



Trinity Lutheran Church



December
15
2024
Third Sunday
of Advent

Together
in Community
Living
with Christ
Caring
for Neighbors

He will baptize
you with the
Holy Spirit and
fire. Luke 3:16

www.trinitylutherantopeka.org

We are glad you are here!

***It is always good to be together, hearing the Word proclaimed
and sharing in the Lord's Supper.***

Thank you for choosing to worship at Trinity Lutheran Topeka.

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in 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.

PRELUDE

Evangelical Lutheran Worship — Setting 3

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity...arriving soon.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin...and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of mercy,

C **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

P God of might,

C **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

P God in our midst,

C **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

P A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW 242

1 Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.

Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing.

Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together,

he opens wide the heav'nly door and lives now inside us forever.

- 2 To us, to all in sorrow and fear, Emmanuel comes a-singing,
his humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing;
music to heal the broken soul and hymns of lovingkindness,
the thunder of his anthems roll to shatter all hatred and blindness.
- 3 In darkest night his coming shall be, when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in wonder,
the weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.
- 4 Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, though dark the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light, be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our endless story;
may God fill ev'ry day we share and bring us at last into glory.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

GREETING

P The grace ...be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord

ELW PAGE 138

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the feast

ELW PAGE 140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Stir up the will...now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: ZEPHANIAH 3:14-20

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: ISAIAH 12:2-6

Sung responsively



- ² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not | be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become | my salvation.
- ³ **With joy you | will draw water
from the wells | of salvation.**
- ⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call | on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name |
is exalted.
- ⁵ **Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done | gloriously;
let this be known in | all the earth.**
- ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O | royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy | One of Israel.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go* **ELW PAGE 142**

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: LUKE 3:7-18

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

PASTOR BARBARA JONES

HYMN OF THE DAY

In Thee Is Gladness

ELW 867

Please stand for the last verse.

- 1 In thee is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By thee are given the gifts of heaven, thou the true redeemer art.
Our souls thou wakest; our bonds thou breakest.
Who trusts thee surely has built securely and stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining to see thy shining, dying or living, to thee are cleaving;
naught can us sever: Alleluia!
- 2 Jesus is ours! We fear no powers, not of earth or sin or death.
He sees and blesses in worst distresses; he can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story tell of his glory with heart and voices; all heav'n rejoices
in him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness, triumph o'er sadness, love him and praise him and still
shall raise him glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

P Together, with the whole church..., let us confess our faith. **ELW PAGE 127**

THE PRAYERS

A As we prepare for Emmanuel, ...that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

A God who reforms,,...Lord, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

P Savior of the nations,...in the name of Jesus Christ.

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

OFFERING AND OFFERING SONG

ELW 181

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

A Let us pray. Creator God...Jesus Christ our 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...join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW PAGE 144

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW PAGE 145

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Please be seated.

We invite all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior to share with us in Holy Communion. Grape juice is available as an alternative to wine as well as gluten-free wafers. 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.

Everyone who goes to the Altar for communion will be viewed on camera. Should you prefer not to have your image recorded, please stay in your seat and tell an usher you would like to have communion served to you in your pew.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW PAGE 146

COMMUNION HYMN

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

ELW 246

- 1 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
"Cast away the works of darkness, all you children of the day!"
- 2 Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See the Lamb, so long expected, come with pardon down from heav'n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all, to be forgiv'n;
- 4 So, when next he comes in glory and the world is wrapped in fear,
he will shield us with his mercy and with words of love draw near.
- 5 Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son
with the everlasting Spirit while unending ages run!

Please stand as you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body...keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray. Generous God,...feed the hungry in your name.

C **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P God of endings and beginnings,...bless and keep you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264

- 1 Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:
Refrain Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!
- 2 God's people, see him coming: your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain*
- 3 Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him; their voices join your singing: *Refrain*
- 4 His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding: *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel

C Thanks be to God. Our worship has ended. Now our service begins.

POSTLUDE

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

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UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Sunday, Dec. 15.....Community Relations meeting..... 9:30 AM
Worship with Holy Communion..... 10:30 AM

Mon., Dec. 16.....Stroke Support Group.....6:00 PM

Tues., Dec. 17 Quilters 9:00 AM

Wed., Dec. 18..... Blue Christmas worshipNoon

Thurs., Dec. 19January 2025 Trinity Tidings deadline.....

Sunday, Dec. 15..... Children’s Sunday School..... 9:45 AM
Worship with Holy Communion..... 10:30 AM

Worship Assistants

Date	Acolytes	Ushers	Musician	Lector	Altar Guild	Asst. Minister	Presiding Minister	Coffee Hosts
Dec. 15	Cindy McGinnis	Dean McGinnis, Duane Pomeroy	Laurie Jackson	Marcy Carlson	Janice Greenlee & Team 2	Bob Horton	Pr. Barb Jones	Junior & Liz Utech & Marilyn Heckman
Dec. 22	Ella Bosch, Curt Lewis	Ted Murphy,	Mitchell Bean	Loni Reece	Janice Greenlee & Team 2	Marcy Carlson	Pr. Barb Jones	Marilyn Heckman

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS

Date	General	Other	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/Commun-
Nov. 17	\$2,338.00	\$209.00	\$2,547.00	-\$2,211.54	\$335.46	39/38
Nov. 24	\$793.00	\$245.00	\$1,038.00	-\$2,211.54	-\$1,173.54	31/28
Dec. 1	\$746.00	\$0.00	\$746.00	-\$2,211.54	-\$1,465.54	39/37
Dec. 8	\$4,121.00	\$125.00	\$4,246.00	-\$2,211.54	\$2,034.46	28/26
		Oct. 2024	\$9,231.39	-\$20,901.38	-\$11,669.99	
		Jan. - Oct.	\$90,547.21	-\$122,072.06	-\$31,524.85	

Upcoming Events

+During Advent, you are invited to join us in person, on Facebook Live or Zoom — December 18 at noon—for a time of thoughtfulness and prayer.



+Wednesday, December 18, 12 noon, Pr. Barb will lead a Blue Christmas service in our sanctuary. See page 10 for more info.

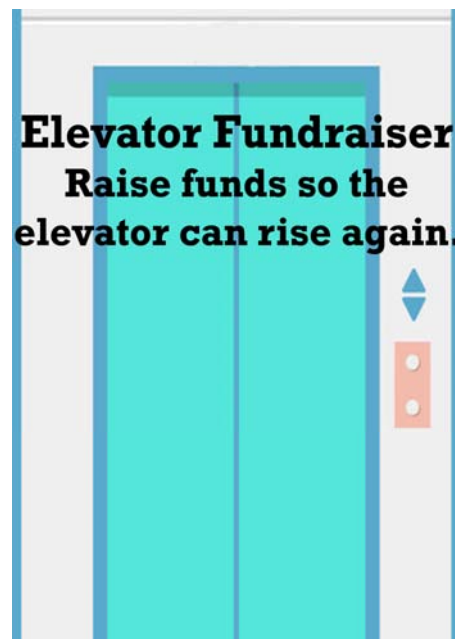


+Christmas Eve worship will be at 4pm on December 24th. There will not be a service on Christmas Day.

+Pr. Barb will be gone on December 29th so we will have a service of carols and scripture for worship that day.

We are still in need of \$2,800 for additional repairs to the elevator. The cost for this repair is \$4,000. Repairs will occur when the parts are available. (Note: on Thursday as this bulletin was being produced, elevator work was in progress.)

Thanks to all who have donated. For additional donations, you may use the envelope in your bulletin or simply mark your check “Elevator Fund” and place it in the offering plate or mail to the church office.



Please be aware the intersection of 8th & Buchanan will be closed to traffic from all directions for at least two weeks.

Blue Christmas



Honor your loss
...embrace God's hope

For those of us experiencing loneliness, sadness and loss, the Christmas season can be difficult-- we can feel singled out by the programmed happiness of "the most wonderful time of the year."

But we are not alone.

Many people experience at least some sadness and loss in this season. All of us have experienced loss. Please join us in a simple worship of song, readings and a reflection of God's hope for us and presence with us in feeling what we feel. All are welcome!

A worship service of remembrance and hope
Wednesday, December 18 at noon
Trinity Lutheran Church
731 SW Buchanan

Doorstep Christmas Project ~ 2024

Doorstep is adopting 260 households with 800+ individuals from the Christmas Bureau again this year. We need your help to make Christmas bright for these families and individuals.

We still need the following NEW items: (Needed by 12/10/24)

Household Items:

- ◆ Sauce Pans, Dutch Ovens & Griddles
- ◆ Kitchen Utensil Sets
- ◆ Kitchen Food Storage Sets
- ◆ Laundry Baskets & Cleaning Supplies (glass, all-purpose, toilet, micro-towels, dish soap)
- ◆ Queen & King Sheet Sets (darker colors)



Toys, Teens & Gifts:

- ◆ Learning Toys ex: Vtech
- ◆ Basketballs & Footballs
- ◆ Teen Books ~ Fantasies
- ◆ Family Board Games
- ◆ Dominoes & Card Games
- ◆ Canvases (Value Packs)
- ◆ Paints & Brushes
- ◆ Ear Buds & Headphones

Women's Gifts:

- ◆ Candles
- ◆ Nail Sets
- ◆ Body Care Sets (Body Wash, Lotion, Spray)

Men's Gifts:

- ◆ Wallets
- ◆ Tool Sets
- ◆ Body Care Sets (Axe, Adidas, Old Spice)

Money for Gift Cards & Food

Visit Doorstep's Walmart Christmas Registry:

<https://bit.ly/doorstepchristmas2024>

Purchase gifts directly from our registry!

Visit Doorstep's Amazon Wish List:

<https://a.co/ff4EokG>

Purchase gifts directly from our list!

Volunteer Opportunities:

Tuesday, December 17th ~ Opportunities from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm.
(Lunch provided)

Wednesday, December 18th ~ Opportunities available from: 8:30am – 1:30pm,
1:30pm – 4:30pm and 4:30pm - 7:30pm. (Lunch & Dinner provided)

Thursday, December 19th ~ Opportunities available from 8:30am – 12:30pm and
12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

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



Doorstep is located at 1119 SW 10th, 66604 (10th & Buchanan).
Christmas Donation hours are Monday - Friday, 9am - 2pm thru Dec. 13th.

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

Caring for Neighbors

Together in Community

We are a faith community brought together to worship God and to be of service to the needs of the world as the Great Commandment is our guide in our lives (*Matthew 22:36-39, Mark 12:29-31, and Luke 10:26-27*). We are a congregation that seeks to reach all those in our county with members spread throughout Topeka area, while being rooted in Historic Old Town. In our faith, we hope to be a symbol of Christ's love in the world (*John 15:12*), to be a community of support and care (*Galatians 6:2*), and to proclaim the good news that Jesus Christ came to be a Savior for all people (*Colossians 1:13-14*).

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President Diane Bottorff

Vice-President Curt Lewis (Maintenance)

Secretary Shelley Andrews (Administration)

Parker Jackson (Administration)

Steve Luoma (Community Relations)

Carol Marker (Spiritual Care)

Dean McGinnis (Congregational Life)

Janelle Meredith (Community Relations)

Duane Pomeroy (Spiritual Care)

Treasurer Bob Kobbeman