

Trinity Lutheran Church

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*4th Week of Advent
December 19-20, 2020*

*6:00 P.M. Saturday-Worship
9:30 A.M. Sunday-Worship*

Confession

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin
to live for you alone.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness,
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

**Congregation: we confess that we are captive 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.**

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake
God 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 the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Organ Prelude: Fanfare on *St. Hilary*

Ritter

Entrance Hymn: #248 People, Look East

- 1. People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People look east, and sing today Love, the Guest is on the way.**
- 2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course and flow'r may flourish.
People, look east, and sing today Love, the Rose, is on the way.**
- 3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining
beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today Love, the Star, is on the way.**
- 4. Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

Greeting

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

Congregation: And also with you.

Litany:

Pastor Break into our world with your light, O Lord, we pray,

Congregation Stir up Your power and come.

Pastor Break into our world with your joy; we pray, O Lord,

Congregation Stir up Your power and come.

Pastor Break into our world with your peace; we pray, O Lord,

Congregation Stir up Your power and come.

Pastor Break into our world with your comfort; we pray, O Lord,

Congregation Stir up Your power and come.

Pastor Break into our world with your love; we pray O Lord,

Congregation Stir up Your power and come.

Pastor Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant
grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may
receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with
the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

Advent Readers and Candle lighters:

Saturday, December 19: Donnie Moyer Reader 1; Mikey Stank Reader 2.

will light the candles.

Sunday, December 20: Ryan Grube Reader 1; Emily Roth Reader 2.

will light the candles.

Reader One: We live on the brink every day. We stand on the threshold between this world and the next one. We live and move between the ordinary and divine, between the mundane and the mystery. Too often, we forget to look up and see the angels in our living room. We forget that the love we give and live is a sign of eternity, God with us, right now. We forget that company is coming.

Reader Two: Luke tells us that God's favor came to a girl, an ordinary girl. It might have been you or your daughter; it might have been the girl down the street or your grandchild. But the messenger of God came and greeted her and said, "The Lord is with you." What a gift and a promise: Emmanuel, God is with us.

Reader One: We light these candles with peace in our hearts for the promise of proximity, the nearness of God. Even when we forget to listen, to lean into that presence, God is as close as our own breath. This, in a confused and confusing world, is a peace that passes all understanding. It is the peace that knows that company is coming.

Reader Two: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

Hymn-#240 Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

- 1.Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel; God fulfills the promise.**
- 2.Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.**
- 3.Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.**
- 4.Light four candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He is coming, tell the glad tidings. Let your lights be shining!**

**Congregation: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Luke the 1st verse

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Today's Readings Insert

Pastor: The gospel of our Lord.

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Chris

Hymn of the Day: #266 All Earth is Hopeful

- 1. All earth is hopeful; the Savior comes at last!
Furrows lie open for God's creative task; this the labor of people who struggle
to see how God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.**
- 2. People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell; "A virgin mother will bear
Emmanuel"; she conceived him, "God with us." our brother, whose birth
restores hope and courage to children of this earth.**
- 3. Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared; new highways opened,
new protocols declared. Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!
All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!**
- 4. We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib. This same Lord Jesus today has come to live
in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see our Jesus
is with us and ever sets us free.**

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 are 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.**

Prayer Hymn-#752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Prayers

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor The Lord be with you.

Congregation:(sung) And also with you.

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

Congregation:(sung) We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation:(sung) It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection open to us the way of ever lasting life. 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:

Congregation:(sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor 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.

Pastor The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Strengthen You and Keep You in His Grace. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Congregation: Amen.

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. To Love and Serve the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn: #244 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

1. Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear; the evening is advancing, and darker night is near.

The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.

Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.

2. The watcher on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.

The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.

Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.

3. The saints, who here in patience their cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever when sorrow is not more.

Around the throne of glory, the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.

4. Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.

With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see the day of
earth's redemption that sets your people free!

*God be with you till we meet again,
By His counsels guide uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you,
God be with you till we meet again.*

Organ Postlude

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Prayer List: Prayer List: December 19-20, 2020

Members of Trinity – Members of Trinity – Nick Angelo, Robert Arner, Paul Ashembrier, Judi Barton, Ray Brennan, Jody Brossman, Doug Camodeca, Sam and Joan Carroll, Laura Louise Dolbin, Joel Ebling, Barbara Gentile, Fred Gradwell, Louise Gradwell, Margaret Gretskey, Larry Haffey, Scott Haffey, Pat Haluska, Shirley Harkins, Helen Harvey, Peggy Hassler, Bruce Heckman, Kelly Knorr, Paula Kriner, Lincoln Krisa, Kim Leiby, Debbie Linder, Dennis Lord, Jean and George Lord, Nancy Mahall, Margie Mataka, Shirley Morgan, Adam Morrow, Ray Moyer, Pamela Purcell, Marilyn Reed, Jill Schaeffer, Ron Schaeffer, Peg Schappell, Linda Seiwel, Kay Shaw, Judy Steffanic, Colin Studlack, Dorothy Thomas, Frances Thomas, Judy Thomas, Shawn Thomas, Barbara Wagner, Dolores Wagner, Nancy Weigand, Mary Jane Wilson, Carolyn Wire

Shut-Ins – Merle Amos, Tom & Mickie Bair, Leah Brokhoff, Judy Cappel, Earlamay Downing, Jacques Ebling, Carolyn Gauntlett, Jeanne Heffner, Robert Heffner, Dorothy Heiser, Dolores Hoffman, Richard & Carole Kline, Mary Leary, Jean Lord, Bob Pauzer, Pat Phillips, Terry Pugh, Nancy Schriener, Carolyn Spiess, Ann Spotts, Ann Tihansky, Beatrice Walsh, Kathryn Wodack, Darlene & Richard Zeller

Nursing Home/Personal Care Residents – Betty Beury, Joseph Culley, Louise Dicus, Hope Fisher, Tom Fredericks, Larue Hahn, Barbara Heffner, Alda Howells, Dianna Hutton, Kathryn Johnson, Mollie Katchur, Edna Laubenstine, Jean Neithamer, Dorothy Schaeffer, Grace Schuettler, Anna Stinner

Military Personnel – Brett Allison, Jacob Barton, Jason Beach, Audrey Burke, Christopher & Savannah Butler, Tim Campbell, Judy Cappel, Andrew Clancey, Ian Conrad, Ryan Devaney, Jeff and Katie Dittmar, Noah Elison, Brian and Joshua Fetterman, Joshua Fredericks, Kevin Gregory, Sean Grube, Seth Grube, Joshua Hager, Marc Jones, Aaron Leshner, Edward Mady, Tom McMurtrie, Ryan Miller, Ashton Muncy, Allison Ney, John Nomland, Aaron Oswald, Eddie Padinski, Kevin Potts, Larry Reedy, Zachary Reichert, Michael and Stephen Reier, Steven Sleva, Nicholas Starner, Matthew Tobin, Jamie Watt

Those who mourn– Family and friends of *Edward Kalyan*.

Family Members/Friends –Sharon Alfonso, Michelle Ambrose, Jessica Archibald, Inez Aurand, Beverly Banovatz, Donna Bast, Kathy Bauers, David Bechtel, Ed Bensinger, Olivia Bensinger, Ron Boris, Rose Brehony, Kristel Brennan, Patricia Bressler, Doug Broughton, Jason Castaneda, Bruce Chattin, Mike Cloud, Pat Connor, Pete Connors, Irene Conway, Robert Craig, Jessica Croley, Megan Dasch, Hayden Daubert, Alice Davis, Ethel Davis, Ray Dee, Mike Dempsey, Patricia Derlunas & Family, Marian and Sarah Donlin, Diane Donovan, Robert Doughtery, Jim Driscoll, Nick & Nicholas Dubb, Kerry Duke, Laura Dunlap, Joanie Eagan, Bruce Ernst, Jessie and Jamie Ebert, Marilee Ebert, Gaylene Ebling, Peggy Ebling, Tracey Ebling, Scarlett Eckkers, Jamie Edwards, Virginia Ehrich, Mary Eiler, Erin Emmick, Michelle and Peggy Evans, Vince Fabiani, Nolan Ferhat, Grace Flynn, Kathy Fronza, Daniel Fuentes, Jim Gary, Elaine Gayman, Judy Genovese, Donna George, Kim Gerthoffer, Kathleen Gradwell, Scott Grossman, Tina Guise, Tim Guise, Gemma Haas, Shane Haffey, Joe Halko & Family, John Hannaway, Ann Marie Harpel, Nancy Hart, Joie Hartnet, Jarred Heckart, Bruce Heffner, Psmurfisa Hernandez, Rita Hinchey, Rosalind Hosler, John Housknecht, Helen Hufnagle, Sandy Huntzinger, Agnes Jaglas, Tom Jefferson, Lauren Kelly, Beth Ketz, Edwin Kindred, Sr., Phyllis Knoll, Shirley Koury, Sue Kraft, Rita Krueel, Chrissy Kull, Mary Larish, Chris Larsen, Butch Lasco, Phil Lasco, Christina Lee, Jaden Leiby, Kathy Lengle, Robert “Oscar” Leskin, Bernadette Lord, David Lord, Helen Love, Sister Jo Magdalinski, Thelma Mansfield, Melissa Martin, Linda Marx, Mona Marzullo, Amanda Mason, Harper Masland, John Matz, Gladys Maurer, Debra McBride, Debra Lynne McBride, Jeanne McClure, Diane McCully, Helen McGeever, Lenny and Karen McHugh, Kathy McGee, Joe McNulty, Sandy Mendini, Nadine Merrigan, Alethia Meyer, Peggy Meyer, Lisa M. Mikula, Ariel Miller, Laura Miller, Leslie and Geoff Miller, Carol A. Mills, Madeline Miscannon, Helene Moore, Janice Moore, Patrick Moore, Rochelle and Lindsey Moser, Darron Moyer, Robert Muldowney, Colleen Murphy, Anthony Murray, Vincent Murray, Virginia O’Brian, Tom Palewicz, Rob Parano, Maureen Pavlick, Pastor Peggy Sue Pfeffer, Joe Phillips, Annalise Porreca, Anna Sterner Porreca, Irene Post, John Potlunas, Karen Prettie, Kathy Pritchard, Kayleigh Pronio, Joe Rady, Dayne Readinger, Dot Rebeck, Joe & Mary Jane Reed, Colleen Rothharpt, John Roberts, Tina Robinson, Mary Lou Roeder, DJ Rubright, Charles (Chuck) Rushannon, Bob Sabaday, Amy Schade, Cheryl Scharff, Anne Schock, Earl Shoener, Jennifer Schultz, Jack Schwenk, Rogene Seidel, Shawn Seidl, Rosemary Shustack, Aldyn Socks, Allen and Jack Spotts, Lindsay Spotts, Karen Engel Sterling, Jessica Stewart, Sawyer Sullivan, Brian Symons, Skip Tyson, Tristen Uffre, Joan Urenko, Karen Urban, Tammy Uhrin, Gloria Uzick, Bob Voskuhl, Charlie Wagner, Jean Walsh, Rol Walters, Angela Ward, Glynn Ward, Mark Wolfgang, Joan Woodward, Nancy Woodward, George Yarnell, Connor Joel Yob, Kathleen & Joseph Young, Marge Yourshaw, Tony Zampella

Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of *William E. Howells* by daughter, Aldajean.

Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of my husband, *Jim Wire*, on his birthday, December 20 by his wife, Carolyn.

The Altar Flowers have been provided this weekend by: **Bella Florist**

Bulletins are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of *Margie Shaw* on her birthday, December 23 by daughter, Kay.

Children's Bulletins are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of *deceased class members*, by Craft Class.

Radio Ministry is presented to the Glory of God and in memory of our parents, *Andrew and Emma Greff and Elizabeth and Chester Corse* and my wife, *Norma Corse* by Chester Corse.

NOTICE:

When making out checks for offering and memorials, they must be separate checks made out to Trinity Lutheran Church. Any questions, call the church office (570) 622-9910.

STATEMENT OF CONGREGATIONAL MISSION

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Lutheran Church is a worshipping, learning, witnessing, and serving community of baptized Christians. It is a welcoming place where the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are celebrated according to the Gospel. As a community of believers, we challenge each other to respond to the call of our Lord to love and minister to persons at home and throughout the world.

We encourage each other to share our time, our talents, and gifts to further the mission of our Lord Jesus Christ. In these ways, we bear witness to the love we have first received from God through Jesus Christ.

Adopted by the Congregation

January 25, 1998

Chris Rothharpt, Senior Pastor
Ron Brennan, Church Council President
Michael Kiehner, Organist & Choir Director
Jean Miller, Church Secretary
Janet Little, Church Secretary
Maryann Lascala, Coordinator of Senior Services
Jim Honicker, Sexton

E-Mail Addresses:

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Janet Little jlittle@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com
Maryann Lascala mlascala@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com
Main email address tlccares@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com

"THE CONNECTING LINK"

Sunday mornings, WPPA, 1360 AM at 11:00 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Guest Account

Password: TrinityWIFI
(password is case sensitive)

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

As we continue to make our way through the ever-changing landscape of 2020 with the Coronavirus' disruption to our normal way of life, we are unfortunately having to revise our worship schedule once again.

As noted in my most recent newsletter article, that more changes could be upon us; they indeed are. As such, and as promised, we are making every effort to communicate our response with everyone as best and expeditiously as possible.

Effective December 15th, our worship service changes are as follows:

We will be providing live in-person worship services the weekend of December 19-20.

We will also be providing live in-person worship for Christmas Eve with the following changes and restrictions. We will be offering our traditional Christmas Eve worship services at 5PM, 7:30PM, and 10PM, HOWEVER, in line with state mandates for limiting social gatherings, our original plan to provide worship space in our Sanctuary, Main Sunday school room, and Trinity Hall are unfortunately, no longer an option.

At this point we are only able to provide worship within our church sanctuary for Christmas Eve, and as such, are limited to the number of individuals we are able to accommodate for each service, therefore, and unfortunately, reservations have become an ABSOLUTE NECESSITY.

At this point we have unfortunately reached our reservation totals for our 5PM Christmas Eve service. While there is space available still for our 7:30 and 10PM worship services, space will not long last.

We ask you to PLEASE call in advance to make your reservations as these are indeed unprecedented times for worship, and of course everyone's health and safety. PLEASE contact the church office at 570-622-9910 to make your reservations.

We as Trinity's Church Council, Strategic Planning, and Worship and Music committees, and church leadership, truly apologize and have agonized over these decisions, however, the circumstances are upon us such that we have had to make difficult decisions.

We thank you for your patience and support, and we continue to ask for your prayers as we continue to pray for each of our members and families that health, peace, and restoration to life as normal returns to us all sooner than later.

Finally, as with many other congregations in our area, and considering travel and gatherings for the Christmas holiday, we will be closed for in-person worship the weekends of December 26-27; January 2-3, and January 9-10, returning then (prayerfully and hopefully) for the weekend of January 16-17.

On behalf of everyone at Trinity Lutheran Church, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and a happy, healthy, peaceful, and safe New Year!

God Bless Us, Everyone,
Pastor Chris

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATION FORM

The Nominating Committee invites your input in identifying candidates to serve as Church Council members.

You may suggest names of up to 5 persons. The person(s) you suggest must be a voting member (active and confirmed) of our congregation. The person should, above all, be committed to serving Christ and his church. It is **not** necessary to consult the person in advance. The Nominating Committee will do this during the selection process should the person receive a nomination. You may, of course, indicate your own desire to serve on Council by submitting your own name.

All Nomination Forms Must Be Received By Monday, December 21 to be of benefit to the Committee. To submit a form, you must be a voting member of the congregation. Thank you for your interest and participation in the ministry of our Church.

I suggest the following person(s) for nomination to Church Council:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Forms can either be placed in the offering plates or dropped off in the church office.

