



“Then the
glory of the LORD
shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together.”

Isaiah 40:5, NRSV



MEMBER OF THE CHURCH



OF THE LUTHERAN
CONFESSION



Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

December 22nd, 2024

Organist: Kathy Conway

Video: Ben Reim, Ariel Smith, Kevin Shaffer

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Bible Class: 9:15am
Worship: 10:30am

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Service of the Word

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

TLH 55 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C (spoken) Amen.

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 (spoken) Amen.

P In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



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

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST *Gloria in Excelsis*



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shipped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** (spoken) And also with you.
- P** Let us pray. . .
- C** (spoken) Amen

First Reading

Luke 4:16-21

So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.¹⁷ And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to *the* poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to *the* captives
And recovery of sight to *the* blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
¹⁹ To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”

²⁰ Then He closed the book, and gave *it* back to the attendant and sat down.
And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹ And He
began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 19 (selected verses)

- P** The law of the Lord *is* perfect, converting the soul;
- C** **The testimony of the Lord *is* sure, making wise the simple;**
- P** The statutes of the Lord *are* right, rejoicing the heart;
- C** **The commandment of the Lord *is* pure, enlightening the eyes;**
- P** Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
Be acceptable in Your sight,
- C** **O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.**

Second Reading

Romans 15:4-13

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that
we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have
hope. ⁵ Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-
minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, ⁶ that you may with
one mind *and* one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory
of God. ⁸ Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the
circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises *made* to the
fathers, ⁹ and that the Gentiles might glorify God for *His* mercy, as it is
written:

“For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles,
And sing to Your name.”

¹⁰ And again he says:

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!”

¹¹ And again:

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles!
Laud Him, all you peoples!”

¹² And again, Isaiah says:

“There shall be a root of Jesse;
And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles,
In Him the Gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Alleluia'. It consists of four staves of music in C major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first three 'Alleluia' phrases. The second staff contains the text 'These words are written that we may believe that'. The third staff contains the text 'Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.' The fourth staff contains the final three 'Alleluia' phrases. The music is simple and melodic, suitable for a church service.

Apostles' Creed

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

And 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 sits 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.**

Hymn of the Day

TLH 61 Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People

Sermon Text

Isaiah 40:1-5 (ESV)

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the Lord's hand

double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ 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.

⁵ And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Sermon Theme:

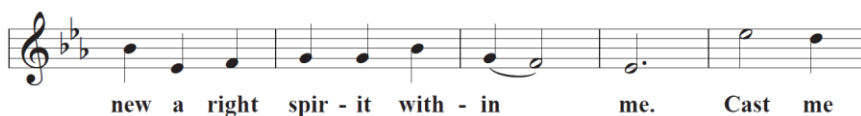
The Word Offers True Comfort Care

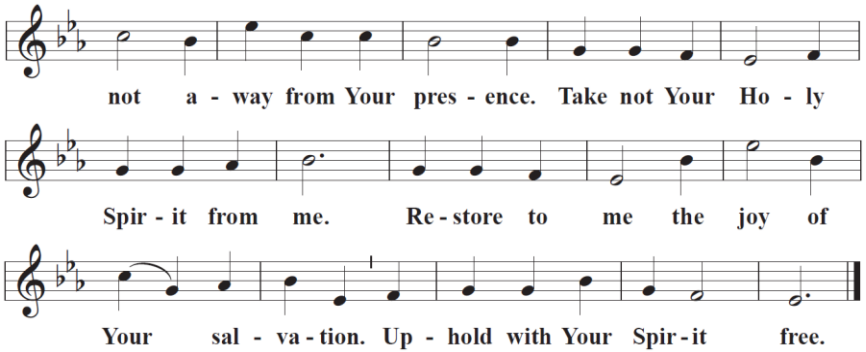
I: The flesh seeks to be comfortable

II: The soul is comforted in Christ

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

OFFERTORY





not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Hymn

TLH 285 How Precious Is the Book Divine

Offering

General Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

P . . . in whose Name we also pray together:

C **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

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

TLH 282 Christians Come in Sweetest Measures

Silent Prayer

Acknowledgments

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Welcome to Worship at Trinity!

Please wait to be ushered out of the sanctuary. Please do not leave any bulletins or other materials behind. **Offerings** may be left in the offering plate in the rear of the sanctuary or mailed to the church.

Guest and Visitors, we are delighted to have you here for worship with us this morning and are grateful for the opportunity to share the saving gospel message of Jesus Christ with you! Because He lives, we shall live also! We invite you to sign our guest book in the entryway. Please speak to the members and pastor if you wish to learn more about the Gospel ministry here at *Trinity*, and we hope to see you again!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Worship Schedule

- Christmas Eve (Tuesday, 12/24) – 6:30pm
- Christmas Day (Wednesday, 12/25) – 10:30am
- New Year's Day (Wednesday, 1/1) – 10:30am

Tour Choir 2025 – The Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary tour choir will be visiting us next March to bring us the Gospel in song! In the coming weeks, we'll be looking for volunteers to help house, feed, and transport the choir members during their stay. Give some thought as to whether you'd be able to help out – more info soon!

PRAYERS REQUESTED

- **Mike Helke**, husband of Jeanne, had an accident with a saw that damaged his hand quite severely. He is currently recovering at home. May God grant him swift healing and a full recovery according to His will.
- **Barbara Anderson** is in rehabilitation at Manor Care after suffering from a stroke. Please keep Barbara in your prayers, and may the Lord grant her swift healing by His grace.
- **Dale Johnson** fell, broke his hip, and had surgery the next day to repair it. He is now rehabilitating at Manor Care. Please remember Dale in your prayers that God might spare him and unnecessary pain and restore him to health soon.
- **Connie Estes**, sister-in-law to Randy Estes, is undergoing chemotherapy treatment for kidney cancer. We ask the Lord's blessing on Connie and the whole Estes family during this time and pray for the treatment's success.

- **Stan White** recently had got scans back to gauge how effective his chemotherapy and radiation were to treat the cancer that was discovered this summer. Praise God, the cancer seems to be in remission! May God continue to bless Stan in his recovery.
- **Tom Steger**, a friend of the congregation, continues to recover at home from spinal surgery to remove a tumor and has begun hormone therapy to treat his cancer. May God bless his recovery and treatment.
- **Pastor Timothy Wheaton**, who serves Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Loveland, Colorado, has been diagnosed with a rare form of inoperable and highly aggressive stage-4 thyroid cancer. As his time on earth appears to be drawing to a close, may God give grace a comfort to Pastor Wheaton, his family, and our brothers and sisters at Prince of Peace during this difficult time.
- Molly Bettinger's friend, **Jeanne** (pronounced "Genie"), who has been suffering from glioblastoma had an MRI that shows a more enhanced brain tumor. Please continue to pray for Jeanne that she may be healed if it is God's will. Above all, may the joyful hope of the Gospel comfort her and her family no matter what the future holds.
- Please keep **Pastor John Hein and his family** in your prayers as he continues treatment for his thymic carcinoma. For updates on his care, visit: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/pastorjohnhein>. Additionally, a GoFundMe has been set up to help offset medical and travel expenses: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/john-and-janelle-hein-family>.

CALL NEWS

Pastor Del Maas of Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN has received the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Pastor George Dummann of Salem Lutheran Church, Eagle Lake, MN has the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

| FRUITS OF FAITH AT TRINITY | | |
|----------------------------|------------|----------|
| Date | Attendance | Offering |
| 11/17/24 | 23 | \$480 |
| 11/24/24 | 26 | \$660 |
| 12/1/24 | 26 | \$3,455 |
| 12/8/24 | 25 | \$678 |

| GREETER SCHEDULE | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Christmas Eve (12/24) | Tom & Molly Bettinger |
| Christmas Day (12/25) | Joyce Miller |
| 12/29 | Jeanne Helke |
| 12/29 | Kevin Shaffer |

| DECEMBER CLEANING SCHEDULE | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| North Entry | White |
| Sanctuary | Estes |
| Basement | Helke |

