

# 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)

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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.*

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**The Service**

**8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

**December 8, 2024**

## GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*"Prepare The Royal Highway"*

- J. William Greene

\*The Confession & Forgiveness

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Blessed be the Holy Trinity, (+) one God, who forgives all our sin whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of (+) Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**



## **Psalmody Luke 1:68-79**

(sung responsively)

Blessed are you, Lord, the <sup>1</sup> God of Israel,

you have come to your people and <sup>1</sup> set them free.

<sup>69</sup> **You have raised up for us a <sup>1</sup> mighty Savior,**

**born of the house of your <sup>1</sup> servant David.**

<sup>70</sup> Through your holy prophets,

you promised of old to save us <sup>1</sup> from our enemies,

<sup>71</sup> from the hands of <sup>1</sup> all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup> **to show mercy <sup>1</sup> to our forebears,**

**and to remember your <sup>1</sup> holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup> This was the oath you swore to our <sup>1</sup> father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup> to set us free from the hands of our <sup>1</sup> enemies,

**free to worship you <sup>1</sup> without fear,**

<sup>75</sup> **holy and righteous before you, all the days <sup>1</sup> of our life.**

<sup>76</sup> And you, child, shall be called the prophet of <sup>1</sup> the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to pre- <sup>1</sup> pare the way,

<sup>77</sup> **to give God's people knowledge <sup>1</sup> of salvation**

**by the forgiveness <sup>1</sup> of their sins.**

<sup>78</sup> In the tender compassion <sup>1</sup> of our God

the dawn from on high shall <sup>1</sup> break upon us,

<sup>79</sup> **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shad- <sup>1</sup> ow of death,**

**and to guide our feet into the <sup>1</sup> way of peace.**

\*The Gospel Acclamation (sung responsively)

*Alleluia. Prepare the way ' of the Lord. All flesh shall see the salva ' tion of God. Alleluia.*

(Luke 3:4,6)

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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.

**LOOKING AHEAD**  
**Worship Assistants, December 15**

	8:45 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolytes	Claude Calloway	Landen Moody
Lectors	Nancy Korn	Nancy Korn
December 15	Worship Service (Sanctuary) Early Choir Practice (After Worship)	8:45 a.m.
December 17	Worship Service (Sanctuary) w/Congregational Christmas Pageant	11:00 a. m.
December 18	Women's Bible Study (Pairs and Spares Room)	6:00 p.m.
December 18	T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room)	10:00 a.m.
December 18	Advent Meal - Meal The Youth (Fellowship Hall)	6:00 p.m.
December 18	Advent Service (Sanctuary)	7:00 p.m.
December 19	Choir Gathering (Helgeson's Home)	6:30 p.m.
December 22	Worship Service (Sanctuary) Early Choir Practice (After Worship)	8:45 a.m.
December 22	Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)	10:00 a.m.
December 22	Youth Sunday School Class (Youth Room - Education Building)	10:00 a.m.
December 22	Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)	10:00 a.m.
December 22	Worship Service (Sanctuary)	11:00 a. m.
December 22	Congregational Chili and Caroling (Fellowship Hall)	5:00 p.m.
December 24	Christmas Eve Worship w/Communion Lessons and Carols	4:00 p.m.
December 24	Christmas Eve Liturgical Worship w/Communion	11:00 p.m.
December 24	Both services will have Holy Communion and candle lighting	
December 31	One-Combined Worship (Sanctuary)	10:00 a.m.
December 31	No Sunday School or Potluck meal	



**The Christmas Pageant** will be on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, during the Late Service. We will again be using a script created by Brenda McGowan.

Practices will be between the services on Sunday mornings and at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. A full dress-rehearsal will take place on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Our final rehearsal will be Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> following the Early Service.

(we stand)

\*The Hymn

*“Prepare The Royal Highway”*

**Hymn #264**

\*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)

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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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of Your only Son. By His coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of Your salvation; 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& 2

**Hymn #257**

The First Lesson (Malachi 3:1-4)

Outside Cover

Psalmody (1:68-79, Luke 1:78)

Inside Cover

The Second Lesson (Philippians 1:3-11)

Outside Cover

\*The Gospel Acclamation (sung responsively)

*Alleluia. Prepare the way ' of the Lord. All flesh shall see the salva ' tion of God. Alleluia.*  
(Luke 3:4,6)

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

\*The Holy Gospel (Luke 3:1-6)

Bulletin Cover

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

Sermon

**“PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD”**

\*Hymn of the Month

*“All Earth Is Hopeful”*

**Hymn # 266**

\*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.**

Minister..... Rev. J. Chris Fischer  
Organist/Choir Director.....Jill Helgeson  
Acolyte.....(E) Cathy Rudisill (L) Katie Fischer  
Lector.....(E) Steven House (L) Nancy Korn  
Video/IT Engineer.....Paul Wagner/Christopher Caldwell/Connor Caldwell/Mike Oates  
Tabulators.....Christopher & Rachel Caldwell

Ushers:  
(E ) Mike Cox - Captain, Leslie Cox, Suzie Bannister, Robert Allen, Olin Bell, Tom Adrian  
(L) Mike Oates - Captain, Dave Korn, Sandi Jordan, Cherie Brown, Kristie Evans, Chad Evans  
Church Secretary.....Pat Ross  
President .....Beth Cribbe  
Vice-President.....Rynde Dial  
Treasurer.....Diane Richardson  
Council Secretary.....Lauren Guthre

**CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK  
December 8 – December 14**

**TODAY**

8:45 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
Early Choir Practice  
10:00 a.m. Children’s Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)  
10:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School (Youth Room - Education Building)  
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
Chrismon Tree Setup by Youth after Late Service

**MON.**

7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

**WED.**

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

**FRI.**

5:30 p.m. Youth Christmas Gathering at the Goodson Farm

**ATTENDANCE**

Sunday Worship Services – December 1 – 8:45 a.m. (51) 11:00 a.m. (44)  
Mid-Week Advent Service - December 4 (44)

**OFFERINGS RECEIVED**

December 1- Operating Fund \$6,316.00

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

### Mid-Week Advent Meals – 6:00 p.m.

December 11 Luther's Ladies – host Meal Group B- Beth Cribbe  
December 18 The Lutheran Church Youth – host

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

Wednesday, December 11 “Witness to Christmas - Joseph”  
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:

**Youth Christmas Party – December 13<sup>th</sup> - Goodson Farm at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Christmas Pageant – December 15 - During the 11:00 a.m. service.**  
**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.**



### Christmas Eve, December 24

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

A nursery will be provided.

Liturgical Worship Service w/Communion – 11:00 p.m.

Candle lighting at both services.

### Sunday, December 29

One-Combined Worship

10:00 a.m.

No Sunday School or Potluck Meal.

\*The Peace Is Shared  
The Offering Is Received

Choir Anthems

(8:45 a.m.)

***“There's A Voice In the Wilderness Crying”***

-H.H. Bancroft

There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:  
Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;  
Make straight all the crooked places where God, our God, may go!

O Jerusalem, herald good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their king.  
Like flow'rs of the field we perish, like grass our works decay;  
The pow'r and the pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.

But the word of our Savior is faithful, the arm of our God is strong,  
Who stands in the midst of the nations and soon will right the wrong.  
Lord, feed Your flock like a shepherd, the lambs so gently hold;  
In pastures of peace now lead them, and bring them to Your fold.

(11:00 a.m.)

***“Prepare”***

-Allen Pote

Prepare, prepare, prepare the way of the Lord.  
Prepare, prepare, prepare ye the way, prepare ye the way of the Lord.

For God has chosen to come to earth joining the human race.  
Born a child in holy birth, taking a human face.

Prepare, prepare, prepare the way of the Lord.  
Prepare, prepare, prepare ye the way, prepare ye the way of the Lord.

His name shall be Emmanuel, the baby born in the night.  
God will be revealed in us piercing the darkness,  
Piercing the darkness, piercing the darkness with light.

Prepare, prepare, prepare the way of the Lord.  
Prepare, prepare, prepare ye the way, prepare ye the way of the Lord.

\*The Offertory Hymn

***“Create In Me”***

**Hymn # 186**

\*Installation of New Council Members

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

The Lord’s Prayer

L. Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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.**

**SENDING**

The Blessing  
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn                    **“On Jordan’s Banks, The Baptist’s Cry”**                    **Hymn #249**

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

The Dismissal

Postlude                    **“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!”**                    - Michael Weisse

\* Congregation Stands

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Robert and Sophie O’Connor to the honor and glory of God and in honor of the Lord’s birthday.

**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.



**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 Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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The 2025 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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**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.

**Names listed for the dates of 9/1 thru 9/29 will be removed from the prayer list next week. If a name from this date is being removed that you would like to stay on, please resubmit it.**

**PRAYER LIST**

12/1 Joshua Nelson  
 12/1 Kathy Isbell  
 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 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  
 9/29 The Family of Warren Lutz  
 9/29 Jean Vinson  
 9/29 Pamela Michalski  
 9/29 James Baszak  
 9/22 Aleks Medrano  
 9/22 The Family of Susan Thomas

**SPONSORS**

Michelle Nelson  
 Paul Wagner  
 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  
 Congregation  
 Gail Cannon  
 The Fischer Family  
 Congregation  
 The Fischer Family  
 Johnnie Hunnicutt  
 Caldwell Family & Congregation  
 Sandi Jordan  
 The Stokes Family  
 Congregation  
 Bob Vinson  
 Congregation  
 Marijane Coggins  
 Kim Hill  
 Ben & Bonnie Emanuel

9/15 The Family of David Lane  
 9/15 Georgia Lou Huff  
 9/15 Nancy Scalf  
 9/15 Ina Reynolds  
 9/8 The Family of Hewitt Dickerson  
 9/1 Michael Oates  
 9/1 Bill & Charlee Goodwin  
 9/1 The Family of Virginia McDaniel  
 9/1 John Stricker  
 9/1 Whitney Capps  
 9/1 The Catalfomo Family  
 9/1 Jamie Sharpenberg

**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

Congregation  
 Congregation  
 Congregation  
 Beth Fischer  
 Brenda McGowan  
 Congregation  
 Sid & Rette Stokes  
 Sid & Rette Stokes  
 Congregation  
 Mike & Bobbi Metz  
 Virgil & Mary Ann Hobbs  
 Mike & Leslie Cox

**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



We extend our Christian sympathy to Jim and Leslie Trant and family upon the death of his mother, Barbara Cheatham, who entered the Church Triumphant on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. May God's promises of grace and eternal life give their families peace and comfort in their time of grief.

We extend our Christian sympathy to Bobbi Metz and family upon the death of her sister, Anne Laners, who entered the Church Triumphant on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. May God's promises of grace and eternal life give their families peace and comfort in their time of grief.