



Lutheran Church & Christian School



“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
And in His Word I do hope.”

Psalm 130:5

Third Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 12, 2023

Redeemed, Restored, & Rejoicing in Jesus!

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Mission Statement

[Who We Are]

Leading with the Gospel, we at Trinity Lutheran Church and School strive to:

**HUMBLY AND KNOWINGLY FOLLOW JESUS,
SEEKING JOY THROUGH HIM IN WORSHIP,
TEACHING, AND PRAYER.**



Vision Statement

[Who We Endeavor to Be]

Leading with the Gospel, we at Trinity Lutheran Church and School endeavor to:

**LIVE [up] BY FAITH, BE KNOWN [out] BY
CHRIST'S LOVE, and REJOICE [in] HIS
FORGIVENESS.**

"Redeemed and restored, we are rejoicing in Jesus!"

AS WE GATHER

In Matthew 25 Jesus teaches what to focus on when we think of His return. In three separate parables He directs our attention, but not outwardly, or to specific dates and times. In fact, He makes it clear that such details are not part of our business (and in fact, are likely unhealthy for us to know)! Instead, in each of the parables, He directs our attention to the inward working of His grace in lives of faith. In this Sunday's Gospel lesson, the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins, Jesus shows us the importance and significance of patient waiting for Him.

PRELUDE

THE BELLS CALL GOD'S PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPENING PRAYER

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, we live in a sin-sick world. Unbelief and despair abound. We all would be in desperate straits were it not for the gracious call of our merciful God and Father. Through His Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, He offers us forgiveness, life and salvation in His name, a Word of hope, which is our great heritage. Let us, therefore, consecrate ourselves in prayer and service to the glory of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, asking His grace and forgiveness for our life in Him.

Silence for self-examination.

Pastor: O Lord, if our personal lives have become shallow,
Congregation: O Lord, deepen them.

Pastor: If our principles have become shabby,
Congregation: O Lord, repair them.

Pastor: If our ideals have become tarnished,
Congregation: O Lord, renew them.

Pastor: If our loyalties have grown dim,
Congregation: O Lord, brighten them.

Pastor: If our values have become confused,
Congregation: O Lord, clarify them.

Pastor: If our purposes have become blurred,
Congregation: O Lord, sharpen them.

Pastor: If our hopes have become faded,
Congregation: O Lord, revive them.

GOD'S WORD OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Friends in Christ, we need not carry a burden of guilt,
Congregation: For Christ has lifted it.

Pastor: We need not be anxious about tomorrow,
Congregation: For God holds us in the hollow of His hand.

Pastor: We need not feel unequal to the task,
Congregation: For the Spirit of God lives within us.

Pastor: As a fellow redeemed with you in, and called servant of Jesus Christ our Lord, I announce the grace of God to you, as well as the forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now we stand ready to see His face and to serve Him. Now we stand ready to hear and to receive.

Congregation: Amen.

ENTRANCE PSALM *Adapted from Psalm 84*

Pastor: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at Your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

Congregation: **How lovely is Your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!**

Pastor: A day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Congregation: **For the LORD is our sun and shield; He bestows favor and honor.**

HYMN OF PRAISE “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

LSB 515:1-2, 4

For this and all subsequent hymns, please see PowerPoint slides or the hymnal.



SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, who made and upholds the heavens and the earth, grant that we who abide in these last days may not lose hope but instead keep faith, that we may be prepared to greet with joy the One through whom You make all things new: Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: **Amen.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND BLESSING

OLD TESTAMENT READING Amos 5:18–24 (*The Lord calls for justice.*)

- ¹⁸ Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
¹⁹ as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
²⁰ Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
²¹ “I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
²² Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
²⁴ But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 (*The Day of the Lord is coming.*)

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB, p.205

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1–13 (*The parable of the wise and foolish virgins*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

Congregation: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But He answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Please see PowerPoint slides or the back of the hymnal.

SERMON HYMN “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

LSB 516:1-2

SERMON

Pastor Tim Knapp

Notes:

HYMN OF RESPONSE “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

LSB 516:3

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the Church, the gathering of God’s people, that we may support and encourage one another as we await the day of the Lord’s return. **IN MERCY, LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Pastor: We pray for our nation, our state, our local community, and our neighborhoods. May justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream in our courts and in all centers of government, that we may lead lives that are peaceful and peaceable. **IN MERCY, LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Pastor: We pray for those who serve among us as leaders in the Church, that they may find support and joy in their service. We pray that many young men and women would be led into vocations of service in the Church, encouraged by our prayers and our gifts. **IN MERCY, LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Additional petitions and praises are offered.

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

Congregation: And also with you.

We share that peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ.



OFFERTORY

“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”

LSB, p. 192-193

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
Congregation: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *[Colossians 3:1]*
Congregation: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *[Psalm 136]*
Congregation: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. We thank You that You have called us to prepare for and to await with joy the Last Day and return of our Savior Jesus Christ, when He shall judge the living and the dead and shall bring the fullness of Your eternal kingdom. Confident of Your compassion for us, we rejoice to be gathered in Your name and remembrance, even as we are bold to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

Please see PowerPoint slides or inside back cover of the hymnal.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Pastor: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb. *Rev. 19:9a, NIV*
Congregation: **Lord, I am not worthy to receive You, but only say the Word and I shall be healed.** *Matthew 8:8, paraphrased*

DISTRIBUTION

For those desiring to receive the LORD’S SUPPER today, please refer to the laminated card in the pew racks. Those not receiving Communion are still invited to come forward for a blessing. At the Communion rail, simply bow your head to receive a blessing.

At the time of Communion, please follow the direction of the ushers. For those receiving the individual cups, a non-alcoholic wine is offered in the center of each tray. Following the passing of the individual cups, the common cup is offered for those who wish to commune in that manner.

All who are communing are encouraged to review the Sacrament of the Altar on pp. 326-327, and the Questions on pp. 329-330, in the front of the hymnal.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Fight the Good Fight”

LSB 664

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
Congregation: **for His steadfast love endures forever!**

BENEDICTION

Jude 24-25

Pastor: Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior; through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority; before all time, now and forever.

Congregation: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Jerusalem, My Happy Home”

LSB 673

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Trinity Calendar for Nov 12-Nov 19, 2023

Sunday	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study: "Dispatch to a Church in Exile" (<i>A Study of Peter's Second Letter</i>) and Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service w/Holy Communion
Monday	6:30 pm	<i>Executive Team Meeting</i>
Tuesday	5-6:30 pm	Men's Wings Bible Study and meal: "David: Developing a Heart for God"
	5-6:30 pm	Women's Bible Study: "Service: Ministry with Heart and Hands"
Wednesday	6:30 pm	"Christianity 101" Study w/Pastor Harkey
Thursday	10:00 am	Bible Study: "Race to Glory" (<i>Book of Hebrews</i>)
Friday		
Saturday	8:00 am	Men of Christ Bible Study: "The Chosen: Bible Roundtable"
Sunday	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study: "Dispatch to a Church in Exile" (<i>A Study of Peter's Second Letter</i>) and Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion



The flowers this morning are given
By Mike and Gloria Stewart
In honor of Mike's dad and mom

ATTENDANCE 11-5: 91

Families of the week: *The Miller, Mitchell and Morrissey families*

Birthdays:

- 12 Nov—Valerie Woodward
- 14 Nov—Pilar Mitchell
- 17 Nov—Tim Martel



*Do you need prayer or know someone who does?
Prayer requests may be made by filling out one of the prayer request cards kept in the back of the pews and leaving it in the offering plate or by contacting Judy Taylor at eisen@myfairpoint.net
For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their **prayers**—**1 Peter 3:12**
Updates to earlier prayer requests are always appreciated!*



Pregnancy Resource Center
of the Monadnock Region

Monday-Thursday 12-4pm
603-358-6460 call to make an appointment.
100 Washington St.
Keene, NH 03431

OUR MISSION

Pregnancy Resource Center of the Monadnock Region is a life affirming ministry that shares the love and truth of Jesus Christ with our community, offering free pregnancy related resources with compassion and respect.

The coming year for the PRC will have so much more to offer. Our nurses recently attended a childbirth training and certification. When our moms go to have their babies, this is an added service as doulas assisting in the birthing process. We also will have the ability to assist our moms with preparing for their GED. (God bless retired teachers!) We celebrate two new board members, Rachel and Michelle, and pray for John, who is considering joining the board. Remember, we can always use more board members. If this is something on your heart, please contact The Center to make an appointment to meet with our director.

We currently have a need for gently used or new boys' winter clothing for newborns through 18 months. Also, in need of a few gently used or new toys or books for children who come with their mom's. If you wish to donate items please contact Evelyn Konig, Director at www.pregnancyresourcekeene.org or call at 603 358 6460. You may also contact me and leave them in the narthex at the PRC table.

For more information, contact Helen Poisson, Liaison for Trinity Lutheran Church at Nelensillanpaa82@gmail.com, or call 603-355-7939.

“For the Word of God is living and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword...” Heb 4:12



Don't neglect your study of the Word! Trinity currently has lots of Bible study opportunities to enjoy learning and spending time with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Put on the full armor of God.

Find specific Bible study info on Narthex table, church website, and pre-service announcement slides.

“It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every **word** that comes from the mouth **of God.**” Matt. 4:4

Would you like to bless a teacher at Trinity Christian School? Our teachers do a tremendous job of teaching academics as well as the Good News of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Along the way, they encounter needs for their classrooms.

You can help by giving a gift for the Teacher Tree.



Starting Nov. 20, there will be a Christmas tree with tags hanging on it in the foyer outside the TCS office. Each tag will anonymously list a request made by one of the teachers for their classroom—anything from glue sticks to toys or puzzles for their students. If you wish to bless them, simply take a tag, purchase the item, and place it unwrapped under the tree by Dec. 19. Unclaimed tags will be fulfilled by the TCS PTFA. All items will then be distributed sometime in Jan. You will have blessed one of our precious teachers, and the students they teach!

For help or more information, contact Mitch after Sunday Worship or through the church office, or Amber Ruczko at aruczko@tcskeene.com. Thank you for your consideration.



November 12 – Pentecost XXIV (Proper 27A) – Like the parable’s bridegroom, Jesus often meets us in unexpected moments (Matthew 25:10). He even sometimes hides in surprise pregnancies or terminal diagnoses in order to rescue and bless. So, we dare not ignore the poor and needy neighbors who cry out for deliverance from abortion and assisted suicide. (Psalm 70:1, 5)

November 12 “What could be more joyful and rewarding than to share with everyone the best news they will ever hear: Jesus has saved you from sin and death and won eternal life for you as a free gift of His love. Let’s roll up our sleeves and begin today with the prayer, ‘Lord, help me be an eager worker in Your kingdom.’” *Daily Devotions, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

We continue to collect food to be taken to the food bank. It is a true blessing to deliver the food to them.

We are also currently collecting grocery store gift cards to be given to those in need. We do currently have a local need and would find it a joy to share these gift cards with them.



Church Office

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Pastor – Ed Harkey
reveddiet@yahoo.com
Phone: (508) 813-8201

*Office Hours: Tues–Thurs, 9 am–2 pm, or
call for appointment*

Assistant to the Pastor—Tim Knapp
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Phone: (978) 760-1501

Church Administrative Assistant –
Mitchell Piper
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Hours: Mon–Wed, & Fri 9 am–3 pm

Business Manager – Sue Vekasy
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Head Elder - Rich Randall
Phone (603) 762-8201

School Office
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Phone (603) 352-9403

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School Administrative Assistant –
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tcs@tcskeene.com

Organist - Rita Corey
Phone (603) 313-7220

Elders

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Phone: (508) 813-8201

Head Elder - Rich Randall
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Lonnie Geer
Phone: (603) 370-8928

Lenny Kosakowski
Phone (603) 852-6702

Larry Miller
Phone (603) 357 4746

Altar Guild

Co-leaders:
Jean Henderson
Phone (603) 352-8716

Paula Miller
Phone (603) 357-4746

Ministry Teams

“Up” Team Leader -
Erik Neilssen
Phone (917) 520-9768

“In” Team Leader -
Miriam Harkey
Phone (508) 813-8212

“Out” Team Leader -
Jason Bueckner
Phone (802) 598-5678

Executive Team

President - Lonnie Geer
Phone (603) 370-8928

Head Elder - Rich Randall
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Head Trustee –
Larry Miller
Phone (603) 762-2923

Treasurer - Vacant

School Board Chair -
Marcia Scadova
Phone (603) 313-6277

Recording Secretary -
Judy Taylor
Phone (603) 876-9447

School Board

Chair - Marcia Scadova
Phone (603) 313-6277

Vice-Chair
Vacant

Treasurer - Tom Abert
Phone (603) 381-8840

Joyce Gray
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Marlene Dabrowski
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Kathy Dresser
Phone (603) 809-3457



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- NETWORK: **TLC_Guest**
- PASSWORD: **mapleave**