

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

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.*

THE SERVICE

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

December 28, 2025

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements [8:45 a.m. Beth Cribbe, 11:00 a.m. Rynde Dial]

Prelude

"Away In A Manger"

*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.**



Psalm 148

(sung responsively)

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD¹ from the heavens;
praise God¹ in the heights.

²Praise the LORD,¹ all you angels;
sing praise, all you¹ hosts of heaven.

³Praise the LORD,¹ sun and moon;
sing praise, all you¹ shining stars.

⁴Praise the LORD, heav-¹ en of heavens,
and you waters a-¹ bove the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,
who commanded, and they¹ were created,

⁶who made them stand fast forev-¹ er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not¹ pass away.

⁷Praise the LORD¹ from the earth,
you sea monsters¹ and all deeps;

⁸fire and hail,¹ snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do-¹ ing God's will;

⁹mountains¹ and all hills,
fruit trees¹ and all cedars;

¹⁰wild beasts¹ and all cattle,
creeping things and¹ flying birds;

¹¹sovereigns of the earth¹ and all peoples,
princes and all rulers¹ of the world;

¹²young¹ men and maidens,
old and¹ young together.

¹³Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over¹ earth and heaven.

¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people
and praise for all¹ faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD.
¹ Hallelujah!

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung responsively)

Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule ' in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell ' in you richly. Alleluia. (Colossians 3:15,16)

LOOKING AHEAD

Worship Assistants

January 4, 2026

	8:45 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolytes	Claude Calloway	Brady West
Lectors	Beth Cribbe	Richard Caruso
Assisting Ministers	Beth Cribbe	Richard Caruso
January 4	Worship Service (Sanctuary) 8:45 a.m. Early Choir Practice (After Worship) Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School (Pairs and Spares) 10:00 a.m. Martin Luther Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m.	
January 7	T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room) 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.	
January 8	Dining Divas (Carson's Restaurant, 150 Beltline Blvd., Anderson)	
January 10	Fellowship Hall (Reserved)	
January 11	Worship Service (Sanctuary) 8:45 a.m. Early Choir Practice (After Worship) Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 a.m. Martin Luther Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class (Pairs and Spares) 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m.	
January 12	Church Council Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 p.m.	
January 14	T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room) 10:00 a.m. Family Fun Night (Fellowship Hall) 5:30 p.m. Choir Practice	
January 15	Luther's Ladies Circle Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 6:00 p.m.	
January 18	Worship Service (Sanctuary) 8:45 a.m. Early Choir Practice (After Worship) Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 a.m. Martin Luther Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class (Pairs and Spares) 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m.	

(we stand)

*The Hymn

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Hymn #288

*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.**

*Hymn of Praise (sung by all)

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(Refrain)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. (Refrain)

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. (Refrain)

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. (Refrain)

*The Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, You know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As You protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, 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
The First Lesson (Isaiah 63:7-9)
Psalm 148
The Second Lesson (Hebrews 2:10-18)

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung responsively)

Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule ' in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell ' in you richly. Alleluia. (Colossians 3:15,16)

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

*The Holy Gospel (Matthew 2:13-23)

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

Sermon
*Hymn of the Day

“What Child Is This?”

***Apostles’ Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven
He is seated at the right hand of the Father
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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Pastor Booher
Hymn #296

SERVING YOU TODAY – December 28, 2025

Minister.....The Rev. Bruce Booher
Organist.....Sharon Christmas
Acolytes.....(E) Lucy Roehrs (L) Amy Goodson
Lectors.....(E) Robert Allen (L) John Trent
Video/IT Engineer.....Paul Wagner/Christopher Caldwell/Connor Caldwell/ Mike Oates
Tabulators.....Claude Calloway/Amy Goodson

Ushers:
(E) Susan Straup - Captain, Skip Knight, Terry Cribbe, Beth Cribbe, Claude Calloway
(L) Sid Stokes - Captain, John Lybrand, Harry Coggins, Robert O’Connor

Church Secretary.....Pat Ross
PresidentBeth Cribbe
Vice-President.....Rynde Dial
Treasurer.....Diane Richardson
Council Secretary.....Lauren Sayers

CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

December 28 – January 4

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. Martin Luther Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

THURS.

HAPPY NEW YEAR – OFFICE CLOSED

OFFERINGS RECEIVED – December 21 - Operating Fund \$21,589.27, Poinsettias Fund \$75.00, Mid-Week Advent Offering \$376.00, WELCA Offering \$1,000.00, Pastor’s Discretionary Fund \$900.00, Lutheran Men In Mission Fund \$1,000.00, Prayer Garden Fund \$1,550.00, Utilities Fund \$162.25

ATTENDANCE

Sunday Worship Services – December 21 – 8:45 a.m. (63) 11:00 a.m. (54)

We are grateful for Sharon Christmas sharing her gifts as our organist this morning, filling in for Jill.

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 Peace Is Shared
The Offering Is Received

Offertory Anthem

“Welcome To Our World”

*The Offertory Hymn

“Create In Me”

Hymn # 186

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

“Go Tell It On The Mountain”

Hymn #290

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

*The Dismissal

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

***Congregation stands**

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

**Supper Meeting
January 26
6:00 p.m.
in
Fellowship Hall**

Dining Divas

January 8

6:00 p.m.

Carson’s Restaurant

150 Beltline Blvd.

Anderson, SC

Please contact Beth Cribbe (864) 617-6216

or email bcribbe1@gmail.com

NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS

The start of the New Year is always a great time for resolutions, and this year we are inviting all adults at Holy Trinity to prayerfully consider a “weekly walk through the Bible” in a proposed new adult Sunday School.

Starting Sunday, January 4th, Lauren Sayers and Jane Cahaly will be leading this new venture and will be using two books as guides: *“The Whole Story”* by Dr. David Jeremiah and *“Thirty Days to Understanding the Bible”* by Max Anders.

Our motivations for this new class are as follows:

- To build an adult Sunday school class for those not already participating in the current adult class during the 10 o’clock hour
- to build relationships between individuals worshipping in the early service and the late service
- to promote the idea of individual and/or family Bible study on a weekly basis.

We will be meeting in the “Pairs and Spares” room during the month of January. At the end of that month, we will pray for guidance to see if there is interest in continuing. It is not necessary to sign-up in advance but if you are interested in exploring this opportunity or have questions, please text Lauren at 215-589-9647 or Jane Cahaly at 864-314-2561. We look forward to hearing from YOU!

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are placed on the altar by Dave & Nancy Korn to the honor and glory of God and in honor of their 57th wedding anniversary.

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.

Holy Trinity celebrates the Sacrament of Holy Communion on the first and third Sundays of the month and all major festivals of the church.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Our next Family Fun Night will be on Wednesday, January 14. We will meet in Fellowship Hall for a time of **Food, Fun & Fellowship** around a Biblical theme. Adults and Kids of all ages are invited to join us! There will be crafts, games, and song. The meal will be provided.

WHEN: Wednesday, January 14 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
WHAT: THE DISCIPLES

“Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant”

Ernie Thoms has spent 23 years as a faithful servant to the Lord, dedicating a considerable amount of time and using his many God-given talents in service to our congregation as the Property Committee Chair. Please join us as we honor Ernie for his faithful service on Sunday, January 25, at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall, between the two Worship Services. We will also be dedicating the Mechanical Closet in the Fellowship Hall in Ernie's name. Refreshments will be provided.

PLEASE NOTE:

All offerings to be credited to 2025 must be received by December 31th. Offerings received after this date cannot be credited to 2025.

Early reminder, 2025 annual reports are due on or before Sunday, January 4th. All 2025 Committee Chairs are to turn in a report to the church office. Thank you.

The 2026 offering envelopes are in the Narthex please ask an usher for your offering packet.

Tabulator Training

On Sunday, January 11th and 18th, there will be tabulator training in the Office Conference Room at 10:00 AM, between the Early and Late services. If you are a new tabulator, or a current tabulator uncertain of the current process, or just need a review, you are encouraged to attend one of these two sessions. There have been spreadsheet changes and process changes to tabulating from prior years in an attempt to reduce errors and more easily correct any that occur.

If you are unable to attend a session and would like a copy of the slide deck, email Mike Cox (SALZBURG1951@GMAIL.COM) and a .pdf will be emailed to you.

Calling All History Lovers

It has come to our attention that reorganizing the archives of our congregation would preserve our history for years to come. We need 2 or 3 people interested in exploring through Holy Trinity's treasures and then cataloguing them for easy access. Brenda McGowan has a friend, Melinda Summer, who is willing to share her expertise (free of charge) with those who are interested in history by guiding them through the process of setting up an up-to-date system. Melinda is a retired history teacher who is enormously interested in South Carolina history, particularly in SC Lutheranism. She has done detailed archive work for St. Matthews in Downtown Charleston – one of the largest Lutheran Churches in the state. After meeting with and learning from Melinda, you would work on our archives as you have the time. If you are interested in working on protecting our church history, please contact Pastor Fischer.

PRAYER LIST

12/21 The Family of Michael Richardson
 12/21 Margaret DiOrio
 12/21 Bill Brissey
 12/21 Catherine Murphy
 12/21 Matt Stinson
 12/21 The Family of Mitzi Gehring
 12/21 Greg Bell
 12/21 Marisa Adrian
 12/14 James Jester
 12/14 The Family of Dexter Odum
 12/7 Jeanette Thoms
 12/7 The Family of Dale Womer
 12/7 Carter Boucher
 12/7 Bailey Spiers
 12/7 Judy Jarrett
 12/7 Ben Blanks
 12/7 Scott Smith
 12/7 Nick Korn
 11/30 Jana Rudisill
 11/30 The Family of V.R. Nelson
 11/30 Neely Thompson
 11/30 The Family of Pat Caldwell
 11/30 Kathy S.
 11/23 Jayson Sanstrum
 11/23 The Locke Family
 11/23 The Family of Jerry Arp
 11/23 Matt Tenry
 11/23 George Olbon
 11/16 Janice Davenport
 11/16 Marjorie Kuhn
 11/16 Larry Olbon
 11/9 Kimi Williams
 11/9 Neda Kantrowitz
 11/2 The Smith Family
 11/2 The Roloff Family
 11/2 Beth Passow
 10/26 The Family of Dave Harrow
 10/26 Ken Hanson
 10/26 Amanda Martin
 10/19 Jaron Thompson
 10/19 Judi Earwaker

SPONSORS

Congregation
 The Stokes Family
 Jay & Suzie Bannister
 Brenda McGowan
 Brenda McGowan
 Jane Potter
 Jane Potter
 Tom Adrian
 Paula Boller
 The Stokes Family
 Congregation
 Congregation
 Diana James
 Mike & Bobbi Metz
 Beth Fischer
 Bob Vinson
 Andy & Sharon Christmas
 Dave & Nancy Korn
 Cathy Rudisill
 Congregation
 Jane Potter
 Chris & Anna Caldwell
 Suzie Bannister
 Emery Sanstrum
 Mike & Leslie Cox
 Jamie Corrigan
 Congregation
 Andy & Sharon Christmas
 Bob Davenport
 Kim Hill
 Andy & Sharon Christmas
 The Straups
 Rette Stokes
 Jim & Donna Dancik
 Jim & Donna Dancik
 Randy Passow
 Congregation
 Jim & Donna Dancik
 Mike Oates
 Kati Smith
 Jim & Donna Dancik

10/5 Margaret Zeigler
 10/5 Blair Stokes
 10/5 Whitney Stokes Moody

LONG TERM PRAYERS

Betty Williams
 The Caruso Family
 Chris Pracht
 Ben Taylor
 Robert Cahaly
 Edmond Pop
 Ed Hartshorn
 Elanor Dean
 Mike Borron
 Henri Holmes Adair Baker
 Gabrielle Godfrey
 Carolyn Culbreath
 Buddy & Lesley Taylor
 Willy E. Johnson
 Michael Morrison
 Susan Socha
 Danny Rouse
 Nina & Larry Sherman
 Gretchen Fant

We welcome back today Pastor Booher to lead the worship service this morning. After 34 years of parish ministry, Pastor Bruce Booher retired to Seneca, SC in 2016. He served three congregations in Texas and one in Illinois. He and his wife, Penny, a retired marriage and family therapist, have three adult children and five grandchildren. He is chair of the Lutheran Alliance for Faith, Science and Technology. He studied physics and astronomy as an undergraduate at MIT, and loves offering presentations and retreats on the awe and wonder of God's creation. Pastor Booher invites you to visit his web site - www.mysteryandawe.com

Dan & Johnnie Hunnicutt
 Sid & Rette Stokes
 Sid & Rette Stokes

SPONSORS

Connie Adams
 Omaira Caruso
 Jill Helgeson
 Jill Helgeson
 Phil & Jane Cahaly
 The Fischer Family
 Pat Ross
 The Stokes Family
 Paul Wagner
 The Stokes Family
 Brenda McGowan
 The Stokes Family
 Marisa Adrian
 The Stokes Family
 Jill Helgeson
 Dan & Johnnie Hunnicutt
 Brenda McGowan
 Jill Helgeson
 Jill Helgeson