



Advent 2: Prepare the Way

Second Sunday
of Advent

Contemporary Worship
11:00 am
December 10, 2023



trinity | camp hill

LUTHERAN CHURCH

What's Happening

Adult classes Sundays at 10 am

- Adam Hamilton's **Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph**. Rm. 126, Beth Bard.
- Andy Stanley's **Who Needs Christmas?** Rm. 125, Linda Horner.

Kids and grandkids! "J is for Jesus" Christmas party: Fri., Dec. 15

6-8 pm. Minute-to-win-It games, crafts, Chick-fil-A nuggets and mac/cheese, plus a visit from St. Nick! Don't miss.

Blue Christmas worship service: Sat., Dec. 16, at 2 pm

You are not alone if you struggle during the holiday season.

Youth Christmas Party for grades 5-12: Sun., Dec. 17, 6-8 pm

Food and fun! Bring an ugly gift, wrapped and under \$5.

Sunday, Dec. 24: Worship services—Make a note of these times!

- **9 am. Fourth Sunday in Advent**
One service in the Nave for all. No 11 am services.
- **2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 pm. Christmas Eve services**
*2 pm traditional | 4 pm Christmas Story by children | 6 pm traditional |
*8 pm contemporary | *10 pm Lessons and Carols (*livestreamed)

Senior Connect in Jan: Mark your calendars for Pops/Broadway Revue

Wed., Jan. 17, 11:30-1 with lunch. Tim Koch & friends (Horner, Livingston, more!) present an outstanding pops and Broadway revue. Watch for sign-up sheet.

Staff resignation in January: Our Director of Communications



Stephanie Maurer will become Director of Communication and Membership for the Pa. State Nurses Assn., effective Jan. 8. She will continue her longtime Trinity membership. We wish her the best, but she will be truly missed on staff. Her professionalism, passion for her work, and love of Trinity are obvious in everything she produces. Join us in congratulating Stephanie on her new position.

SUN | DEC 10 | 3 PM

Christmas at Trinity

CONCERT

Featuring Trinity vocal choirs and bells, FaithX, and full orchestra.

Trending! Advent Photo-A-Day Challenge

- Look for our daily word and scripture verse on Facebook and Instagram.
- Reflect.
- Then share a picture to capture that word.

Tag us
@TrinityCampHill and
#TrinityAdvent2023



Impact the lives of refugees in our community. Learn about Trinity's newest ministry, English as a Second Language.

Get information on Sun., Jan. 14, at 10 am, Room 123. Save that date!

TrinityCampHill.org

Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church! We're so glad you're here. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher.

We would like to know you were here worshipping with us. Using a QR reader or camera on your mobile device, please scan this QR code to check you and your family into today's worship service. Or go to the following link: trinitycamphill.org/checkin



about today's service

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

P: Presiding Minister A: Assisting Minister L: Lector C: Congregation

✝ Gathering ✝

We gather together to praise God and receive God's love.

Song: "Ain't Gonna Cry No More"

Chorus

There's a voice cryin' in the wilderness and it's callin' out the name of the Lord!
There's a voice cryin' in the wilderness and I ain't gonna cry no more!

Verse 1

Lift up your hearts sing praises to the king, sing praises to the lord of Lords,
salvation is the gift that he brings, and I ain't gonna cry no more!

Chorus

Verse 2

The love of God is here to set you free so leave your troubles by the door,
Jesus Christ has died for you and me and I ain't gonna cry no more!

Chorus

Verse 3

There ain't no difference in the color of your skin cause you belong to the Lord,
And God's sweet angels will let you in and I ain't gonna cry no more.

Chorus

Verse 4

Sing praise to the Father sing praises to the Son sing praises to the Holy Ghost,
I'll sing my praises to the three-in-one and I ain't gonna cry no more.

Chorus (2X)

Tag: And I ain't gonna cry no more! No I ain't gonna cry no more!

Michael Martine, used with permission. CCLI# 1283514.

Welcome

Song: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Verse 1

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Verse 2

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.

Verse 3

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Verse 4

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

Verse 5

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. Composite. CCLI# 1283514.

(Please Stand)

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

C: Amen.

P: God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

C: Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of new beginnings,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

C: Amen.

The Advent Wreath

One of the best-known customs for the season is the Advent wreath. The wreath and winter candle-lighting amid growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The unbroken circle of greens is clearly an image of ever-lasting life, a victory wreath, the crown of Christ, or the wheel of time itself. Christians use the wreath as a sign that Christ reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light. Sometimes the wreath is embellished with natural dried flowers or fruit. Its evergreen branches lead the household and the congregation to the evergreen Christmas tree. In many homes, the family gathers for prayers around the wreath. The candles specifically symbolize the Christian concepts of hope (week one), peace (week two), joy (week three) and love (week four).

Prayer

P: Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again. You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire. Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare. We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.

C: Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Camegna family

Song: We Are Waiting for Jesus

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.
Sun of justice, shine upon us;
we are trusting in your promise.
We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957. Text © 2013 Augsburg Fortress. Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

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.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please Sit)

✝ Word ✝

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of God's people.

Reading:

Isaiah 40:1-11

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,' " ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please Sit)

Sermon: "The Time Is Now: Prepare the Way"

Pastor Jack Horner

Children's Message

Pastor Liz Frey

Song: "Prepare the Way"

Verse 1

Prepare the way;
 Make straight the path for Him;
 Let the King of Glory enter in;
 Let the King of Glory enter in;
 Who is this King of Glory?

Chorus

The Lord, strong and mighty,
 The Lord, mighty to save;
 The earth is full of His glory;
 Creation calls prepare the way;
 His love endureth forever;
 His pow'r is without an end;
 His strength is victory's treasure;
 Let all who call His Name prepare the way.

Verse

Chorus

Bridge

Let the King of Glory enter in;
Let the King of Glory enter in;
Let the King of Glory enter in;
Let the King of Glory enter in;
Who is this King of Glory?

Chorus

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(Please Stand)

Nicene Creed

P: Let us profess our common faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the + resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Following each petition are the words: "Merciful God,"

*Please respond with: ". . . **Receive our prayer.**"*

+ Meal +

When we celebrate communion, we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience His love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine, Christ is present with us.

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

(Please Sit)

Announcements

Mission Moment: English as a Second Language Program

Laura Butcher

Offering

Optional giving methods: Use the 'Vanco Mobile' app on your device • Text an amount to 717-963- 2281 (be sure to use a "\$") • Use the "DONATE" button on our website and e-blasts or scan the QR to the right • Mail into the church office • Your offerings may also be placed in the white offering boxes at the entrance to the worship space as you exit.



(Please Stand)

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray, God our provider,

C: by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: Christ is here.

C: The Spirit is with us.

P: With joy, we lift up our hearts.

C: And give thanks to the Lord of Life.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy God, you call your people to wait for and hasten the day of your coming. We long to open wide the gates and spread apart the everlasting doors that you, our king of glory, may enter among us, and we may say, "Here is our God." Fulfill our hopes and send now your gracious Spirit on your people and on these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Great is the mystery of faith.

C: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

P: Gentle God, you feed your flock like a shepherd and gather your lambs in your arms. Speak tenderly to all who linger under the shadow of exile, imprisonment, exclusion, or rejection. Give your children the joy of knowing that they have served their term, that their penalty is paid, that they shall receive back from your hand double for all that they have ached to lose. Where your people are isolated on a mountain top, cry to them that their mountain will be laid low; where they are in the valley of despair whisper to them that they shall be exalted. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, hasten the coming of our new day begun, when we shall see the wonder of your tender face, when the grass never withers and the flower never fades because you all in all, Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation to Communion

P: In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.
Come, take your place at the table.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Sit)

Sharing our Lord's Supper

All Christians are welcome to celebrate the real presence of Jesus Christ in our Lord's Supper. If you'd like to receive communion via intinction, please come forward by the middle aisle, receive the bread, dip it into the wine, and return by the side aisle. Communion may be received in bread only, if desired. Non-communing children and adults are invited to come forward for a blessing. In addition, we offer gluten-free wafers available upon request--please ask the pastor at the time of communion. Additionally, you may receive communion by prepackaged communion elements, which you can get from the baskets as you enter the worship space. Just remain at your seat and at the direction of the pastor, you will be invited to commune, at which time, you will open the individually wrapped, prepackaged communion elements. The bread is in the bottom and wine in the top. If you did not receive communion elements when you arrived, please see an usher.

The presiding minister will now invite those receiving communion, by prepackaged communion elements, to commune at your seat.

Open the bread:

P: The Body of Christ given for you.

Open the wine:

P: The Blood of Christ shed for you.

*Those who wish to receive communion by intinction,
please come forward at the direction of the usher.*

[Please Stand]

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray. Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ Sending ✠

*We have heard the Word of God, offered our gifts, and we will be fed at the table.
Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.*

Blessing

P: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Song "Bethlehem Highway"

Chorus (2X)

There is hope on Bethlehem highway for the ones who will journey there.
And the hope is the child in a manger bringing us love beyond compare.

Verse 1

It's a lifeline for the needy. It's sight to those who can't see.
It's a freedom for the faithful in a child of prophecy.

Chorus

Verse 2

Let the angels go before us. Let the darkness become light.
Now the Savior lives among us. Now the truth has come to life.

Chorus (2X)

Brown, David/Hersch, James-C. 1992 Dakota Road Music, CCLI #1283514

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Prepare the Way.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner / Pastor Elizabeth E. Frey

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner

Lector: Melvin Eichelberger

Communion Assistants: Tom & Linda Hoffert, Martha Nagle

Greeters: Bruce & Nancy Bigelow, Ella Gates

Ushers: George Enney, Scheaffer family

Altar Care: Martha Nagle

Sound Technician: Royce Hoffman

Video Technician: Barb Martin

Slide Show Producer: Barb Martin

Count Down Video Producer: Danelle Andrews

FaithX Musicians: Kevin Brady, Seth Erdley, Pam Hess, Olivia Hettinger, Kim Holland, Tom Reddinger, Oliver Roy, Tom Stank, Mike Schwalm, Carolyn Sweeney, Paul Walker, Debbie Wilson, Rick Wilson

Guest Musician: Julia Dierwechter

Bulletin Artwork: Trinity Staff

United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.



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gathering space receptionist hours:
sunday-thursday, 6pm-9pm

Worship notes

Videos of last week's sermons are available on our website (www.trinitycamphill.org). If you would like a printed copy, please call the church office and we can mail one to you.

The flowers in the Nave and Fellowship Hall are presented to the glory of God and by Barbara Seaman in loving memory of Ray Seaman, husband, and Vally Durr, mother.

The sanctuary lamp candle that burns day and night as a symbol of God's abiding presence is presented to the Glory of God and by Carol Crowe In loving memory of my mother, Marjorie Vaira.



Join us next week!

+ + +

Third Sunday of Advent

Sermon Series:

"The Time Is Now"

+ + +

Sermon theme:

"Point to the Light"

Preaching:

Pastor Liz Frey

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Ministers: The People of Trinity

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Lead Pastor – The Reverend Dr. Jack M. Horner
Pastor for Parish Life – The Reverend John H. Brock
Pastor for Engagement – The Reverend Elizabeth E. Frey

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Ryan Sheaffer – <i>Secretary</i>	Jason Sourbeer	Chad Skrocki
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Property – David Rupnik	Strategic Planning – Bob Frymoyer

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Community Outreach – Mitzi Jones	Publicity and Comm. – Jessica Sheaffer
Faith Formation – Serena Fedor	Give Serve Lead – David Butcher
Fellowship – vacant	Worship – Julie Ward
IT/AV – Jonathan Lobaugh	Youth – Alex Bowman