



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

502 N 4th St. Bismarck, ND 58501 ~ 701-223-3560 ~ [www.trinitybismarck.com](http://www.trinitybismarck.com) ~ [trinity@trinitybismarck.com](mailto:trinity@trinitybismarck.com)



**3rd Week of Advent  
Wednesday  
Dec. 17, 2025  
6 p.m.**



**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

“Advent Hymn”  
CCLI #6152291

**CENTERING SONG**

“O Come, Take Heart”  
Verse 3

See Handout

**WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Friends, often in life, when we make mistakes, we want to keep those mistakes to ourselves. We don't want to advertise our blunders. We don't want to highlight our failings. We can be tempted to brush those things under the rug and move on. But when it comes to God, there is nothing we need to brush under the rug. God welcomes and loves our full, honest, messy selves—blunders and all. So let us go before God in prayer, trusting that there is nothing we need to hide from our Creator.

*(Silence for Confession)*

Courageous God,  
you invite us to live into our call.  
You invite us to act, to serve, and to trust.  
Instead of responding with a resounding “yes,”  
we often hide our face.  
We dig our heels in.  
We look for someone else to volunteer.  
Spark courage in us.  
Remind us that every person is capable of making a difference.  
Remind us that even when we're scared, we are not alone.  
You invite us forward.  
With baby steps we hope,  
we pray,  
Amen.

Family of faith,  
no matter where your path has led you in the past, today is a new day. So join me in declaring this good news:

**We are known. We are forgiven! We are sent to serve.  
May we step forward in faith, always moving closer to God's call. 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.*

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of joy?

**We see glimmers of joy in birthday candles and homemade cards. We see joy in the laughter of children and the delight of grandparents. We see joy in meals around the table and in the singing of Christmas songs.**

You are right. Even in a fearful world, joy is all around us. Today we light the candle of joy as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, joy is here. Joy is real. We only have to look for it.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **CANDLE LIGHTING SONG**

“We’re Not Alone”

See Handout

*Verse 3*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Holy One,

**the story of this season is not a new one. We’ve heard this tale before. We’ve seen the nativities, watched the plays, sung the songs, witnessed the children act it out. The story of this season is not a new one, and yet we long to hear it as if it is. So spark our spirits awake. Call forth awareness, attention, and reverence in us. Allow us to hear this ancient tale with brand new ears. With hope we pray, Amen.**

## **CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: “MANGER TALES”**

## **SONG OF THE DAY/OFFERING**

“There is a Longing in Our Hearts”

ACS #1078

## **CREED**

**We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars. We have seen the longest night, and still we believe.**

**We believe in a with-us God. We believe in the hope of tomorrow. We believe that good news is louder than fear. We believe this good news is for all people. So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news.**

**We will reach for each other. We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy. We will proclaim: Unto us, love is born. We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable love. So still, we believe. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

## **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.**

## **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—go in peace and be not afraid. **Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

“Messiah”

CCLI #1454269

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*CCLI License #1794656 for songs*

*One License # a-716673, for songs and liturgy: copyright © 2019 augsburg fortress. All rights reserved.  
Graphic design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | Photography by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

# 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



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

502 N 4th St.  
Bismarck, ND 58501

# CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 17  
@ 6 p.m.

.....

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



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



**\$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  
or (701) 226-4088 for more information.

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



# Trinity Lutheran Christmas Caroling

Saturday  
December 20



**Rehearse & Treats at Trinity**  
Community Center @12 pm

**Missouri Slope**  
4916 N Washington St.  
@1 pm in the Halls (3rd floor)

**Edgewood Village**  
3124 Colorado Ln  
@1:45 pm in the Chapel

**Baptist Health Center**  
3400 Nebraska Dr  
@2:30 pm in the Chapel

**All ages welcome!**

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

# MEN'S GROUP

3rd Saturday of the month  
@ 8 a.m.  
in Fellowship Hall

- Faith
- Fellowship
- Breakfast
- All are Welcome



Contact Pastor Mark with questions at Narum@trinitybismarck.com

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



## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025

**WE EXTEND OUR CONGREGATION'S SYMPATHY** to the family of Nyla Hoff. Her funeral will be at Trinity on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 10 a.m. Please keep her family in your prayers.

**RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM** is in memory of Les Christian, Verna & Albert Dronen, & Harold Hanson. Given by Reg & Julie Christian.

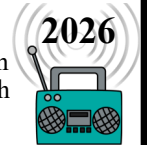
**ALTAR FLOWERS** are in memory of his father, Philip. Given by Jim & LaRayne Martel.

**TREATS AVAILABLE** - Cookies & hot chocolate are available in the Community Center following worship.

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

**THURSDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - This group invites it's members and Trinity staff to join them for a luncheon at the Broadway Grille on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 a.m.

**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!



## ***THIS WEEK AT TRINITY***

### **Wednesday 12-17**

2:30 PM - Upstairs Bible Study in Room 212  
5:15 PM - Meal served in Fellowship Hall  
6 PM - Worship & Christmas Program in Sanctuary  
6:40 PM - Youth Group, Confirmation, Church School

### **Thursday 12-18**

10 AM - Funeral for Nyla Hoff in Sanctuary  
6:30 PM - Council in Conference Room

### **Friday 12-19**

9:30 AM - Theology & Coffee in Conference Room  
4 PM - Bauer/Kordovsky Wedding in Sanctuary

### **Saturday 12-20**

8 AM - Men's Group in Fellowship Hall  
12 PM - Christmas Caroling in Community Center

### **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**

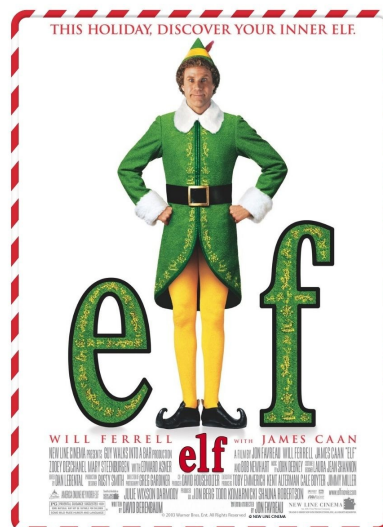
9 AM - Quilters in Quilters' Room

### **Wednesday 12-24 OFFICE CLOSED**

2:30 PM - Upstairs Bible Study in Room 212  
5:15 PM - Meal served in Fellowship Hall  
6 PM - Worship & Christmas Program in Sanctuary  
6:40 PM - Youth Group, Confirmation, Church School

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!



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



trinitylutheran  
RISBACH, NORTH DAKOTA  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America