

MIDWEEK ADVENT VESPERS

Wednesday, December 9, 2020



Trinity Lutheran Church and School

1268 Pleasant Valley Rd. ~ West Bend, WI 53095

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WELCOME!



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church! Whether you are a valued member or an honored guest, we're glad to share God's Word with you today. Here at Trinity we are reminded of our sin—of how we have disobeyed God's holy will—but more importantly, we are reminded of God's grace—of how He sent Jesus to take our sins away through dying on the cross and rising again. Today He gives us believing hearts through His Word and Sacraments.

LUTHERAN “BRAND”



This congregation is “Lutheran” in the classical sense, meaning we still hold to the Lutheran Confessions, or statements of faith, as the correct summary of God's Word. To strengthen this resolve, we are also a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), a national church body headquartered in Mankato, Minnesota. We are brothers and sisters with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) because they teach the same as we do. Find out more about the ELS at < www.els.org >.

ORDER OF WORSHIP



Today's order of worship is a simple and dignified version of Vespers—the Medieval daily service for evenings. Here the service is designed to be contemplative for Christians who are reminded to “Have sound judgment. Be alert. Your adversary, the Devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.” (1 Peter 5:8, EHV)

ADVENT VESPERS

First Hymn • “*Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come*”

[ELH 88]

1. **Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,
Only Hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world!
Open are to Thee all portals.
Come, Thy beauty let us see;
Anxiously we wait for Thee.**
2. **Enter now my waiting heart,
Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,
Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine
When Thou art my Guest divine!**

-Stand-

Versicles for Advent

[Ps 118:24; Ps 113:3; Ps 50:2–3; Is 40:3; Ps 113:3 (EHV)]

PASTOR *This is the day the LORD has made.*

CONGREGATION **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P *From the rising of the sun to its setting,*

C **The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P *From Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shined.*

C **Our God comes and he will not be silent.**

P *In the wilderness, prepare the way for the Lord.*

C **Make level in the desert a highway for our God.**

P *From the rising of the sun to its setting,*

C **The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

Confession of Sin and Declaration of Grace

☐ *Let us confess our sins and pray:*

☑ **Almighty God, heavenly Father: I have sinned against You through my own fault, in thought, word, and deed. For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life.**

☐ *Lift up your hearts! For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, God has had mercy on you, forgiven you all your sins, and will bring those who believe in Him to everlasting life at the end.*

Peace ☩ be with you.

-Be seated-



The following canticle (worship song) is a version of Mary's song (the "Magnificat") from Luke 1:46–55. The children will sing the whole thing, but the congregation is invited to sing along—especially with the refrain—as they feel comfortable.

Magnificat

[TEXT: Luke 1:46-56 versified by DJH; TUNE: DJH]

-Refrain-



Mag - ni - fi - cat! My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord.



Mag - ni - fi - cat! My spir - it joys in God my Sav - ior!

-Stanzas-



1. His low - ly ser - vant's state He has a - dressed,
2. His strong arm scat - ters those who vain - ly boast,
3. His peo - ple Is - ra - el, His cho - sen race,



All gen - er - a - tions now will call me blessed.
He brings down kings and rais - es hum - ble hosts.
He's helped for He re - calls His Word of grace,



For God is Might - y, Ho - ly is His name.
He lets the hung - ry feast un - til they're done
As, to our fath - ers, He spoke once be - fore,



He does great things. His mer - cy shall re - main.
But sends the boast - ful rich a - way with none.
To A - b'ram and his child - ren ev - er - more.

First Reading • *John 1:1–14*

|  Jesus is the Light of the World—true God from all eternity. |

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him everything was made, and without him not one thing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. ⁵The light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light.

⁹The real light that shines on everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, yet his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³They were born, not of blood, or of the desire of the flesh, or of a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (EHV)

 *This is the Word of our Lord.*

 **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of Response • *“Behold, a Branch is Growing”*

[ELH 121]

**1. Behold, a Branch is growing
Of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sung, foreknowing;
It springs from Jesse's race
And bears one little Flow'r
In midst of coldest winter,
At deepest midnight hour.**

**2. Isaiah hath foretold It
In words of promise sure,
And Mary's arms enfold It,
A Virgin meek and pure.
Through God's eternal will
This Child to her is given
At midnight calm and still.**

Second Lesson • Psalm 8:1–6



Jesus defeats my enemies of sin, death, and hell by His perfect sacrifice for me.

The Lord is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?

²When evildoers advance against me to eat my flesh,
when my foes and my enemies come against me,
it is they who will stumble and fall.

³If an army lines up against me, my heart will not fear.
If war rises against me, even then I will keep trusting.

⁴One thing I ask from the Lord. This is what I seek:
that I live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord,
and to seek him in his temple.

⁵Yes, he will hide me in his shelter on the day of trouble.
He will hide me in his tent. He will set me high on a rock.

⁶Then my head will be lifted up above the enemies who surround me.
I will offer sacrifices at his tent with a joyful shout.
I will sing and make music to the Lord. (EHV)

P *This is the Word of our Lord.*

G **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Song • "Advent Anthem"

Third Lesson • Psalm 43:1–5

| 📖 Jesus, the light in our darkness, sheds His light on me through His Gospel. |

Judge me justly, O God,
and plead my case against an ungodly nation.

Rescue me from the deceitful, wicked man.

²I know you are God, my stronghold.

Why have you rejected me?

Why must I go around mourning
because of oppression by the enemy?

³Send out your light and your truth.

Let them guide me.

Let them bring me to your holy mountain,
to your dwelling.

⁴Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God, my joy and gladness.

Then I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.

⁵Why are you so depressed, O my soul?

Why so disturbed within me?

Hope in God, for I will again praise him
for my salvation from the face of my God. (EHV)

📖 *This is the Word of our Lord.*

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of Response • "The Advent of Our King"

[ELH 99]

1. The advent of our King

Our pray'rs must now employ,

And we must hymns of welcome sing

In strains of holy joy.

2. The everlasting Son

**Incarnate deigns to be;
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.**

3. O Zion's Daughter, rise

**To meet thy lowly King;
Repentant hearts He'll not despise,
Forgiveness He doth bring.**

Fourth Lesson • Psalm 18:1–3, 25–29

|  Jesus assures me of a bright future by removing my darkness of sin. |

God, I love you, O Lord, my strength.

²The Lord is my rocky cliff, my stronghold, and my deliverer.

My God is my rock. I take refuge in him.

He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my high fortress.

³I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise,
and I am saved from my enemies...

²⁵To the merciful you reveal yourself as merciful.

To the blameless person you reveal yourself as blameless.

²⁶To the pure you reveal yourself as pure,
but to the crooked you reveal yourself as crafty.

²⁷For you save humble people, but you bring low the eyes of the arrogant.

²⁸Yes, you light my lamp, O Lord.

My God turns my darkness to light.

²⁹For with you I can charge against a battalion,
and with my God I can jump over a wall. (EHV)

 *This is the Word of our Lord.*

 **Thanks be to God.**

-Stand-

Creed Hymn

[text: DJH; tune: ELH 96]



1. I be-lieve in God the Fath - er, Mak - er of the
2. I be-lieve in God's Son, Je - sus, True God and true
3. I be-lieve in God the Spir - it, Com - fort - er of



earth and heav'n, Who pre - serves His whole cre - a - tion
 man in one, Who did suf - fer to re - deem me
 Light Di - vine. Through His means of grace He al - ways



And to me my life has giv'n.
 And for me the vic - t'ry won.
 Shines up - on this heart of mine.

Litany on the Lord's Prayer for Advent

☞ *O Almighty God, You created all things for the sake of Your Son, Jesus, that in Him we might be Your children. Therefore we pray:*

☑ **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

☞ *So that You might be glorified by our faith in You, by our confession, and by the fruits of Your Spirit in our lives; we pray:*

☑ **Hallowed be Thy name,**

☞ *Even as You promised that Your Son would come into the world to be our Savior, and John the Baptist announced that the kingdom of God is at hand; so now let Your kingdom come into our hearts by Your Word and Sacraments through repentance and true faith. For this we pray:*

☑ **Thy kingdom come;**

Ⓟ *So that neither devils nor men, nor our own sinful flesh, may keep us from You; we pray:*

☞ **Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,**

Ⓟ *Provide for us not on account of any goodness or merit of our own, for we are sinners, but for Your name's sake. Teach us to receive Your gifts with thanksgiving. For this we pray:*

☞ **Give us this day our daily bread**

Ⓟ *Forgive us so that we do not perish! Remember not the sins of our youth nor our many transgressions, for Jesus has taken them all upon Himself for us. For this we pray:*

☞ **Forgive us our trespasses,**

Ⓟ *Because You have forgiven us, teach us also to love our neighbors and do good things for them. For this we pray:*

☞ **As we forgive those who trespass against us;**

Ⓟ *Save us so that Satan may not deceive us, seduce us, or frighten us away from You. Instead, cause every temptation and trial to drive us to Your Word and make us cling to You. For this we pray:*

☞ **And lead us not into temptation,**

Ⓟ *Because You sent Your Son to lift the curse from our sinful race and to crush the head and power of the old evil foe; we pray:*

☞ **But deliver us from evil.**

Ⓟ *Because You, Lord Jesus, are our King, and You rule in our hearts with Your precious Gospel of forgiving grace and make us ever loyal to You as loving subjects; we pray:*

☞ **For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.**

Ⓟ *Because You fulfilled Your promise of a Savior, and You will keep us and deliver us forever, we boldly pray:*

☞ **Amen.**

Final Blessing

P *Let us bless the Lord.*

A **Thanks be to God.**

P *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ †, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

A **Amen.**

-Be seated-

Closing Hymn • “Silent Night”

[ELH 140]

Children

1. *Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!
Alles schlaft, einsam wacht
Nur das heilige Eltern Paar.
Das im Stalle zu Bethlehem war,
Bei dem himmlischen Kind,
Bei dem himmlischen Kind.*

Congregation

1. **Silent night! Holy night!**
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin mother and Child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
2. **Silent night! Holy night!**
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!

3. Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

4. Silent night! Holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

Service Notes

- Minister: Pastor Daniel Hartwig
- Organist: Sarah Hartwig

Calendar

| | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| THUR. (12/10) | – | No Thursday Service During Advent |
| SUN. 8:00 a.m. | – | Worship Service |
| 9:00 a.m. | – | Fellowship Hour |
| 9:20 a.m. | – | Sunday School & Bible Class |
| 10:30 a.m. | – | Worship Service |

Upcoming Special Services at Trinity

Dec. 16 – Advent service at 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Children's Service at 5:00 p.m. (with Preschool - 8th grade in gymnasium)
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:30 p.m. (in sanctuary)

Dec. 25 – Christmas Day service at 9:00 a.m.

Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve service at 6:00 p.m.

A Blessed Advent Season to You!

May God keep us all looking to Christ, the greatest gift of God to the world!

Thank you

To the children in grades 3-8 who sang and to their director Christin Leckwee.

Christmas Eve Services

Out of consideration for others, we strongly encourage our guests to wear masks to our Christmas service in the gym. This year there will be two Christmas Eve services. There will be limited seating capacity in the gymnasium for better social distancing. Provisions are being worked out for live streaming to other parts of our building during the children's worship service at 5:00 p.m. with seating in the Gathering Room and in the Church Sanctuary.

If church members are interested in attending the Children's Christmas Eve service in person, please contact Kathy in the church/school office to get your name on the list for available tickets. Phone: 262.675.6627 or secretary@trinityels.org

Provisions are also being worked out to provide live streaming to homes. More information and the link will be available at trinityels.org.

We are also offering a Candlelight service at 6:30 p.m. where we will be using the existing protocols for worship in the Sanctuary

Washington County Precautions for Worship in a Sanctuary

- Gov. Evers Emergency Order #1 states in part: individual, age five and older, in Wisconsin shall wear a face covering if the individual is indoors.
- Washington Ozaukee Public Health Department revised the capacity recommendations for churches to be set at 25% capacity.
- Members that are feeling ill should stay home.
- Anyone uncomfortable about attending worship in person, should watch the service on our website on the internet
- If you are not wearing a mask, we assume you fall into one of the exemption categories.
- We have a stationary collection box at the entrance for offering
- Operate under physical distancing protocols of 6 feet when possible.
- Do not shake hands.
- Discontinue use of common cup when celebrating communion
- Do not reuse programs between services. Dispose of them!
- We encourage members to speak with each other, but please speak outside in the fresh air rather than staying in the building.
- Disinfect items after each service including faucets, doorknobs, pews, railings, and elevator buttons.