

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ministers: People of Holy Trinity

The Reverend J. Chris Fischer, Pastor

209 Broad Street

Anderson, SC 29621

Pastor Fischer's

Cellphone (864) 933-7434 Home Phone (864) 225-1554

E-mail: htlcpastor@htlc-anderson.com

Secretary's 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Mon-Wed)

Office Hours 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Thursday)

Church Telephone: (864) 224-4220

Email: htlc@htlc-anderson.com

Website: www.htlc-anderson.org

*Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a family of Christians saved by God's grace
to proclaim the good news to our community and to the world by word and action.*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

December 3, 2023

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: "Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying" setting by Dennis Zimmer

*The Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

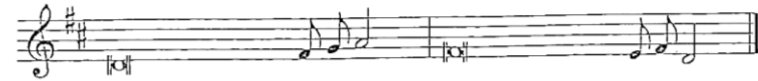
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (we kneel)

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

(we stand)



Psalm 80

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- ¹ on the cherubim.
²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and ¹ come to help us.
³Restore ¹ us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.
⁴O LORD ¹ God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your ¹ people pray?
⁵You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of ¹ tears to drink.
⁶You have made us the derision ¹ of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh ¹ us to scorn.
⁷Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.
¹⁷Let your hand be upon the one at ¹ your right hand,
the one you have made so strong ¹ for yourself.
¹⁸And so will we never turn a- ¹ way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- ¹ on your name.
¹⁹Restore us, O LORD ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER WE ARE COLLECTING NEEDED ITEMS FOR GOOD NEIGHBOR CUPBOARD. - ITEMS INCLUDE:

Peanut Butter, rice, dried beans, pasta, canned meat, canned fruit, canned soup, oatmeal, grits, flour, sugar, cereal, cooking oil—cleaning/personal hygiene list: bath soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet tissue, laundry soap, bleach, cleaning solutions (Lysol, Mr. Clean for example). Please note: perishables are not included.



POINSETTIAS for the Christmas Eve services will be provided this year for \$12.50. Donors will be listed in the worship bulletin for the Christmas Eve services. If you would like to place an order for one or more, please fill out the form and place it in the offering plate or send to the Church office. The **deadline** is Sunday, December 17th. Payment must accompany your order. Plants may be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. service Christmas Eve. (Please leave the three white poinsettias in the manger.)

Enclosed is _____ for _____ poinsettias.

IN MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

OTHER (To the Glory of God) _____

Given by _____

The offering envelopes are in the Narthex; please ask the usher for your box of envelopes.

All offerings to be credited to 2023 must be received by December 31ST.

Offerings received after this date cannot be credited to 2023.

With the New Year approaching, we will be working on the Annual Report.

Early reminder, 2023 annual reports are due on or before Sunday, January 7. All 2023 Committee Chairs are to turn in a report to the church office.

*Hymn

“Fling Wide the Door”

Hymn #259

*The Greeting

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

*The Kyrie (sung responsively)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

*The Prayer of the Day

Stir up Your power, Lord Christ, and come. By Your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of Your new day, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

Children’s Sermon

Lighting of the Advent Wreath - ***“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*** Stanza 1

Hymn #257

The First Lesson (Isaiah 64:1-9)

Bulletin Cover

Psalm 80

Bulletin Inside Cover

The Second Lesson (1 Corinthians 1:3-9)

Bulletin Cover

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all) ***Alleluia. Show us your steadfast ' love, O Lord, and grant us ' your salvation. Alleluia.*** (Psalm 85:7)

The gospel is announced: The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*The Holy Gospel (Mark 13:24-37)

Bulletin Cover

After the reading: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

“AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT OUR FUTURE”

*Hymn of the Month

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

Hymn # 247

*The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
The Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
Of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only Son of God,
Eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
True God from true God,
Begotten, not made,
Of one Being with the Father;
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
He came down from heaven,
Was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
And became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
In accordance with the scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
And his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
Who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation. (we kneel)

The Leader concludes each petition with “Lord In Your Mercy,” and the response is, “Hear our Prayer.”

SERVING YOU TODAY – December 3, 2023

Minister..... Pastor Chris Fischer
Organist/Choir Director.....Jill Helgeson
Acolytes.....(E) Jack Roehrs (L) Michael Caruso
Lectors.....(E) Beth Cribbe (L) Rynde Dial
Assisting Ministers.....(E) Beth Cribbe (L) Rynde Dial
Video/IT Engineer.....Paul Wagner/Christopher Caldwell/Connor Caldwell
Tabulators.....Bill & Chris Dafoe
(E) Chris Caldwell (Captain) Christopher Caldwell, Connor Caldwell, Kevin Lockhart,
Leon Chute
(L) Mike Oates (Captain) Mike Metz, Bobbi Metz, Michael Oates
Church Secretary.....Pat Ross
PresidentBobbi Metz
Vice-President.....Beth Cribbe
Treasurer.....Diane Richardson
Financial Secretary.....Jane Potter
Council Secretary.....Connor Caldwell

CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

December 3 – December 9

TODAY

8:45 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Early Choir Practice (after worship)
10:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School Class (Youth Room)
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)
3:00 p.m. Congregational Advent Event (Fellowship Hall)

TUES.

6:00 p.m. Women’s Group Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

WED.

10:00 a.m. T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room)
6:00 p.m. Advent Meal (Host – Luther’s Ladies) (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 p.m. Advent Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Setup of Chrismon Tree - Youth
Choir practice after worship

SAT.

9:00 a.m. Pageant Practice (Sanctuary)

ATTENDANCE Sunday Worship Services – November 26 – 8:45 a.m. (57) 11:00 a.m. (37)

OFFERINGS RECEIVED November 26 – Operating Fund \$15,151.43, Columbarium Fund \$50.00, Endowment Fund \$140.00, Thanksgiving Offering \$200.00, Angel Tree Fund \$120.00, Poinsettias Fund \$12.50, WELCA Fund \$250.00, Lutheran Men In Mission Fund \$441.00, Pastor’s Discretionary Fund \$500.00

LOOKING AHEAD

**December 10, 2023
Worship Assistants**

	8:45 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolytes	Claude Calloway	Katie Fischer
Lectors	Bob Straup	Bobbi Metz
December 10	Worship Service (Sanctuary) Pageant Practice to follow worship Worship w/Congregational Christmas Pageant Church Council Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	8:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.
December 11	Fellowship Hall Reserved	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
December 12	Women’s Bible Study (Pairs and Spares)	6:00 p.m.
December 13	T.O.P.S. Meeting (Pairs and Spares Room) Advent Meal (host – Katie’s Ladies) (Fellowship Hall) Advent Service (Sanctuary) Choir Practice after worship	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
December 16	Christmas Youth Gathering at Goodson Farm	5:00 p.m.
December 17	Worship Service (Sanctuary) Early Choir Practice (After Worship) Youth Sunday School Class (Youth Room) Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall) Worship Service (Sanctuary) Congregational Christmas Chili and Caroling (Fellowship Hall)	8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.
December 19	Women’s Bible Study (Pairs and Spares)	6:00 p.m.
December 20	Advent Meal (host – Youth) (Fellowship Hall) Advent Service (Sanctuary)	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
December 22	Choir Christmas Gathering (Helgeson Home) with heavy hors d’oeuvres and desserts.	6:30 p.m.
December 24	One-Combined Worship (Sanctuary) Christmas Eve Worship w/Communion Lessons and Carols Christmas Eve Liturgical Worship w/Communion Both services will have Holy Communion and candle lighting	10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 11:00 p.m.
December 31	One-Combined Worship (Sanctuary) No Sunday School or Potluck meal	10:00 a.m.

*The Peace Is Shared

MEAL

The Offering is Received

Offertory Anthem ***“Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying”***

-Philipp Nicolai

Wake, awake, for night is flying, The watchmen
on the heights are crying; Awake, Jerusalem, at last.
Midnight hears the welcome voices, And at the
thrilling crying rejoices: “Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The bride-groom comes! Awake; Your lamps with gladness take!”
Alleluia! Prepare yourselves to meet the
Lord, Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.

Zion hears the watchmen singing, And in her
heart new joy is springing. She wakes, she rises from her gloom,
For her Lord comes down all glorious, The strong in
grace, in truth victorious. Her star is ris’n; her light is come
Oh, come you Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God’s own Son.
Sing hosanna! We go until the halls we
view Where you have bid us dine with you.

Now let all the heav’ns adore you, And saints and
angels sing before you. The harps and cymbals all unite.
Of one pearl each shining portal, Where, dwelling
with the choir immortal, We gather round your dazzling light.
No eye has seen, no ear Has yet been trained to hear.
What joy is ours! Crescendos rise; your halls resound;
Hosannas blend in cosmic sound.

*The Offertory Hymn ***“Let the Vineyards be Fruitful”***

Hymn #181

*The Prayer (The congregation responds with AMEN.)

*The Great Thanksgiving (sung responsively)

page 129

L. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

L. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

L. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Preface of the Day

page 130

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise (Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding) ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Sanctus (sung by all)

page 130

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

* The Eucharistic Prayer

page 132

*The Lord's Prayer (Traditional Version)

page 134

**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.**

*The Communion Hymn (sung by all)

page 135

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

(we sit)

ADVENT SCHEDULE

Advent Meals – 6:00 p.m.

December 6 Luther's Ladies – host

December 13 Katie's Ladies - host

December 20 The Lutheran Church Youth – host

There will be a free will offering received.

Advent Worship Services to follow at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 6 Sermon Message: "The Waiting Game"

Wednesday, December 13 Sermon Message: "The Right Train, But...."

Wednesday, December 20 Sermon Message: "Reunions"

All Advent donations will go to The Salvation Army.

Mark your calendars:

Congregational Advent Event – December 3

3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Christmas Pageant – December 10

Annual Christmas Pageant during the 11:00 a.m. service

Youth Christmas Party – December 16 5:00 p.m. at the

Goodson farm.

Chili and Caroling – December 17

Congregational Christmas Caroling and Chili 5:00 p.m.

Choir Gathering – December 22 at the Helgeson home 6:30 p.m.

with heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY ADVENT EVENT

This afternoon, the Learning Committee will once again be sponsoring an event to begin our Advent journey with a craft project. This event is for all families and individuals who would like to participate. This project will help us keep our focus on the true meaning of the season.

Hope to see you this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. for this wonderful event in Fellowship Hall.

CHRISTMAS EVE

WORSHIP SERVICES – December 24th

Worship Service w/Communion Lessons and Carols – 4:00 p.m.

A nursery will be provided.

Christmas Eve Liturgical Worship Service w/Communion - 11:00 p.m.

Note: There will be candle lighting at both services.

December 31st

One – Combined Worship – 10:00 a.m.

No Sunday School or Potluck Meal

A REMINDER THAT DURING ADVENT

- The blue paraments symbolize the hope that comes to the world in the birth of the Christ Child.
- We omit the Hymn of Praise.
- Each week we light an additional candle on the Advent wreath and sing an additional stanza of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.”
- The Prayer of the Day begins “Stir up....”
- We use the Nicene Creed.

The Christmas Pageant will be next Sunday, December 10th during the Late Service. All ages are needed to participate in this year’s program. Please prayerfully consider being a part of this delightful Christmas tradition! We will again be using a script created by Brenda McGowan. A full dress-rehearsal will take place on Saturday, December 9th at 9:00 a.m. Our final rehearsal will be Sunday, December 10th following the Early Service.



The Communion (Continuous method-Please follow the directions of the ushers.)
Invited to commune at this altar are all baptized believers. Children not yet receiving Holy Communion are invited to come with their families to receive a blessing. On the way up, you are to pick up a cup and bring it to the altar. Prefilled cups in the center of the tray contain grape juice; otherwise wine will be dispensed at the altar into empty cups. Gluten free wafers are available as needed. Please notify the Pastor. To have the elements brought to you for communion, please notify an Usher. It would be helpful if you would sit on the front pew or on the aisle. As you go to the altar for communion, you are invited to dip your fingers into the water of the Baptismal Font and make a sign of the cross on your forehead in remembrance of your baptism.

*The Communion Blessing

Pastor Fischer

*Post Communion Hymn

“Now, Lord, You Let Your Servant”

page 135

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled,
My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared
In the sight of ev’ry people: a light to reveal you to the
Nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

*Prayer after Communion (The congregation responds with AMEN.)

page 136

SENDING

*The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace. **Amen.**

*Closing Hymn

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

Hymn #244

(Silence is observed for meditation as candles are extinguished.)

The Dismissal

page 137

Postlude

“Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending”

-Thomas Olivers

(*) “Indicates congregation to stand

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Sandi Jordan to the honor and glory of God and in honor of the birthday of her daughter, Ashley, and in memory of the birthday of her mother, Estelle Wynn.

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Angel Tree



**All the tags on the tree have now been chosen.
Thank you so much!!!!!!!!!!!!**

A reminder as you return the gifts:

- 1. Please wrap gifts.**
- 2. Leave gift, with tag attached, in the church office parlor (use door code).**
- 3. Gifts should be returned NO LATER than, Tuesday, December 5th, after which, you will be responsible for delivering your gifts to A.I.M.**

PRAYER LIST

11/26 Coyann Gray Lee
 11/26 Whitney Moody
 11/26 Martha Padgett
 11/26 The Family of Allan Cole
 11/19 Richard Straup
 11/19 Ron Naumann
 11/12 Deputy Lucas Watts
 11/12 Marijane Coggins
 11/12 The Family of Ardy Armen
 11/12 The Family of Gail Williams
 11/12 Ben Emanuel
 11/12 Carole Anne Cantey
 11/12 Nora McClendon
 11/12 Scott Smith
 11/12 James Maxwell
 11/12 Denise Ludlow
 11/5 Richard Polsdorfer
 11/5 Ashley Williams
 11/5 The Family of Anne Willis Inman
 11/5 Susan McIntyre
 11/5 The Family of Lewis Zeigler
 10/29 Karen Cromer
 10/29 Suzie Bannister
 10/29 The Family of James Adams
 10/29 Jean Vinson

SPONSORS

Brenda McGowan
 Lee Moody
 The Lybrand & Stokes Families
 Congregation
 Bob & Susan Straup
 Kim Hill
 Pat Ross
 Congregation
 Jill Helgeson
 Jill Helgeson
 Bonnie Emanuel
 The Stokes Family
 The Stokes Family
 Andy & Sharon Christmas
 Andy & Sharon Christmas
 Pat Ross
 Tamara Polsdorfer
 Rette Stokes
 Jill Helgeson
 Johnnie Hunnicutt
 Dan & Johnnie Hunnicutt
 Suzie Bannister
 Jay Bannister
 Congregation
 Bob Vinson

10/29 Madison Dunn
 10/29 Marisa Adrian
 10/22 Ashleigh Drennan Craft
 10/15 Barbara Thomas
 10/8 Anita Roehrs
 10/8 Robert Scott
 10/8 Debra Smith
 10/8 The Family of Judy Warncke
 10/1 Henry Adair

LONG TERM PRAYERS

Judith Womer
 Gabrielle Godfrey
 Richard Benedict
 Carolyn Culbreath
 Abby Barrett & Family
 Chris Goodwin
 Buddy & Lesley Taylor
 Jean Vinson
 Kathy Weeks
 Linda Rikard
 Judy Jarrett
 Ross King
 Willy E. Johnson
 Donna Welborn
 Michael Morrison
 Pruitt Martin
 Kenneth
 Joan Stinson
 Susan Socha
 Robert Scribner
 Danny Rouse
 Sandy Matlack Forrest
 Laura Wagner
 Sue Walthall
 David Lane
 Nina & Larry Sherman

Nancy Scalf
 Tom Adrian
 Cathey Sale
 Congregation
 Rev. Stephen Roehrs
 Janice Davenport
 Jane Potter
 Jan House
 Chris & Anna Caldwell

SPONSORS

Lauren Guthre
 Brenda McGowan
 Dave & Sue Rasche
 The Stokes Family
 Jay & Suzie Bannister
 The Fischer Family
 Marisa Adrian
 Bob Vinson
 Tom Weeks
 Bob & Susan Straup
 The Fischer Family
 Cherie Brown
 The Stokes Family
 The Stokes Family
 Jill Helgeson
 Bob Vinson
 Jay & Suzie Bannister
 Brenda McGowan
 Dan & Johnnie Hunnicutt
 Jan House
 Brenda McGowan
 Jill Helgeson
 Paul Wagner
 Bob & Susan Straup
 Dan & Johnnie Hunnicutt
 Jill Helgeson



We express our Christian sympathy to Jeri Cole and her family upon the death of her husband, Allan, who entered the Church Triumphant on November 27th.