



## Nurturing a Living Faith with Open Hearts and Serving Hands

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### Introduction to the Day

*The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.*

**1st week of Advent**  
**Wednesday**  
**Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**6 p.m.**



### GATHERING MUSIC

#### WELCOME

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.  
You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.  
You show up in our lives at unexpected times.  
Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.  
We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,  
you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

**Amen.**

#### SONG

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”

ELW #240

**Light one candle to watch for Messiah; let the light banish darkness,  
He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.**

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of new beginnings,

**we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.**

**We have strayed from your paths.**

**We prepare for war instead of peace.**

**We dishonor one another and your creation.**

**Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love,**

**that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance and welcome your coming among us.**

**Amen.**

People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on + Christ, and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**Amen.**

#### SONG OF PRAISE

“People, Look East”

ELW #248

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Welcome to Worship at Trinity Lutheran**

*Whether this is your first time worshipping with us, or if you regularly attend, we are very glad that you are with us! Today, we gather to worship God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*The church is not a building – it is you, the people. So “church,” thanks for showing up today. If you look around what you will see are imperfect people. Some with smiles, some with broken hearts, some with secrets they are ashamed to share... and yet all of us together are the “church.”*

*We are thankful you are here. Through God's Holy Spirit we pray you hear a word of grace and hope today.*

## **READING: ISAIAH 2:1-5**

*The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of the Lord now!"*

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

## **WE INVITE THE GOSPEL**

"Christ, Be Our Light"  
*Refrain Only*

ELW #715

## **GOSPEL: MATTHEW 24:36-44**

*Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.*

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup>"About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S TIME/SERMON**

Pastor Mark Narum

## **SONG**

"Christ, Be Our Light"  
*Verses 4-5*

ELW #715

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

ELW pg. 105

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Please pray for Don, Mike, Annette, Jan, Jim, Elizabeth, Melissa and Cathy.*

## **OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER**

Eternal God,

**you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground.**

**Receive these simple gifts and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice.**

**We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

ELW pg. 208

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **BENEDICTION**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is near.  
Thanks be to God.

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*Christmas  
Worship Services*

**Christmas Eve**  
3 pm, 5 pm, 10 pm

**Christmas Day**  
8:30 am, 10:30 am

**trinitylutheran**  
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

502 N 4th St.  
Bismarck, ND 58501



**CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE!**

Sunday, December 18 @ 11:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall  
Free Will Offering

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BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Pizza Lunch ~ Hot Chocolate ~ Ornament Making ~ Cookie Decorating  
Photo Booth ~ And More! All Are Welcome!



**CHURCH SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS  
PROGRAM**

Sunday, December 18 @ 10:30 a.m.  
Christmas Adventure following

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Wednesday, December 21 @ 6 p.m.  
Hot Chocolate & Goodies following

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BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

### CONNECT GROUPS - Faith and Fellowship

**Sundays**

**Bible Basics**, every Sunday @ 9:35 a.m.- 10:15 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Contact Pastor Mark.

**Mondays**

**Bible Read-Through Group**, every Monday @ 7 a.m., Conference Room. Contact Bob Wefald, bobwefald@msn.com.  
**Ladies Study**, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays @ 1 p.m. Contact Karen Botine, karenbotine@bis.midco.net.

**Tuesdays**

**Quilters**, every Tuesday @ 9 a.m. downstairs in the Quilters Room. Contact Cathy Nelson, scknelson@midco.net.  
**GIFTS Bible Study**, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month @ 6:30 p.m. in Room 212, or email Pastor Mark for a zoom link.

**Wednesdays**

**Upstairs Video Study**, every other Wednesday @ 2:30 p.m. in Room 212. Contact Larry Strand, ljstrand@bis.midco.net.  
**Video Study on Hebrews**, every Wednesday @ 6:35 p.m. in the Conference Room. Contact Heather.

**Thursdays**

**Circle Morning Meeting**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month @ 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. Contact Margaret Laib, marg.laib@gmail.com.

**Other**

**Bible Journaling**, next meeting is Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at Good Shepherd Lutheran @ 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Contact Gracia.  
**Handy Men**, create baptism boxes @ various times. Contact Mike Ranum, msranum@bis.midco.net.  
**Beer & Hymns**, (no meeting in December) at the Bismarck Amvets @ 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. All ages welcome.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2022

**RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM** is in memory of loved ones, given by Rick & Julie Bucholz.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are in memory of Rev. Justin Johnson. Given by his parents, Erik & Kathryn, and sister, Gracia.

**RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM SIGN-UP** - The sign-up sheet for 2023 is located in the Narthex. Please fill out a form and follow the instructions to sign up. The cost is \$250 for each Sunday. **It is helpful to the office if you are able to pay right away and fully complete the information.** This has been a great blessing for people to stay connected with worship at Trinity when they aren't able to be here in person. Thank you for the many people that have supported this ministry. Please contact Klarissa if you have any questions.

**POINSETTIA DONATIONS** - We are now receiving donations for our Christmas display of poinsettias. We will be purchasing 36 poinsettias this year. Poinsettias can be ordered for Trinity shut-ins, as well as for those who wish to take a plant home after Christmas worship. If there are more than 36 poinsettia donations, the funds will go to our 2023 offering benevolence, Ministry on the Margins. Poinsettia donations are \$15. All donations and accompanying dedications will be listed in the Christmas bulletins. Forms are available in the Narthex. Turn in a form and payment to the office or offering basket **by Friday, December 16th**. Contact Klarissa if you have any questions.

**CHRISTMAS BAKING NEEDED** - Christmas goodies will again be shared with people on our Holiday Delivery List this year. If you are willing to share your baking, or some fruit, please bring it to the church office **no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**. We will gather the goodies in the Conference Room. Also, if you are able to help deliver some baked goods please let Klarissa know. Thank you for blessing others in this way for the Holiday Season!

### **CHRISTMAS SEASON WORSHIP TIMES:**

Christmas Eve - 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 10 p.m.  
Christmas Day - 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday, December 28 - No Worship

### **OFFICE CLOSED DATES:**

December 23, 26, 30  
January 2

**CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE** - Join us Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We'll have pizza, ornament-making, cookie-decorating, hot chocolate, a photo booth and more! All are welcome! A free will offering will be taken to help cover the cost of lunch.

### **CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS:**

- Our Sunday Church School Christmas Program will be during worship on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 a.m. After worship, join us in Fellowship Hall for the Christmas Adventure!
- Wednesday Church School kids will present a Christmas Program during worship on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6 p.m. Following worship, we'll have hot chocolate & goodies in the Community Center.

**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING** - Each Christmas, Trinity's Church Council selects a ministry to be the recipient of our Special Offering. This Christmas, Ministry on the Margins was chosen as the recipient. Ministry on the Margins is a partner ministry of Trinity Lutheran. For the past two years, all of the requests for human needs (rent assistance, gas cards, food pantry) Trinity staff have been referring to the Ministry on the Margins because they have a better system of walking with individuals in need. If you would like to make a gift our Special Christmas Offering you can drop a check in the offering plate with "Special Christmas Offering" in the memo line, drop an envelope with cash in the offering plate marked "Special Christmas Offering" on the outside or drop a donation off in the church office.

**STAFF TRANSITION** - Trinity Lutheran has an immediate opening for a full-time Facility Manager. We are looking for an individual who is mechanically inclined, self-motivated and able to prioritize tasks, able to manage staff, contractors and volunteers, and likes working on a solid team. Contact Pastor Mark for more information or stop at the church office to drop off a resume and fill out an application.

**NORTH PARKING LOT DOORS** - During this staff transition, the main entrance will only be unlocked when there are at least 2 staff members present in the building. There is not a set time for this necessarily as it can change. Please call the office if you need to get in. All doors will be locked weekdays from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. for the lunch hour.

**CHRISTMAS SPECIAL MUSIC** - There is still time to volunteer to use your music skills to enhance the music of the season! Contact Pastor Mary Lou to discuss options and sign up!

**ORGAN RECITAL** - Norman Paskowsky will be presenting a recital on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> @ 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. It will feature a wide range of pieces representing four centuries of organ music, including a piece titled "The Covid 19 Fugue" by Papademitriou, which comes highly praised by the music world. A freewill offering will be received.

**MISSOURI SLOPE ORNAMENT FUNDRAISER** - With a \$100 donation, you can honor or memorialize a loved one by placing a custom-made ornament on their brand new tree in the new chapel at the Washington Nursing Facility. The ornament can then be replicated for \$50. Visit <https://mslcc.salsalabs.org/ornamentdonations/index.html> for more information.