

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

717 Stover Ave, PO box 637

Milledgeville, IL 61051

Phone: 815-225-7410

Partner in Cooperative Ministry

First Lutheran West Jordan

N. IL. Synod of the ELCA

Ministers

The People of God

Pastor **Rev. Susan Davenport**

Secretary **Janet Barkley**

Organist **Nancy Janssen**



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Trinity Lutheran Church
Milledgeville, IL



First Lutheran of
Jordan, Sterling, IL

And

DECEMBER



LOVE
PEACE
JOY

Christmas Symbolism



Star represents the bright star that shone the night Jesus was born. "Where is the new born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and have come to worship him." Matthew 2:2



Candy cane represents the shepherd's staff. Christ is also called the Good Shepherd. And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. Luke 2:8



Gifts represent the gold, frankincense and myrrh. ...And when they opened they had opened their treasures, they presented him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2:11



Evergreen tree represents the eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16



Christmas carollers represent the multitude of angels that sang on the night Jesus was born. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest..." Luke 2:13-14



Christmas candles and lights represent the light that Jesus has brought to the world. To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1:79



Holly Berries represent the blood that Christ shed for us. For this is my blood of the new testament which is shed for many remission of sins. Matthew 26:28



Nativity scene represents the scene in the manger where Jesus was born. And she brought for her firstborn son, and wrapped him swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn. Luke 2:7



Christmas wreath represents the crown of thorns that Jesus wore when he was crucified. The soldiers made a crown of long, sharp thorns and put it on his head... John 19:2



Christmas Bells represent the call of mankind to worship the Lord. For the Son of man came to seek, and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10

Prepared by Allison Hall



Joy to the World

S	H	R	R	Y	M	G	Z	S	B	Z	S	D
L	H	T	R	I	B	H	T	B	Z	E	G	T
E	H	S	C	M	G	A	J	A	J	S	N	H
M	Z	Y	A	L	R	A	J	D	M	N	I	R
A	O	R	T	L	U	E	M	V	I	E	S	E
C	Y	H	W	I	S	E	M	E	N	C	S	E
E	J	Y	P	U	V	T	K	N	F	N	E	K
L	P	E	S	E	R	I	K	T	A	I	L	I
C	W	D	M	E	S	B	T	P	N	K	B	N
A	L	E	G	N	A	O	L	A	T	N	A	G
R	H	N	N	S	T	X	J	Z	N	A	T	S
I	A	R	E	J	O	I	C	E	M	R	S	J
M	B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	F	X	S

ADVENT
ANGEL
BETHLEHEM
BIRTH
BLESSINGS
CAMELS
FRANKINCENSE

INFANT
JESUS
JOSEPH
MAGI
MANGER
MARY
MIRACLE

MYRRH
NATIVITY
REJOICE
STABLE
STAR
THREE KINGS
WISE MEN





West Jordan

Worship Helpers

Alter care, communion assistant, Ushers/greeters

Dec. 5th & 12th Arlyn & Kathy Hinrichs
 Lector Jodi Woessner
 Dec. 19th & 26 Jim & Jan Wetzell
 Lector Jan Wetzell
 Circle Hostess: LuAnn Gvozdzak

SPECIAL SERVICE FOR 2021

Advent service; December 2nd, 9th, 19th 6:30
 Christmas Eve service: Dec. 24th at FWJ @4
 Christmas Eve service: Dec. 24th at Trinity @6

Sunday 26th: Hymn sing @ FWJ. 8:30
 Sunday 26th: Hymn sing Trinity 10:15

In our prayers:

From First:

Irene Burdick, Roger Hinrichs, Scotty Powell,
 Ramon Woessner, Dodie Whitmer, Elena Vassallo,
 Rhonda Ramirez, Mark Driessen, Debbie Howlett
 Pam Pfundstein, Olivia Crossman, Loran Diffenbaugh,
 Polly Adams, Charlene Lane, Jan Wetzell,

From Trinity:

Jerry Blair, Bill Borth, Dick Bushman,
 Shirley Cheeseman, Tom Cleary, June Franks,
 Jane Hines, Roger Hinrichs, Matthew Foltz,
 Tom Graff, Nancy Maxwell, Donna Miller,
 Vernon Milner, Roberta Mosley,
 Gary Sibley, Bob Woessner.

Our Southtown Ministry

Will be Tuesday, December 21st. at 4:30
 Lynn and Jodi lead them in Christmas songs and
 hand out Christmas gifts.

How to get what you need at Trinity Lutheran/First Lutheran Church's

Emergency Pastoral Care Concern?

*Hospitalizations, Illness,
Family Crisis*

**Call Pr. Susan Davenport at
Cell phone # 563-613-3892**

Do **NOT** rely on the hospital to
contact the church.

Do **NOT** rely on word of mouth/
The grapevine.

Do **NOT** rely on mindreading skills.
Pastor missed that class in seminary.

Non—Urgent

Pastoral Needs?

*Scheduling a home visit/baptism/
wedding. Confirmation/Christian Ed,
Coffee & Conversation*

Leave a message at Trinity for Pr. Susan.
She will return it as soon as possible.

E-mail Pastor Susan

pastorsusan678@gmail.com

Questions about

Administrative stuff?

*Announcements for the bulletin, ques-
tions about schedules, Financial ques-
tions, hall rental, etc....*

Call the Church and leave a message for
Janet on the Church answering machine,
for her to return during office hours

815-225-7410 or E-mail Janet at

telcsecretary@mediacombb.net

Contact a council member

Church Leaders Directory

Trinity Lutheran Church

President Tammy Miller (815-493-6664 cell 815-541-6195)
 Vice-President Kevin Anderson
 Secretary Shannon Woodard
 Treasurer Donna Landis
 At-Large Jim Brubaker
 Karen Landers
 Ken Peterson
 Lori Oncken
 Custodian Lynn Kaufman
 Musician Nancy Janssen

First Lutheran West Jordan

President Jan Wetzell (631-9353)
 Secretary Jodi Woessner

Pastor, Rev. Susan Davenport
 563-613-3892

Church Secretary Janet Barkley
 Church # 815-225-7410 Cell# 815-590-0520

1. What does the word "advent" mean? A) Arrival B) Waiting C) Coming D) Beginning E) None of the above
2. How many wise men were there? A) 3 B) 4 C) 5 D) The Bible doesn't say E) There were no wise men
3. Who is Joseph's famous ancestor? A) John B) Saul C) David D) All of the above E) None of the above
4. How long is Christmas in the Church calendar? A) One day B) Christmas Eve and Christmas Day C) Christmas until New Year's D) 8 days E) 12 days
5. What is the Immaculate Conception? A) Joseph's conception B) Mary's conception C) Jesus' conception D) All of the above E) None of the above
6. How long is Advent? A) One month B) 28 days C) 4 Sundays D) It depends when Dec. 1 is E) It depends when Easter is
7. Where did Mary and Joseph go to escape, to protect Jesus? A) Palestine B) Syria C) Egypt D) Lebanon E) The mountains

1.(C),2.(D),3.(C),4.(E),5.(B),6.(C),7.(C)

First Lutheran West Jordan
Will be hosting
Dan Holmes
Sunday December 5th
at 8:30 am service
Dan will be leading the worship
service through his music.



Christmas Wreath

Every Christmas wreath is more than just a decoration... it's a special reminder of Jesus, the reason for our celebration. The circle of a Christmas wreath is an never-ending ring, a reminder of eternal love from our Lord and King. The Christmas wreath is a sign of welcome, inviting all to enter in...

a reminder of Christ's invitation for all to come to Him. The middle of a Christmas wreath is a bare and empty space, a reminder of what life would be without Christ's love and grace.



So each time you see a Christmas wreath hanging from a door, may your heart rejoice in the One that Christmas is truly for!

5. Why was the name Jesus given to the child?

Matthew 1:21

6. What is the great blessing which Jesus brings to us?

Acts 3:26

7. What greater blessing did Christ bring to the world than had been given by all who went before Him?

John 1:17

10. What is God's greatest gift to us, for which we especially rejoice at this Christmas season?

John 3:16

Advent Evening Prayer for Faith on 40

A brief 30 minute Advent Prayer Service using a sung setting of Holden Evening Prayer will take place on three Thursdays during Advent (December 2, December 9 and December 16) at 6:30 PM in the Trinity Chapel.



The setting is easy to learn and sing (will be previewed on Sunday mornings) and will be lead by Pastor Susan and Greg. Included will be a devotion appropriate to the season. Take this opportunity to pause, breathe and consider the wonder of the season.

Merry Christmas

VOICES OF PRAISE- EMMANUEL REFORMED CHURCH-MORRISON

The Carols of Christmas!

The Sequel

Celebrating the most beloved songs of the Season

FRIDAY DECEMBER 17TH 7:00PM

SATURDAY December 18th 3:00 pm

Sunday December 19th 7:00pm



202 E MORRIS
MORRISON, ILLINOIS

815-772-3890

Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Susan will be on vacation
December 26 to January 7th 2022

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Trinity will have their next council meeting
December 12th @ 11:15

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

WORSHIP SERVICE

On **Sunday, December 5th** 6:30 At the Brethren Church.
Jocelyn Green will do a flute solo (What Child is This)



**Food
Pantry**

December 7th 2021

9:00 to 11:00 AM

5:30 to 7:30 PM

JOINT SERVICES FOR 2022

March 2nd Ash Wednesday Service at First WJ

Maundy Thursday At Trinity

Good Friday at Methodist during the day

June 12th at Trinity 10:15 am. Outside service with picnic to follow.

September 4th. Labor Day at First WJ 8:30 with coffee hour to follow.

December 25th At Trinity 10:15 sing along service
January 1st At First WJ. at 8:30



Grace Meals

At Trinity Lutheran Church

February or March

In the Social Hall



Come and Celebrate the Birth of Jesus

our doors are open.

1st West Jordan 8:30am Trinity Lutheran 10:15am



December Daily Prayer

Dec 1st—Thank you, God, for being our dwelling place in all generations. In Jesus name. Amen
Dec 2nd—Jesus, help us to be light-bearers and peace-bringers wherever you give us opportunity. Amen.
Dec 3rd—Loving God, help us know and live the truth of Paul's words—that, living or dying, we are with Christ. Amen
Dec 4th—O God, you use diverse people and situations to help us grow. Help us stay open and humble. Amen
Dec 5th—Help us prepare our hearts and lives for your coming, dear God. In Jesus' name. Amen
Dec 6th—Good Shepherd, thank you for your tender care. Amen
Dec 7th—Thank you for turning our tears into joy and for always being with us, O God. Amen
Dec 8th— Dear Jesus, you are the one. Help us to be your heart, hands, and feet in this broken world. Amen
Dec 9th—O Holy One, help us to trust you and not be afraid. May we sing your praises and share our joy. Amen
Dec 10th—Thank you, O God, for love beyond measure in the gift of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen
Dec 11th—Gracious and generous God, thank you for the bottomless wells of salvation you provide.. Amen
Dec 12th—Such wondrous love is this, O God, that you sent your Son to baptize us with your Holy Spirit. Amen
Dec 13th—Faithful God, thank you for your promises, in which we may play a part. Though Christ our Savior. Amen.
Dec 14th—O God, grant us a spirit of boldness to share the good news. In Jesus' name. Amen
Dec 15th—Faithful God, may we be part of bringing your promises to life. Though your Son, Jesus. Amen
Dec 16th—God of peace, in our divided world, by your saving power and grace help us love our neighbors as we love ourselves.. Amen
Dec 17th—Thank you, God, for continually working for good in the world. Teach us to sing new songs amid the world's brokenness. Amen
Dec 18th—Protecting God, help us cling to you when we are fearful and when evil lurks nearby. Amen.
Dec 19th—God of life, help us share, especially with those on the margins of society, the love you have given us through the birth of Jesus. Amen
Dec 20th— God, help us to be the church, sharing your love, grace, and forgiveness in Jesus' name. Amen.
Dec 21st—Blessed be the name of the Lord who provides all we need. Blessed be the One whose name is worthy to be praised. Amen
Dec 22nd—God, provide us the strength for all of life's journeys, confident that you walk beside us. Amen.
Dec 23rd—Jesus, thank you for coming as the living story of God's love for the world. Help us to share this precious story from generations to generation. Amen.
Dec 24th—O God, help us trust in your Son, and Prince of Peace. May we share his holy story, not just today, but all year. Amen
Dec 25th—God of love, help us trust in the infant king you sent no to condemn but to save the world. May we share this good news with all. Amen.
Dec 26th—God, when we get lost, you, our heavenly parent, seek us out. Make us eager learners, like Jesus. Help us grow in wisdom and share your good news. Amen.
Dec 27th—God, help us support one another in following Jesus, especially when we have a hard time trusting. Amen
Dec 28th—God, we don't understand why great loss happens, yet we know you mourn with us. Help us reach out to all who grieve. Amen.
Dec 29th—God, help us to be your faithful servants. Teach us to be your hands and feet in the world. Amen.
Dec 30th—Gracious God, help us bless others by our words and actions, in response to how you have blessed us with the gift of Jesus. Amen
Dec 31st— Loving God, in times of grief, remind us that you sent your Son as the light of the world and that we are never alone. Amen



Daily Devotions



Dec 1st	Psalms 90
Dec 2nd	Luke 1:68-79
Dec 3rd	Philippians 1:18b-26
Dec 4th	Luke 9:1-6
Dec 5th	Luke 3:1-6
Dec 6th	Isaiah 40:1-11
Dec 7th	Psalms 126
Dec 8th	Luke 7:18-30
Dec 9th	Isaiah 12:2-6
Dec 10th	2 Corinthians 9:1-15
Dec 11th	Isaiah 12:2-6
Dec 12th	Luke 3:7-18
Dec 13th	Isaiah 11:1-9
Dec 14th	Acts 28:23-31
Dec 15th	Isaiah 11:1-9
Dec 16th	Psalms 80:1-7
Dec 17th	Isaiah 42:10-18
Dec 18th	Luke 13:31-35
Dec 19th	Luke 1:39-45
Dec 20th	Colossians 1:15-20
Dec 21st	Psalms 113
Dec 22nd	Micah 4:1-5
Dec 23rd	Luke 1:46b-55
Dec 24th	Isaiah 9:2-7
Dec 25th	Luke 2:1-20
Dec 26th	Luke 2:41-52
Dec 27th	John 21:20-35
Dec 28th	Matthew 2:13-18
Dec 29th	Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51-60
Dec 30th	2 Chronicles 1:7-13
Dec 31st	John 8:12-19





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30 Aiden Barkley's birthday Christian Barkley's birthday Harlen Meinsma's birthday	1 Gavin Schildgen's birthday	2 Bridget Newcomer's birthday Advent Evening Prayer Service 6:30pm Trinity	3	4
5 Robert Oncken's birthday Worship & Communion FWJ 8:30; Trinity 10:15 Community Christmas Service 6:30 Brethren	6 Gary and Carol Sibley's anniversary Josh Nye's birthday	7	8 Lori Anderson's birthday	9 Colton Simpson's birthday Advent Evening Prayer Service 6:30pm Trinity	10	11
12 Becky Anderson's birthday John Byvick's birthday Worship FWJ 8:30; Trinity 10:15	13	14	15	16 Advent Evening Prayer Service 6:30pm Trinity	17 Voices of Praise Emmanuel Reformed Church 7:00 pm	18 Voices of Praise Emmanuel Reformed Church 3:00 pm
19 Worship & Communion FWJ 8:30; Trinity 10:15 Voices of Praise Emmanuel Reformed Church 7:00	20 Elizabeth Wolf's birthday Tyler Miller's birthday	21 Shane Harris's birthday Sydney Barkley's birthday Will Schmidt's birthday	22	23	24 Bill Borth's birthday Christmas Eve Service First WJ 4:00 p.m. Trinity 6:00 p.m.	25
26 Collin Eubanks's birthday Kevin and Becky Anderson's anniversary Worship FWJ 8:30; Trinity 10:15	27 Brandon Eye's birthday	28	29	30	31 Donald and Anke Janssen's anniversary Greg Kruse and Pastor Susan Davenport's anniversary	1 Owen Peterson's birthday Trevor Schluter's birthday

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH Of West Jordan
20314 Hickory Hills Road
Sterling, IL 61081
815-225-7410
Worship: Sundays 8:30 AM

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
717 Stover Ave, PO Box 637
Milledgeville, IL 61051
815-225-7410; telcsecretary@mediacombb.net
Worship: Sundays 10:15 AM
trinitymville.360unite.com



Pastor Pen

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord.”

-James 5: 7

Our modern world has difficulty with patience. We are people accustomed to “instant” everything—instant food, mail (email), digital photography, news and much more. We no longer wait, even for Christmas, with retailers decorating earlier and earlier and some “Christmas stores” open year round.

Once a period of 6-8 weeks, the season of Advent is now reduced to 4 weeks on our church calendar. Once a time of waiting and expectation, of patience, perseverance and preparation, Advent now gets lost in the shuffle of Christmas preparations.

Interestingly, the word “patience” comes from the Latin word “patior,” which means “to suffer.” We don’t like to wait—it is painful. And we certainly don’t want to suffer. The writer Henri Nouwen reminds us, however, that the “first thing Jesus promises is suffering—‘I tell you . . . you will be weeping and wailing . . . and you will be sorrowful.’” These Jesus calls ‘the birth pangs.’

With Christ, Nouwen writes:

what seems a hindrance becomes a way; what seems an obstacle becomes a door; what seems a misfit becomes a cornerstone. Jesus changes our history from a series of sad incidents and accidents into an opportunity for a change of heart. To wait patiently therefore means to allow our weeping and wailing to become the purifying preparation by which we are made ready to receive the joy which is promised to us.

Patience does not come automatically to us, so we need to practice it—by choosing the longer line at the check-out, avoiding looking at the clock when you are waiting for something, holding off checking the mail (or email), meditating during a traffic jam, singing Advent hymns in the weeks before Christmas!

What are YOU waiting for? During Advent we can “practice patience” in order to carve out moments when we acknowledge the long wait for Christ’s return. Advent reminds us that God is continually strengthening and filling us, not instantly, but in God’s own way and in God’s own time.

Peace & Holiday Blessings,

Pastor Susan