

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

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Office Email: office@tlcsparta.org Website: www.tlcsparta.org

December 4, 2022

SECOND 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



Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

The Lighting of the Advent Candles

Hymn: *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (vs. 2)*

#240

The Candle of Peace: Trevor, Sarah & Wyatt Tripp

Hear the word from the Prophet Isaiah: 57:14-19

¹⁴ It shall be said,

“Build up, build up, prepare the way;
remove every obstruction from my people’s way.”

¹⁵ For thus says the high and lofty one
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:

I dwell in the high and holy place
and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit,
to revive the spirit of the humble
and to revive the heart of the contrite.

¹⁶ For I will not continually accuse,
nor will I always be angry,
for then the spirits would grow faint before me,
even the souls that I have made.

¹⁷ Because of their wicked covetousness I was angry;
I struck them; I hid and was angry,
but they kept turning back to their own ways.

¹⁸ I have seen their ways, but I will heal them;
I will lead them and repay them with comfort,

¹⁹ creating for their mourners the fruit of the lips.^[a]
Peace, peace, to the far and the near, says the LORD,
and I will heal them.

Two candles are lit from the Altar candle

Last week, we began our season of Advent with the lighting of the candle of Hope. In the midst of the tumult of this world, our hope is in Jesus Christ, God’s son who came to earth as a baby in the manger and will come again to bring the fullness of God’s kingdom to the earth. Today we light the candle of peace. The prophet Isaiah reminds that God longs for us to know peace; among nations, within relationships and within our hearts. “Peace, peace, to those far and near,” says the Lord. “And I will heal them.” May each one of us be instruments of God’s peace this Advent Season.

Please join me in our Advent Prayer.

Holy God, Bring the light of peace into your world. May all nations live in peace. May every heart be filled with peace. May the hope and peace of Jesus Christ fill our lives this Advent. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

#254

***Prayer of the Day**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.
¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
²**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**
³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**
⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁸**Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!**
¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

***Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel and join with me in the Gospel Acclamation

***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 third Chapter.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume 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. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

***Hymn:** *The King Shall Come*

#260

***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.

Holy God, You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation. We pray for people who are homebound, hospitalized, or separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You embrace all who have died trusting in your promises, and we give thanks for their faithful witness. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. 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 – *“Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you.”* (Deuteronomy 16:17)



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*

#692

***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.

***Words of Institution**

Here we are, joined in one, **Christ is with us, he is with us.**
We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified.
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: Taste and See - #493; What Feast of Love - #487)

***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 of communion for those not present**

***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:** *He Came Down*

#253

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

Attendance for Sunday, November 27, 2022: 8:15 am – 63 and 10:30 am – 52

For November 13, 2022:

General fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$6033.27

Designated fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$928.25

For November 20, 2022:

General fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$7357.60

Designated fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$521.12

December 4, 2022

Greeters – Al & Jan Jenkins

Communion servers – Terry & Joyce Putman

Ushers – Alice Olson, Paul Amundson, & Chuck Amundson

Music – Tony Gasner

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 – Tony Gasner

December 11, 2022

Greeters – Connie Jerome

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 16: Phil & Diane Dammen

Money Counters-Monday, Dec. 12: Carol Thorsen-Adell Morton-B. Degenhardt

Food Pantry, December 14: Julie Erickson and Karen Hernandez

10:30 a.m.:

Greeters – Carol Thorsen

Reader – Ava Erickson

Ushers – Mark Baltz & Dan Amundson

Music – Adell Morton