

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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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)

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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.

January 4, 2026

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

"Love Came Down At Christmas" - arr. Lani Smith

*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 147

(sung responsively)

Worship the LORD, ¹ O Jerusalem;
praise your ¹ God, O Zion,
¹³ **who has strengthened the bars ¹ of your gates
and has blessed your chil- ¹ dren within you.**
¹⁴ God has established peace ¹ on your borders
and satisfies you with the ¹ finest wheat.
¹⁵ **God sends out a command ¹ to the earth,
a word that runs ¹ very swiftly.**
¹⁶ God gives ¹ snow like wool,
scattering ¹ frost like ashes.
¹⁷ **God scatters ¹ hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand a- ¹ gainst God's cold?**
¹⁸ The LORD sends forth the ¹ word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the ¹ waters flow.
¹⁹ **God declares the ¹ word to Jacob,
statutes and judg- ¹ ments to Israel.**
²⁰ The LORD has not done so to any ¹ other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. ¹ Hallelujah!

Acclamation (sung by all)

Alleluia. All the ends ' of the earth have seen the victory ' of our God Alleluia. (Psalm 98:3)

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DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY WE ARE COLLECTING NEEDED ITEMS FOR

A.I.M. - 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.

SERVING YOU TODAY – January 4, 2026

Minister..... Rev. J. Chris Fischer
Organist/Choir Director.....Jill Helgeson
Acolytes.....(E) Claude Calloway (L) Brady West
Lectors.....(E) Beth Cribbe (L) Richard Caruso
Assisting Ministers.....(E) Beth Cribbe (L) Richard Caruso
Video/IT Engineer.....Paul Wagner/Christopher Caldwell/Connor Caldwell, Mike Oates
Tabulators.....Bobbi Metz & Rynde Dial
Ushers
(E) Chris Caldwell – Captain, Christopher Caldwell, Connor Caldwell, Kevin Lockhart,
Leon Chute
(L) Mike Oates – Captain, Richard Caruso, Mike Metz, Bobbi Metz, Michael Oates,
Randy Passow
Church Secretary.....Pat Ross
PresidentRynde Dial
Vice-President.....Mary Ann Hobbs
Treasurer.....Diane Richardson
Council Secretary.....Lauren Sayers

**CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK
January 4 – January 10**

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)
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School (Pairs and Spares)
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

WED.

10:00 a.m. T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room)
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
THURS. Dining Divas (Carson’s Restaurant, 150 Beltline Blvd., Anderson)

SAT.

Fellowship Hall Reserved

ATTENDANCE

Christmas Eve Services 4:00 p.m. (103) 11:00 p.m. (63)
Sunday Worship Services – December 28 - 8:45 a.m. (40) 11:00 a.m. (33)

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

December 28 - Operating Fund \$7,707.60, Christmas Offering \$1,446.00, Endowment Fund \$100.00, Utilities Fund \$200.00

(we stand)

*The Hymn

“It Came Upon The Midnight Clear”

Hymn #282

*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)

page 120

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.**

*Canticle of Praise (sung by all)

page 121

(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

Almighty God, You have filled all the earth with the light of Your incarnate Word. By Your grace empower us to reflect Your light in all that we do, 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 (Jeremiah 31:7-14)

Psalms 147

The Second Lesson (Ephesians 1:3-14)

Acclamation (sung by all)

Alleluia. All the ends ' of the earth have seen the victory ' of our God Alleluia. (Psalm 98:3)

The gospel is announced: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Bulletin Cover

Bulletin Inside Cover

Bulletin Cover

Glory to You, O Lord.

*The Holy Gospel (Matthew 2:1-12a)

See Insert

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

Sermon

“LIFE BACK TO NORMAL AFTER CHRISTMAS?”

*Hymn of the Day

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Hymn #279

*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**

12/7 Ben Blanks

12/7 Scott Smith

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

LONG TERM PRAYERS

Nick Korn

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 Jill Helgeson

Bob Vinson

Andy & Sharon Christmas

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

SPONSORS

Dave & Nancy Korn

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

*Closing Hymn

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

Hymn #289

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

The Dismissal

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

“Angels, From the Realms of Glory”

-Henry T. Smart

(*) Indicates congregation to stand

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Sandi Jordan to the honor and glory of God and in loving memory of the birthday of her Grandma Daisy Freeman.

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.

PRAYER LIST

12/28 The Family of Mike Stowe
12/28 Penny Moudrianakis
12/21 The Family of Michael Richardson
12/21 Margaret DiOrio
12/21 Bill Brissey
12/21 The Family of 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

SPONSORS

Jill Helgeson
Diana James
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

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.” The Minister concludes the prayers with these words: “Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” Amen.*

*The Peace Is Shared

MEAL

The Offering Is Received

Choir Offertory Anthem

(8:45 a.m.)

“Love Has Come”

- K. Bible/F. Seguin

Love has come a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.

See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:

Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God, now asleep in the hay.

See the glow in the eyes of His mother; what is the name her heart is saying?

Love! Love! Love is the name, she whispers; Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.

Love is Jesus within and among us, love is the peace our hearts are seeking.

Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

(11:00 a.m.) **"The Glory Of The Father"** - Egil Hovland/Frank Pooler

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

We beheld the glory of the Father,

We beheld the glory of the Father,

Full of grace and truth.

In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God, was with God.

In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.

He came to His own, and His own, and His own received Him not.

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

We beheld the glory of the Father,

We beheld the glory of the Father,

Full of grace and truth.

*The Offertory Hymn **"Let The Vineyards"**

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 Words of Institution page 130

*The Lord's Prayer

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.**

LOOKING AHEAD

Worship Assistants

January 11, 2026

	8:45 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolytes	Cathy Rudisill	Katie Fischer
Lectors	Phyllis Barnette	Sandi Jordan

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.
	Tabulator Training (Office Conference Room)	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.
	Tabulator Training (Office Conference Room)	10:00 a.m.
	Worship Service (Sanctuary)	11:00 a.m.
January 20	Sanctuary Reserved	2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
January 21	T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room)	10:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
January 24	Quilters (Quilting Room)	10:00 a.m.
	Fellowship Hall Reserved	
January 25	Worship Service (Sanctuary)	8:45 a.m.
	Early Choir Practice (After Worship)	
	Ernie Thoms Appreciation (Fellowship Hall)	10:00 a.m.
	Worship Service (Sanctuary)	11:00 a.m.
	Worship and Music Meeting after worship	

REMINDER!!!!

The 2025 annual reports are due **TODAY**. 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.

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

LUTHERAN MEN IN

MISSION

Supper Meeting

January 26

6:00 p.m.

in

Fellowship Hall

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.

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.

Gospel Reading Matthew 2:1-12a

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.