

## **HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Ministers: People of Holy Trinity

**The Reverend J. Chris Fischer, Pastor**

209 Broad Street

Anderson, SC 29621

**Pastor Fischer's**

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**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](mailto:htlc@htlc-anderson.com)

Website: [www.htlc-anderson.org](http://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.*

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**8:45 a.m.**

**December 15, 2024**

#### **GATHERING**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *"O Come Emanuel"*

arr. McGowan

\*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.**

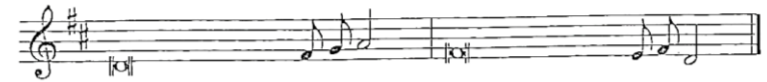
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (we kneel)

*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 12**

(sung responsively)

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not <sup>1</sup> be afraid,  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might,  
and has become <sup>1</sup> my salvation.

<sup>3</sup>With joy you <sup>1</sup> will draw water  
from the wells <sup>1</sup> of salvation.

<sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day:

Give thanks to the LORD, call <sup>1</sup> on God's name;  
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations;  
proclaim that this name <sup>1</sup> is exalted.

<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, who has done <sup>1</sup> gloriously;  
let this be known in <sup>1</sup> all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O <sup>1</sup> royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy <sup>1</sup> One of Israel.

\*The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all) *Alleluia. I am sending my messen ' ger before  
you, who will prepare your ' way before you. Alleluia.* (Matthew 11:10)

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#### **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.



**The Christmas Pageant** will be today during the Late Service.



**POINSETTIAS** for the Christmas Eve services will be provided this year for \$13.00. 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 **TODAY**. 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 2024 must be received by December 31<sup>ST</sup>. Offerings received after this date cannot be credited to 2024.

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

Early reminder, 2024 annual reports are due on or before Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. All 2024 Committee Chairs are to turn in a report to the church office.

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## Angel Tree



**Thank you to all who made the Angel Tree Project successful again this year. We have helped make some children very happy this Christmas Season.**

**We are grateful today for Brenda McGowan serving as our pianist.**

\*Hymn

***“Hark, The Glad Sound”***

**Hymn #239**

\*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 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. **Amen.**

### WORD

Children’s Sermon

Lighting of the Advent Wreath - ***“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*** Stanzas 1-3

**Hymn #257**

The First Lesson (Zephaniah 3:14-20)

Back Cover

Psalm 12

Inside Cover

The Second Lesson (Philippians 4:4-7)

Back Cover

\*The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all) ***Alleluia. I am sending my messen ' ger before you, who will prepare your ' way before you. Alleluia.*** (Matthew 11:10)

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

\*The Holy Gospel (Luke 3:7-18)

Bulletin Cover

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

Sermon

**“MADE FOR JOY”**

\*Hymn of the Month

***“All Earth Is Hopeful”***

**Hymn # 266**

\*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 15, 2024**

Minister..... Rev. J. Chris Fischer  
Pianist.....Brenda McGowan  
Acolyte..... Claude Calloway  
Lector..... Mike Metz  
Assisting Minister.....Nancy Korn  
Video/IT Engineer.....Paul Wagner/Christopher Caldwell/Connor Caldwell/ Mike Oates  
Tabulators.....Claude Calloway & Amy Goodson  
Ushers: Mike Cox - Captain, Leslie Cox, Suzie Bannister, Robert Allen, Olin Bell, Tom Adrian  
Church Secretary.....Pat Ross  
President .....Beth Cribbe  
Vice-President.....Rynde Dial  
Treasurer.....Diane Richardson  
Council Secretary.....Lauren Guthre

**CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK**

December 15 – December 21

**TODAY**

8:45 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
Pageant Practice (Sanctuary)  
Adult Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service Congregational Pageant (Sanctuary)

**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 – Youth) (Fellowship Hall)  
7:00 p.m. Advent Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
Choir practice after worship

**THUR.**

6:30 p.m. Choir Gathering at Helgeson’s Home

**ATTENDANCE** Sunday Worship Services – December – 8:45 a.m. (58) 11:00 a.m. (49)

Advent Worship Service December 18 7:00 p.m. (43)

**OFFERINGS RECEIVED – December 8, 2024** Operating Fund \$4,456.00, Poinsettias Fund \$195.00, Mid-Week Advent Donations \$265.00, Utilities Fund \$140.00, Columbarium Fund \$1,200.00

**LOOKING AHEAD**  
**Worship Assistants, December 22**

	8:45 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	
Acolytes	Jay Bannister	Brady West	
Lectors	Pamela Michalski	Rev. Stephen Roehrs	
December 22	Worship Service (Sanctuary)		8:45 a.m.
	Early Choir Practice (After Worship)		
	Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)		10:00 a.m.
	Youth Sunday School Class (Youth Room - Education Building)		10:00 a.m.
	Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)		10:00 a.m.
	Worship Service (Sanctuary)		11:00 a. m.
	Congregational Chili and Caroling (Fellowship Hall)		5:00 p.m.
December 24	Christmas Eve Worship w/Communion Lessons and Carols		4:00 p.m.
	Christmas Eve Liturgical Worship w/Communion		11:00 p.m.
	Both services will have Holy Communion and candle lighting		
December 31	One-Combined Worship (Sanctuary)		10:00 a.m.
	No Sunday School or Potluck meal		
January 1	T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room)		10:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice		6:30 p.m.
January 2	Dining Divas (La Fogata Mexican Restaurant)		6:00 p.m.
January 5	Worship Service (Sanctuary)		8:45 a.m.
	Early Choir Practice (After Worship)		
	Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)		10:00 a.m.
	Youth Sunday School Class (Youth Room - Education Building)		10:00 a.m.
	Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)		10:00 a.m.
	Worship Service (Sanctuary)		11:00 a. m.
January 8	T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room)		10:00 a.m.
	Family Fun Night (Fellowship Hall)		5:30 p.m.
	Choir Practice		7:00 p.m.
January 12	Worship Service (Sanctuary)		8:45 a.m.
	Early Choir Practice (After Worship)		
	Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)		10:00 a.m.
	Youth Sunday School Class (Youth Room - Education Building)		10:00 a.m.
	Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)		10:00 a.m.
	Worship Service (Sanctuary)		11:00 a. m.

\*The Peace Is Shared

**MEAL**

The Offering is Received

Offertory Interlude

*“Wake, Awake”*

arr. Carter

\*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

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)

**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 “Mary Did You Know?” -arr. Alexander

(\*) “Indicates congregation to stand

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Jay and Suzie Bannister to the honor and glory of God, and in loving memory of the birthday of their son, Julian, on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

**ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES** are now available in the Sound Room. Please see an usher to inquire about their use.

**WARM GREETINGS AND LOVE IN CHRIST** are extended to all members and visitors. We trust that you will experience the warmth of Christian fellowship and the inspiration of God’s presence here today. Prayer Request Cards (yellow cards) are located in the pews. Please place these in the offering plate. Names will be listed in next week’s bulletin.

**CHRISTMAS EVE  
WORSHIP SERVICES – December 24<sup>th</sup>**

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

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

Note: There will be candle lighting at both services.

**December 29<sup>th</sup>**

One – Combined Worship – 10:00 a.m.

No Sunday School or Potluck Meal.

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**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.

**Caroling and Chili**

Our Congregational Christmas Caroling and Chili will take place next Sunday. We will begin to gather in Fellowship Hall at 4:45 p.m. and **LEAVE** in carpools promptly at 5:00 p.m. Afterwards, we will return to Fellowship Hall for some wonderful chili and desserts. Come Join us!!!

## PRAYER LIST

12/8 Ann Blair  
12/8 Terry & Rose Schalk  
12/8 Ben Blanks  
12/8 The Family of Kathy Isbell  
12/1 Joshua Nelson  
12/1 Jim Dancik  
12/1 Joby Hefner  
12/1 The Family of Barbara Cheatham  
12/1 The Family of Anne Landers  
11/24 Alma Dupree  
11/24 Doug and Cindy Wilson  
11/24 The Family of Steve Wyman  
11/24 Jean Vinson  
11/17 Jessica Wagner  
11/17 Judy Jarrett  
11/17 Rette Stokes  
11/17 The Family of Becky Smoak  
11/17 David Burns  
11/17 Sherri Bryant  
11/10 Jessica Wagner  
11/10 The Family of Dr. Ward Watt  
11/10 Fred Johnson & Family  
11/3 Tom Adrian  
11/3 The Family of Frankie Dial  
10/27 Cheryl Lane  
10/27 Genda Zareei  
10/27 Becky McIntosh  
10/20 Ann West  
10/20 The Family of Fred Rose  
10/20 Anne Landers  
10/20 The Family of Eric Rasche  
10/20 The Family of Mrs. Laura Morrison  
10/20 The Family of Chris Goodwin  
10/20 Don Simon  
10/20 The Family of Henry Fischer  
10/13 Dan Hunnicutt  
10/13 Sharon Christmas  
10/13 Kaitlin Crenshaw and twins  
10/13 Dr. Ward Watt

## SPONSORS

Jill Helgeson  
Robert & Vicki Allen  
Bob Vinson  
Paul Wagner  
Michelle Nelson  
Donna Dancik  
Jamie Corrigan  
Congregation  
Congregation  
Leon Chute  
Michael Oates  
Robert & Vicki Allen  
Bob Vinson  
Bobby Wagner  
The Fischer Family  
Sid Stokes  
Congregation  
Jill Helgeson  
Robert & Vicki Allen  
Bobby Wagner  
The Stokes Family  
Christina Fischer  
Congregation  
Congregation  
Johnnie Hunnicutt  
Johnnie Hunnicutt  
Bob & Susan Straup  
Brenda McGowan  
Brenda McGowan  
Mike & Bobbi Metz  
Congregation  
Gail Cannon  
The Fischer Family  
Congregation  
The Fischer Family  
Johnnie Hunnicutt  
Caldwell Family & Congregation  
Sandi Jordan  
The Stokes Family

## LONG TERM PRAYERS

Edmond Pop  
Ed Hartshorn  
Elanor Dean  
Mike Borron  
Henri Holmes Adair Baker  
Gabrielle Godfrey  
Carolyn Culbreath  
Abby Barrett & Family  
Buddy & Lesley Taylor  
Ross King  
Willy E. Johnson  
Michael Morrison  
Pruitt Martin  
Joan Stinson  
Susan Socha  
Robert Scribner  
Danny Rouse  
Laura Wagner  
Sue Walthall  
Nina & Larry Sherman  
Gretchen Fant

## SPONSORS

The Fischer Family  
Pat Ross  
The Stokes Family  
Paul Wagner  
The Stokes Family  
Brenda McGowan  
The Stokes Family  
Jay & Suzie Bannister  
Marisa Adrian  
Cherie Brown  
The Stokes Family  
Jill Helgeson  
Bob Vinson  
Brenda McGowan  
Dan & Johnnie Hunnicutt  
Jan House  
Brenda McGowan  
Paul Wagner  
Bob & Susan Straup  
Jill Helgeson  
Jill Helgeson

## **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

### **Mid-Week Advent Meals – 6:00 p.m.**

December 18 The Lutheran Church Youth – host

### **Worship follows at 7:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, December 18 “Witness to Christmas - The Angels”

**The Mid-Week offerings received will be donated to the SC Synod Disaster Relief Fund.**

### **Mark your calendars:**

**Choir Party – December 19 - Helgeson’s Home at 6:30 p.m.**

**Congregational Chili and Caroling – December 22 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Eve Services – 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.**