

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

725 SW Buchanan Street, Topeka KS 66606

Telephone: (785) 233-0767 email: office@topekatlc.org

Website: trinitylutherantopeka.org

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 16, 2018 — 3rd Sunday of Advent



3rd Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 2

The presence of the Lord in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the Lord in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one “more powerful” than John, even with his winnowing fork in his hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER

See Bulletin Cover

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

- 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 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

ADVENT HYMN

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW HYMN 240

VERSES 1 & 3

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

C Amen.

- P Let us come before God in confession.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P To you, O God,

C we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

- P Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of ☩ Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.

C Amen.

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.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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 preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; 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.

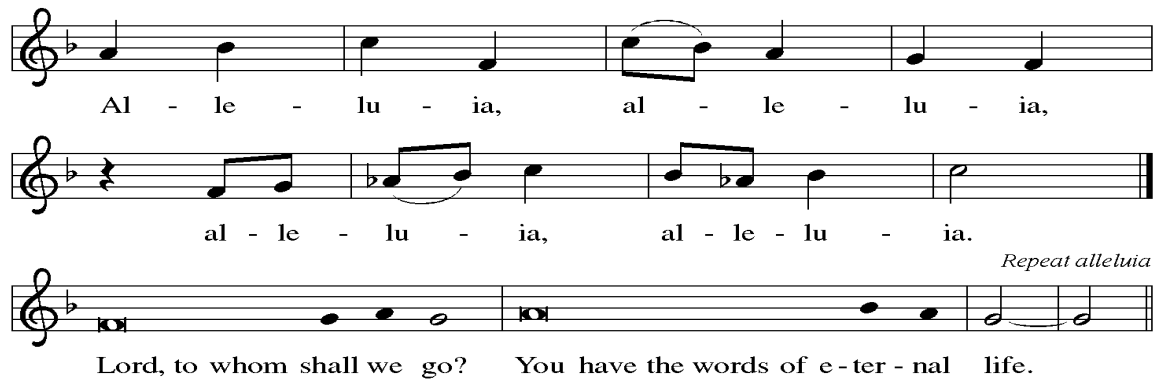
WORD

FIRST READING: ZEPHANIAH 3:14-20

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P The Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the third chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: LUKE 3:7-18

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one “who is coming.” John teaches that preparation for God’s reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.” ¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S TIME & SERMON

PASTOR DINAH DUTTA

HYMN OF THE DAY *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* **ELW HYMN 265**

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 As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A For choirs, hymn writers, musicians, and off-key singing, we give you thanks, Holy One. Fill us with your song of joy. Open us to proclaim your glory in our singing, speaking, and silence. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A For the hurting places in creation; for seas and lands ravaged by natural disasters; for communities and creatures displaced by floods and droughts. Grant peace through your presence and joy in your healing. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A For peace to ring out in our hearts and in our homes; for mercy and forgiveness to reign in every community; for war to cease and hunger to end. Give us this joy now, Holy One. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A For those who are oppressed; for soldiers and veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and their families; for neighbors who have no access to medical care; for those who are ill, especially Junior & Liz Utech, Linda Longren, Russell Winsor, Susan Fitz, Jane Velen, & Debbie Pomeroy. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A For Chelsea Carpenter, Don O'Brien, Edwin Brown, and Troy Pomeroy as they celebrate their birthdays, and for Ivan Carlson and Tresa Johnson as they remember their baptisms, we ask your blessing. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A For Holy Cross Lutheran in Overland Park, St. Paul Lutheran in Peabody, Redeemer Lutheran in Salina, Friends Home Lutheran in Savonburg, Kansas, and Lutheran Family & Children's Services in St. Louis, we ask your blessings as they share your word in worship and service in their communities. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In thanksgiving for preachers and teachers who have guided us on the way. Bring us with them to rejoice eternally in you. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and 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.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

Please stand as you are able.

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 God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

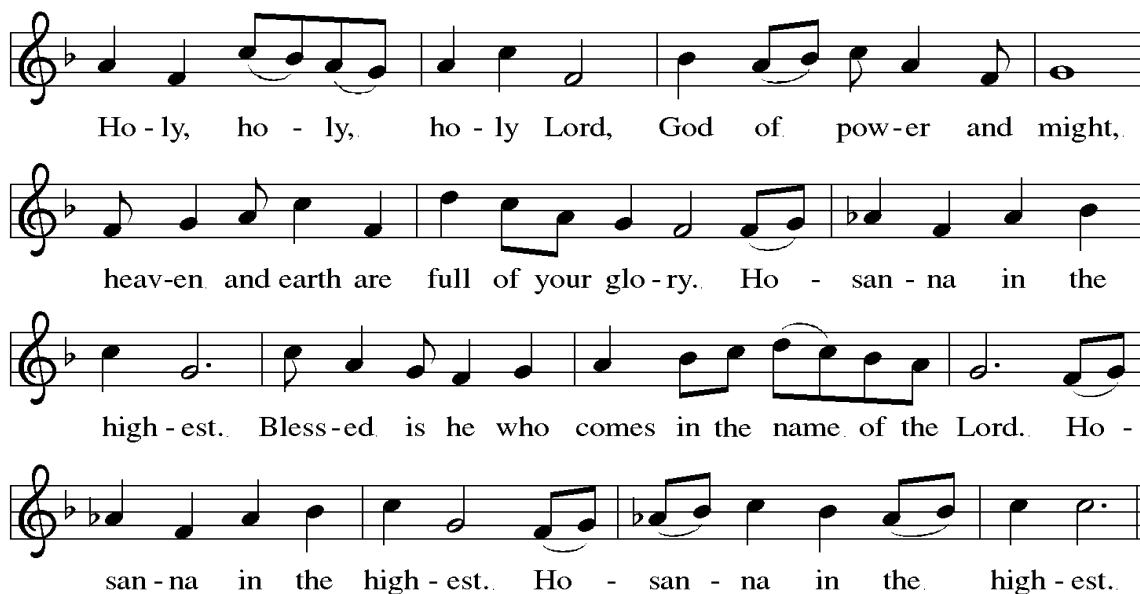
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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:



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 God fills the hungry with good things. Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

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

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 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

There's a Voice in the Wilderness
Lost in the Night

ELW HYMN 255

ELW HYMN 243

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 Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Soon and Very Soon

ELW HYMN 439

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

We welcome Pastor Dinah Dutta as she leads us in worship today.

Thank you for joining us for worship. We hope that you, members and visitors, 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 contact the church office at 785.233.0767

From SundaysAndSeasons.com. Copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Copyright © 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #48019.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Worship Assistants									
Date	Greeter(s)	Usher(s)	Musicians	Lector	Acolyte	Altar Guild	Coffee Hosts	Assisting Minister	Presiding Minister
December 16, 2018	Martha Nemeth	Duane Pomeroy	Laurie Jackson	Debbie Pomeroy	Rosie Nichols	Pam Kobbeman & Team 3	Frank & Glenda Visocsy & Monica Spencer	Vickie Jacobs	Pr. Dinah Dutta
December 23, 2018	Cindy McGinnis	Bob Horton	Mitchell Bean	Bob Horton	Laurie Jackson	Pam Kobbeman & Team 3	Dean McGinnis	Mary Heald	Pr. Dinah Dutta

Pastor Michael Haar has graciously agreed to provide pastoral care to our members until a more permanent arrangement is in place. Anyone desiring a pastoral visit (hospitalization, illness, communion, etc.) should contact the office (Cindy) during office hours or a Council member (see the back of the bulletin for names & phone numbers) outside of office hours. Cindy, Bob Horton or Mary Heald will contact Pastor Haar about the need.

With the feeling of preparation (Advent, Christmas, etc.) in mind, please remember to prepare your reports for our annual report. **The individual reports are due to the office by December 30.**



OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS						
Date	General	Other	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/ Communion
Nov. 18	\$861.00	\$153.00	\$1,014.00	-\$2,643.92	-\$1,629.92	43/40
Nov. 25	snow day					
Dec. 2	\$4,641.00	\$33.00	\$4,674.00	-\$2,643.92	\$2,030.08	
Dec. 9	\$3,091.00	\$108.00	\$3,199.00	-\$2,643.92	\$555.08	51/46
The money shown in the "Other" column is restricted and not available for our general fund.						
			Income	Expense	Behind/Ahead	
		Nov. 2018	\$5,652.34	-\$6,096.12	-\$443.78	
		Jan. - Nov.	\$116,067.31	-\$104,396.42	\$11,670.89	

Remember our shut-ins!

Kathryn Axelton	Don Longren	Keith Springer
Lucille Brill	Shawn Nowak	Naomi Walker
Peggy Buchholz	Roy O'Neil	
Marlene Hassan	Ron Owensby	



UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Dec. 16	Adult Sunday School.....	9:15 AM
.....	Worship with Holy Communion.....	10:30 AM
.....	Community Meal & Smorgasbord	5:00 PM
Mon., Dec. 17	Women's AA.....	5:00 PM
Tues., Dec. 18.....	Quilters	9:00 AM
Wed., Dec. 19	Women's AA.....	5:30 PM
Thurs., Dec. 20.....	Men's AA	7:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 23	Adult Sunday School.....	9:15 AM
.....	Worship with Holy Communion.....	10:30 AM
.....	Youth Group Meeting	5:30 PM



Advent
SOUP

This Wednesday, Dec. 19th, will be the last Advent midweek soup supper & service for 2018. Please join us.





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!

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

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

725 SW Buchanan St. • Topeka, Kansas 66606

Phone: 785-233-0767 • Email: office@topekatlc.org

Website: trinitylutherantopeka.org

Congregation Council

President Bob Horton _____	640-5345	Diane Bottorff _____	271-7131
Vice President Mary Heald _____	221-2790	Laurie Jackson _____	224-9683
Secretary Dean McGinnis _____	272-0255	Curt Lewis _____	286-2728
Treasurer Bob Kobbeman _____	478-0381	Ted Murphy _____	817-0372