

Trinity Lutheran Church

Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

304 E. Ferris St.
Galesburg, IL 61401
“the welcome place”

Second Sunday of Advent

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Introduction

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord’s coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, “See, your God is coming!” We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

+++ GATHERING +++

Prelude Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus Michael Burkhardt

Welcome, Announcements & **Friendship Registries-Please Sign In.**

(Stand)

Invocation

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation.

Amen.

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Confession and Forgiveness

Everlasting God,
you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.
We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.

**We are complicit in systems of exploitation.
We choose comfort over courage.
We are careless with creation's bounty.
Look upon us with mercy.
Turn our hearts again to you.
Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways
for the sake of our waiting world.
Amen.**

Hear these words of assurance:
God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.
In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all.
Amen.

Gathering Song ELW#264

Prepare the Royal Highway

Greeting

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

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Second Sunday of Advent

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again.
You fasten righteousness around your waist
and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire.
Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames,
and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare.
We ask that peace abound,
until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.
Amen.

Two Advent Candles are Lit

Kyrie

WOV Setting 4

A In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **A** For the

C Lord, have mer - cy.

peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For the peace of the whole world, the well - being of the

C Lord, have mer - cy.

Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their

C Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Sit)

+++ WORD +++

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

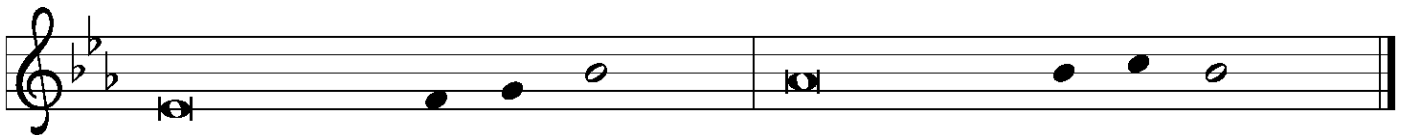
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”
See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Sung responsively by whole verse



¹You have been gracious to your | land, O LORD;
you have restored the good for- | tune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity | of your people
and blotted out | all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who
turn their | hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell | in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
and our land will | yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD
and shall prepare for | God a pathway.**

Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Gospel Mark 1:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

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

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a

baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

(Sit)

Children's Message
Sermon

Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes

(Stand)

Hymn of the Day ELW #255

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

Nicene Creed

Let us join together in the confession of our faith.

**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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

(Sit)

Prayers of Intercession.

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church,
the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

Send forth your faithful people with words of promise and
forgiveness. Teach your church to be bold in revealing your good
news in word and in deed. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Reveal your majesty in mountain peaks, flowing rivers, and
blossoming wilderness roads. Heal the earth where it longs for
renewal. Bring wholeness to the earth and all its creatures.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Turn the hearts of the nations toward righteousness and peace. Increase cooperation for justice between countries, commonwealths, political parties, and diplomatic leaders. In times of prosperity, direct leaders to be generous for the sake of all.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Comfort your people with tender words of love and healing.

Surround all who are grieving, all who know depression or anxiety, or all who feel lonely or forgotten. Be a steadfast presence when all else feels uncertain. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Grant holy patience to all who are waiting this season. Give hope to those seeking employment. Bring reassurance to people awaiting new diagnoses, treatments, or who are healing especially Dena, Jean, Bev, Norm, and Annie. Protect expectant parents. Watch with those who keep a bedside vigil. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

With you a thousand years is like a day. Bless the memory of the saints from ages past and the anticipation of saints yet to be born. Inspire us to live with faith as we await your new heaven and new earth. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We offer to you these prayers as well as those we now name to you either aloud or in our heart. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+++ MEAL +++

(Sit)

Offering Song Prepare the Royal Highway Michael Burkhardt

(Stand)

Offering Prayer

God our provider,
by your merciful hand
abundance springs up from the earth.
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.
Let them be a sign of your steadfast love
and faithfulness for all people,
through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
 Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
 Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
 Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
 Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
 Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
 Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
 the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as Christ taught us

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.

Come, take your place at the table.

All are welcome to receive communion at Trinity Lutheran Church. If you wish to receive you may come forward as dismissed by the usher and will be given a wafer in the center aisle. Then you may take a small cup from the tray. Red wine is along the outside, and white grape juice is located in the center of the tray. Gluten-free bread is also available. Place empty cups in the bowls located at the side aisle as you return to your pew. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, you may indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest as you come forward.

(Sit)

Distribution of Communion

Lamb of God

WOV Setting 4

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Aria

Michael Burkhardt

Post Communion Hymn

Thankful Hearts

WOV Setting 4

Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev- 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who
seek the Lord re - joice, re - joice and
bear Christ's ho - ly name. Send us, O God, with your
prom - is - es, and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanks- giv- ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

(Stand)

Prayer After Communion

Generous God,
in bread and cup you have revealed your glory
for all people to see together.
Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim
your good news of liberation and release,
brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

+ + + SENDING + + +

Blessing

The God of peace bless you,
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,
and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you
now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song ELW #254

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prepare the Royal Highway

Robert Hobby

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As you leave, please take a moment and greet one another.

Worship Participants

Audio: Sarah Brakenbury

Video: Bill Sime

Usher: Erin Crawford, Roger & Melissa Williamson

Communion Setup: Hillary Hoffman

Assisting Minister: Julia Robinson

Reader: Lynn Armstrong

Wine Server: Nick Elders, Marilyn Gehring

Closing Duties: Sarah Brakenbury

Acolyte: Cecilia Crawford

Coffee Fellowship Servers: Layton & Nancy Sandall

Advent Wreath: Sandra, Henry, & Vivian Gray

Organist: Bette Mohr

Director of Choirs: James Hutchings

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes



Today's Radio Broadcast was sponsored by **Tom & Marcy Simkins**, *in honor of Trinity Youth, past, present, and future.*

Announcements

TLC Mitten Tree- Please bring in new hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves to warm up the tree in the Narthex. These items will be donated to local children and youth in need! Give the gift of warmth this season!

Christmas Memorials- Are due on or before **December 18th** to be included in bulletins and Tidings. This year we will be donating memorials to the **ELCA LDR Fund**.

Coffee Fellowship-Join us in Fellowship Hall immediately after service

Bell Choir Practice will start at 11 am on Sundays

Sunday School-Youth please join us after service

Sunday School is collecting donations for Hope House, if you want to help them reach their goals, you can drop off pantry items in Fellowship Hall, there's a labeled box, please contact Julie Wiegand for more info.

PRISMS will meet tonight at 5 pm

Adult Bible Study will meet on December 12th at 6 pm

Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 12th at 7 pm

Choir Practice-Wednesday at 6:30 pm

The last Deposit of the Year is Saturday, December 30, 2023.

Views & Brews: Join Pastor Carrie and/or Scott

Mondays at 10 am at The Orange Cup Side Hustle (E. Galesburg)

Reminder: There are **NO Committee Meetings** this month

Prayers: If you need prayer for yourself or a loved one, please fill out the salmon-colored slips in the Narthex and drop them into the collection plate.

Current Prayer List:

Dena G. <i>(daughter of Hilma McDorman)</i>	Prayers for peace & comfort
Jean M.	Prayers for comfort & health
Bev P.	Prayers for healing & recovery
Norm T.	Prayers for healing (hip surgery)
Annie M.	Prayers for healing (surgery)

Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes, Pastor, Out-of-office: Friday
Cell phone: 618-803-8778
Church Office: Phone 309-343-4191
Hours 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, Monday-Friday
1st & 3rd Saturdays, Worship at 5:00 pm, Holy Communion
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am; Holy Communion Sunday; Facebook
Radio Ministry at 9:30 am on WRAM – 1330 AM
www.trinitygalesburg.org
trinitylutheran@trinitygalesburg.org

Vision Statement

Developing Disciples – Connecting to Christ

Mission Statement

Led by the Spirit, we receive Christ's love, share God's forgiving grace, and reach out to welcome, encourage and serve all.

Welcome Statement

Members of Trinity Lutheran Church are freed by the Gospel to seek reconciliation and wholeness in a world that is frequently an unloving place. We extend welcome to all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, whether believer, doubter, or seeker. In Christ's love we invite you, so that led by the power of the Holy Spirit we will join together to strive for racial equity, justice, peace and love in all the earth.

Our Guiding Principles

1. Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior.
2. We faithfully worship through Word and Sacrament.
3. We invite and welcome everyone.
4. We engage all generations in education and ministry.

5. We serve local and global communities.