¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'
¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." Matthew 11:10-11

Adver

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

Advent Setting

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

A Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.
- P God for whom we wait,
- C in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.
- **P** God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, \pm your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.
- C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn ELW 242

wake! A wake, Α and greet the new morn, for 1 2 То us, all in sor row and fear, Em to 3 In dark est night his com ing shall be, when 4 Re joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though an - gels her - ald its Sing dawn-ing. out your joy, for man - u - el comes a sing - ing, hum - ble his song is spair - ing, all the world is de as morn - ing light SO dark the win-ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall soon he hold! the Child of is born, be long - ing. our qui - et and qui - et and ring - ing; car - ing. fear - less. fills near, yet the earth with its free, so warm and gen - tle and crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and Come as by ba weak and poor, а to bring all hearts to mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing break forth in song, the Then shall the mute lame shall leap in song love our prayer and Love be our and love our end - less he geth - er, 0 pens wide heav'n - ly the door and kind - ness. the thun - der of his an - thems roll to won - der, the weak be raised the strong, and a bove fill sto - ry; may God ev 'ry day share we and lives now in side for us ev er. shat - ter all ha - tred and blind ness. weap-ons be bro - ken a sun der. bring us last in at to glo ry.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Advent Three:

P We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent stands for the coming of our Lord. The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. (Isaiah 35:1)

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



HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; 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

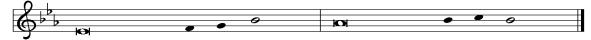
FIRST READING: ISAIAH 35:1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; 7the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146:5-10

Sung responsively



⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,

whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them; who keeps promis- | es forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger. The LORD sets the | captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;

the LORD | loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares | for the stranger;

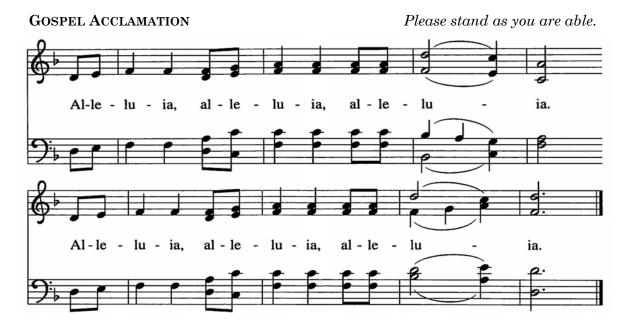
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked. ¹⁰The LORD shall | reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: JAMES 5:7-10

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.



- P The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 11:2-11

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." ⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft

robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

All Earth Is Hopeful

ELW 266

Please be seated.

Please stand for the final verse of the hymn.

PR. ANDREW PATTY



MAGNIFICAT

- P In the words of Mary, let us proclaim our joy in the coming of Christ.
- C My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy. The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

A Gracious God, we rejoice in the gifts of your Spirit. Equip the global church to magnify your love and peace in every land. We pray for the work of the Lutheran World Federation, ELCA Global Mission, Humanitri in St. Louis, Hosanna! Lutheran Church in Liberty, Trinity Lutheran Church in Kirkwood, Missouri, and Parish Ministry Associates and students. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Abundant God, we rejoice in your creation. Revive lands we have squandered and depleted. Make gardens flourish in cities and neighborhoods. Cleanse polluted air and water so living things may breathe, drink, and praise you. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Merciful God, we pray for vulnerable people across the world, especially those affected by the war in Ukraine. Provide safety and assistance for those in need. Guide families as they lose their homes and loved ones. Particularly, let us pray for the German Evangelical-Lutheran Church in the Ukraine and our partner synod of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of the Urals, Siberia and the Far East as they face times of conflict. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- A Righteous God, we rejoice in your justice. End racism and oppression. Deliver all who are unjustly imprisoned or persecuted. Reconcile nations and peoples in conflict. Help us pray for our enemies. God, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

A Healing God, we rejoice in your compassion. Comfort any in distress because of worry, loss, or illness, especially Walt Laughlin, Peggy Buchholz, Linda Longren, Don O'Brien, and Martha Nemeth. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Abiding God, we rejoice in your company. Give us calm and patient hearts as we gather with family and friends. Console the grieving and surround them with loving support. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Life-giving God, we pray for those who celebrate this week. We share joy with Sara King as she celebrates her birthday, and with Ivan Carlson as he remembers his baptism. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- P Faithful God, we rejoice with Mary, Mother of our Lord, and with all the saints, that your mercy endures for all generations. Look with favor on those who have died and lead us to sing of your everlasting promises. God, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.
- 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.

MEAL

P We give thanks to God and seek God's blessing as we dedicate these quilts that Doorstep will give to families in need.

Everyone lays a hand on the quilts and shawls.

P Loving God, it is your will to bring comfort and help to the distressed. Today, we dedicate these quilts and prayer shawls to your glory and praise. Bless these gifts wherever they may be used, that they may provide warmth and security to those who have experienced tragedy or who have no other shelter. May all who receive these quilts experience the covering of your love and forgiveness, grace and peace. We also thank you, Lord, for our members and friends who devoted their time to make these quilts. Bless their lives and give them always your joy and peace. In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.



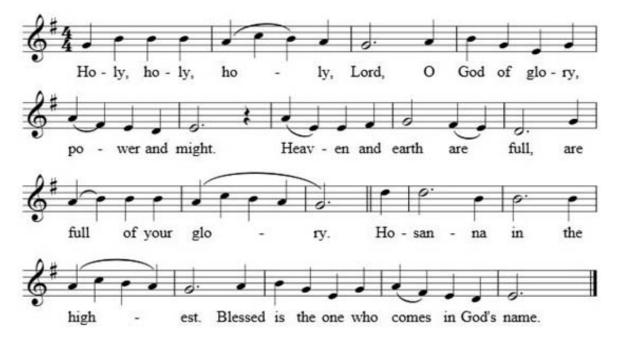
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

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:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P 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.
- P 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.

- P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
- C Come among us.
- P Bless this meal.
- C May your Word take flesh in us.
- P Awaken your people.
- C Fill us with your light.
- P Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.
- P 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

- 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.

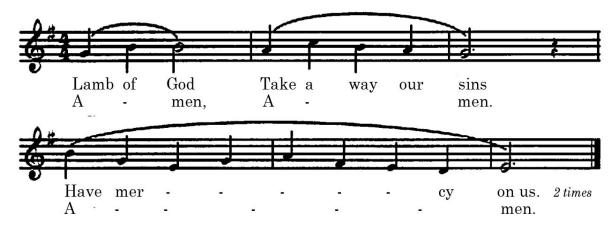
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

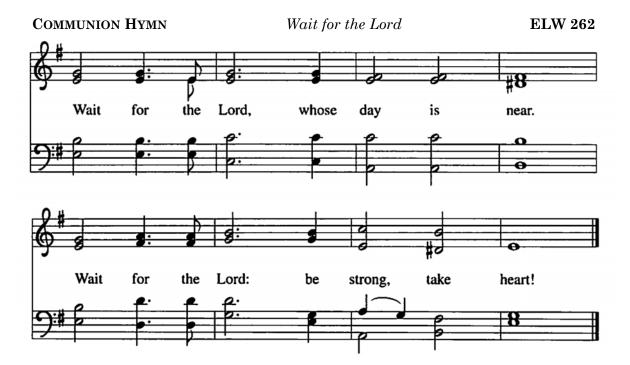
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

LAMB OF GOD





COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

- P God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever.
- C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

People, Look East

ELW 248



DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Christ is near.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Welcome to worship at Trinity!

Thank you for joining us for worship. We hope that you 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

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Dec. 11	
worship with Hory Communion	10.30 AM
Coffee Hour	after worship
PFLAG meeting	2:00 PM
Mon., Dec. 12 Church Council meeting	6:00 PM
Thurs., Dec. 15 January Trinity Tidings deadline	
Fri., Dec. 16St. Lucia Dinner & Worship	6:00 PM
Sun., Dec. 18 4th Sunday of Advent	
Worship with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
Coffee Hour	after worship



The date of our annual meeting is yet to be determined, but will occur in January. Work on the annual report booklet will begin in early January. **The deadline to submit reports to be included in the booklet is December 30.** You may review the index of previous reports to see what reports are needed, or call the office, 233-0767.

Worship Assistants								
Date	Usher(s)	Musicians	Lector	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Presiding Minister	Coffee Hosts	
Dec. 11	Curt Lewis, Dean McGinnis	Laurie Jackson	Diane Bottorff	Janeen Horton & Team 2	Bob Horton	Pr. Andrew Patty	Curt & Jane Lewis	
Dec. 18	Duane Pomeroy, Howard Reece	Laurie Jackson	Marcy Carlson	Janeen Horton & Team 2	Ted Murphy	Pr. Andrew Patty	Carol Marker	

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS									
					Weekly Income				
				Average	Minus Average				
			Total Weekly	Weekly	Weekly	Attendance/			
Date	General	Other	Income	Expense	Expense	Communion			
Nov. 13	\$925.96	\$236.00	\$1,161.96	-\$2,761.27	-\$1,599.31	27/22			
Nov. 20	\$1,600.00	\$328.00	\$1,928.00	-\$2,761.27	-\$833.27	36/34			
Nov. 27	\$2,055.00	\$1,377.00	\$3,432.00	-\$2,761.27	\$670.73	22/25			
Dec. 4	\$1,575.00	\$71.00	\$1,646.00	-\$2,761.27	-\$1,115.27	24/22			
			Income	Expense	Behind/Ahead				
		Nov. 2022	\$9,182.57	-\$15,599.53	-\$6,416.96				
		Jan Nov.	\$89,958.25	-\$137,420.01	-\$47,461.76				



TODAY we are blessing 21 hand-made quilts for Doorstep's Christmas Store. The quilts will be given along with the other gifts that each adopted family receives. Our quilter ladies hope that each recipient will be blessed as much as they were in making them!

We need volunteers to help deliver the quilts to Doorstep after worship.

St. Lucia Service December 16, 2022, 6:00 pm,

Please mark your calendars for our St. Lucia dinner Friday, December 16th at 6:00 pm. The potluck dinner will be followed by worship in the sanctuary. Please use the postcards you received to invite friends and family to this event. This is a potluck dinner so be sure to bring food to share and your table service.

For the worship service, we would like to have children participate as St. Lucia and Star Boys. Please contact Pr. Andrew if your children would like to be included.





Christmas Eve Worship

Our Christmas Eve worship service will be at noon on Saturday, December 24.

Please invite friends and family to join us for a candlelight service as we share the Christmas story and song.

Doorstep Christmas Project ~ 2022

Doorstep is adopting 260 households with 800+ individuals from the Christmas Bureau again this year. We have been collecting items for a few months now to help spread out the requests.

We still need the following NEW items: (No later than 12/6/22)

*Blankets - Full/Queen & King Only (NO THROWS)

*Bakeware Sets *Pots (no more pans needed at this time)

*Basketballs & Footballs (regular size)

<u>Our biggest need is Money for the Gift Cards & Food</u> each household will receive. Mail your donation or bring it to Doorstep, 1119 SW 10th Avenue, M-F, 8am-3pm. Please note your member congregation for credit. You can also give online at www.DoorstepTopeka.org under Donate.

Each household we adopt will receive:

Blanket ~ Health Kit ~ School Supplies (if appropriate) ~ One household item ~ Christmas food order ~ gifts and toys for household members ~ clothing ~ \$20 gift cards per person in the household.

We have Volunteer Opportunities this year!

<u>Sunday, December 11th</u> ~ from 2:00pm – 5:00pm ~ move clothing from Doorstep to First Nazarene Church, start setting up and unboxing the items.

<u>Monday, December 12^{th} </u> ~ from 8:30am – 2:30pm (2 shifts), finish clothing set-up, and begin selecting items for families picking up on Tuesday. (<u>No</u> lunch provided)

Tuesday, December 13th ~ opportunities from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

Wednesday, December 14th ~ opportunities available from: 8:30am – 1:30pm and 1:30pm – 7:30pm. (Lunch and dinner provided)

Thursday, December 15th ~ opportunities available from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

Friday, December 16th we will be cleaning up, packing clothing back up to move back to Doorstep from 8:30am - 12:30pm.

Call Doorstep, (785) 357-5341, to sign up & help during distribution week!

Doorstep is located at 1119 SW 10th, 66604 (10th & Buchanan). Donation hours are Monday - Friday, 9am - 2pm. You can mail your monetary donations, or use our website: DoorstepTopeka.org under the Donate Tab.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

725 SW Buchanan St. • Topeka, Kansas 66606 Phone: 785-233-0767 • Email: office@topekatlc.org Website: trinitylutherantopeka.org

OFFICE HOURS 10:00AM-3:30PM, Monday through Thursday

Together in Community

Living with Christ's Love Caring for Neighbors

Living with Christ's Love

As Lutherans, we believe that we are justified by faith alone through the grace of God (*Ephesians 2:1-9*). As our namesake Martin Luther made clear, we are both sinners and saints as we live our lives of faith. Together as Christians, we are called to allow God into our lives everyday and to do our best to live according to Christ's love. We do this through being a community of faithful that welcomes all people to join us in prayer, service, study, and worship as we journey together in learning how to live out the Great Commandment.

Congregation Council

President Duane Pomeroy (Spiritual Care)Vice-President Howard Reece (Maintenance)Secretary Diane Bottorff (Congregational Life)Carol Marker (Administration)Ted Murphy (Community Relations)Ted Quast

Treasurer Bob Kobbeman