



Sunday, December 5, 2021

Advent 2

Theme of the Day: *When the Lord comes near, He humbles people.*

HYMN 13 – “There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying” (verses 1 & 3)
(The “Amen” is sung after the last hymn only.)

Please stand.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ ☩ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy,

P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.

C: Amen.

P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON – Malachi 3:1-7b

Through God's Word and the messengers who proclaim it, the Lord humbles his people, purifying our hearts so that we might stand on the Last Day.

“See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty.² But who can endure the day of his coming?

Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap.³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness,⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.⁵ “So I will come near to you for judgment.

I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive aliens of justice, but do not fear me,” says the LORD Almighty. ⁶“I the LORD do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷Ever since the time of your forefathers you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 24

Christian Worship pg. 73

SECOND LESSON – Philippians 1:3-11

Producing love and humility within us is God's work. He began his good work at our baptism and will carry that work to completion.

I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God’s grace with me. ⁸God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God’s salvation. Alleluia.

Please stand.

GOSPEL – Luke 3:1-6

In grace, God sent his messenger, John the Baptist, to prepare people to meet the Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert.

³He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As is written in the book of words of Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. ⁵Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. ⁶And all mankind will see God’s salvation.’”

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY 16 – “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” (verses 1, 3, & 4)

SERMON Text: Luke 3:1-6

Theme: Prepare the way with repentance!

1. Realize a change of heart is necessary.
2. See the salvation that God provides.

Please stand.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.**

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,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

FRIENDSHIP REGISTRATION

Guests: Please fill out name, address, and phone number.

Members: Please fill out name and any new information.

Check the third box if you intend to commune.

Please, return the booklet to its original location. Thank you!

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



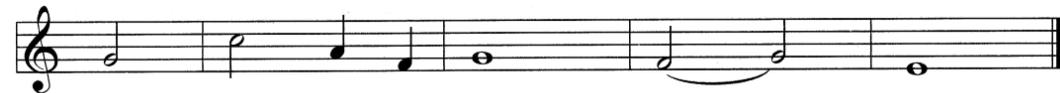
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN

14 – “Arise, O Christian People” (verses 1 & 3)



Announcements:

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT is this evening at 6:30 PM in the church sanctuary. All ladies are welcome to join us as we focus our hearts and minds on the birth of our Savior. Join us for Christmas cookies and fellowship in the church basement following the program. If you signed up to bring cookies, please bring them to the church basement kitchen before the service.

thank you

THE FAMILY of Bob Rausch would like to thank Trinity's Women's Ministry for providing the meal after the funeral service. Also, thank you to Pastor Nowak for his words of comfort during the service.

A BIG THANK YOU to the Decorating Committee, and all who helped, for making our church shine for this glorious Christmas season!

THANKS to all who helped with the landscaping around the church and parsonage. Donations were used to purchase flowers. Also, a big thank you to the weed fairy! From Beth Russler.

CAROLING WITH OUTREACH: Join Trinity's Outreach Committee as they carol around Jenera this coming Tuesday, December 7th. This is a great opportunity for some fellowship and to show off those fine singing voices. Meet in the church parking lot at 6:30.

ADVENT SERVICE: There will be an Advent worship service in the church on Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. Please join us for this special worship opportunity.

ON THE MOVE: Karen Beach has a new address- 700 Maple Crest Court, Apartment 135, Bluffton, Ohio 45817.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE PRACTICE: All students (Preschool-12th grade), who are members of Trinity and who are participating in the Children's Christmas Eve service, are expected to attend the practices on Saturday, December 11 and Saturday, December 18. Both practices will run from 10:00-11:30 AM and will be held in the church. Please contact Mrs. Baumann at lbaumann@tlcjenera.org with any questions or for additional information.

FREE LUNCH: Trinity children are invited to stay at church after their Christmas service practice on Saturday, December 18 for a free lunch to be served in the church basement. After lunch, children (age 3 - 5th grade) may also participate in Christmas for Kids from 12:30-3:00 PM at school. Questions--contact Jenny Boehm (262) 391-7994.

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES are ready for pick up in the church narthex. Get yours today! Please check them for accuracy. You may begin using them in January. If you have any questions, please contact Clark Inniger at 419-306-0127 or email cdinniger@roadrunner.com.

VOLUNTEERS are still needed to help at Christmas for Kids on Saturday, December 18 from 12:30-3:00 PM. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you are able to help. You can specify what you would like to help with—crafts, music, games, registration, snacks, group leaders. We also need help serving lunch to Trinity's children at 11:30 after Christmas service practice in the church basement.

DON'T FORGET to register! Get some shopping done or wrap your children's presents while they have fun and learn about the true meaning of Christmas! Register your children (age 3 - 5th grade) for Christmas for Kids on Saturday, December 18 from 12:30-3:00 PM. Register at tlcienera.org or fill out a registration form in the back of church by this Wednesday, December 8.



OPEN GYM BEGINS TODAY! The school's gym will be available for those wanting to play basketball indoors on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 - 4:00 PM. All children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Please change into dry, non-marking athletic shoes before entering the gym to help keep our gym floor in good condition.

THE MONTHLY flower chairpersons for December are Mark and Jerry Burkholder. Let's thank them for the wonderful job they do each Christmas season!

PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME: Do your kids need a place to get some energy out? Join us for a FREE open gym for all preschool aged children (infants, toddlers, and preschoolers) in the school gym on Monday, December 13 from 10:00-11:00 AM. We will have balls to play with, ride-on toys, mats to crawl/roll around on, a mini-trampoline, infant toys, and lots of space to run around and play.

A PRAYER REQUEST: for Beth Rausch (daughter of James & Marilyn) who has been hospitalized with a serious infection. Please add Beth to your prayer list, along with all of our members who are homebound or in nursing homes.

PLEASE USE the list of our shut-ins below to send a Christmas card and as a reminder to pray for them.

BLUFFTON (zip code 45817)

Mrs. Betty Heldman 100 Hawthorne Ct.
Mrs. Julaine Boehm 21649 Co. Rd 12
Mrs. Mary Alice Gauss 700 Maple Crest Court, W146
Mrs. Karen Beach 700 Maple Crest Court. Apt. 135

GOOD SAMARITAN

100 Powell Dr., Arlington, OH 45814
Mr. Gary Beach Room 203
Mrs. Wilda von Stein Room 105
Mrs. Jeanine Hindall
Mrs. Betty Burkholder
Mrs. Jeanette Evans
Mrs. Sandy Reel 521 W. Main Cross, Arlington

FINDLAY (zip code 45840)

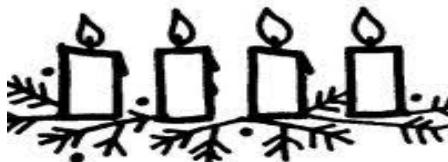
Miss Janice Reichley St. Catherine's Manor, Room 21, 2101 Greendale Ave.
Mrs. Ann Crawford 107 East Eagle Street

JENERA (zip code 45841)

Mrs. Genevieve Smith 7845 St. Rt. 103
Mrs. Karen Rausch 7445 St. Rt. 103
Mr. Laverne Freed 8675 Township Road 27, Forest, Ohio 45843
Mr. Norman Schaller Vancrest of Ada, 600 W. North Ave, Ada, Ohio 45810

The Advent Wreath

The Second Advent candle is called the Bethlehem Candle. It represents the coming on earth of Jesus the Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary. This coming is recalled for us in Luke 2.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Email: tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org
Website: tlcjenera.org

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of November 28, 2021)

Total Worship Attendance: 249; Early: 109; Late: 140; Adult Bible Study: 29; Teens: 4, Sunday School 26. On-line worship service views for November 21 were 40.

MONEY COUNTERS for this morning through December 18 are the members of Dwight Rader's Undershepherd group. Beginning Sunday, December 19, will be the members of Steve Rausch's Undershepherd group.

GREETERS today are: Jim & Jane Smith – Early Service
Mike & Jill Woodward – Late Service
Next Sunday: Mark & Kathi Curth– Early Service

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (December 5 through December 12)

TODAY Worship 8:00 AM & 10:30; Communion; Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Teen Bible Class 9:20; Catechism 1:00, Women's Ministry Advent by Candlelight 6:30.

MON Mornings with Mommy 9:30; Board of Education 6:00.

TUE Mornings with Mommy 9:30; Christmas Caroling 6:30; Elders 7:00.

WED Choir practice 7:00, Bible Information class 7:00.

SAT Outreach meeting 3:00 p.m.

SUN **Worship 8:00 AM & 10:30:** Children's Lesson; Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Teen Bible Class 9:20; Catechism 1:00.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

MON Faculty Meeting 3:30 p.m.

TUE Cheer Practice 3:30-5:45; Basketball practice 5:00-6:30.

WED Chapel 8:20.

THU Cheer Practice 3:30-5:45; Basketball practice 5:00-6:30.

SAT Christmas Eve Children's Service practice 10:00-11:30.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: *Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to glorify our Triune God as we train, strengthen and nurture ourselves and others through His Word and Sacraments, so that we are enabled by His love to live lives of faith and to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people.*