



TRINITY LUTHERAN

Alma, Missouri

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Third Sunday in Advent

Vol. 85, No. 50

December 15, 2024

Being made alive by God's grace in Word and Sacrament THE MISSION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL is to reach out with the Gospel, proclaiming, teaching, and equipping God's people for acts of service to all generations.

Order of Worship: Divine Service III, page 184

Hymns: 332, 349, 338, 357, 620, 341

OUR DISCIPLESHIP LAST WEEK:

Last Sunday: 164

Sunday School: 9

Bible Class: 19

12/4 Advent Service: 64

Offering: Unified: \$8,635.50

Weekly Loose: \$55.50

SS & BC: \$13.00

12/4 Advent Service: Youth Group \$197.00

Unified: \$12,670.00

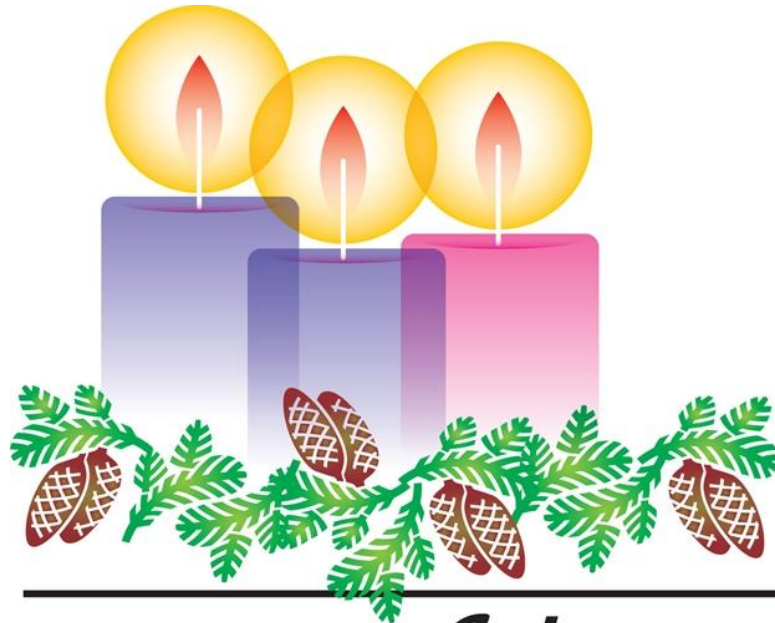
2024 ADVENT DEVOTIONS are still available in the Narthex on the south shelf and Overflow room.

2025 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES have been put in your church postboxes. If you have more than one per household (children), please check the hat racks in the narthex for additional family member boxes. Please continue using your **2024** envelopes through **December 31st**.

PORTALS OF PRAYER. January - March Portals of Prayer are available in the Narthex and Overflow Room.

CAP & MITTEN TREE: Trinity Men's Club is collecting caps and mittens again during Advent. The tree is in the narthex for the collection. Items donated will be given to the House of Hope.

YOU'RE INVITED to The ECC Christmas Program on Friday, December 20th at 8:30 am. Join us for our program in the gym and stay after for donuts and coffee. Trinity's youngest children will be presenting "A Bundle of Joy".



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Trinity Lutheran Church

Alma, Mo

December 15, 2024

150th ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOKS are in and available for pickup if you have pre-ordered. There are also extra available for purchase, if you want to pick up a few extra as Christmas gifts. They will be available to purchase before and after services on Sundays in December and the December 18 Advent Service. They are also available at the Church/School Office. Cost is \$30.00

SCRIP GIFT CARDS. Still Christmas shopping? We have a large inventory of gift cards. Contact the school office, 660-674-2444, to purchase cards. Thank you for your continued support of Trinity Lutheran School.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES. There will be two services again this year. The Children's Service will begin at 5:30 pm, with our school children presenting the story of Jesus' birth. Then at 7:00 pm, Pastor Ross will be conducting the Cambridge Service (Candlelight Service).

POINSETTIA donations are still being accepted to decorate the altar for the Christmas season. If you would like to donate a poinsettia, please leave it in the Altar Guild room for the Altar Guild committee. If you have donated in memory of someone, please call the church/school office, 660-674-2444, with the information.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE. All children aged 3-6 (PreK-K) are welcome to sing with the Pre-K Sunday School class at the beginning of the Children's Christmas Eve Service at 5:30 p.m. at Trinity. Please meet in the church basement at 5:15 p.m. on the 24th, the children will go to sit with their parents after they finish singing. Please contact Sarah Griggs, or the school office, for the song sheets and with any questions.

150th HISTORY BOOK COMMITTEE is continuing to work on a new chapter in the history book honoring our veterans. If you have not already done so, please consider sharing your military photo along with your rank, years of service, and military branch. Photos and information can be emailed to Amy Lovercamp at amy.lovercamp@yahoo.com or dropped off at the church/school office, *by December 16.*

Monday: 6:00 PM 5/6th Girls BB (H) vs. Timothy Blue Springs
7:00 PM 5/6th Boys BB (H) vs. Timothy Blue Springs
Wednesday: Grades 6-8th at the Lafayette County Court House
6:30 PM Advent Service
Thursday: 10:30 AM 3rd Grade to Concordia Senior Center
Friday: 8:30 AM Chapel ~ ECC & Preschool in the gym
10:30 AM Early Dismissal ~ Christmas Break until January 7
Saturday: 9:00 AM 5/6th Girls BB Shoot Out @ St. Paul, Concordia
Sunday: 8:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class
9:30 AM Divine Worship w/Continuous Communion



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Trinity Lutheran School

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Introit - Psalm 146:5-8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I will say, Rejoice.

Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD his God,

who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

who keeps faith forever;

who executes justice for the oppressed,

who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I will say, Rejoice.

Old Testament Reading - *Zephaniah 3:14–20*

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!
¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against
you;
he has cleared away your enemies.
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.
¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
“Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.
¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.
¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the
festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.
¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal
with all your oppressors.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
²⁰At that time I will bring you in,
at the time when I gather you together;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes,” says the LORD.

Epistle - *Philippians 4:4–7*

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Holy Gospel - *Luke 7:18–28*

¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

²⁴When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

²⁸I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”