason Drive, Greencastle, PA

TLC Renews



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

January 4, 2026 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

Call to Worship

A Christmas Hymn (CCLI #2823825) 5 verses

Chris Llewellyn/Savannah Locke @ Capitol CMG Paragon; Rend Family Music; Remaining portion is unaffiliated

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair.

We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear.

We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news.

Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

God's grace upon grace flows over you. ☩ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

Amen.

***Gathering Hymn** *Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone* (CCLI #2823825)
4 verses

***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: **Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, 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 – Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹ With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back;
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path where they shall not stumble,
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him
and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock.”

¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,

and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.
¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy;
I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.
¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalms 147:12-20 (Read responsively)

- ¹² Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion,
¹³ **who has strengthened the bars of your gates
and has blessed your children within you.**
¹⁴ God has established peace on your borders
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.
¹⁵ **God sends out a command to the earth,
a word that runs very swiftly.**
¹⁶ God gives snow like wool,
scattering frost like ashes.
¹⁷ **God scatters hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand against God's cold?**
¹⁸ The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the waters flow.
¹⁹ **God declares the word to Jacob,
statutes and judgments to Israel.**
²⁰ The LORD has not done so to any other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

Second Lesson – Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Hallelujah! Words of Life!

A Gospel Acclamation

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Hal-le-lu-jah! Where else would we go? Hal-le-lu-jah! Words of

life! Hal-le-lu-jah! Where else would we go? Hal-le-lu-jah! Words of

life! Hal-le-lu-jah! Words of life!

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*The Holy Gospel according to John, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel – John 1:1-18**

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon

Time of Silence: *Let us respond to God's Word and God's love for us by becoming still, closing our eyes and opening our hearts to God's presence.*

Hymn

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (ELW #611) 3 verses

***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 "God of Grace," The Congregation responds "hear 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 Prayer**

God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

***Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

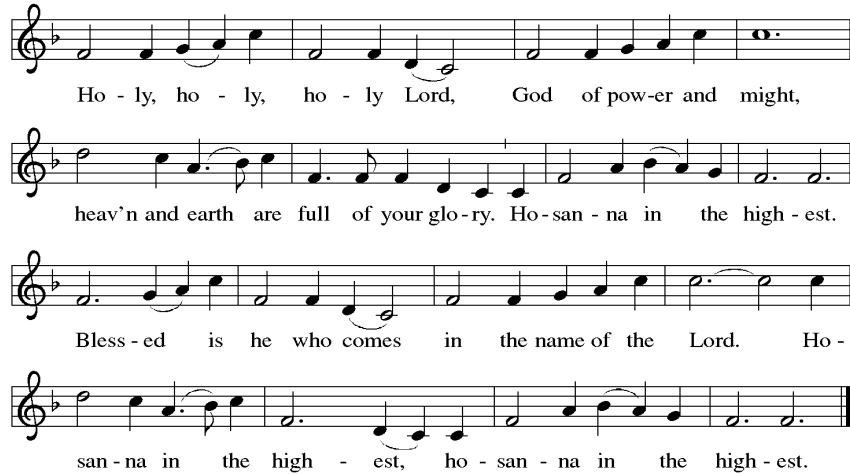
We lift them to the Lord.

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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:



*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 is now in flesh appearing.
Come to the feast of joy!

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:

In the Bleak Midwinter (ELW #294) 3 verses

Who Is He in Yonder Stall 5 verses

I Love to Tell the Story (ELW #661) 3 verses

***Table Blessing**

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

***Post Communion Prayer**

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

SENDING

***Benediction**

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter,
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn**

God, Whose Almighty Word (ELW #673) 4 verses

***Sending for Service**

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God's people on earth!

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

Thanks be to God.

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SERVING TRINITY TODAY

Director of Music – Sandra Wingert

Assisting Minister – Scott Valentine

Communion Assistants – Dave Wolfe and Mary Thomas

Communion Cups – Josie Thomas

Musician – Matt Cessna

Usher – Charlie Ford

Greeter – Sally Funk

IT Ministry – IT Team

Communion Preparers – Charlie and Beth Ford

TODAY WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Gust Barbuzanes, Debbie Boggs, Marie Dean, Sue Deardorff, Terry and Laura Ellis, Shirley Freeman, Nancy Freshman, Sally Funk, Sue Gardenhour, Desarie Dean Gregory, Jake Johns, Tracy Loucks, Doug McCullough, Beth Miller, Don Swart, Bud and Donna Wolfe.

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: Sally Funk; Sue Gardenhour; Andy and Rachelle Gehr; Brian and Wendy Hall.