



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

502 N 4th St. Bismarck, ND 58501 ~ 701-223-3560 ~ www.trinitybismarck.com ~ pudwill@trinitybismarck.com



**4th Sunday of Advent
Dec. 21, 2025
10:30 a.m.**



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

“Advent Hymn”
CCLI #6152291

CENTERING SONG

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
Verse 1

ELW #257

WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Friends, every day we are given choices—the choice to be a friend, to be an ally, to extend a welcoming hand. Some days we choose wisely, but from time to time, we inevitably get it wrong. That is one of the many reasons we need the Prayer of Confession. In this moment of prayer, we are able to practice the art of forgiveness. So join me in this transformative moment. Join me receiving grace.

(Silence for Confession)

When you were afraid, did I stay by your side?
Did I offer my hand, or did I leave you alone?
When you were afraid, did I choose solidarity?
Did I see your fear, or did I only see mine?

Friend, none of us are perfect. We all make mistakes. Fortunately, God offers grace, and we do too. So take a deep breath, and let's start again.

Thank you. Your mercy is a gift.

Now we must ask—

**when you were afraid, did we stay by your side?
Did we offer our hands, or did we leave you alone?
When you were afraid, did we choose solidarity?
Did we see your fear? Or did we only see ours?**

Friends, none of us are perfect. We all make mistakes. Fortunately, God offers grace, and I do too. So take a deep breath, and let's start again.

Thank you. Your mercy is a gift. We accept your grace and would love to start again.

May it be so, with God's help.
Alleluia, amen.

OPENING SONG

“Bethlehem Highway”
CCLI #1940862

***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.

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.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

In a world full of fear, where do you see the presence of love?

We see love all around us. We see love when people hold open the door. We see love in a warm embrace, a homemade casserole, a phone call after a long day. We see love in random acts of kindness and intentional acts of empathy. We see love all around us.

You are right. Even in a fearful world, love is all around us.

Today we light the candle of love as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, love is here. Love is world-changing. Love is shining bright. We only have to look for it.

Thanks be to God for a love like that! Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING SONG

“We’re Not Alone”

See Handout

Verse 4

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Immanuel,

we turned off alarm clocks. We poured cups of coffee. We slipped shoes onto our feet and combed back fly-away hairs. We traveled to this room and settled into this space, all in hopes of drawing closer to you. So as we hear your Word read aloud, help us to feel your presence in our midst. For we are reaching out our hands. We are reaching out our hearts. Speak to us now. With hope we pray, Amen.

CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: “MANGER TALES”

SONG OF THE DAY/OFFERING

“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers”

ELW #244

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 THE PEOPLE

*Please pray for Dick, Amy, Rod, Melissa, Hal, Lester,
Jim, Sandy, Carsen, Cortney, Lynn, Ken, Barb, Anna, Gary, Dirk, & Bev.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION/COMMUNION MUSIC

“Beyond the Moon and Stars”

D. Schutte, OCP Publications

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

In a fearful world, may you look for God’s spirit. May you reach for each other’s hands. May you choose courage whenever you can. And in all things, may you remember that good news is louder than fear. In the name of the one who calls, the one who sends, and the one who journeys with us—go in peace and be not afraid. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“Hark the Herald Angels/King of Heaven”

CCLI #7019799

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CCLI License #1794656 for songs

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*Christmas
Worship Services*

December 24
Christmas Eve worship:
3 pm, 5 pm, 10 pm
*Holy Communion + Candlelight

December 25
Cozy Christmas worship:
10:30 am
*Holy Communion


502 N 4th St.
Bismarck, ND 58501



My thoughts on the scripture
and message

 **\$60 each**

 **QUILTS
FOR SALE**

Need a Quilt for a special occasion or for yourself? TLC Quilters have quilts for sale year-round!

Contact Cathy at
scknelson@midco.net
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Ministers
All the people of God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025

WE EXTEND OUR CONGREGATION'S SYMPATHY to the family of Nyla Hoff. Her funeral was at Trinity on Thursday, December 18th. Please keep her family in your prayers.

RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM is in memory of their parents - Hazel & Don Sinness, and brothers - Gary Bracht & Curt Bracht. Given by Karen & Arlyn Ohlhauser.

END OF YEAR GIVING - To be able to give towards the 2025 year, please get things to the office by Tuesday, December 30th, as the office will be closed on Wednesday, December 31st, for the holiday.

RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM SIGN-UP - The sign-up sheet for 2026 is located in the Narthex. Please turn in the additional form with your payment - *it is helpful to receive payment up front if possible*. The cost is \$250 each Sunday.



CHRISTMAS SEASON WORSHIP TIMES:

Dec. 24 - *Christmas Eve worship* - 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 10 p.m.
 Dec. 25 - *Cozy Christmas worship* - 10:30 a.m.
 Dec. 31 - No Worship

OFFICE CLOSED DATES:

December 24, 25, 31
 January 1

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING - It has been a tradition at Trinity that a special offering is taken during the Christmas Season. This year council has designated Youthworks as this year's recipient. Their mission is: helping ensure all youth have a safe place to belong and be heard. If you would like to make a donation, you can write a check to Trinity and in the memo line write: Youthworks. Thanks for your generosity!

ONLINE GIVING - Giving has never been easier! Open your camera on your phone and scan the QR code. It will take you right to Trinity's online giving site. You can choose to give via credit card or bank account. Try it out today!



CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 17
@ 6 p.m.

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Sunday, December 21
@ 10:30 a.m.



Join us for this fun
INTER-ACTIVE Experience
 of the Classic Christmas Movie "ELF"!



Sunday, December 21 @ 2 p.m.
Fellowship Hall ~ All Ages Welcome!

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday 12-21

8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
 9:35 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall
 9:35 AM - Church School
 10:30 AM - Worship & Christmas Program in Sanctuary
 2 PM - "Elf" Interactive Event in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday 12-23

9 AM - Quilters in Quilters' Room

Wednesday 12-24 OFFICE CLOSED

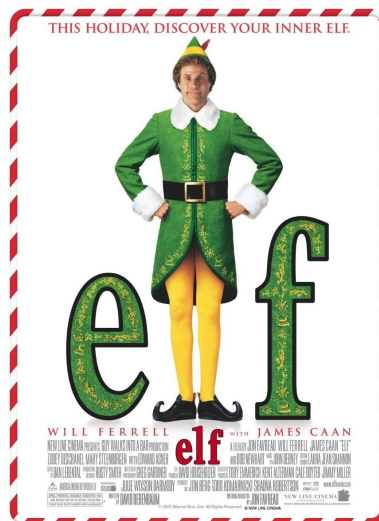
3 PM - Christmas Eve Worship in Sanctuary
 5 PM - Christmas Eve Worship in Sanctuary
 10 PM - Christmas Eve Worship in Sanctuary

Thursday 12-25 OFFICE CLOSED

10:30 AM - Cozy Christmas Worship in Sanctuary

Sunday 12-28

8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
 9:35 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall
 9:35 AM - Church School
 10:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary



We'll be stopping
 the movie every
 once and awhile
 to have our own
 fun with indoor
 snowballs, treats,
 and more!

