

*TRINITY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH*



**December 7, 2025
2nd Sunday of Advent**

Good Morning and welcome! We invite you to worship with us often, and ask if you need any assistance! If you are visiting us today, please sign the Guest Register in the Narthex, please include your address and phone number. Please place your offering envelope in the plate in the Narthex. Thank You!

Remember in your prayers:

Lynn Wolfgang, Oscar & Angie Smith, Erika Zaiser, Brandon Stauffer, Betty Moore, Barbara Stewart, Kathy Gamler, Bill Brensinger, Richard Eck, Becky Yescavage, BillyRay Pearce, Sr., Kathy Sell, Dennis Brooke, Donna Day, Linda Allmendinger, Elaine Dotterer, Jeff Reitnauer, Ralph Rothenberger, Anna Spencer, RuthAnn Goode, Pete Schmoyer, John Logan, Carole Mest, Bob McElwee, Tammy Strunk, Mary Snyder, Wendy Bowers, Linda Bewley, Sherri Schaeffer, Tammy Kemp, Mike Wyda, Marcia Auge and Millie Merkel.

Friends & Family:

Michelle Hiriak, Linda Stark, Martha Van Parys, Joyce Kemp, Linda Gilbert, Krista Buchert, Sandy Melcher, George Bayer, Dennis Weller, Dennis Groves, Jean Daley & Ariel Kim.

Families of:

Wanda Levengood, Donald Hays and John Moore.

Also members, relatives and friends in the community who are serving in the military including:

Christopher Heffner, BillyRay Pearce, Jr., Noah Heydt, Ben Rhode, Steven Herbst, David Crews, Jeff Lydic, Seth Kurtz, Clinton Bowen, Eli Abner and Johnne Knepp.

**Our sister congregation, the Marienkirche in Borna, Germany.
(Website: Kirche-bornae-land.de)**

Please note, names of friends and family will be kept on the bulletin prayer list for one month. If still in need of prayers, these names will then appear in the newsletter prayer list. Names on the friends and family list will normally be kept on the newsletter prayer list for one year if needed. If you wish for names to remain longer, please speak to Pastor Gene, Linda Ritter or contact the church office. Thank you for helping us keep the prayer list current!

This morning we share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite everyone to the Lord's table who recognizes Christ's presence in His holy sacrament. We will be communing using the continuous method this morning. When the time comes, the ushers will direct you forward-simply receive the bread from the Pastor and move to the side to the communion server to receive the wine (or grape juice). When you have received both elements, please return to your seat by the side aisle.

December 7, 2025 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

The Altar Flowers are presented to the glory of God by Mrs. Sandy Schaffer, in Memory of her Husband Bob and in Honor of her Grandchildren: Blake & Riot and also by Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Kuser, in Memory of her Parents, Paul & Alice Weller.

The Bulletins are presented to the glory of God by Mike & Maddy Wyda, in Memory of My Parents on their Wedding Anniversary and to the brave Americans who gave the ultimate sacrifice at Pearl Harbor.

The Eternal Flame Candle is presented to the glory of God by Chester Heydt, in Memory of Esther, Lester & Janet Heydt.

This Morning's Worship Assistants:

Assisting Minister: Vicki Mest
 Server: Waynette Shafer
 Ushers: Howard Shafer* & Bob McElwee
 Lector: Pat Beekley
 Acolyte: Jenn McCarron

- (those who are able may stand)

Prelude "A Lovely Rose Is Blooming"
J. Brahms

Announcements and Concerns**• Confession and Forgiveness**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son,
 and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
 all desires known, and from whom no secrets are
 hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the
 inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
 perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy
 name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- **Processional Hymn** LBW# 36
 "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

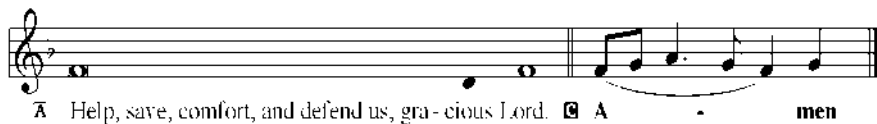
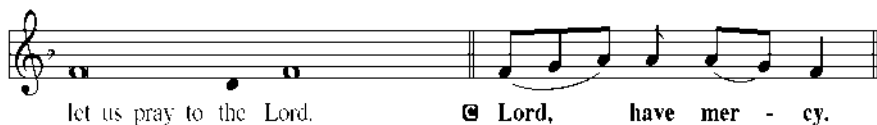
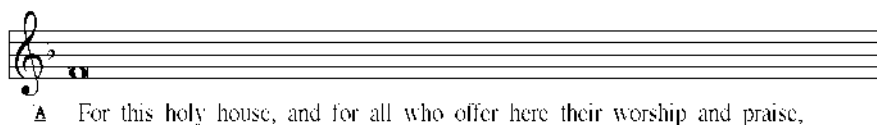
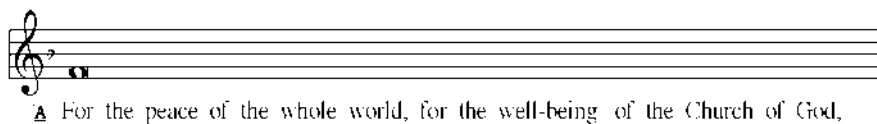
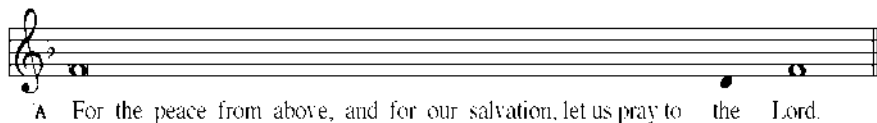
Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.



• Kyrie



• **Prayer of the Day**



P Let us Pray . . .

C 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

Lighting the Advent Wreath

WOV# 630

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” (vv. 1 -2)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David’s royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ² The 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.
- ³ His 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,

- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed 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.

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

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

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They 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.

¹⁰ On 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.

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

- ¹ Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;
² **that he may rule your | people righteously**
and the | poor with justice;
³ that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.
⁴ **Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,**
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.
⁵ May 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 wa- | ter the earth.
⁷ In 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!
¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious | name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- | men. Amen.

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name”;

¹⁰ and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;

¹¹ and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹² and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

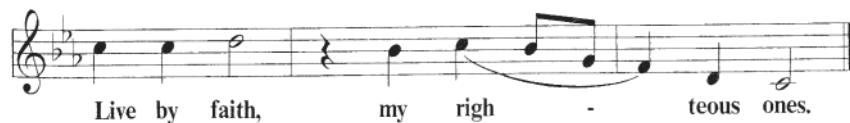
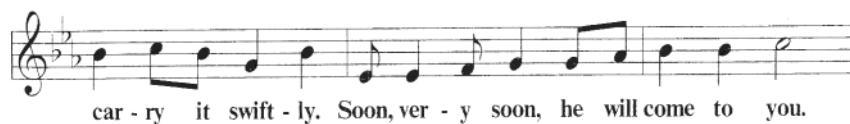
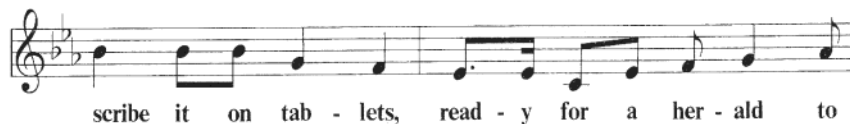
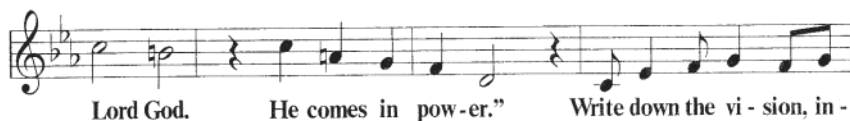
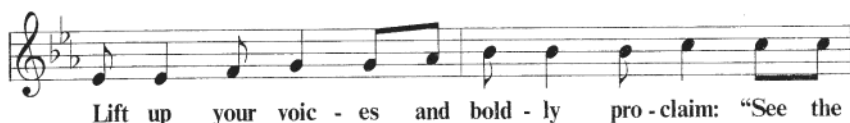
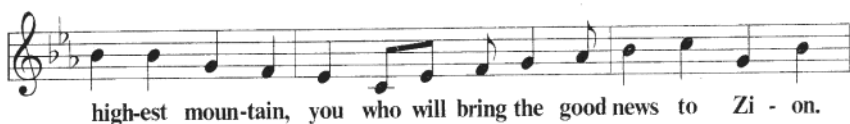
¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

"CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN"

Advent



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter



Presentation of the Gospel by Heart

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

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

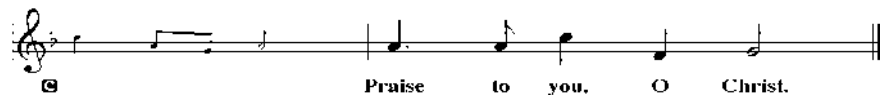
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’ ”

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

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do 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. ¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His 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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Senior Choir Anthem

“Come, Child of Peace”

Sermon

- Hymn of the Day

LBW# 26

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

- Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only
Son of God, eternally begotten of the
Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not
made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from
heaven, by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance
with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead, and his kingdom
will have no end. We believe in the Holy
Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who
proceeds from the Father and the Son. With
the Father and the Son he is worshiped and
glorified. He has spoken through the
prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins. We look for the
resurrection of the dead, and the life of
the world to come. Amen

- **The Prayer of the Church**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God, in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

After each portion of prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy.

C hear our prayer

The prayers conclude:

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

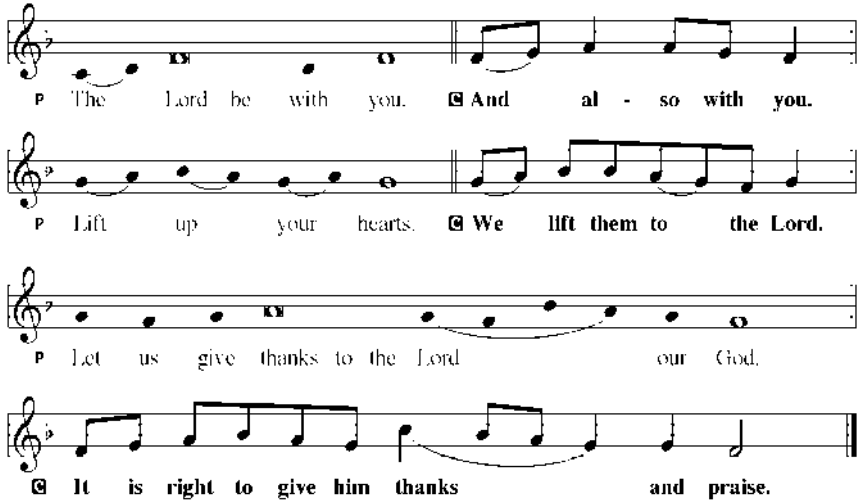
C Amen.

- **Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

• The Great Thanksgiving



P The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

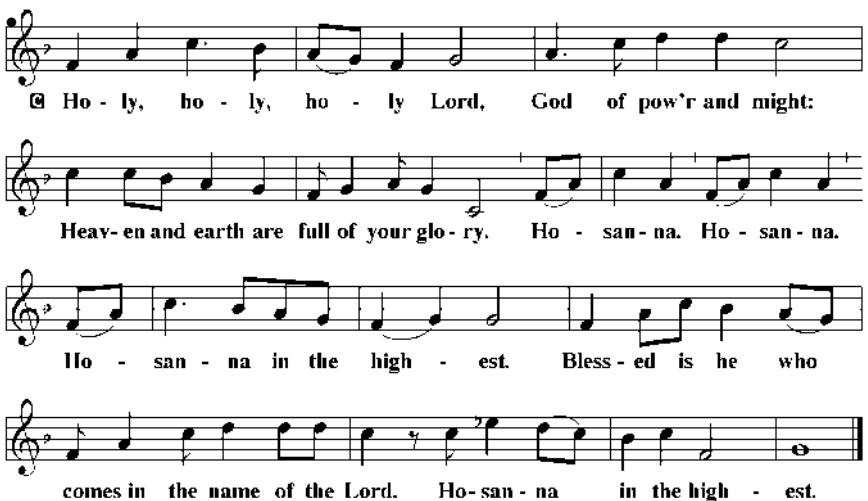
P Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

• The Proper Preface

P It is indeed right and salutary...
 (Here the minister continues with the preface
 appropriate to the day or season,
 concluding) ...we praise your name and join their
 unending hymn:



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho - san-na.

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.

• **Eucharistic Prayer**

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
 In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only
 Son, that all those who believe in him
 should not perish, but have eternal life.
 We give thanks to you for the salvation you have
 prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
 Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that
 we may receive our Lord with a living faith
 as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P In 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, he 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.

- **The Lord's Prayer** (Sung by Choir & Congregation, See Insert)

♩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion

- **Post-communion Blessing**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

• **Post-Communion Canticle**



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

• **Post-Communion Prayer**

P God of light, with our eyes we have seen
your salvation in this holy feast you have
prepared for us. Send forth into the world
to be your holy people, revealing your glory
made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

- **Our Mission Statement**

P People of Trinity, what is our mission?

C We shall, as individuals and as a congregation, strive through word, worship, and witness to further the kingdom of God by knowing and sharing Christ's Love in our hearts, in our homes, in His church, in the community, and in the world.

- **Benediction**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious unto you. The Lord look
upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen, Amen, Amen.

- **Recessional Hymn** LBW# 34
"Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"

- **Dismissal**

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Postludium in F"
C. Nordman

November Update on Church Financial Status From The Finance Committee:

As will be reported in the next Newsletter (Financial Reports Section), the General Fund now has a **Positive** balance of \$949 - this is a significant improvement from Negative \$1817 at the end of September, and from when we started examining and communicating this back in May (Negative \$13,772). The October improvement was due to the successful Craft Show and additional help across the congregation.

Thank you to all responsible for this dramatic improvement - it has been a "team" effort!

Now.....Let's keep this positive momentum going, and if you haven't reviewed the following and taken action, please consider doing so as we approach the end of the year.

Our request for your consideration :

The committee has met 4 times this year to discuss and is asking all members to consider the following actions to help us continue to recover from the current situation:

- Increase your giving - even a small increase by many will help.
- Start to buy, or increase your purchases of, Gift Cards from the church on the 1st Sunday of each month. The church receives a % of each sale.
- Review the Simply Giving program and consider setting up automated donations to the church which helps smooth the income stream over the whole year, and makes your giving easier and typically more consistent.
- Support fundraisers and special events at the church - note that not all fundraisers and events benefit the General Fund.

If you own products through Thrivent that generate Thrivent Choice Dollars, consider directing them to our church as we generally receive over \$1000 of Thrivent Choice Dollars per year.

Kindly consider how you can help, with respect to your current individual or family situation.

If you have already done or are doing these, we thank you for your prayerful consideration and any resulting actions.

The Finance Committee thanks everyone for their financial support of the church and our 2025 budget along with all other donations and contributions you are providing to the church to support our mission.

The committee will continue to monitor our Financial situation closely and will communicate further as needed.

If you have any questions related to this information, please reach out to a Finance Committee member as listed in the monthly newsletter, or chairperson Kurt Yescavage.

THANK YOU to Dennis Brooke and Shelly Fullwood and Family for sponsoring the Christmas Tree in Memory of Ruth Brooke and in Honor of Brady, Sallyann, and William Fullwood. Thank You to Bobby Eshbach, Howard Shafer, and Dennis Schaeffer for transporting and setting up the tree and to everyone who helped to decorate the church for Christmas. Please join us on Monday, January 5 at 6:00PM to take down Christmas decorations.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO All who supported the ShoeFly Pies & Pumpkin Rolls. There were 131 pies & pumpkin rolls sold. \$344.00 went to the General Fund. Thank You also to Linda Brunner & Diane McElwee for organizing this fundraiser!

The Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for TODAY, Sunday, December 7th, immediately following the 10:30 service. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect council members for 2026 and to consider the proposed budget for 2026. The Finance Committee with Church Council approval will be discussing the proposed church budget for 2026. We look forward to seeing you there!

The Christmas Cantata, “Favorite Christmas Selections, Through the Years”, will be Sunday, December 14th at the 10:30AM Worship Service. There will be a Potluck Luncheon following the Cantata. Please bring your favorite dish to share. Snow Date and Encore Presentation is Sunday, January 4th at 3:00PM.

Attic Treasures— Christmas items you are no longer using, please donate for the Christmas Cantata Party Games. Donations can be left in the Choir Room. Thank you for your donation.

Christ Lutheran Church, Niantic, will be hosting a Christmas Open House on Sunday, December 14th, 3PM-6PM, featuring an uplifting evening of classic Christmas Carols performed by the talented pianist Jill Watkins, followed by a heartwarming visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Homemade cookies will be available.

The TLC Stitchers has a table set up in the Parish Hall with many items that are available for free or a donation would be greatly appreciated. **Today is the last day the items will be available.**

POINSETTIAS and LUMINARIES – TODAY is the last day to order poinsettias for Christmas Eve. The price is \$10 (Single-branched 6½” pot, 5 blooms +). Envelopes are available in the narthex. Please write your name, specify color (pink, red or white), and who your order is in memory or honor of. **Labeled luminaries** will be set out for the Christmas Eve services. Envelopes are available to reserve a luminary, one for \$3 or two for \$5, in honor or in memory of loved ones. **Luminary orders are due December 14.** Please place envelopes in offering plates.

Angel Tree: Trinity is once again participating in the Angel Tree project for the Boyertown Area Multi-Service. Return the gift unwrapped. Gift bags/wrapping paper included with your gift is greatly appreciated. Please put the tag with your gift. Thank you for your participation in making a child's Christmas brighter this year. **Gifts and Tags must be returned by Sunday, December 7th. Thank you for making a child's Christmas brighter! A Special Thank You to Waynette Shafer for organizing this event and making the angels.**

The deadline for the January Newsletter is Sunday, December 14th (week earlier due to Christmas week), please submit your information to Karen in the church office.

Prayer List: Any changes to the prayer list, please contact Linda Ritter, Pastor Gene or the church office, in order for the change to be made in the January Newsletter.

Santa in the Park-Saturday, December 13, Noon, Bechtelsville Community Park. Come visit Santa and his friends at the park and enjoy some free hot chocolate and popcorn. Children will receive a small gift on behalf of Trinity.

All are invited to our Longest Night service on Thursday, December 18th, at 7PM. It is a service of comfort and healing for all who are trying to celebrate the holidays this year while in the midst of loss and grief. Those of you who have attended the service in other years know how beautiful and uplifting it is, so please make plans to attend.

Christmas Card Bags for our Homebound Members are now on the table in the Parish Hall until Sunday, December 21st, for the following: Linda Allmendinger, Richard Eck, Kathy Gamler, Janet Kehl, Dorothy Romig, Ralph Rothenberger, Barbara Stewart and Becky Yescavage.

Christmas Eve Services: Please join us for services of candlelight and Holy Communion at 3 PM and 8 PM.

2026 Sign Up Sheets are now posted:

Bulletin Sponsors....Eternal Flame Candle Sponsor (you may do so in memory/honor of. Please Note: Price has increased to \$34.00)

Eternal Flame Candle Volunteer Sheet (This is to light the candle each week for 1 month.) Sign Up Sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

You may sponsor Altar Flowers, the cost is \$32.00 for one vase and \$64.00 for 2 vases, please contact Mary Snyder. If you wish to sponsor flowers and that date is not available, you can always sponsor an extra bouquet of flowers for \$40.00. When sponsoring flowers, please use a flower envelope found in the rack in the narthex or clearly mark the envelope "Flowers". If you sponsored flowers in the past but no longer wish to, please let Mary Snyder 610-473-8885 or the church office know. You may also sponsor the bulletins for \$15.00 per week, this helps offset the cost of printing them.

Trinity's Gift Card Program - Gift card orders are accepted before and after the church service the first Sunday of each month and distributed the second Sunday. Order forms for Redners, Giant and Raise Right (for other retail gift cards) are available in the narthex. The Raise Right order form is also available for download on Trinity's website. Payment must be submitted with your order. **Please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church and include your phone number on your order form.** If you have any questions regarding this fund raising program please see Sharon Kemp, Kathy Kuser or Kurt Yescavage.

WAWA Hoagie Coupons Available 1st Sunday of the month at the Scrip Table. Coupons are also available in the church office Monday—Thursday, 9:00AM-2:00PM. Tickets are \$5.00. This project benefits the Social Ministry.

Scout Troop 511 Hoagie Sales: Pick up will be Wednesday, December 10th. 8" hoagies are made from Dan's Deli, **Cost is \$7.00.** There are ham w/onion, ham no onion, turkey w/onion, turkey no onion, Italian w/onion, Italian no onion, cheese hoagie w/onion, cheese hoagie no onion, mayo, Italian dressing, no tomatoes, no lettuce, no cheese. There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Winter Weather In the event of inclement winter weather, news of cancellations or postponements of church activities will be posted on the following: 1) Channel 69 2) Online at WFMZ.com, or log on to the Trinity's website: www.trinitybech.com

The 2026 General Fund Envelopes are on the table in the Parish Hall, please pick up your envelopes.

The Updated Church Directory is on the table in the Narthex, please take one.

Bibles are available in the rack in the Narthex for you to reference during worship. You may also take home to reference, please return when you are finished.

HOSPITAL INPATIENT STAY: Please contact Pastor Gene if you are admitted to the hospital and would like a visit, due to privacy laws, the hospital no longer contacts the church.

Social Ministry provides meals for shut-ins/members who are in need of meals. If a meal is needed, please contact Kathy Kuser at 610-754-6293.

Need a ride? We have volunteers in the congregation who are willing to provide transportation to medical appointments, etc., for those who can't find a ride. Please contact Pastor Gene 610-322-0901 if you need a ride or would like to volunteer as a driver.

Monthly Free-will Offerings 2025

December – No free-will offering. Thank you for supporting the various Christmas giving opportunities.

Trinity's events for the upcoming week:

Sunday, December 7th- 8:00 Cont. Worship Serv.
w/Communion
9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship Service
w/Communion
Congregational Mtg.

Monday, December 8th- 6:30 Scouts

Tuesday, December 9th- 6:30 Scouts
7:00 Church Council Mtg.

Wednesday, December 10th- 2:00 Discipleship Mtg.

Thursday, December 11th- 6:30 Sr. Choir Practice
7:30 Cantata Practice

Saturday, December 13th- 10:00 Cantata Rehearsal

Sunday, December 14th- 9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Cantata
Potluck Luncheon

Next Week's Worship Assistants:
Sunday, December 14th:
(Christmas Cantata)

Ushers: Dan & Kathy Kuser
 Pole Candles: Howard & Waynette Shafer

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS: 11/30/2025

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>		
<u>Worship/S.S.</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Hunger</u>	<u>Scrip</u>
65/20	\$2,224.00	\$55.00	\$2,265.00
	<u>Benevolence</u>	<u>Bldg. Maint.</u>	
	0	0	

**The Community Clothing Rack
Schedule**

1st Wednesday
Donations Accepted

2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesdays
Shoppers Welcome

2nd Thursday
Shoppers Welcome
6:00PM-8:00PM

5th Wednesday
CLOSED

Hours
1:00PM-4:00PM

Summer Hours Only
June-August
9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed on all major holidays.
In the case of inclement weather,
Refer to Boyertown Area School district closure.
CCR is a ministry of St. Luke Lutheran Church
Our mission is to serve Jesus Christ by providing
necessary clothing to the underserved.

www.StLukeGilbertsville.org

Readings for Personal Devotion



M	Isaiah 24:1-16a
T	Isaiah 40:1-11
W	Matthew 12:33-37
Th	Genesis 15:1-18
F	Acts 13:16-33a
Sa	Psalm 21

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Eugene C. Zaiser, DMin.,
Pastor

Ms. LaRue Sheetz, Director of Music

Mrs. Karen J. Smith, Parish Secretary

Mrs. Catherine M. Yoder, Sexton

The Members of this Congregation are its
Ministers

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(Or by Appointment)

1749 South Main Street, Bechtelsville, PA
19505
610-369-1281

Church Office E-Mail:
trinitybech@outlook.com

Pastor Zaiser's E-Mail:
pastorzaiser@outlook.com

Website: www.trinitybech.com

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

Hark!

1 On Jor - dan's banks the Bap - tist's cry An - nounce - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And make us

1 Hark!
 2 Star
 3 See
 4 So,

that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; Oh, let your face up -

we
 bou
 don
 is

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine And fill the world with love di - vine.

dar
 pel
 sor
 me

5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
 Whose advent has our freedom won,
 Whom with the Father we adore,
 And Holy Spirit, evermore.

5 Hc

Wj

opeful la tierra



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ared;
rib.



this, the
she con -
Al - most
in our



re how
rth re -
ace! All
re our



-er sets us free.



1 *Toda la tierra espera al Salvador
y el surco abierto, la obra del Señor;
es el mundo que lucha por la libertad,
reclama justicia y busca la verdad.*

2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:
"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel,"
será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será,
con él la esperanza al mundo volverá.*

3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;
nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.
Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar,
y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.*

4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,
pero en el mundo está presente hoy.
Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;
y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.*

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; arr. Skinner Chávez-Melo, b. 1944-1992

Text and tune © 1972 Alberto Taulé, admin. Virgil C. Funk

T: © 1995 Madeleine Forell Marshall, admin. Augsburg Fortress; arr. © Estate of Skinner Chávez-Melo

TAULÉ

11 11 12 12

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah 630



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!



Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: Yiddish folk tune, arr. Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

T: & Arr. © 1984 Fortress Press

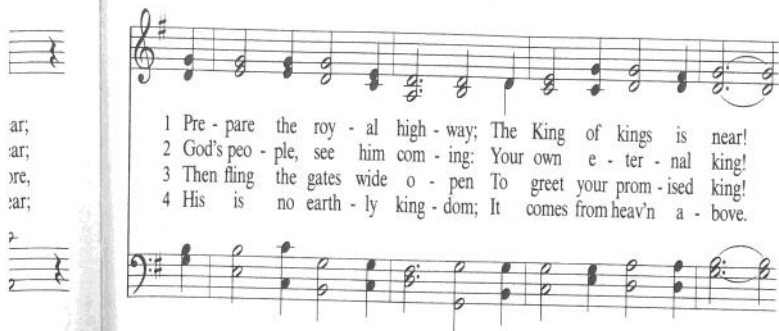
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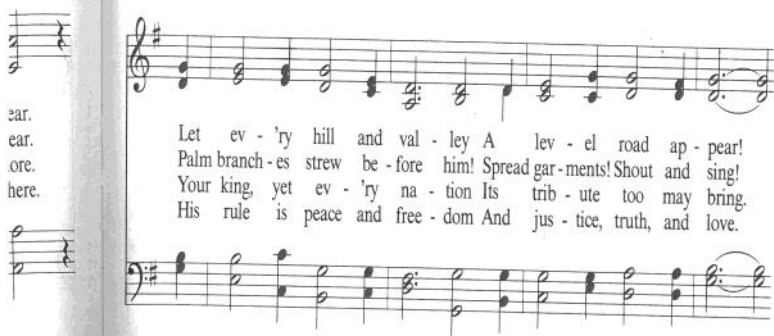
Prepare the Royal Highway

26



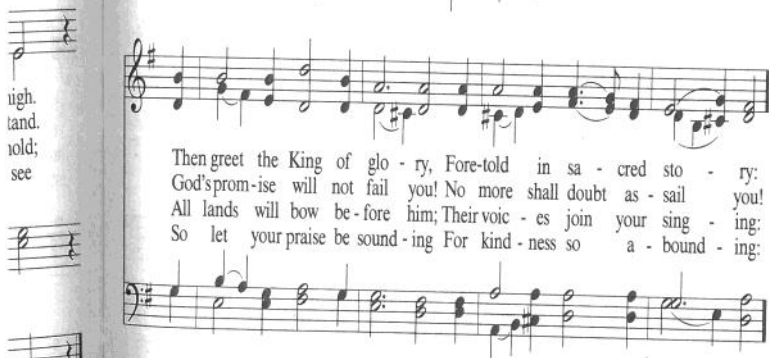
ar;
ar;
re,
ar;

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



ear.
ear.
ore.
here.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



high.
land.
old;
see

Then greet the King of glo - ry, Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; Their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



cry.
hand.
gold.
free!

Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, For he ful - fills God's Word!

The Lord's Prayer

And when thou hast shut thy door, pray to the Father . . . — Matthew 6:6

MALOTTE

Albert Hay Malotte

Arranged by Fred Bock

Matthew 6:9-13

Unison

Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal - low - ed

The first system of musical notation for 'The Lord's Prayer'. It consists of a treble and a bass staff in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides harmonic support. The lyrics 'Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal - low - ed' are written below the notes.

be Thy name. Thy king-dom come,

The second system of musical notation. It continues the melody and harmony from the first system. The lyrics 'be Thy name. Thy king-dom come,' are written below the notes.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in

The third system of musical notation. It continues the melody and harmony. The lyrics 'Thy will be done on earth as it is in' are written below the notes.

heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly

The fourth system of musical notation. It concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics 'heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly' are written below the notes.

bread, and for - give us our debts as we for - give our

debt-ors. And lead us not in-to temp-tation, but de - liv-er us from

e - vil, for Thine is the King-dom and the Pow-er and the

Glo - ry, for - ev - er. A - men.

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

5 O
A
M
A

1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, Who to your tribes on
 3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
 4 Oh, come, blest Day-spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by your

Text: Psalteriel
Tune: French p

Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 Si - nai's height In an - cient times once gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save
 ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 In cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Hark

1 Hark
 2 Hark
 3 Hark
 4 O

pi
 bu
 sc
 st

pe
 fo
 of
 ar

Text: Philip Do
Tune: attr. Tho

5 Oh, come, O Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

Text: Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
Tune: French processional, 15th cent.

VENI EMMANUEL
88 88 88

Hark, the Glad Sound!

35

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Your wel - come

prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of the brass be -
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne And ev - 'ry voice a song,
fore him burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring With your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
Tune: attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

CHESTERFIELD