

**Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA**

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**November 27, 2022**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**8:15 & 10:30 am (the 8:15 service is live-streamed)**

**Live streaming on Facebook and YouTube (Trinity LutheranSparta)**

**Our worship service will also be recorded and will be available on our website**

**[www.tlcsparta.org](http://www.tlcsparta.org)**



**Order of Worship**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Stewardship Moment – Dave Olson

Ring of the Bell

## The Lighting of the Advent Candles

The candle of Hope: Tyler, Jessica, Evelyn, Gus, & Anders Tripp

Hear the word from the Prophet Jeremiah 31:31-33

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it in their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

The first candle is lit.

Today we light our first Advent Candle; the Candle of Hope. Centuries before Jesus' birth, the prophets proclaimed that God would bring about a new covenant where God's love and God's law would be written in the peoples' hearts. This new covenant was fulfilled by the birth of Jesus, God's only Son who writes his law of love, forgiveness and peace within our hearts. As we prepare for the birth of our Savior, let us put our hope in Jesus Christ and welcome him into our hearts.

Please join me in our Advent prayer:

**Holy God, may our hearts be filled with the hope of the new covenant of Jesus Christ. May Christ rule in our hearts as we await his coming. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn:** *Worship Team*

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and**

**enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 122**

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

<sup>2</sup>**Now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

<sup>3</sup>Jerusalem is built as a city  
that is at unity with itself;  
<sup>4</sup>**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**  
<sup>5</sup>For there are the thrones of judgment,  
the thrones of the house of David.  
<sup>6</sup>**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:**  
**“May they prosper who love you.**  
<sup>7</sup>Peace be within your walls  
and quietness within your towers.  
<sup>8</sup>**For the sake of my kindred and companions,  
I pray for your prosperity.**  
<sup>9</sup>Because of the house of the LORD our God,  
I will seek to do you good.”

**Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14**

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

**\*Gospel Acclamation** (spoken in unison)

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

This is the Holy Gospel according to Matthew the twenty fourth Chapter.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup>“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you. O Christ.**

Sermon

**\*Hymn:** *Worship Team*

**\*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 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 Intercession**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict. Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

## **\*Sharing of the Peace**

Offering – “*Be generous and you will be prosperous!*” (Proverbs 11:25)



*Thank you for your continued support of Trinity's ongoing mission to serve the people of God in our community and the world. You may place your offering in the plate as it passes, you may also mail it in, leave it in the lockbox outside the main door, or use one of the electronic means available. Scan the QR code to donate now to Trinity's General Fund. Thank you!*

**\*Offertory:** *We Are an Offering*

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## **\*Offering Prayer**

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

**\*Great Thanksgiving (Here is Bread)** – Led by Tony Gasner

Here is bread, here is wine. **Christ is with us, he is with us.**  
Break the bread, taste the wine. **Christ is with us here.**

**In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.**  
**In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.**

Here is grace, here is peace. **Christ is with us, he is with us.**  
Know his grace, find his peace. **Feast on Jesus here.**

**In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.**  
**In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.**

**\* The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

Communion (Distribution Hymns: Let Us Break Bread Together – Page 471;  
We Come to the Hungry Feast – Page 479; Sanctuary)

**\*Prayer after Communion**

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**\*Blessing**

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Ring of the Bell

**\*Sending Hymn:** *Worship Team*

**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God.**

<b>Attendance for Sunday, November 20, 2022:</b> 8:15 am – 60 and 10:30 am – 33
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## **November 27, 2022**

**Greeters** – Janice Janzen

**Reader** – Jim Moorhead

**Communion servers** –

**Ushers** – Alice Olson, Paul Amundson, & Chuck Amundson

**Music** – Worship Team

**Altar Team – Month of November:** Judy Schure & Sharon Nelson

**Coffee Fellowship:** Brittany Michalski & Anita Jensen

**Pew Restocking – Month of November:** JoEllen Siver

**Month of December:** Linda Erickson

**Flower Pick Up – Friday, December 2:** Phil & Diane Dammen

**Money Counters-Monday, Nov 28:** Fred Olsen-Nancy Oswald-Gail Baltz

**Food Pantry, November 30:** JoEllen Siver & Judy Bernett

**10:30 a.m.:**

**Greeters** – Mallory Schwartzel & Danica Von Ruden      **Reader** – Youth

**Communion servers** – Stacey Markuson & Brittany Michalski

**Ushers** – Mark Baltz & Dan Amundson

**Music** – Worship Team

## **December 4, 2022**

**Greeters** – Al & Jan Jenkins

**Reader** – David Olson

**Communion servers** – Terry & Joyce Putman

**Ushers** – Alice Olson, Paul Amundson, & Chuck Amundson

**Music** – Adell Morton

**Altar Team – Month of December:** Mary Herrman & Judy Bernett

**Coffee Fellowship:** Opportunity to serve

**Pew Restocking – Month of December:** Linda Erickson

**Flower Pick Up – Friday, December 9:** Phil & Diane Dammen

**Money Counters-Monday, Dec. 5:** Alton Ask-Audrey Zebell-Bill McClain

**Food Pantry, December 7:** Donna Boland & Anita Jensen

**10:30 a.m.:**

**Greeters** – Ken & Marcia Thielker

**Reader** – Doug Dengel

**Communion servers** – Kristine Tock & Barb Selbrede

**Ushers** – Mark Baltz & Dan Amundson

**Music** – Adell Morton