

# Trinity Weekly News

Volume VII, Issue 3

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Trinity Lutheran Church — Columbia, MO

573-445-2112 • church@trinity-lcms.org • www.trinity-lcms.org

December 17 & 18, 2023



The chancel flowers this week are sponsored  
by Ron & Barbara Barrett in honor of their  
46<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary



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## This Week at Trinity:

### **Sunday 12/17**

#### **Advent III**

8:00 a.m.—Divine Service +Comm  
9:30 a.m.—Bible Study & Sun. School  
10:30 a.m.—Divine Service +Comm  
12:00 p.m.—Potluck Lunch & AOV  
3:00 p.m.—Youth Christmas Party  
5:30 p.m.—Men's Chorus  
6:00 p.m.—Choir Practice  
6:00 p.m.—JCC

### **Monday 12/18**

9:00 a.m.—Bible Study  
1:15 p.m.—GLAT  
6:00 p.m.—Divine Service +Comm.

### **Tuesday 12/19**

5:30 p.m.—Pickleball  
5:30 p.m.—Sound Words/Adult Cat.

### **Wednesday 12/20**

9:00 a.m.—TLCLC Chapel  
12:00 p.m.—Midweek Advent  
7:00 p.m.—Midweek Advent

### **Thursday 12/21**

7:00 a.m.—Men's Bible Study  
11:00 a.m.—Communion @ Lenoir  
5:30 p.m.—Pickleball  
6:00 p.m.—Board of Evangelism  
7:00 p.m.—Board of Elders

### **Friday 12/22**

#### **Pastors' day off**

### **Sunday 12/24**

#### **Advent IV**

8:00 a.m.—Divine Service +Comm  
9:30 a.m.—Bible Study & Sun. School  
10:30 a.m.—Divine Service +Comm

#### **Christmas Eve**

7:00 p.m.—Christmas Eve Service  
11:00 p.m.—Divine Service +Comm

### **Monday 12/25**

#### **Christmas Day**

9:00 a.m.—Divine Service +Comm



## Advent & Christmas Services

### Wednesday December 20

12:00 pm — Midweek Advent Service

7:00 pm — Midweek Advent Service

### Sunday December 24th: Advent IV

8:00 am — Divine Service +Comm.

10:30 am — Divine Service +Comm.

### Christmas Eve

7:00 pm — Christmas Eve Service

11:00 pm — Christmas Eve Service  
+Communion

### Monday December 25th: Christmas

9:00 am — Divine Service +Comm.

### Sunday December 31st New Year's Eve

8:00 am — Divine Service +Comm.

10:30 am — Divine Service +Comm.

7:00 pm — Divine Service + Comm.

Are you a *Lutheran Witness* subscriber? Would you like to be? Please let the church office know if you would like to start or renew a subscription. Cost is \$20.65/year (\$1.60/issue) for 11 issues. If interested, please contact the church office via email ([church@trinity-lcms.org](mailto:church@trinity-lcms.org)) or phone (573) 445-2112 **no later than January 31, 2024!**



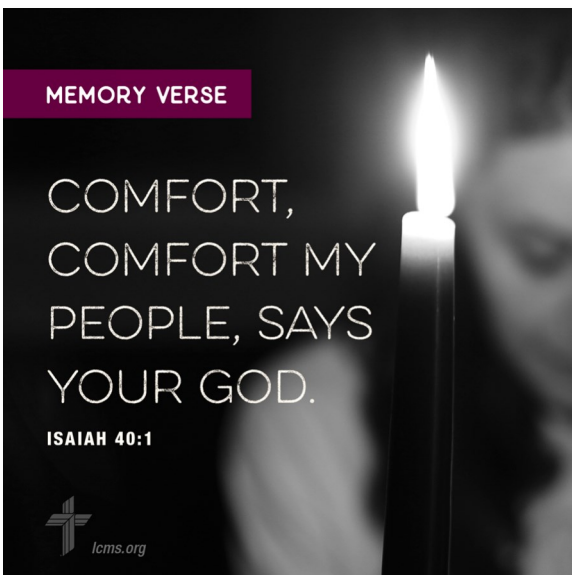
*Payment can be done via check or cash, using the Lutheran Witness envelope included with your contribution envelopes. If paying by check, please put 'Lutheran Witness' on the memo line. Thank you!*



### Men's Thursday Bible Study

The Thursday morning Men's Bible Study is studying *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions – A Reader's Edition of The Book of Concord (second edition)*, starting with Luther's Large Catechism. If you have an individual copy of *Concordia*, bring it along but there should be enough copies for each attendee (church copies). We will use the same format as with The Lutheran Study Bible; i.e., we will read each section together and discuss the doctrine using the *Concordia* notes.

Please plan on joining us and remember, we start at **7:00 am each Thursday.**





## 2024 Member Contribution Envelopes

Please pick up your box of envelopes for 2024 off the tables in the overflow area. There are new numbers for many of our members, so **do not use these envelopes until 2024**.

If your address on the box is absent or incorrect, please contact the church office to update it. Thank you!

If you cannot locate your box, please let the Financial Secretary know and she will be happy to assist you.

## Sunday School Christmas Program: Sign Ups & Rehearsals

The Board of Christian Ed is looking for Sunday School kids to participate in the Christmas Eve service. The sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board across from the Church Office.

Practice times are as follows:

- Sunday, December 17: during the Sunday School hour
- Thursday, December 21: dinner (pizza) at 5:15-6 pm, practice from 6-7 pm



A big **Thank You!** to those who helped to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas:

- Betty Buchheit
- Norman Gephardt
- Debbie Harms
- Karen Niederjohn
- Mary Riggert
- Carey & Patty Smith
- Pattie Smith
- Carol Squires
- Carolyn Trigg
- Phyllis White

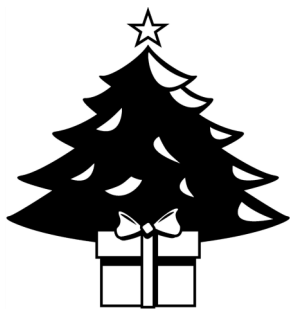
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For  
God so  
loved the  
world, that he  
gave his only Son,  
that whoever believes  
in him should not perish  
but have eternal life.

John  
3:16

## LUTHERAN FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES (LFCS) "SEASON OF HOPE TREE"



### SEASON OF HOPE

Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Mid-Missouri is grateful to again be partnering with Trinity Lutheran Church in gifts and donations during this Advent Season. Your support of LFCS allows children right here in our community to find safe and loving homes. LFCS also offers essential counseling services for parents to equip them with parenting tools and empower them to provide for their children. The individuals and families requesting LCFS's Christ centered services in Columbia has continued to increase making the opportunity to assist with this ministry even more important. Every effort of LCFC is touching children's lives and all donations will stay in the Columbia area. We have put a "Season of Hope Tree" in the hallway with tags on it representing items needed. If you are able to take a tag(s), add the items to your shopping list, and place them under the tree --THANK YOU! If you would rather make a monetary donation, please put it in an envelope marked for LFCS and place it in the offering box. Our wishes for you and your family to have a blessed Advent as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth.

Myra McCoig, on behalf of LFCS

### Life Thoughts

**December 17 – Advent III** – Those who believe cannot help but speak. God's love for every human life has filled our mouths with shouts of joy (Psalm 126:2). We have His permission to give voice to this Gospel in all circumstances and without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18). Our time has come to bear witness to the Light (John 1:6-7). Confess and do not deny (John 1:20) the sanctity of life!

### Stewardship & Scripture

#### **December 17 – Advent 3**

**1 Thessalonians 5:18** – **"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."** Christians express their thanks to God in many ways: in prayer, in giving to the Lord's work, in acts of service to others, in faithful living in their daily callings. Everything we do to honor God in our lives is a means of returning thanks for the Lord's many gifts to us.

*Brought to you by LCMS Stewardship Ministry and Trinity's Board of Stewardship & Finance*

## ✠ CONGREGATION AT PRAYER ✠

The “Congregation at Prayer” is intended to be a daily devotional resource for use in the home. The primary goal is to strengthen biblical literacy and catechesis, but also clarify the themes of the liturgical (church) year. The Lectionary Preview study intended to prepare for the coming Sunday. The Congregation at Prayer intends develop throughout the week what is heard on Sunday morning. The advantage of this is that it’ll get us reading more of the Scripture. The downside is that it won’t provide as much formal study as the Lectionary Preview. The challenge with this project will be that much of the content (readings, psalms) depend on the historic one year cycle. Not as much has been developed to study the three-year lectionary (which is what we use on Sundays), and the content and themes are sometimes very different, so it’s going to be a little bit like trying to make a dog and a cat kiss each other.

I’m not sure where the name “Congregation at Prayer” came from, but it seems to be in use at many congregations. In any case, the name helps communicate that our shared prayer and worship life as the body of Christ gathered at Trinity continues in the home throughout the week until we are drawn back together on the next Lord’s Day. This will be a work in progress, so please accept my apologies in advance for unannounced changes. If you have suggestions on any aspect of this project, input is most welcome. This week, I provide an orientation page (below); an order of service for home worship (on a half page in *TWN*) and the (test!) schedule for the Third Week in Advent. – *Pastor McCalley*

1. Calendar —→ The calendar provides the time of the church year and notes about the season. It will include feasts, festivals, and commemorations that are part of the church year, but usually don’t get much attention. These are on pages xi-xii in the front of the hymnal, and I’ll try to include the Bible readings for that day.
2. Theme of the Week —→ A weekly theme attempts to unite the Bible readings and the emphasis of the current date of the church year.
3. Prayer of the Week —→ The prayer of the week will be the Collect of the Day prayed on Sunday.
4. Weekly Psalm —→ Two Psalms per week are given for prayer: one at morning and one at evening.
5. Daily Readings —→ The weekly reading schedule are taken from a daily Lutheran devotional *Daily Prayer* (1986). The readings are usually from a particular book of the Bible. There are two (morning and evening) given per day.
6. Daily Catechism —→ The Catechism study aims to cover the chief teachings of the Bible as organized in the Small Catechism. This was developed by Pastor Greg Truwe who currently serves at Trinity in Cole Camp, Missouri. The Catechism section will usually not correspond to the church year. This section is especially intended for families with children.
7. Hymn of the Week —→ The hymn of the week, sometimes selected stanzas, serves to emphasize the liturgical themes of the week.
8. Readings for the Coming Sunday —→ The readings for the coming Sunday.

**CHURCH YEAR CALENDAR** The general theme of the Advent season is “The Coming of Christ.” The Third Sunday in Advent (formerly named “Gaudete” in Latin) means “rejoice!” Our subdued/somber time of waiting for the Christ child’s Incarnation is given a brief reprieve and the “pink” candle is lighted. Congregations may use rose-colored paraments and vestments this day. In the one year reading schedule, the Gospel reading is John the Baptist’s imprisonment—now there’s solid teaching on how to rejoice in all circumstances!

*Feasts, Festivals, & Commemorations*

December 21 – St. Thomas, Apostle (Judges 6:36-40; Ephesians 4:7, 11-16; John 20:24-29)

**THEME OF THE WEEK** “The Lord has Come as Long Promised.” The Propers of the Day (the Introit, the Collect of the Day, Gradual, Scripture readings) address the past coming of Christ into human flesh to redeem all humanity, as God had long promised. John’s preaching of repentance and his baptizing rightly prepared those who listened for the coming of Christ. They rejoiced in spirit and in truth because Jesus’ coming means true forgiveness, true reconciliation with God the Father. Here is true liberty, true freedom. As with all of Advent we are reminded that Jesus comes to us through His Word, and in His body and blood in the Sacrament. We look forward to His final bodily coming in glory to bring our Baptisms to their full completion.

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK** Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## WEEKLY PSALMS

*Morning Psalm*

Psalm 85

*Evening Psalm*

Psalm 14

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Monday* Isaiah 32:1-8; Revelation 15  
*Tuesday* Isaiah 35; Revelation 20  
*Wednesday* Isaiah 40:1-18; Revelation 21  
*Thursday* Isaiah 40:21-31; Revelation 22  
*Friday* Isaiah 42:1-12; Luke 1:1-25  
*Saturday* Isaiah 43:1-13; Luke 1:26-38

## DAILY CATECHISM

Theme of the Week: Handing Down the Faith

*Monday* Jude 1:1-4  
*Tuesday* 1 Timothy 6:3-5  
*Wednesday* Deuteronomy 6:4-15  
*Thursday* Luke 18:15-17  
*Friday* 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Questions for the Readings: What does the daily reading teach about the importance of the Christian faith? What is necessary to teach? What is the source of faith? Who is to be taught? Should teaching every stop? How does one generation ensure the next generation is taught?

## HYMN OF THE WEEK

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

## READINGS FOR ADVENT 4 (12/24)

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Psalm 89:1-5; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

## ✠ CONGREGATION AT PRAYER ✠

The following is a brief Order of Service that may be used for guiding home devotion and study. I hope to make this into a printed and laminated card for distribution. The Hymn of the Week fits nicely in several places: before or after the Invocation, the Scripture Readings, after the Lord's Prayer, or the Benedicamus.

**Invocation** *In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**Morning or Evening Psalm**

**Prayer of the Week**

**Daily Bible Readings and/or Daily Catechism**

**Apostle's Creed**

**Prayers for Ourselves and Others**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Benedicamus Domino** *Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

## Collections for Community Missions

Thank you for your generous donations to our community missions! Please continue to collect and donate the items listed below. You can place them in the labeled bins inside the Christian Resource Center (brown unit in the hallway). If you need assistance getting the items to Trinity or have other suggestions for collections, please contact the Church Office.

- *Bibles and Devotional Materials*
- *Canceled postage stamps including Forever stamps (No Love or Christmas)*
- *Coupons with no expiration date*
- *Eyeglasses you no longer use*
- *Food (nonperishable, no glass containers)*
- *Soda & Soup Can Pop Tops*



## Radio & Podcast Resources

### The Lutheran Hour

The Lutheran Hour with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler proclaims the salvation story of Jesus every week to hundreds of thousands of listeners. The Lutheran Hour weekly half-hour program can be heard on [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org), on their mobile app, or Sundays on several area radio stations:

8:00 a.m. on **KMCV 89.9FM**

8:00 a.m. on **KLTE 107.9FM**

9:00 a.m. on **KMCR 103.9FM**

10:00 a.m. on **KMMO 1300AM**

### KFUO Lutheran Radio

KFUO Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on [KFUO.org](http://KFUO.org) via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUOradio on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org:** Look ahead to the Fourth Sunday in Advent on The Coffee Hour (12/20 at 9:00 a.m. CT), dive into Advent hymnody on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and study 1 Corinthians 15-16 on Sharper Iron's "Nothing but Christ Crucified" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT). The 12 Days of Christmas begins December 24 with music and messages for the Christmas Season! Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or the



## Issues, Etc.



**LUTHERAN  
PUBLIC RADIO**  
*Sacred Music for the World*

LOOKING FORWARD TO SUNDAY MORNING...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to weekly studies of the Biblical texts, prayers and hymns of the day. Pastor Sean Daenzer of LCMS Worship leads us through the three-year lectionary. Pastor Will Weedon of "The Word of the Lord Endures Forever" leads us through the one-year lectionary. You can listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.