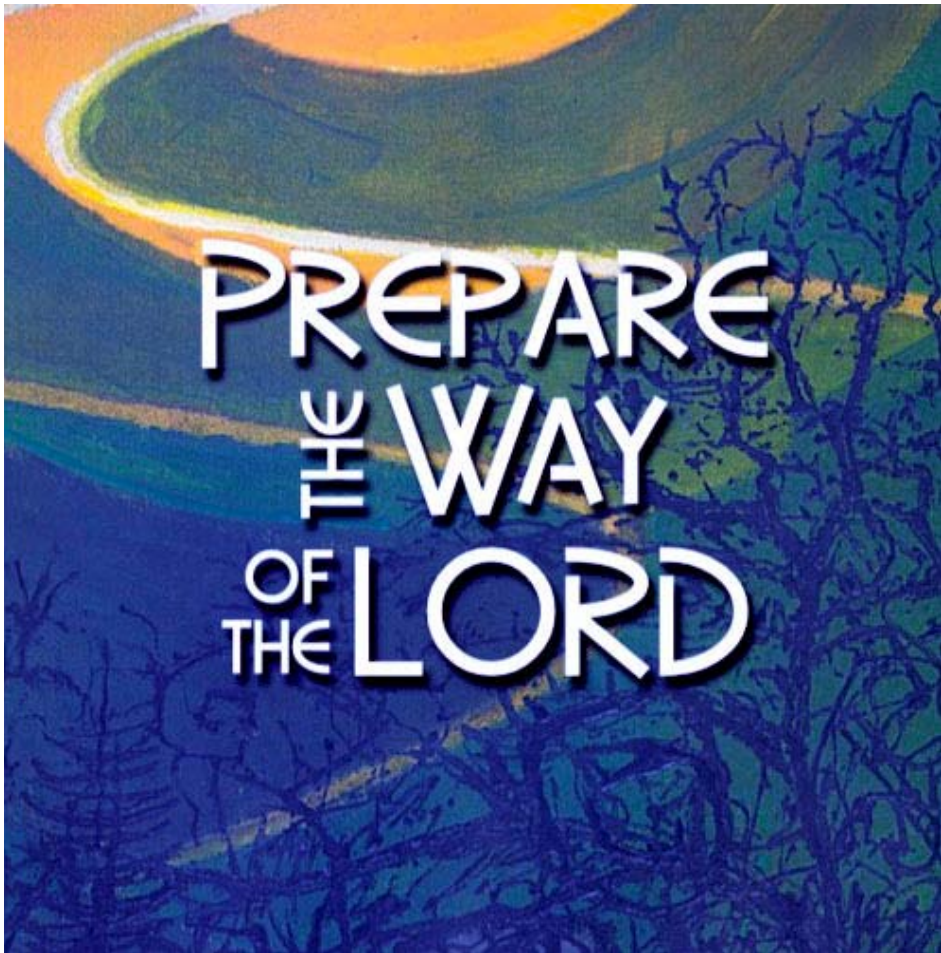




Trinity Lutheran Church



December
8
2024
Second Sunday
of Advent

Together
in Community
Living
with Christ
Caring
for Neighbors

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'⁵ Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth;⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" Luke 3:4-6

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.

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

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

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear; the evening is advancing, and darker night is near.

The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh. Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.

- 2 The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near; go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand. Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.
- 3 The saints, who here in patience their cross and sufferings bore, shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold; in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.
- 4 Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear; arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!

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 our hearts...now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: MALACHI 3:1-4

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: LUKE 1:68-79

Sung responsively



⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel,
you have come to your people and | set them free.
⁶⁹ **You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior,
born of the house of your | servant David.**
⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our enemies,
⁷¹ from the hands of | all who hate us,
⁷² **to show mercy | to our forebears,
and to remember your | holy covenant.**
⁷³ This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham:
⁷⁴ to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,
**free to worship you | without fear,
⁷⁵ holy and righteous before you, all the days | of our life.**
⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,
⁷⁷ **to give God's people knowledge | of salvation
by the forgiveness | of their sins.**
⁷⁸ In the tender compassion | of our God
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,
⁷⁹ **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- | ow of death,
and to guide our feet into the | way of peace.**

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11

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 3:1-6

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

PASTOR BARBARA JONES

Please stand for the last verse.

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore, and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine.
- 5 All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore.

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 Refining God,...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.

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

Blessed Be the God of Israel

ELW 250

- 1 Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free and raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David's tree.
So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.
- 2 With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall, the oath once sworn to Abraham, from foes to save us all;
that we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise, in holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.
- 3 My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way, to tell God's people they are saved from sin's eternal sway.
Then shall God's mercy from on high shine forth and never cease to drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.

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

Hark, the Glad Sound!

ELW 239

- 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.

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

+During Advent, you are invited to join us in person, on Facebook Live or Zoom — December 11 at 5pm and 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.



+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.



The food collection totals for November are 334 items equaling 312 pounds of food.

Bob & Janeen also took a number of gifts and toys donated by congregants for the Christmas distribution. AND we delivered an additional 425.9 lbs of food collected by the Seaman School district's can drive.

Such generous hearts!



We all join in offering condolences to our organist Mitch Bean and his family as they mourn the passing of his father, Vernon Bean. Cards of sympathy may be sent to Mitch Bean, 640 NE 43rd St., Topeka, KS 66617.



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

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Dec. 8.....	Adult Sunday School.....	9:30 AM
.....	Worship with Holy Communion.....	10:30 AM
.....	PFLAG meeting.....	2:00 PM
Tues., Dec. 10.....	Quilters	9:00 AM
.....	Church Council meeting	5:30 PM
Wed., Dec. 11	Midweek Advent worship	5:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 15	Community Relations meeting.....	9:30 AM
.....	Worship with Holy Communion.....	10:30 AM

Worship Assistants

Date	Acolytes	Ushers	Musician	Lector	Altar Guild	Asst. Minister	Presiding Minister	Coffee Hosts
Dec. 8	Brayden Winsor	Diane Bottorff, Bob Horton	Mitchell Bean	LaVell Winsor	Janice Greenlee & Team 2	Ted Murphy	Pr. Barb Jones	Julie Reeves & Parker Jackson
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. 10	\$1,259.00	\$79.00	\$1,338.00	-\$2,211.54	-\$873.54	26/20
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
		Oct. 2024	\$9,231.39	-\$20,901.38	-\$11,669.99	
		Jan. - Oct.	\$90,547.21	-\$122,072.06	-\$31,524.85	

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

Caring for Our Neighbors

Jesus commands us that when we care for the least of these; that we are in the presence of Christ (*Matthew 25:44-45*). As a congregation, we deeply care about serving those in need in our community. We hope to be a place of refuge and support for our neighborhood and to be a place to uplift those people that struggle around us. We also support ministries both local, national, and global as a church in the ELCA. As a congregation, we focus our efforts to partner with community organizations like Doorstep, while expanding opportunities to help our neighborhood through activities like our food ministry and community garden. We continue to be open to the ways that God calls us to be a presence in our community and to create a world where all are cared for in our society (*Philippians 2:4*).

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