





Sunday, December 29, 2024

First Sunday after Christmas

**Theme of the Day:**

*The Gift of God: God Gives Both Substitute and Sacrifice*

*Congregation sings or speaks the bolded text*

**350 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

CW 350

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847 Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand.*

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Confession**

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.**

**Lord, Have Mercy**

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## 355 Let All Together Praise Our God

CW 355

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561, abr.; (sts. 1-3, 5-6): tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, sts. 1-3,5,6, alt.; (st. 4): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001, st. 4 Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561 Text (st. 4): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016 Text (sts. 1-3, 5-6) and tune: Public domain

# The Word

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming, deliver us from the corruption of our sin, and transform us into the likeness of his glory; 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.*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 50:4-9*

*The Servant of the LORD spoke through the prophet Isaiah. As our substitute Jesus demonstrated perfect obedience and trust, even when his Father asked him to be the sacrifice for our sin.*

<sup>4</sup>The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed. <sup>5</sup>The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away. <sup>6</sup>I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. <sup>7</sup>Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. <sup>8</sup>He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me?

Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! <sup>9</sup>It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## 26B In Judgment, LORD, Arise

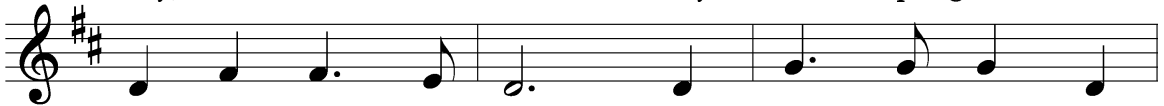
*Psalm 26B*



1 In judg - ment, LORD, a - rise, draw near to take my  
2 To God I lift my voice, his won - drous works con -  
3 Sweep not my soul a - side to paths where sin - ners



part, your ten - der love be - fore my eyes, your  
fess; let not their friend - ship be my choice who  
stray; let love of truth my foot - steps guide and



Word with - in my heart. Dis - cern my thoughts, I  
love un - right - eous - ness. The praise of God a -  
cast me not a - way. So shall I stand un -



pray, dis - cov - er all my mind, and keep me  
bove my tongue un - wea - ried tells; his ev - er -  
moved with all who love your Word. For mer - cy



in the nar - row way to in - no - cence in - clined.  
last - ing house I love where end - less glo - ry dwells.  
sure and prom - ise proved I bless your name, O LORD.

## Second Reading

Hebrews 2:10–18

*Through his suffering and sacrifice, Jesus has made us holy. He now calls us his brothers and sisters.*

<sup>10</sup>In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. <sup>11</sup>Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>He says, “I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises.” <sup>13</sup>And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again he says, “Here am I, and the children God has given me.” <sup>14</sup>Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— <sup>15</sup>and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. <sup>17</sup>For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

P: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## Gospel Acclamation

Luke 2:30,31

P: Alleluia. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations. Alleluia.

## Gospel

Luke 2:41–52

*Even as a boy, Jesus was acting as our substitute, demonstrating obedience to the Heavenly Father and respect for God’s holy Word.*

<sup>41</sup>Every year Jesus’ parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. <sup>43</sup>After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. <sup>44</sup>Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him, they were astonished.

His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” <sup>49</sup>“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C” Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Please be seated.*

## **329 All My Heart Again Rejoices**

CW 329

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr., adapt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

### **Sermon Text: Luke 2:41-52**

### **Sermon Theme: The Perfect Child was Obedient to His Fath and Our Father**

*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.*

## **Prayer of the Church**

P: Eternal and gracious Lord, we rejoice with hearts and voices because you sent your one and only Son from his majestic glory to save us from the slavery of sin and the agonies of death. He took on our human flesh that he might reveal your divine glory. He became our brother that we might become your children forever.

Give us quiet time during these busy days to reflect on your love and ponder the miracle of our Savior's incarnation. Help us look beyond our gift-giving and gift-receiving, and discover the greatest gift: the forgiveness of sins and life with you. Put the joys of Christmas into the perspective of our eternal celebration, and let music and art lift our hearts to Christ who is truly the center of the season.

Keep in your loving care all whose Christmas joys are diminished by sickness and sadness, by unhappy recollections and uncertain hopes. Comfort those who sense this Christmas may be their last, and raise their eyes to the brilliant lights of heaven. Soothe consciences that are troubled by guilt and regret, and show them the forgiving love of Christ.

We commend to your care all who proclaim the message of Christ during these holy days; all who care for people in hospitals, nursing homes, and prisons; and all who put themselves out to bring joy to others, especially children. Let the light of your grace shine through all ministries of mercy.

Send us your Holy Spirit, gracious Lord, that the proclamation of the Christmas gospel may lighten the load of guilt and fear and lift our hearts to confident faith and holy living. By the power of your Word, bring your light to hearts struggling to understand you and searching to find you that they may know the joys of this season as we do. Empower us to lead them to your love in our words and deeds.

All this we ask in the name of the newborn King, born in Bethlehem and now living and reigning forever in heaven. Amen.

## **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!***

## **349 A Great and Mighty Wonder**

*CW 349*

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Germanus, c. 634–c. 734 Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, Köln, 1599 Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand.*

P: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**All: 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.**

### **Blessing**

P: 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.**

### **617 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

*CW 617*

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text and tune: Public domain **Acknowledgments:** Setting Two from Christian Worship Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.





## *Announcements*

**WELCOME!** Thank you for joining our Trinity family in worship today. We invite you to keep growing with us through God's Word and Sacraments. If you have a question, please speak to a pastor or a Trinity member. If you are a guest, please pick up a guest packet and give your name and address in the friendship registration located in each pew. Ask the ushers if you need a pocket-sized aid for the hearing impaired. Large print bulletins are available upon request, with the Hymns for the service printed in them. A Nursery with our service on TV is located off the lobby for parents who need to calm young children.

**THE WELS CONNECTION** will be shown after both services today.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE CLASS** NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR BIBLE CLASS TODAY

**NEW YEAR'S EVE** Join us for our New Year's Eve service on Tuesday at 7:00pm, to celebrate another year of God's Glory!

**RECESS VOLUNTEER** a recess volunteer for the school is needed on Wednesdays starting in January. The time slot would be from 12:15-12:45. Please contact the office or Mr. Falck if you are able to help out!

**POWER POINT PRESENTER** There is an opening for 2<sup>nd</sup> service for a Power Point Presenter. Please contact Pastor Nowak if you are interested in filling in the vacancy and/or for more details.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** for 2025 are available in the Narthex. Pick them up at your earliest convenience! If you are not able to find your envelopes or have any questions, please contact Bob Inniger at 567-674-6049.

**BIBLE STUDY FOR JANUARY:** On January 5, we will study Saul's (Apostle Paul's) Conversion, as we prepare to study his letter written to the Corinthian congregation. On January 19, we will begin our study of 1 Corinthians. Corinth was a divided and struggling congregation in a challenging place. As we examine the struggles of this congregation, we will apply them to our lives and the everyday struggles of living in America today. As we will see our study in the Lord will not be in vain as he teaches and strengthens us today.

**OPEN GYM:** The school's gym will be available for those wanting to play basketball indoors on Sunday afternoons beginning on December 1st. The gym will be open on Sundays 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

**LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP GRANTING ORGANIZATION OF OHIO (LSGOO)** To date, we have been able to provide over \$10,000 in scholarships from this program to school families needing additional assistance. If you are not taking advantage of this excellent opportunity to direct a portion of your Ohio tax liability directly to our school's ministry, please check out [www.lsgoohio.org](http://www.lsgoohio.org) or talk to Mr. Falck. Remember: Up to \$750/individual or \$1500/filing jointly can be directed to this program with a one-time or recurring payment!

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY:** Women are invited to an afternoon of Bunco on Sunday, January 19 starting at 2:00 PM at Dawn Curth's house (303 East Sandusky St. Jenera). Bunco is a fun and easy dice game in which players simply roll dice to score points. It's a social game that's based on luck , so there's no need to learn a complex strategy. Ladies will sit at small tables and switch seats throughout the game. This is a great chance to meet and talk with other many other women! No experience necessary! Snacks will be provided. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you plan to attend.

**MUSIC AND INSTRUMENTS:** Join other kids (ages 0-6) and their caretakers in the church basement on Monday or Tuesday, January 6 or 7. This Mornings with Mommy session will have your children singing, dancing, and playing instruments. You and your children can dance on bubble wrap, paint a guitar, make a maraca, and do musical note hopscotch!. The program costs \$5 per family. Register online at [tlcjenera.org](http://tlcjenera.org) or call 262-391-7994.

**PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME:** Do your kids need a warm 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, January 13 from 10:00-11:00 AM. We will have balls to play with, ride-on toys, mats to crawl/roll around on, mini-trampolines, infant toys, large building blocks, and lots of space to run around and play. Grab a snack for your ride home.

**DISCOVERY STORY:** The Hancock County Parks is coming for its next Discovery Story on Wednesday, January 15 at 10:00 AM in the church basement. Have you ever looked closely at bird feet? They come in many different shapes and sizes, and they help birds do important jobs. Join us in the church basement with your toddler, preschoolers, and kindergartners as we take a closer look at actual bird feet. Stay after the program for crafts and other activities. Please email Jenny at [mwmtrinity@tlcjenera.org](mailto:mwmtrinity@tlcjenera.org) if you plan to attend.

**LUTHER SOCIETY** We plan to go to lunch and then axe throwing at Axe Venture in Findlay, on Sunday, January 19th. Mark your calendars! Please text Kathy Miles 419-348-3075 by January 13th if you would like to join us as we need to make a reservation. Feel free to bring a friend.

**THE ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING** will be held on January 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Voters – now is your opportunity to have your voices heard! All voters are encouraged to attend. Voters consist of male communicant members who have reached the age of 18. The Lord has called men to be the leaders for the congregational team. Your service as a voter is wanted and needed by your Lord and your church. Everyone is welcome including the women of the church regardless of voter status. If you have anything for the agenda, please send it to Courtney Breitigam or Pastor Nowak by January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Ash Wednesday Service- March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm

#### **DAILY LECTIONARY**

**12.29:** Is 55:1-13, Lu 1:1-25

**12.30:** Is 58:1-59:3, 14-21, Lu 1:26-38

**12.31:** Is 60:1-22, Lu 1:39-56

**1.1:** Is 61:1-11, Lu 1:57-80

**1.2:** Is 62:1-12, Lu 2:1-20

**1.3:** Is 63:1-14, Lu 2:21-40

**1.4:** Is 63:15-65:2, Lu 2:41-52

**1.5:** Is 65:8-25, Lu 3:1-20



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of December 22<sup>nd</sup>)

Attendance will be in next week's bulletin.

**MONEY COUNTERS** for this morning through January 11<sup>th</sup> are the members of Joe Spaeth's Undershepherd group. Beginning Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, will be the members of Ron Bower's Undershepherd group.

**GREETERS** today are: Ruth Marquart – early  
Gary & Rebecca Mitchell – late

New Year's Eve: John & Janet Weihrauch

Next Sunday: Deb Reichley – early  
Bob & Julie Inniger – late

## THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (December 29<sup>th</sup> through January 5<sup>th</sup>)

**TODAY Worship 8:00 & 10:30; WELS Connection**

**TUE** New Year's Eve Communion Service 7:00

**WED** NO NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE

**SUN** **Worship 8:00 & 10:30;** Communion; Adult Bible Study, Teen Bible Class, Sunday School  
9:20; Open Gym 2:00

Vanco  
Mobile  
App



**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.*