



Lutheran Church & Christian School



2nd Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 19, 2023

Redeemed, Restored, & Rejoicing in Jesus!

100 Maple Avenue, Keene, NH 03431
603.352.4446 | tlckeene.nh@gmail.com | tlckeene.org

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

The Second Coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus is no trivial event! In light of that sobering day, we are called to be a ready, watchful and praying people (Matthew 25:1-13). Yet, as sobering as our preparation for that coming ought to be, we are also called to be a people at work (Matthew 25:14-30). Knowing that all things belong to God, we have been entrusted with a great responsibility – to take what He has entrusted to us and use it “while it is still called today.” (Hebrews 3:13) In light of the Day of His return, let us reconsecrate and recommit ourselves and our resources to Him and His gracious purposes. He will bless that, as He has most certainly blessed us all.

PRELUDE

PRE-SERVICE SONG *“Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)” (Words & Music by Michael W. Smith
© 1990 Sony/ATV Milene Music)*

Alleluia, alleluia,
For our Lord God Almighty reigns;
Alleluia, alleluia,
For our Lord God Almighty reigns;
Alleluia!

*Chorus: (You are) holy, holy are You Lord God Almighty;
 Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb;
 You are holy, holy are You Lord God Almighty;
 Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb. Amen!*

THE BELLS CALL GOD’S PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND OPENING PRAYER

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 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 *Revelation 19:1–2, 5–6*

Pastor: Praise the Lord, all you His servants, you who fear Him, small and great.

Congregation: For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

Pastor: Let us rejoice and exult and give Him the glory.

Congregation: Hallelujah! Salvation, glory, power and honor be to our God.

HYMN OF PRAISE “O Worship the King”

LSB 804

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

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, You graciously forgive our sins and lead us from darkness into light.

Congregation: By the working of the Holy Spirit, direct our lives that we may bring that light of Your grace to our world, that as Your beloved children, we may fulfill Your fatherly will.

Pastor: This we ask in the name of Jesus, Your Son, 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 Zephaniah 1:7-13*(The Day of the Lord approaches.)*

⁷ Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸ And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. ⁹ On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

¹⁰ "On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹ Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³ Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*(The Day of the Lord is coming.)*

¹ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with Him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30 (*The parable of the talents.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

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

¹⁴ "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶ He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷ So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸ But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²² And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CATECHETICAL REFLECTION – 1st Article of the Apostles' Creed & Explanation

Pastor: I believe in God, the Father, Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. What does this mean?

Congregation: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

SERMON *“Living in the Joy of the Master”*

Notes:

HYMN OF RESPONSE “O Christ, Who Called the Twelve”

LSB 856

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Dear heavenly Father, You have placed us in various vocations for the sake of Your people. Strengthen us when we face trials and challenges that tempt us to abandon our callings. Bring back all those who have wandered from You and Your love; in Your mercy, Lord: **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

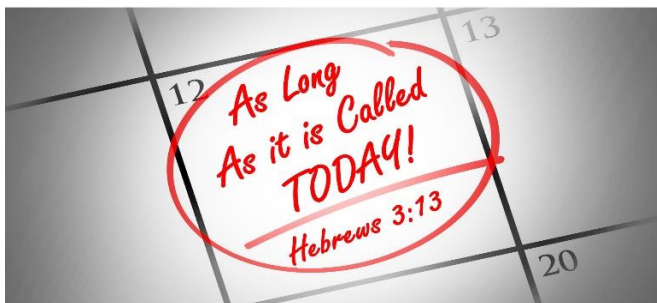
Pastor: Precious Savior, raise up good and faithful servants in Your Church, that we all work together for the common good, and herald the Good News of Your kingdom in both word and deed; in Your mercy, Lord: **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Pastor: Lord, the time of Your return is drawing near. Raise up good and faithful servants in the governments of this world, and in our communities, that fairness and justice may reign, to facilitate our ability to serve our neighbors, never growing weary of doing good; in Your mercy, Lord: **HEAR UR 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 “How Great Is Our God” (*Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves © 2004 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | Wondrously Made Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)*)

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

*Chorus: How great is our God (sing with me),
 How great is our God (and all will see),
 How great, how great is our God.*

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands,
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The Godhead three in one, Father Spirit Son;
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb. *(Chorus)*

*Bridge: Name above all names, worthy of all praise,
 My heart will sing, how great is our God. (Repeat) (Chorus)*

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

LSB 851

"Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

LSB 893



POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have graced us with Your presence in this Sacrament, and we pray that You would keep us in the one true faith until life everlasting when we enter into the joy of our Master; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: **Amen.**

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 “Take My Life and Let It Be” *LSB 783*

1. Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.
4. Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose.
6. Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Trinity Calendar for Nov 19-Nov 26, 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		
Tuesday	5-6:30 pm	Men's Wings Bible Study and meal: "David: Developing a Heart for God"
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Thanksgiving Worship Service
Thursday		<i>Thanksgiving</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 the Weidlers in honor of Debi's birthday
and Cindy Cote in honor of Paige and Gillian's birthdays

ATTENDANCE 11-12: 93

Families of the week: *The Neilssen, Nelson and Olean families*

Birthdays:

- 21 Nov—Gillian Cote
- 21 Nov—Paige Cote
- 22 Nov—Liz Hadden
- 23 Nov—Debi Weidler
- 26 Nov—Marilyn Reardon
- 26 Nov—Fred Ziegler, Jr

Calling all Men of Trinity



Men's caroling group forming for one or more events this coming Christmas season. First event will be caroling to celebrate Christ's birth at the gazebo in downtown Keene one evening in December. Fellowship and cocktails / soda to follow downtown. If you don't sing, come and hum, or join us after! Future events, such as singing at local senior housing, will be discussed at the fellowship. Text or call John Hartman with interest to find out more: 651-895-2641. He has purchased hats and scarfs for all men who participate (see picture). Yours to keep! There will be a one-time short practice after church before the event.

Thank you, Men of God! Let's bring Christmas cheer to downtown.

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.

HELP BEAUTIFY OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES WITH PONSETTIAS



<u>Sizes Available</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Single Pinch	_____	\$12.00
Double Pinch	_____	\$25.00

These will be payable at the time the order is placed. Please pay with cash or make a check payable to ***Kelleher Greenhouse***. Complete this form and give it to Mitch Piper or leave the form in the Church Office with cash or check.

Please fill in the following so that your flowers can be recognized in the church bulletin:

In Memory of: _____

To the Glory of God by: _____

In Thankfulness to God for: _____

Your Name: _____

Deadline for ordering is December 3th.

Church Office

Phone (603) 352-4446

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
tim.knapp@comcast.net
Phone: (978) 760-1501

Church Administrative Assistant –
Mitchell Piper
tlckeene.nh@gmail.com
Phone (603) 352-4446
Hours: Mon–Wed, & Fri 9 am–3 pm

Business Manager – Sue Vekasy
tlckeene.businessmgr@gmail.com
Phone (603) 352-4446

Head Elder - Rich Randall
Phone (603) 762-8201

School Office
Hours: Monday–Friday, 8 am–4 pm
Phone (603) 352-9403

Principal – Jill Grant
principal@tcskeene.com

School Administrative Assistant –
Emily Lester
tcs@tcskeene.com

Organist - Rita Corey
Phone (603) 313-7220

Elders

Pastor - Ed Harkey
Phone: (508) 813-8201

Head Elder - Rich Randall
Phone (603) 762-8201

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
Phone (603) 762-8201

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
Phone (603) 812-5264

Marlene Dabrowski
Phone (603) 876-4046

Kathy Dresser
Phone (603) 809-3457



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