



“People coming together to be The Church,  
not just attend one.”

Trinity Lutheran Church is an open and inclusive  
church, welcoming all who seek God.

69 Griswold Street • Hillsdale, Michigan  
517-437-2647 • tlchillsdale.org

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**First Sunday of Advent**

**November 29, 2020**

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**Service of the Word**  
**Weekly Resource for Prayer and Devotions at Home**

**Trinity Lutheran Church** is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING!** We invite you to join us regularly for worship and in a variety of activities and opportunities in our congregational life. If you are new here, we welcome you; if you are a member of longstanding, we celebrate your gifts and your ministry among us. Our order of worship is printed on the following pages of this bulletin.

**MISSION STATEMENT** - The Mission Statement of Trinity Lutheran Church is to nurture faith through proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ by word, sacrament, deeds and loving relationships, to ALL people.

**VISION STATEMENT** - As proclaimers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Vision of Trinity Lutheran Church is to maximize our gifts and resources to reach out with God's love and serve the global community.

**NURSERY** - This congregation encourages ALL children to participate in worship. They learn more about worship and faith by being part of it than anything else. If you or your children need a break, a nursery is located in the lower level of the church building, and is accessible from either stairway. During worship, the nursery is self-service.

**FROM THE ELCA WORSHIP BLOG:**

In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While you cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.

**DEVOTIONAL MUSIC LINKS:**

For your individual or group devotion, you may choose to listen to the following choral recordings made available through Augsburg Fortress. The links for November 29<sup>th</sup> will be posted on Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, and will be available at the bottom of the resources for that day on this website: <https://blogs.elca.org/worship/>

**Sunday, November 29, 2020**

## **INTRODUCTION**

*Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*Stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Gracious God,

C **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.**

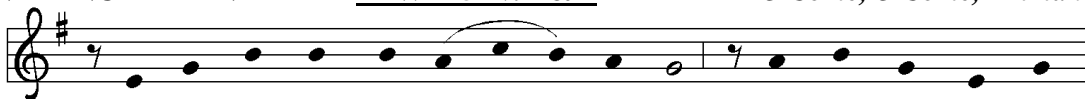
P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through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

C **Amen.**

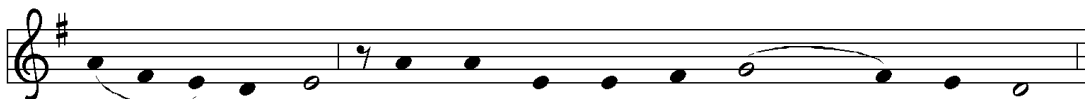
**ENTRANCE HYMN**

**ELW #257 v. 1 & 2**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far - and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

**GREETING**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

**P** We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**C** **Amen.**

# HYMN OF LIGHT

ELW #256 v. 1

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

*Light one candle.*



1 “Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.  
2 For the her-ald’s voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row’s load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God’s ho - ly reign.



To God’s peo - ple now pro-claim that God’s par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.  
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God’s word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseauxes de David*, Geneva, 1551

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

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, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

A A reading from Isaiah.

**FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 64:1-9**

*This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.*

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
  
<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

A Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19*

*Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)*

- <sup>1</sup>Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- <sup>2</sup>**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us.**
- <sup>3</sup>Restore us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- <sup>4</sup>**O LORD God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**
- <sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- <sup>6</sup>**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
- <sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- <sup>17</sup>**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,  
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**
- <sup>18</sup>And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
- <sup>19</sup>**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

A A reading from 1 Corinthians.

## SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

*As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.*

- <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

P Alleluia.

C **Alleluia. Abide in me as I abide in you; those who abide in me bear much fruit.  
Alleluia.**

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL**

*Mark 13:24-37*

*Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>24</sup>“In those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

<sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**



HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #246 v. 1 & 2 *Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!*



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we  
 2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age  
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don  
 4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is  
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,  
 let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,  
 down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,  
 wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy  
 and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the day!"  
 shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
 one and all, to be for - giv'n;  
 and with words of love draw near.  
 while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878  
 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

## 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**A** God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world.  
Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

*A brief silence.*

**A** We pray for the ministry we share in Christ's name. Open our hearts to your call for justice, peace, and healing. Attune us to the needs of the world as you draw near. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**A** We pray for this planet in need of restoration: for devastated habitats, polluted waters, thawing ice, blazing fires, swelling floods, and long-lasting droughts. Renew the face of the earth and our relationship to it. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**A** We pray for all people who care for others in our community and around the world. Fill them with compassion and the power to respond with justice for those who are oppressed, with welcome for those who are excluded, and with relief for those who suffer. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for people who are in crisis as the seasons change: for those without homes facing severe weather, for those who are unemployed or underemployed, and for those in poverty or facing food insecurity. (*Local feeding or housing ministries may be named*).  
Relieve their burdens, sustain their bodies, and ease their minds. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for the people in our families and congregation who live with depression, anxiety, chronic pain, addiction, and other invisible illnesses (*especially*). Ease their suffering and support them when they struggle. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A We give thanks for the lives and witness of those who died while waiting for justice, peace, or healing, those whose names we know and those whose names are known only to you. Sustain all who still yearn for the completion of your redeeming work. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

## OFFERING

### ***FIFTH SUNDAY: Noisy Offering for ELCA World Hunger***

*Each week, our congregation collects a general offering for the church and our ministries. Additionally, we collect an offering for special projects. Offerings can be mailed to the church while in-person services are suspended. You may include a note for what you would like your offering to support, or simply write it on the memo line of your check. All checks need to be made out to Trinity Lutheran Church, as required by our bank.*

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER (8:30 a.m.)**

**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**BLESSING**

**P** The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide and bless your journey, ✠ now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

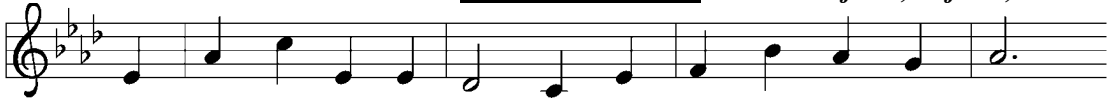
**LORD'S PRAYER (11:00 a.m.)**

**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C** **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin  
against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and  
the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

## ELW #244 v. 1 &amp; 2

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;  
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,  
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.  
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907  
 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

**DISMISSAL**

- A Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.  
 C **Thanks be to God.**

**SERVING AT TRINITY**

**Ministers:** Every member of the congregation   **Council President:** Carol Knoch  
**Pastor:** Rev. Jessica Hahn   **Vice-President:** Suzanne Langston  
**Piano/Keyboard:** Paul Lucas   **Treasurer:** Kristin Lucas  
**Parish Secretary:** Volunteer Team   **Secretary:** Amy Otterbein

**Council Members:** Diane Draper, Norma Ludlow, Chris McNamara, Brad Otterbein, Gene Stockford-Shively, and Tom Walworth.

**SERVING TODAY:**

**Lay Worship Leader:** Terry Vear

*Thank you, Terry for preaching and leading worship today!*

**Assisting Minister:** Amy Otterbein  
**Cantor:** Amy Otterbein  
**Altar Guild:** Tom Stockford-Shively

**FLOWERS** -- The flowers on the altar today are given by Norma Ludlow in honor of Harold's birthday.

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