

***Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church***

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Interim Pastor Alan Saatkamp email: ajsaat96@gmail.com

**God of all creation who gives us this beautiful day  
and life itself,  
who hung the stars in the sky,  
and who also generously provides our daily bread,  
we welcome you into our presence.  
Dear Lord, what can I do for you today?**

*December 17, 2017 — 3rd Sunday in Advent*



*3rd Sunday in Advent*

*December 17, 2017*

***Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 10***

*“Rejoice always,” begins the reading from First Thessalonians. Isaiah and the psalmist make clear that God is turning our mourning into laughter and shouts of joy. “All God’s children got a robe,” go the words of the spiritual. It is not so much a stately, formal, pressed outfit as it is a set of party clothes, clothes that make us feel happy just to put on. We receive that robe in baptism, and in worship we gather for a foretaste of God’s party.*

**PRELUDE**

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**GATHERING**

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**PRAYER**

*See Bulletin Cover*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TEMPLE TALK**

**BOB HORTON**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

**C Amen.**

P Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P God of all time,

**C we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

P Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

**C Amen.**

A Today we relight the first two candles of the Advent wreath. The candle of HOPE and the candle of PEACE. Now we light the third candle of Advent. This is the candle of JOY. As the coming of Jesus, our Savior, draws nearer, our joy builds with our anticipation of his birth. From the Book of Isaiah we read the words of our Lord: *But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.*—Isaiah 65:18

**GATHERING HYMN**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

**ELW HYMN 257**

## GREETING

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

C And also with you.

## HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

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**WORD**

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**FIRST READING: ISAIAH 61:1-4, 8-11**

*Though the people had returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, they continued to face hardship and oppression. In the language of the jubilee year described in Leviticus 25, the prophet, moved by the spirit of the Lord, announces deliverance for those who are oppressed and comfort for those who mourn.*

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; <sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. <sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

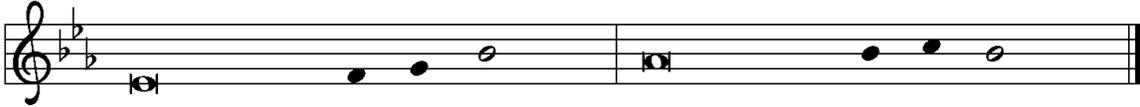
<sup>8</sup>For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. <sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. <sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 126

*Sung responsively*



<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,  
then were we like | those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**

**Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great | things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great | things for us,  
and we are | glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup>**Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup>Those who | sowed with tears  
will reap with | songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,  
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.**

**SECOND READING: 1ST THESSALONIANS 5:16-24**

*Paul concludes his letter to the Thessalonians by encouraging them to live lives of continual joy, prayer, and thanksgiving. The closing blessing is grounded in the hope of Christ’s coming.*

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Do not despise the words of prophets, <sup>21</sup>but test everything; hold fast to what is good; <sup>22</sup>abstain from every form of evil. <sup>23</sup>May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup>The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P The Holy Gospel, according to John, the first chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

**GOSPEL: JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28**

*John's gospel describes Jesus as the "light of the world." John the Baptist is presented as a witness to Jesus, one who directs attention away from himself to Christ, the true light.*

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. <sup>24</sup>Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup>They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" <sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, <sup>27</sup>the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." <sup>28</sup>This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**CHILDREN'S TIME & SERMON**

**INTERIM PASTOR ALAN SAATKAMP**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*People, Look East*

**ELW HYMN 248**

*Please stand for the final stanza of the hymn.*

**P** Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS**

**A** Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people.

*A brief silence.*

**A** Guiding Lord, bless church leaders, volunteers, teachers, musicians, acolytes, deacons, pastors, seminarians, and those discerning a call to ministry. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Creating God, protect Earth's wilderness, especially where the lands are isolated and unexplored. Watch over all living creatures who remain free from human exploitation. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Prince of Peace, send us your Spirit of unity, so that justice may spring up among the nations. Give us the will to repair the broken systems that perpetuate injustice. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Merciful God, comfort those who are mourning, bind up the brokenhearted, and heal our wounds. We pray for all in need, especially Naomi Walker, Gay Marker, Jerry Chelson, Howard Kunard, Don Longren, Lucille Brill, Kathryn Axelton, Jane Velen, Evelyn Johnson, and Russell Winsor. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

A Lord of justice, strengthen and increase the ministry of food pantries, meal service deliveries, employment training programs, and advocacy for equity among all classes and races. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A God of life, we ask blessings for Troy Pomeroy and Jeff Longren as they celebrate their birthdays, and for Marlys Hiltgen and Tresa Johnson as they remember their baptisms. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A God of mercy, bless your servants at Hope Lutheran in St. Charles, Christ & Trinity Lutheran in Sedalia, Our Savior Lutheran in Salem, Missouri, and St. John Lutheran in Salina, Kansas. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Eternal God, clothe us in your garments of salvation, so that together we may rejoice in your presence with the saints who have died and with those unable to be with us today. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P We raise our prayers to you, O God, in the name of the one who is, who was, and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

#### THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

*Let us greet one another with God's peace.*

*Please be seated.*

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### PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

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#### OFFERING

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### OFFERTORY

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light.

C Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you**

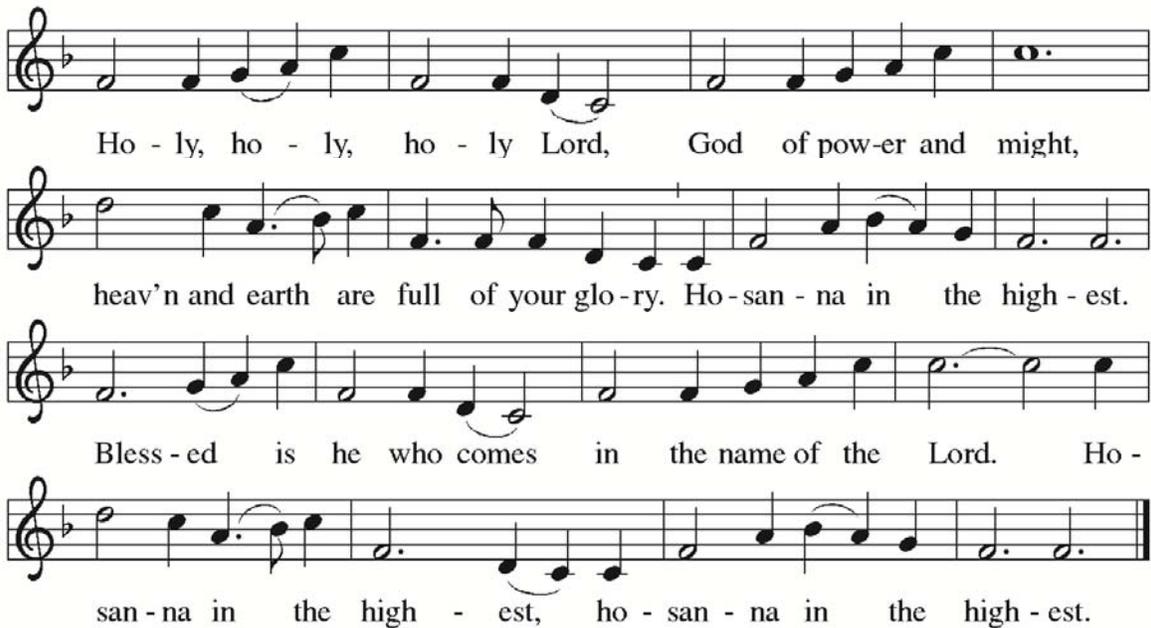
P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast of salvation.

*Please be seated.*

### LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*We invite all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior to share with us in Holy Communion. All are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available as an alternative to wine. Everyone is invited forward to receive communion or a blessing. Hands cupped open indicate an openness to receive communion; hands closed reflect a desire to receive a blessing.*

*Note: we now have gluten-free communion wafers available. If gluten-free is your preference, please let the pastor know when you are at the communion rail.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**      *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*      **ELW HYMN 272**  
*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*      **ELW HYMN 256**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

**P** May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A** God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

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## **SENDING**

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### **BLESSING**

**P** May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**      *Christ, Be Our Light*      **ELW HYMN 715**

### **DISMISSAL**

**A** Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

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## *Welcome to worship at Trinity!*

*Thank you for joining us for worship. We hope that you have found the Spirit of God in our midst.*

*If you are interested in becoming a member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, or have other questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Alan Saatkamp, 605-214-1469.*

*Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall for coffee and refreshments after worship.*

**Please Notice This**



**Members & visitors**, please take note of the pew record books in your pew, fill out the information for yourself and pass it along to the other persons in your pew. This will help us keep up with prayer needs in your family and maintain our records of membership

### *Remember our shut-ins!*

Kathryn Axelton  
Lucille Brill  
Peggy Buchholz  
Marlene Hassan  
Marie Henriksen  
Howard Kunard  
Don Longren

Shawn Nowak  
Roy O'Neil  
Ron Owensby  
Keith Springer  
Naomi Walker  
Evelyn Johnson



**Please call the office, 233-0767,** promptly about hospitalizations in our church family.



**To share a prayer request** please contact Barbara Apps at 249-7244 She will get the prayer chain started.



**Gathering funds for the Christmas adoption has been extended**

**through December 17.** Shopping for the adopted family will occur on Monday, December 18. If you would like to help with the shopping, join Learning Committee members and youth at CiCi's pizza on Wanamaker at 6pm. After enjoying some pizza, we'll head to Wal-Mart.

Worship Assistants									
Date	Greeter(s)	Usher(s)	Musicians	Lector	Acolyte	Altar Guild	Coffee Host(s)	Assisting Minister	Presiding Minister
Dec. 17, 2017	<b>Ted Murphy</b>	<b>Linda Longren</b>	<b>Mitchell Bean</b>	<b>Debbie Pomeroy</b>	<b>Curt Lewis</b>	<b>Team 2 Share</b>	<b>Janice Greenlee</b>	<b>Mary Heald</b>	<b>Interim Pastor Alan Saatkamp</b>
Dec. 24, 2017 Christmas Eve	<b>Martha Nemeth</b>	<b>Curt Lewis</b>	<b>Laurie Jackson</b>		<b>Parker Jackson</b>	<b>Team 2 Share</b>	<b>Diane Bottorff &amp; Martha Nemeth</b>		<b>Interim Pastor Alan Saatkamp</b>
Dec. 31, 2017	<b>Junior &amp; Liz Utech</b>	<b>Diane Bottorff</b>	<b>Laurie Jackson</b>	<b>Marcy Carlson</b>	<b>Laurie Jackson</b>	<b>Team 2 Share</b>	<b>Don &amp; Charlotte O'Brien</b>	<b>Walt Laughlin</b>	<b>Interim Pastor Alan Saatkamp</b>

### **Epiphany Sunday, January 7, 2018**

You are invited to bring church on January 7 and love to hear the story of how it is significant to you.



your nativity scene to share it with us. We would you came to have it or why

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY**

Today, Dec. 17.....	Children's Sunday School .....	9:00 AM
.....	Adult Sunday School .....	9:15 AM
.....	Confirmation Class .....	9:15 AM
.....	Worship with Holy Communion .....	10:30 AM
.....	Youth Group Meeting .....	5:30 PM
Mon., Dec. 18 .....	Women's AA .....	5:00 PM
Wed., Dec. 20 .....	Soup Supper .....	5:30 PM
.....	Advent Midweek Worship .....	6:15 PM
.....	Women's AA .....	5:30 PM
Thurs., Dec. 21.....	Men's AA .....	7:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 24 .....	<b>Christmas Eve</b> .....	
.....	Worship with Holy Communion .....	10:30 AM

- Pr. Alan will be in Topeka on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.
- Adult and children's Sunday school classes will not meet on Dec. 24 or Dec. 31.
- The quilters are taking a Christmas break and will resume gathering on January 9, 2018

**OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS**

Date	General	Building Fund	Other	Flowers	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/Communion
Nov. 19	\$1,007.51	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,037.51	-\$2,643.92	-\$1,606.41	40/31
Nov. 26	\$1,826.00	\$20.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$2,146.00	-\$2,643.92	-\$497.92	39/33
Dec. 3	\$11,441.00	\$340.00	\$156.00	\$0.00	\$11,937.00	-\$2,643.92	\$9,293.08	35/30
Dec. 10	\$4,689.70	\$20,120.00	\$462.50	\$0.00	\$25,272.20	-\$2,643.92	\$22,628.28	47/44
The money shown in the "Other" column is restricted and not available for our general fund.								
			Income	Expense	Behind/Ahead			
		November 2017	\$9,440.73	\$12,282.41	-\$2,841.68			
		Jan. thru Nov.	\$104,570.25	\$122,481.47	-\$17,911.22			



The mission of  
**Trinity Evangelical  
 Lutheran Church**  
 is to

- worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
- serve those in need, and
- reach out to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!

**T**ogether in Community • **L**iving with Christ • **C**aring for Neighbors

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**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Interim Pastor Alan Saatkamp**

**725 SW Buchanan St. • Topeka, Kansas 66606**

**Phone: 785-233-0767 • Email: [office@topekatlc.org](mailto:office@topekatlc.org)**

**Congregation Council**

**CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

**President** Bob Horton \_\_\_\_\_ 640-5344  
**Vice President** Curt Lewis \_\_\_\_\_ 286-2728  
**Secretary** Dean McGinnis \_\_\_\_\_ 272-0255  
**Interim Treasurer** Bob Kobbeman \_\_\_\_\_ 478-0381  
**Co-Treasurer** Cindy McGinnis \_\_\_\_\_ 233-0767  
**Interim Pastor** Alan Saatkamp \_\_\_\_\_ 605-214-1469

**Members**

Diane Bottorff \_\_\_\_\_ 271-7131  
 Bob Horton \_\_\_\_\_ 640-5344  
 Bob Kobbeman \_\_\_\_\_ 478-0381  
 Linda Longren \_\_\_\_\_ 233-9473  
 Dean McGinnis \_\_\_\_\_ 272-0255  
 Ted Murphy \_\_\_\_\_ 817-0372  
 Ted Quast \_\_\_\_\_ 301-514-0307  
 Howard Reece \_\_\_\_\_ 286-1959