HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ministers: People of Holy Trinity
The Reverend J. Chris Fischer, Pastor
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Pastor Fischer's
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Secretary's 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Mon-Wed)
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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 IN ADVENT
ONE-COMBINED WORSHIP
10:00 a.m.
November 29, 2026

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements
Prelude ***"Come, Thou Almighty King"***
*The Confession & Forgiveness page 116

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.**

(we stand)
*The Hymn ***"The King Shall Come"*** **Hymn #260**
*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.**

*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. **Amen.**

WORD

Children's Choir "**I'm Gonna Sing, Sing, Sing"**

I'm gonna sing, sing, sing.
I'm gonna shout, shout, shout
I'm gonna sing,
I'm gonna shout,
"Praise the Lord!"
When those gates swing open wide,
I'm gonna sit by Jesus' side.
I'm gonna sing,
I'm gonna shout,
"Praise the Lord!"

Children's Sermon
Lighting of the Advent Wreath ***"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*** Stanza 1 **Hymn #257**
The First Lesson (Isaiah 64:1-9) Outside Cover
Psalm 80 Inside Back Cover
The Second Lesson (1 Corinthians 1:3-9) Outside Cover

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung responsively)

Alleluia. They are before the ' throne of God, and the one who is seated on the throne will ' shelter them. Alleluia.

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 **"THE ABSENCE OF GOD"**

*Hymn of the Month ***"O Savior, Precious Savior"*** **Hymn #820**

*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 Peace Is Shared
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 cry rejoices: "Come forth you maidens! Night is past.
The bridegroom 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 ***"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 ***"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"*** **Hymn #244**

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

Blessing of the Meal

*The Dismissal

Postlude ***"Give Thanks"***

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*Congregation Stands

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Bob & Susan Straup to the honor and glory of God and in celebration of their 53rd wedding anniversary.

ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES are 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.

We thank Sharon Christmas for serving as our organist today.

PRAYER LIST	SPONSORS
11/22 The Family of Robert Plesko	Chad & Kristie Evans
11/22 Dave Rasche	Sue Rasche
11/22 Steve Hidlebaugh	Robert & Vicki Allen
11/22 Huger Caughman	Sid Stokes
11/22 The Family of Imogene Cromer	Connor Caldwell
11/22 Jackie Thomas	Diana James
11/22 Adair Seemuller	Lucy & Daisy Roehrs
11/22 Marysue Rivers	Phyllis Barnette
11/15 Ann Marie Armstrong	Suzie Bannister
11/15 Karen Cromer	Suzie Bannister
11/15 Betty Smith	Jim & Donna Dancik
11/1 Ann West	Brenda McGowan
11/1 Pat Cheek	Chris & Anna Caldwell
10/24 Todd Heuskin	Mary Heuskin
10/24 The Family of Miriam Moody	Congregation
10/18 Gael Johnson	Diana James
10/11 Sid Richardson	Diane Richardson
10/11 The Family of Don Simon	Congregation
10/11 Lauren Dyer	Susan Straup
10/11 Christee Williams	Dan & Johnnie Hunnicutt
10/4 Beth Passow	Randy Passow
10/4 The Family of Tim Taylor	Jill Helgeson
10/4 The Family of Whitney Capps	Mike & Bobbi Metz
9/27 The Family of Josh Webber	Jill Helgeson
9/27 The Family of Selena Darnell	Jill Helgeson
9/27 Dr. Meredith Blackwell	Rette Stokes
9/27 The Family of Betty Mann	Mike & Leslie Cox
9/27 Brenda Hucks	Congregation
9/27 Trey Bowman	Bob Vinson

LONG TERM PRAYERS	SPONSORS
Scott Heuskin	Todd Heuskin
Penny Moudrianokis	Diana James
Tim Medlin	Jane Potter
Sherry Partain	Suzie Bannister
Travis & Family	Suzie Bannister
Lamar Cromer	Jill Helgeson
Trey & Maggie Hagerty	Jill Helgeson
Nick Korn	Dave & Nancy Korn
Marysue Rivers	Phyllis Barnette
Pat Kennedy	Jeff Kennedy

Ben & Mary Ann Blanks	Bob Vinson
Ron McDowell	Beth Cribbe
Tom Weeks	Congregation
Ashley Booker Addison	Jill Helgeson
Katrina Sellars	Jill Helgeson
Jaron Thompson	Kati Smith
Phillip Roehrs	Rev. Stephen & Anita Roehrs
Betty Williams	Connie Adams
Ben Taylor	Jill Helgeson
Robert Cahaly	Phil & Jane Cahaly
Edmond Pop	The Fischer Family
Ed Hartshorn	Pat Ross
Elanor Dean	The Stokes Family
Mike Borron	Paul Wagner
Henri Holmes Adair Baker	The Stokes Family
Gabrielle Godfrey	Brenda McGowan
Carolyn Culbreath	The Stokes Family
Buddy & Lesley Taylor	Marisa Adrian
Willy E. Johnson	The Stokes Family
Susan Socha	Dan & Johnnie Hunnicutt
Danny Rouse	Brenda McGowan
Nina & Larry Sherman	Jill Helgeson
Gretchen Fant	Jill Helgeson

Congratulations to Tom Weeks on the birth of a great-granddaughter, Madeline Grace Self, who was born on November 10th to Kaitlyn and Jacob Self. Madeline weighed 7 lb. and 13 ounces. She is the granddaughter of Susan Weeks.

We keep in our prayers Bree and Chase Plesko on the death of their father, Robert Plesko, who died on November 21st. May the Lord comfort them in this time of grief.

5th SUNDAY ONE COMBINED WORSHIP

TODAY

(NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES)

FOLLOWED BY A POTLUCK MEAL IN

FELLOWSHIP HALL. NOTE: THE MEAT and BEVERAGES WILL BE PROVIDED. PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE.

ADVENT SCHEDULE

Advent Meals – 6:00 p.m.

December 2 Luther's Ladies – host Meal Group A - Beth Fischer, leader
December 9 Luther's Ladies – host Meal Group B - Beth Cribbe, leader
December 16 The Lutheran Men In Mission – host

There will be a free will offering received.

Advent Worship Services to follow at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 2: "God's Christmas Greeting"
Wednesday, December 9: "The Baby Who Changes Everything"
Wednesday, December 16: "Christmas Preparations We Often Forget"

All Midweek offerings will be given to the Anderson Free Clinic.

Mark your calendars:

Christmas Pageant – December 13
Annual Christmas Pageant during the 11:00 a.m. Service

Choir Gathering – December 19
Helgeson Home – 6:30 p.m.

Chili and Caroling – December 20
Congregational Christmas Caroling and Chili 5:00 p.m.

POINSETTIAS for the Christmas Eve services will be provided this year for $10.50. 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 20th. Payment must accompany your order. Plants may be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. service Christmas Eve. (Please do not remove 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_____

ANGEL TREE

1. All tags have been removed from the tree. Thank you!
2. Please do not wrap gifts.
3. Place gift, **with tag attached,** in the church office parlor (use door code).
4. All gifts should be returned to the church **NO LATER** than, December 6, after which, you will be responsible for delivering your gifts to A.I.M.

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 on Sunday, December 13th, during the Late Service. We will again be using an original script created by Brenda McGowan.

A full dress-rehearsal will take place on Saturday morning, December 12th. Our final rehearsal will be Sunday, December 13th following the Early Service.

Choir Christmas Party

(Bruce & Jill Helgeson's Home)
December 19
6:30 p.m.
(Heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts)

SERVING YOU TODAY – November 29, 2026

Minister……..…….……...……...…….. Rev. J. Chris Fischer
Organist.....Sharon Christmas
Acolyte.....Claude Calloway
Lector…….Jane Potter
Video/IT Engineer…….. Paul Wagner/Christopher Caldwell/Kevin Lockhart/Connor Caldwell
Tabulators…….……..…….....Bobbi Metz & Rynde Dial

Ushers: (E) Mike Cox-Captain, Leslie Cox, Robert Allen, Tom Adrian
(L) Mike Oates-Captain, Sandi Jordan, Kristie Evans, Chad Evans
Church Secretary……..…….Pat Ross
President…….Rynde Dial
Vice-President……..……Mary Ann Hobbs
Treasurer……..Diane Richardson
Council Secretary…….……..Lauren Sayers

CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK
November 29 – December 5

TODAY
10:00 a.m. ONE-COMBINED WORSHIP (Sanctuary)
Potluck meal to follow (Fellowship Hall)

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

THURS.
6:00 p.m. Dining Divas (Fellowship Hall)

ATTENDANCE
Sunday Worship Services – November 22 – 8:45 a.m. (61) 11:00 a.m. (41)

OFFERINGS RECEIVED
November 22 - Operating Fund $4,885.55, Endowment Fund $75.00, Thanksgiving Offering $10.00, Poinsettias Fund $73.50, Angel Tree Fund $75.00, Utilities Fund $70.00

The Advent devotionals *Come and Behold Him* by Henri J. M. Nouwen are in the Narthex. Please pick-up your copy. One per family please.

LOOKING AHEAD

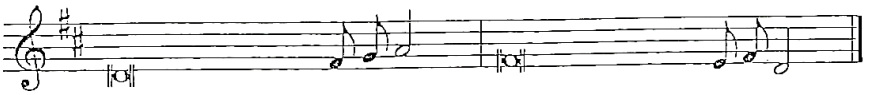
Worship Assistants

December 6, 2026

	8:45 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolytes	Cathy Rudisill	Joshua Fischer
Lectors	Susan Straup	Sid Stokes
Assisting Ministers	Susan Straup	Beth Fischer

December 6	Worship Service (Sanctuary)	8:45 a.m.
	Early Choir Practice (After Worship)	
	Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)	10:00 a.m.
	The Whole Story Adult Sunday School Class (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.
	Chrismon Tree set up after Late Service	
December 9	T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room)	10:00 a.m.
	Advent Meal – Group B – host (Beth Cribbe – leader)	
	Advent Service	
	Choir Practice	
December 10	Luther's Ladies Christmas Party (Nancy Scalf's Home)	6:00 p.m.
December 13	Worship Service (Sanctuary)	8:45 a.m.
	Early Choir Practice (After Worship)	
	Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)	10:00 a.m.
	The Whole Story Adult Sunday School Class (Pairs and Spares)	10:00 a.m.
	Martin Luther Adult Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)	10:00 a.m.
	Worship Service (Sanctuary) Congregational Christmas Pageant	11:00 a.m.
December 14	Church Council Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	7:00 p.m.
December 16	T.O.P.S. (Pairs and Spares Room)	10:00 a.m.
	Advent Meal – Lutheran Men In Mission - host	
	Advent Service	
	Choir practice	
December 19	Choir Christmas Gathering (Helgeson Home)	6:30 p.m.
December 20	Worship Service (Sanctuary)	8:45 a.m.
	Early Choir Practice (After Worship)	
	Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)	10:00 a.m.
	The Whole Story Adult Sunday School Class (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.
	Congregational Christmas Chili and Caroling	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



Psalm 80

(sung responsively)

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

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung responsively)

Alleluia. They are before the ' throne of God, and the one who is seated on the throne will ' shelter them. Alleluia.

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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.