



Sunday, December 12, 2021

Advent 3

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

“God With Us, Emmanuel!”

(In place of the hymn for 1st service, after the bells for 2nd)

OPENING HYMN

3 – “Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates” (verses 1 & 4-2nd
service only)

(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.

CONFESSON OF SINS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON – Zephaniah 3:14-17

The prophet Zephaniah urges us to rejoice. Not only has the Lord taken away our punishment, but he will defeat all the enemies of God's people.

Sing, O Daughter of Zion;
shout aloud, O Israel!

Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
O Daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The Lord has taken away your punishment,
he has turned back your enemy.

The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you;
never again will you fear any harm.

¹⁶ On that day
they will say to Jerusalem,

“Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands hang limp.

¹⁷ The Lord your God is with you,
he is mighty to save.

He will take great delight in you;
he will quiet you with his love,
he will rejoice over you with singing.”

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 130

Christian Worship p.114

SECOND LESSON – Philippians 4:4-7

When the world opposes Christ and his Church, Christians do not respond with anxiety or anger, but gentleness. We bring all our concerns to God in prayer and rest in his peace of knowing the Lord will humble his enemies in due time.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia.

Please stand.

GOSPEL – Luke 3:7-18

Who is Christ's enemy? Anyone who refuses the gifts of his grace, received humbly in repentant faith.

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.” ¹⁰ “What should we do then?” the crowd asked. ¹¹ John answered, “The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same.” ¹² Tax collectors also came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?” ¹³ “Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them. ¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.” ¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ. ¹⁶ John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S LESSON

HYMN OF THE DAY 18 – “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You” (verses 1, 2, & 4)

SERMON Text: Luke 3:7-18

Theme: O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

- 1) Let the Gospel bring forth fruit.
- 2) Let the fruit be a part of your everyday life.
- 3) Let us give glory to God.

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please be seated.

HYMN 11 – “Comfort, Comfort All My People” (verses 1 & 2)

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

FRIENDSHIP REGISTRATION

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

Members: Please fill out name and any new information.

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

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

C: We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.

P: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

C: We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.

P: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

C: Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.

P: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocation, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.

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.

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, 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

CLOSING HYMN

21 – “Hosanna to the Coming Lord” (verses 1-3)



CHILDREN'S LESSON: Please encourage your children in the Pre-school through 4th grade to come quietly to the front when invited.

Announcements

Up-coming Christmas events:

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

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 18 in the church from 10:00-11:30 AM. Please contact Mrs. Baumann at lbaumann@tlcjenera.org with any questions or for additional information. Trinity children are invited to stay at church following practice for a free lunch to be served in the basement. After lunch, children (age 3 - 5th grade) are invited to participate in Christmas for Kids from 12:30-3:00 PM at school. Contact Jenny Boehm at (262) 391-7994 if you have any questions.

DON'T FORGET! Christmas for Kids is scheduled for **this** Saturday December 18 from 12:30-3:00 PM. This one day Christmas VBS will give children an opportunity to celebrate and learn about the true meaning of Christmas. The program, for children age 3 through 5th grade, features activity stations where kids learn about the Savior's birth, praise him in song, make crafts, play games, and enjoy snacks together.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S SERVICE: "Who Is He?" - the answer to this question is our focus at all times of the year and especially during Advent and Christmas—God made man to save sinful mankind. The service will be held Thursday, December 23, at 1:00 p.m. and again on Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m. Please join us for one of these wonderful services. The kids have worked hard!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS, PARTY! Come celebrate Jesus' birthday at the next Mornings with Mommy on Monday, December 20 or Tuesday, December 21. Bring your children/grandchildren to hear the story of Jesus' birth, stack presents, make a Christmas star ornament, have pretend birthday cake, and use play dough with cookie cutters. Register online at tlcjenera.org or call 262-391-7994.

CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNION Service will be held on Saturday, December 25th at 9:30 a.m. Join in the birthday celebration of your Savior.

THERE WILL only be *one* service on Sunday, December 26 and Sunday, January 2 at 9:30 a.m. We will not be having Bible Class or Sunday school either Sunday. Enjoy the extra time with your family and friends during Christmas and New Year's.

A NEW YEARS EVE Communion service will take place on December 31 at 7:00 p.m. Start the New Year right by joining us for worship!



OPEN GYM: 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.

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

GREETERS: Be on the lookout, either by email or USPS, for new greeter schedules for the first part of 2022.

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.

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE is now accepting applications for the positions of Accounting Clerk (Accounts Payable), Financial Wellness Trainer, Resource Development Counselor, Resource Development Manager, Women's Tennis Head Coach, Athletics Equipment Manager, and Early Childhood Learning Center Substitute Teachers. Interested individuals should apply online at mlc-wels.edu/hr/.

UNDERSHEPHERDS, thank you for the work that you have done to help with communication this year. You should have received in your mailboxes in the church basement a list of people to call. If you have not picked that up, please pick that up and encourage people by inviting them to our worship services around Christmas time. If you have done that, please hand your sheet that was given to you to Pastor directly or put it in his mailbox downstairs. If you are still working on your list, please let Pastor know by talking to him, calling him, or emailing him. Thank you.



Advent Wreath

The third Advent candle, the pink one, is called the Shepherd Candle. It represents the coming of the Savior into our hearts through faith in His holy Word. Even as the shepherds saw their Savior with their own eyes and believed, so now we see Him through the eyes of faith. We hear the account of the shepherds in Luke 2:15-20.

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

	<i>100 Powell Dr., Arlington, OH 45814</i>
Mr. Gary Beach	Room 203
Mrs. Wilda von Stein	Room 208 (<i>corrected room number</i>)
Mrs. Jeanine Hindall	
Mrs. Betty Burkholder (Jeanette Warren)	
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 Rauch	7445 St. Rt. 103

ELSEWHERE

Mr. Laverne Freed	8675 Township Road 27, Forest, Ohio 45843
Mr. Norman Schaller	Vancrest of Ada, 600 W. North Ave, Ada, Ohio 45810



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Website: tlcjenera.org

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of December 5, 2021)

Total Worship Attendance: 215; Early: 103; Late: 112; Adult Bible Study: 33; Teens: 5, Sunday School 28; Mornings with Mommy: 40. On-line worship service views for November 28 were 34.

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:	Mark & Kathi Curth – Early Service
	Next Sunday:	James & Deb Reichley – Early Service Mark & Jane Boehm – Late Service

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (December 12 through December 19)

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

MON Preschool Playtime 10:00.

WED Choir Practice **5:45**; Advent Song Service 7:00.

THU Good Samaritan Bible Class 11:00.

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

SCHOOL CALENDAR

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 Children's Christmas Eve Service practice 10-11:30, Lunch to follow, Christmas for Kids 12:30-3:00.

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.*