

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (observed)  
Sunday, December 31, 2023



Knowing Christ's Love ... Seeking His Will ... Spreading His Word

Warm greetings to you, dear worshipper, in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May the blessings of His presence and His peace be with you throughout this week.

## Preparation for the Lord's Supper



Holy Communion is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that with the bread and the wine **we also truly receive the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**. We call this belief the Doctrine of the Real Presence. Through the gift of Communion, the Lord bestows on us the forgiveness of sins and strengthens our union with Him and with one another.

Our Lord desires that those who commune should know and believe what they are receiving in Holy Communion (1 Corinthians 11:29), should be instructed in God's Word so that they can properly examine themselves prior to communing (1 Corinthians 11:28), and should be united as one body in the faith (Acts 2:42 and 1 Corinthians 10:17).

Out of our heartfelt desire that all who commune at this altar be well prepared for Holy Communion, this congregation practices "close communion." All who are presently communicant members in a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and those Lutheran churches that are in altar and pulpit fellowship with the LCMS are warmly invited to join us in Communion. All other guests are warmly invited to come to the communion rail for a blessing from the Pastor. Please cross your arms at the rail to receive the blessing.



We invite guests to visit with the pastor about how we may commune together in the future.



Communicants may receive the wafer by having it placed directly into the mouth or by having it placed in the palm of the hand. If the communicant wishes to take the individual cup, please take one from the tray when the elder comes to your place at the communion rail. Drink from the individual cup only when the pastor/elder comes to your place at the communion rail with the chalice and speaks the words of distribution. If the communicant wishes to receive the chalice, do not take an individual cup from the tray carried by the elder.

The Lord has given His people the gift of His Body and His Blood in, with and under the consecrated bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (St. Matthew 26:28). However, if an individual is allergic or intolerant to wheat or fermented wine, it is difficult to participate in this great fellowship. Should you be one of these individuals, we gladly provide gluten-free and alcohol-removed wine so that you are able to receive these gifts of God with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Guests:** If you are a guest worshiping with us today, we are honored to have you join us in receiving the rich blessings that our Lord supplies to us through the gift of His holy Word. We invite you to return and worship with us again as the opportunity arises.



**Children:** Parents and their children are welcome to sit in the front of the church so that the children can see and hear the service clearly. The Family Room in the Narthex may be used by anyone who prefers or needs a more private setting.

**Prayer Requests:** If you have an intercession to add to our weekly prayers at church or to our daily Prayer Chain, please contact the Church Office or fill out one of the prayer request cards located in your pew and place it in the offering collection box.



**Publications:** We invite you to read our Trinity Weekly News and visit our bulletin boards for info about church activities. Publications including our monthly newsletter are available from the information stand in the Narthex and at various locations in the hallway.

**Accessibility:** A lift (slow-moving elevator) is located just outside the sanctuary overflow area for those who prefer not to take the stairs to the lower level. Ushers and many church members can assist with the operation of the lift.



**Audio Assistance:** We provide hearing-assist and closed captioning devices for the hearing impaired. If you would like to try these devices to see if they will enhance your worship experience, they are located in the Narthex. Digital recordings of the weekly service are available on Facebook ([trinitylutherancomo](#)) and YouTube ([TrinityCoMo](#)).



Serving in God's House Today:

Liturgist:	Rev. Brian Thieme
Preacher:	Rev. Joseph McCalley
Elders:	(8:00) David Attebery   (10:30) Benjamin Asbeck
Ushers:	(8:00) Kyle Dickes & Hunter Kevil (10:30) Karl Christopher & Eddie Sterling
Organist:	Carolyn Holste
Altar Guild:	Phyllis White

# Order of Service: Divine Service I – LSB 151

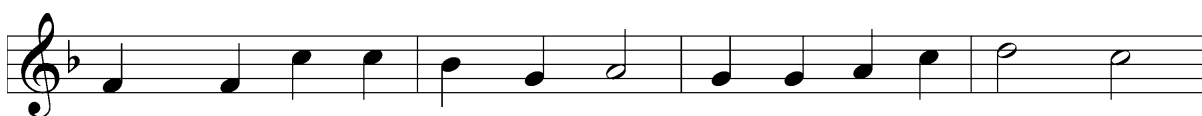
Bells' Call to Worship

Word of Welcome

Organ Prelude

Hymn of Invocation

LSB 390 *Let Us All with Gladsome Voice*



1 Let us all with glad-some voice Praise the God of heav - en,  
2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sad - ness,  
3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a won - der?  
4 Christ, our Lord and Sav - ior dear, Be Thou ev - er near us.



Who, to bid our hearts re - joice, His own Son hath giv - en.  
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.  
There-fore praise God ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.  
Grant us now a glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us.

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

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

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

# Service of the Word

# Introit

*Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b*

**P** These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

**C** In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;  
in your righteousness deliver me.

**P** For you are my rock and my fortress;  
and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.

**C** Into your hand I commit my spirit;  
you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

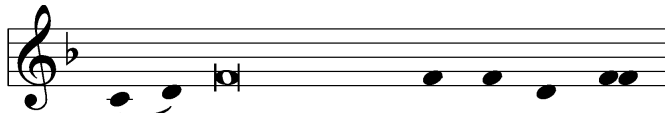
**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**P** These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

# Kyrie

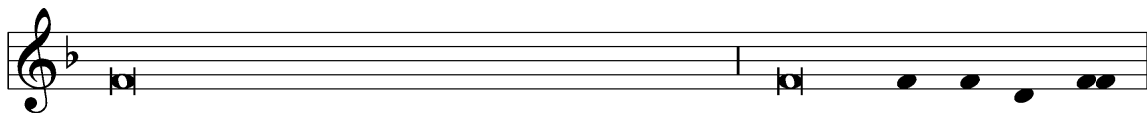
LSB 152



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**[A]** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



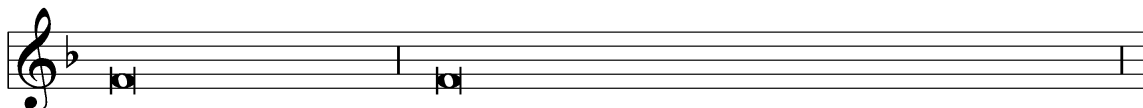
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



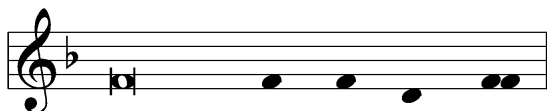
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



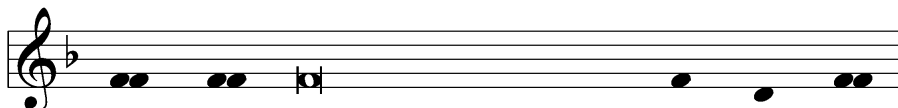
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



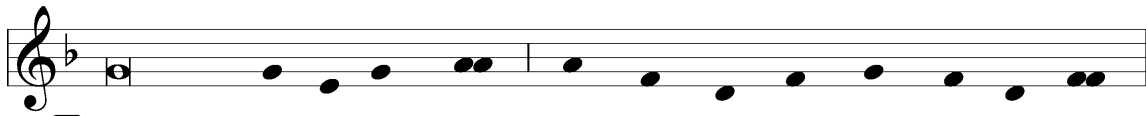
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



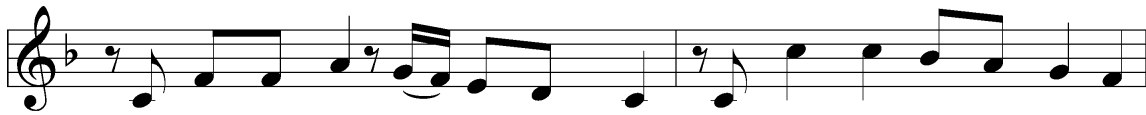
**C** A - men.



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



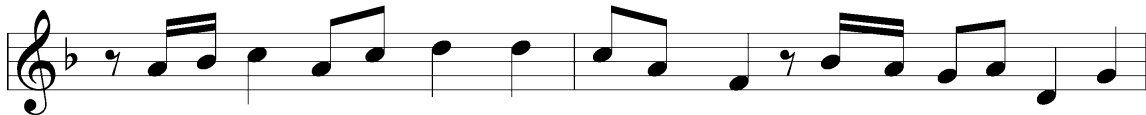
You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth Your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with Your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Jeremiah 31:15–17*

<sup>15</sup>Thus says the LORD:

“A voice is heard in Ramah,  
lamentation and bitter weeping.

Rachel is weeping for her children;  
she refuses to be comforted for her children,  
because they are no more.”

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD:

“Keep your voice from weeping,  
and your eyes from tears,  
for there is a reward for your work,  
declares the LORD,  
and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

<sup>17</sup>There is hope for your future,  
declares the LORD,  
and your children shall come back to their own country.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalms 71:4a, 5a, 6a, b, 8*

**P** Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked.

**C** For you, O Lord, are my hope.

**P** Upon you have I leaned from before my birth;

**C** you are he who took me from my mother's womb.

**P** My mouth is filled with your praise,

**C** and with your glory all the day.

## Epistle

*Revelation 14:1–5*

<sup>1</sup>Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. <sup>2</sup>And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, <sup>3</sup>and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. <sup>4</sup>It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, <sup>5</sup>and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*LSB 156*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the'. The second staff continues the melody with 'words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' and ends with a double bar line.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 2:13–23*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

<sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup>“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

<sup>19</sup>But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup>saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” <sup>21</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

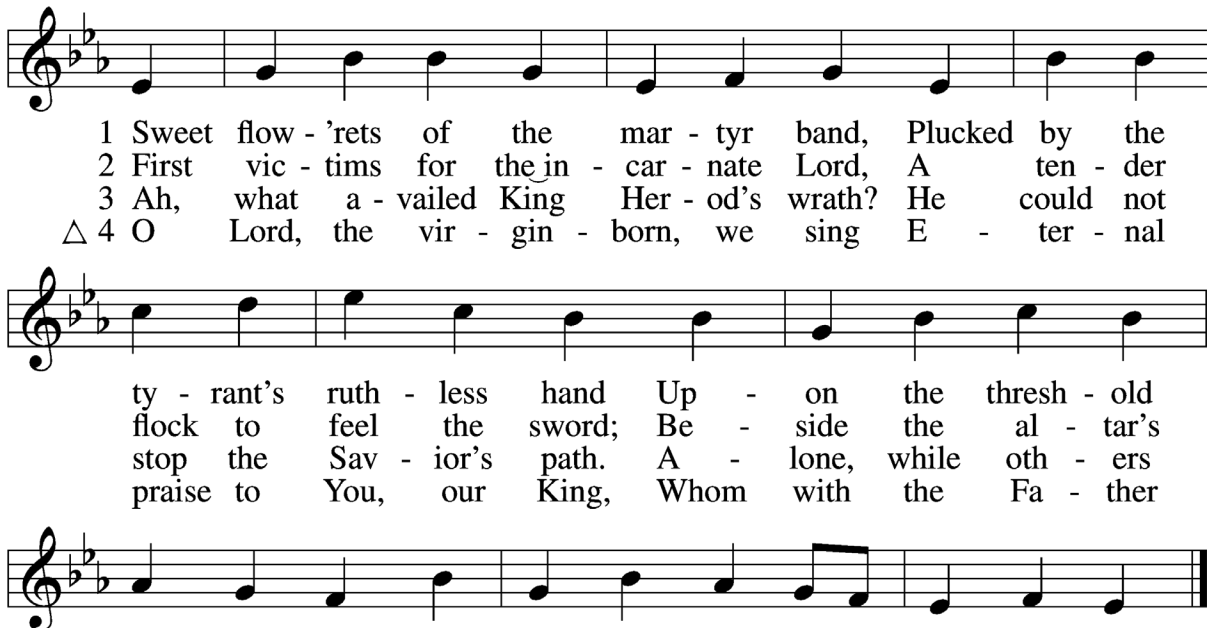
**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Sermon Hymn

LSB 969 *Sweet Flowerets of the Martyr Band*



1 Sweet flow - 'rets of the mar - tyr band, Plucked by the  
2 First vic - tims for the in - car - nate Lord, A ten - der  
3 Ah, what a - vailed King Her - od's wrath? He could not  
△ 4 O Lord, the vir - gin - born, we sing E - ter - nal

ty - rant's ruth - less hand Up - on the thresh - old  
flock to feel the sword; Be - side the al - tar's  
stop the Sav - ior's path. A - lone, while oth - ers  
praise to You, our King, Whom with the Fa - ther

of the morn, Like rose - buds by a tem - pest torn;  
rud - dy ray, With palm and crown, you seemed to play.  
mur - dered lay, In safe - ty Christ is borne a - way.  
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;

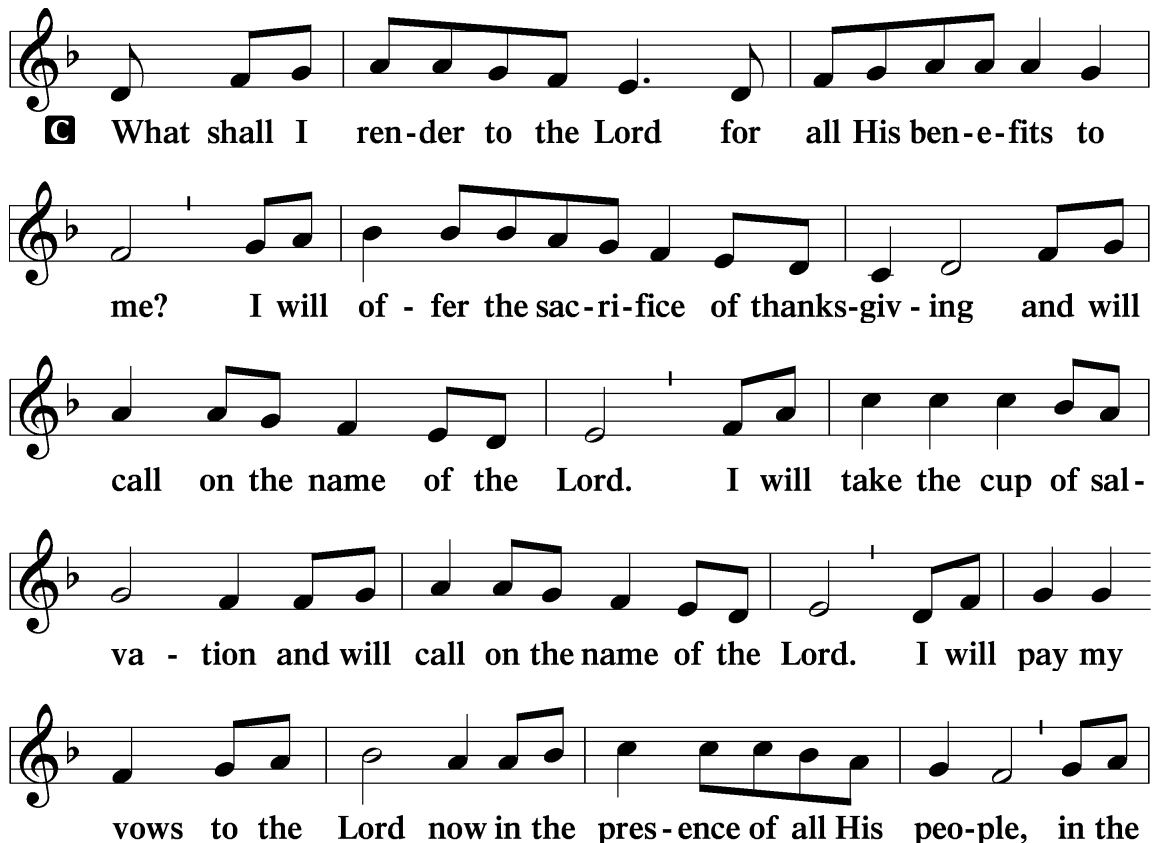
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayer of the Church

### Offering & Offertory

LSB 159



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



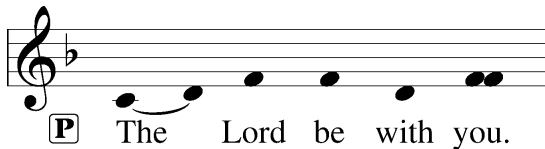


courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

LSB 160



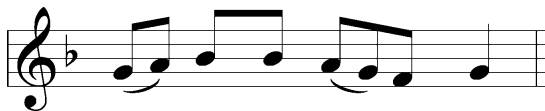
**P** The Lord be with you.



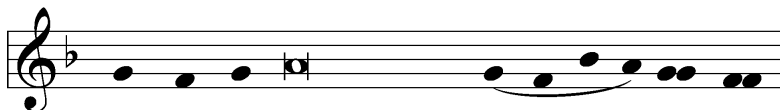
**C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



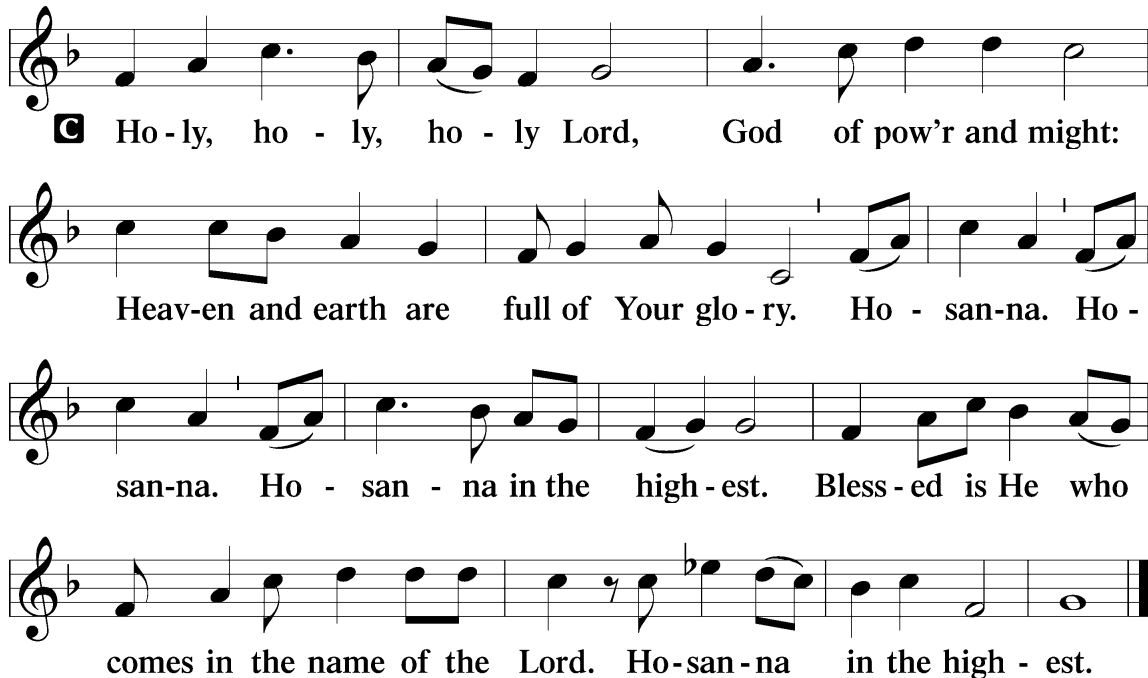
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** 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. In the communion of all Your saints gathered into the one body of Your Son, You have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, encouraged by their faith and strengthened by their fellowship, may run with perseverance the race that is set before us and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that does not fade

away. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

LSB 161



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,

For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

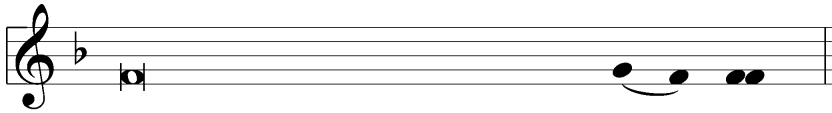
## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

# Pax Domini

LSB 163



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



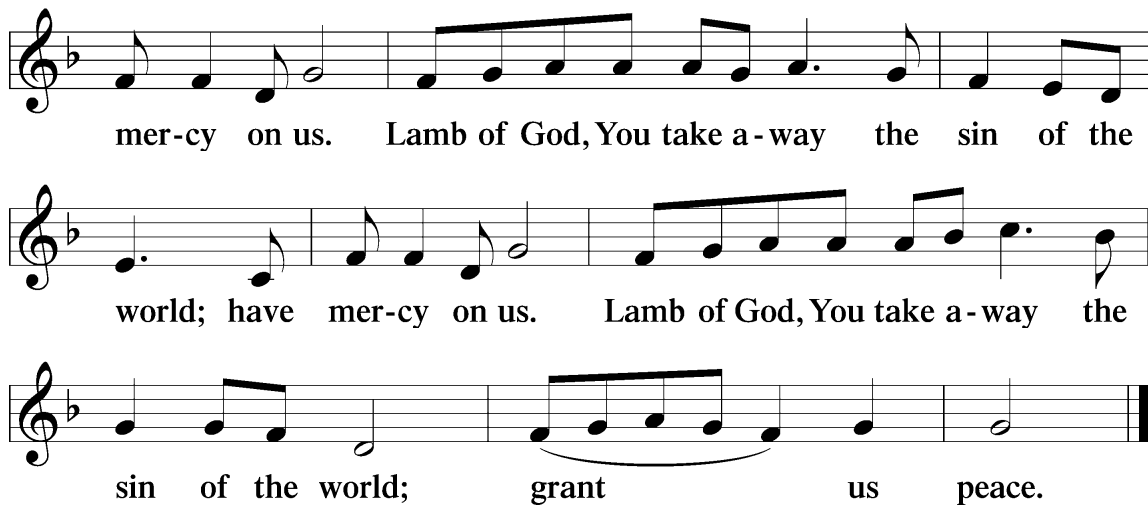
**C** A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



*Sit*

## Distribution

### Distribution Hymn

*LSB 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good  
2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,  
3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your  
4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by  
news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great  
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of  
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your  
God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,  
joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:  
low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.  
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.  
bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.

- 5 "These are the signs that you shall mark:  
The swaddling clothes and manger dark.

There you will find the infant laid  
By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

- 6    How glad we'll be to find it so!  
      Then with the shepherds let us go  
      To see what God for us has done  
      In sending us His own dear Son.
- 7    Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,  
      And see what in the manger lies.  
      Who is this child, so young and fair?  
      It is the Christ Child lying there.
- 8    Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,  
      Through whom the sinful world is blest!  
      You came to share my misery  
      That You might share Your joy with me.
- 9    Ah, Lord, though You created all,  
      How weak You are, so poor and small,  
      That You should choose to lay Your head  
      Where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10   Were earth a thousand times as fair  
      And set with gold and jewels rare,  
      It would be far too poor and small  
      A cradle for the Lord of all.
- 11   Instead of soft and silken stuff  
      You have but hay and straw so rough  
      On which as King, so rich and great,  
      To be enthroned in royal state.
- 12   And so it pleases You to see  
      This simple truth revealed to me:  
      That worldly honor, wealth, and might  
      Are weak and worthless in Your sight.
- 13   Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,  
      Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,

A quiet chamber set apart  
For You to dwell within my heart.

- 14 My heart for very joy must leap;  
My lips no more can silence keep.  
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue  
That sweetest ancient cradlesong:

- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,  
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!  
While angels sing with pious mirth  
A glad new year to all the earth.

### Distribution Hymn

LSB 386 *Now Sing We, Now Rejoice*



- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Now sing we, now re - joice,   | Now raise to heav'n our voice;   |
| 2 Come from on high to me;       | I can - not rise to Thee.        |
| 3 Now through His Son doth shine | The Fa - ther's grace di - vine. |
| 4 Oh, where shall joy be found?  | Where but on heav'n - ly ground? |



He from whom joy stream - eth	Poor in a man - ger lies;
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,	O pure and ho - ly Child;
Death was reign - ing o'er us	Through sin and van - i - ty
Where the an - gels sing - ing	With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth	The sun in yon - der skies.
Through Thy grace and mer - it,	Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
Till He o - pened for us	A bright e - ter - ni - ty.
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing	In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!	Thou my Sav - ior art!
Draw me un - to Thee!	Draw me un - to Thee!
May we praise Him there!	May we praise Him there!
Oh, that we were there!	Oh, that we were there!

## Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C** Amen.

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165

**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

## Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

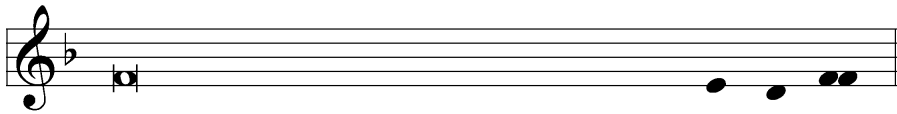
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## Benediction

LSB 166

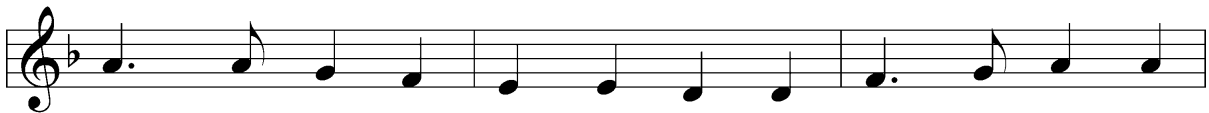


**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



## Closing Hymn

LSB 897 O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly



1 O re - joice, ye Chris - tians, loud - ly, For our joy has  
2 See, my soul, thy Sav - ior choos - es Weak - ness here and  
3 Lord, how shall I thank Thee right - ly? I ac - knowl - edge  
4 Je - sus, guard and guide Thy mem - bers, Fill them with Thy



now be - gun; Won - drous things our God has done.  
pov - er - ty; In such love He comes to thee.  
that by Thee I am saved e - ter - nal - ly.  
bound - less grace, Hear their prayers in ev - 'ry place.



Tell a - broad His good - ness proud - ly, Who our race has  
Nei - ther crib nor cross re - fus - es; All He suf - fers  
Let me not for - get it light - ly, But to Thee at  
Fan to flame faith's glow - ing em - bers; Grant all Chris - tians,



hon - ored thus, That He deigns to dwell with us.  
 for thy good To re - deem thee by His blood.  
 all times cleave And my heart true peace re - ceive.  
 far and near, Ho - ly peace, a glad new year!

*Refrain*

Joy, O joy, be - yond all glad - ness, Christ has done a -  
 way with sad - ness! Hence, all sor - row and re - pin - ing,  
 For the Sun of Grace is shin - ing!

## Organ Postlude

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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# Trinity Weekly News

Volume VII, Issue 4

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Trinity Lutheran Church — Columbia, MO

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

December 31, 2023

The chancel flowers this week are  
sponsored by the Couper Family



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## This Week at Trinity:

### **Sunday 12/31**

8:00 a.m.—Divine Service +Comm  
9:30 a.m.—Bible Study & Sun. School  
10:30 a.m.—Divine Service +Comm  
7:00 p.m.—New Year's Eve Service  
+Comm

### **Monday 1/1** **New Year's Day**

### **Tuesday 1/2**

5:30 p.m.—Pickleball  
5:30 p.m.—Bd of Early Childhood Ed  
6:00 p.m.—Stephen Ministry  
6:30 p.m.—Board of Christian Ed

### **Wednesday 1/3**

9:00 a.m.—TLCLC Chapel

### **Thursday 1/4**

7:00 a.m.—Men's Bible Study  
9:00 a.m.—TLCLC Chapel  
11:00 a.m.—Communion @ Lenoir

### **Friday 1/5**

**Pastors' day off**

### **Sunday 1/7**

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.—Board Orientation &  
Training  
6:00 p.m.—LLL Fellowship Club

#### MEMORY VERSE

*You keep him  
in perfect peace  
whose mind is  
stayed on you,  
because he  
trusts in you.*

ISAIAH 26:3



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-lcnms.org](mailto:church@trinity-lcnms.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!



Thank you to Pastor McCalley, Patty Smith, Laura Grise, and Pattie Smith for helping to set up the poinsettias for beautification of the Altar!

*If you purchased poinsettias, you may pick them up after the service.*

### Vesper Guild

This month the Vesper Guild will meet on **Tuesday, January 16 at 5:30 pm** in the church library. All women of Trinity are welcome! Please join us for a time of devotion and a business meeting.

Any questions, contact Betty Buchheit [dbuchheit305@aol.com](mailto:dbuchheit305@aol.com) or 573-823-2664.



### 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.**

### Mary Martha Guild

Mary Martha Guild meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30-11:30 am. Come at 9 am for coffee! All ladies of Trinity are invited to attend. Come join us on **January 10!**



## 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 **please discard any unused envelopes from previous years.**

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.

## Life Thoughts

**December 31 – Christmas I/New Year's Eve** – Christmas – and a new year – offers opportunity for the joys of looking forward. Simeon and Anna exemplify and inspire faith that finds strength and celebration in anticipating. The Heavenly Father who escorted us thus far will also usher us ever onward. Neighbors facing surprise pregnancies or suffering terminal diagnoses need to know. For their sake, please do not keep silent (Psalm 62:1)!



## Stephen Ministry at Trinity

Trinity Lutheran Church has a caregiving ministry. It is an important way we at Trinity care for one another. If you or another church member you know are going through a difficult time, reach out to one of our pastors and consider a caring relationship with a Stephen Ministry caregiver. The ministry offers real care, comfort, and hope and is free and completely confidential.

Quotes from past care receivers:

"My caregiver was an angel sent from heaven. She helped me to understand things and to see what God has done. So much is off my shoulders."

"Thank God you are here."

"Do it! Take the time to go through the process. Let someone else help."

A tri-fold flyer and a yellow information card are available from the information stand in the narthex and/or visit [stephenministries.org](http://stephenministries.org) to learn more.

## Trinity LLL Fellowship Club

Trinity LLL Fellowship Club will meet on **Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm** in the church basement.

Monthly meetings are scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month (September through May) at 6pm in the church basement. Activities include a very short business meeting, Bible study, and fellowship time with snacks. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

## CHURCH YEAR CALENDAR

Christmas OFFICIALLY ends on January 5, regardless of the fact that Target and Kohls took down their “decorations” on December 26. This week begins with the Circumcision and Naming of Jesus (still in the season of Christmas, formerly two different celebrations). Epiphany is celebrated on January 6 and continues until Transfiguration, which is determined by Ash Wednesday’s timing. For most of history, Epiphany has been a much bigger deal than Christmas. Why? In Epiphany, the Divine Son appears and is revealed by the worship of foreigners and the Father’s own voice from heaven as the Lamb of God who comes to take away the sin of the world. Epiphany begins with the adoration of the Magi, who are not Jews, but Gentiles. The Magi come to worship God in the flesh because this Savior will be for everyone, regardless of bloodline.

### *Feasts, Festivals, & Commemorations*

January 1 – Circumcision and Name of Jesus (Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 3: 23-29; Luke 2:21)

January 6 – Epiphany (Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-15, ant. v.8; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12)

January 7 – Baptism of Our Lord (Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Mark 1:4-11)\*

January 10 – Basil the Great of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianzus, and Gregory of Nyssa, *Pastors and Confessors*

\*Next Sunday (1/7) we’ll use the readings for the Baptism of Our Lord

## THEME OF THE WEEK *The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus and The Revelation of Jesus*

The Lord’s submission to circumcision in the flesh shows right away that he is one born under Mosaic (all Jewish boys to be circumcised) and natural law (those subject to the consequences of sin, i.e., everyone) to redeem those under the law. His Divine Name (Jesus = he will save His people) shows his Messiahship (his divine mandate to die for the sin of the world). With these two thoughts, the church meditates and rejoices that God has fulfilled His Old Testament promise: God is faithful, His Christ has arrived. When *Epiphany* begins, our focus shifts to the humanity of the Messiah: God is manifested (epiphany-ied) in human flesh, toddler, just like us.

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## WEEKLY PSALMS

*Morning* Psalm 2

*Saturday (Epiphany)* Psalm 72

*Evening* Psalm 150

*Saturday (Epiphany)* Psalm 148

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Monday* Isaiah 54:1-10; 1 John 5:1-2

*Tuesday* Isaiah 54:11-17; 1 John 5:13-21

*Wednesday* Isaiah 55:1-11; 2 John

*Thursday* Isaiah 57:15-21; 3 John

*Friday* Isaiah 58:5-14; Luke 2:39-52

*Saturday* Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

## HYMN OF THE WEEK

395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

## DAILY CATECHISM

Theme of the Week: 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment & Meaning

<i>Monday</i>	Judges 16:23-24 What acts are attributed to Dagon? What do the Philistines give? What gross sin have they committed?
<i>Tuesday</i>	Daniel 3 What had King Nebuchadnezzar commanded? Why did the three young men not obey? What persecution did they suffer? How did the Lord bless their witness?
<i>Wednesday</i>	Exodus 32:1-14 What did the Israelites ascribe to the calf? What did they call it? What was the Lord's initial response? Why did He not respond with wrath? How does the action of Moses remind us of Jesus?
<i>Thursday</i>	Matthew 6:24-34 Against what sort of idolatry does Jesus warn us? How are we tempted to trust and serve money and other worldly gain? To what does Jesus point us that we might not be anxious about our needs?
<i>Friday</i>	Psalms 146:1-7 What sort of idolatry does this Psalm warn us against. How are we tempted to place our trust in princes, or other government leaders? Why is this a sin? In what does the Psalm instruct us to trust?



### ✠ 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.*



New Year's greeting from the Life Team! Every January we celebrate Life Sunday. This year in addition to celebrating Life Sunday on January 21<sup>st</sup>, the Life Team invites you to celebrate Life Week! The congregation is invited to a zoom call every day from Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. You can do this by visiting **[lutheransforlife.org/life-](https://lutheransforlife.org/life-week-2024/)**

**week-2024/**. The theme this year is Just As. . . I Am! There will be a Sharing Moment on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> from the Life Team with more details and Life Week reminder cards will be passed out after each service.

The topics for each day are:

- Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> – Just As I Am – From Fertilization to Forever – (A Gospel-Motivated Foundation)
- Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> – Just As I Am – in Terminal Diagnosis
- Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> – Just As I Am – Surviving and Thriving
- Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> – Just As I Am – in Surprise Pregnancy
- Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> – Just As I Am – with Courage and Compassion
- Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – Just As I Am – as Male and Female
- Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> – Just As I Am – for Blessing and Serving

To access these events, go to [lutheransforlife.org/life-week-2024/](https://lutheransforlife.org/life-week-2024/) and scroll down for the zoom access information. It is the same for each day.

The Life Team will also be holding a freewill offering on Life Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> to support the Lutherans for Life Adoption Fund. Checks can be made out to Trinity Lutheran Church with adoption fund in the memo line. A special Life Sunday lesson will be held for children pre-k through 5<sup>th</sup> grade as well as an special Adult Sunday School lesson. We are looking forward to celebrating Life Sunday with you!

Blessings, the Life Team

## 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*





FUN, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE  
JULY - DECEMBER 2023



Pool Party

Trivia Night

Cookie Decorating &  
Christmas Party

Y  
GROUP  
U  
T  
H



Higher Things Conference



Youth BBQ & Fellowship



Service Project &  
Friendsgiving

Coyote Hill Shopping, Movie & Dinner

Highway Clean Up

Trunk or Treat



## 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 [kfu.org](http://kfu.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:** Continue enjoying the Twelve Days of Christmas on KFUO Radio, with special Christmas music, Scripture, and greetings until January 6. Blessed Christmas! Christ is born!



## Issues, Etc.



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

**STUDY GOD'S WORD IN 2024...** LCMS Stewardship has encouraged Lutherans to spend 1% every day (14 minutes) in God's Word and prayer. The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily, 15-minute, verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon is currently leading a study on the Book of Colossians. You can listen at [thewordendures.org](http://thewordendures.org), the LPR mobile app or your favorite podcast provider.



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