

# Trinity Lutheran Church



December 3, 2023  
Second Sunday of Advent  
“Mighty God”

# PRELUDE: *Prepare Ye* (S. Schwartz)

## WELCOME

### GATHERING Song:

#### *Blessed Be the God of Israel* (ELW 250)



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free  
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,  
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-prepare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.  
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;  
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm  
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,  
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.  
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.  
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
“Here is your God!”

<sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ADVENT LITANY

So with the prophet Isaiah,  
we proclaim the promise of God:  
**The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.**  
**For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

## ADVENT PRAYER AND CANDLE LIGHTING

As we light the Advent candles, we call upon Christ,  
Mighty God.  
O King of the nations,  
**the ruler they long for,**  
the cornerstone uniting all people:  
**come and save us all.**

The Spirit and the church cry out:  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**  
All those who await his appearance pray:  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**  
The whole creation pleads:  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## ADVENT HYMN: *Christ Be Our Light* (ELW 715)

- 2 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone. Refrain**

### *Refrain*

**Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.**

- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. Refrain**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray together.

**Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## PSALM: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

<sup>1</sup>You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people  
and blotted out all their sins.**

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn  
their hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell <sup>1</sup> in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>**Righteousness shall go before the LORD  
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

## SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

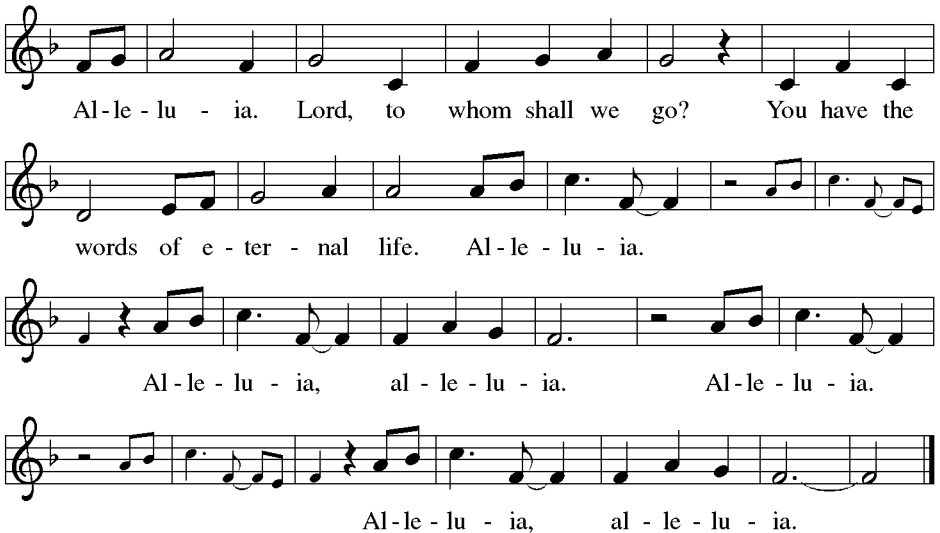
<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

## **GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

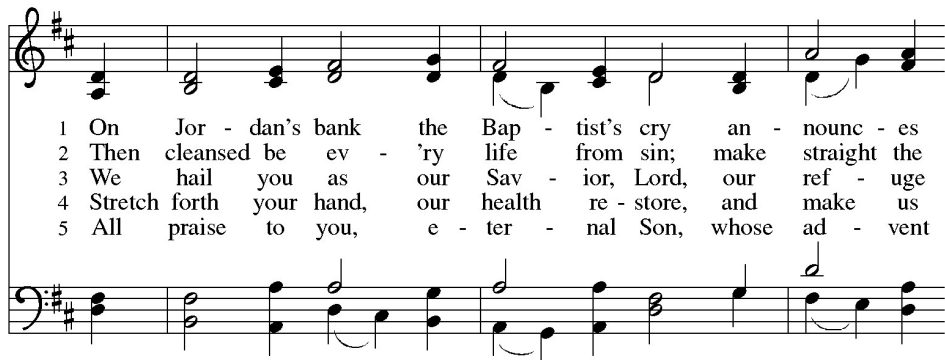
The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**


## **SERMON**

# SERMON HYMN:

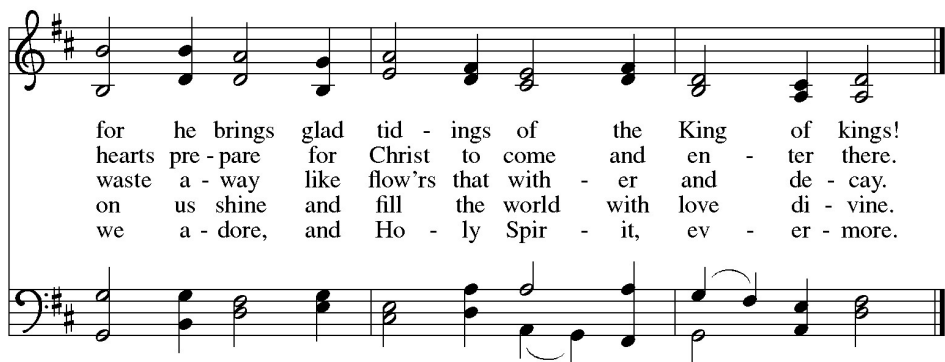
## *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (ELW 249)*



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
way for God with - in, and let us all our  
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.



## APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

The musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major. The treble staff features a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

The musical notation continues with the same treble and bass staff arrangement. The melody in the treble staff concludes with a final cadence, and the bass staff provides a steady accompaniment.

*With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await restoration. Send forth your faithful people with words of promise and forgiveness. Teach your church to be bold in revealing your good news in word and in deed.*

*With you, oh God, a thousand years is like a day. Bless the memory of the saints from ages past and the anticipation of saints yet to be born. Your people receive mercy and your grace overflows in our lives. Inspire us to live with faith as we await your new heaven and new earth.*

*With loving hearts, we rejoice in your company. Give us calm and patient hearts as we gather with family and friends. Keep us mindful of those for whom this season is not happy. Console our mourning spirits with the promise of eternal life in your presence.*

*Your work is done in this congregation with our hands, feet, voices, minds, and hearts. Bring us together to serve our neighbors and welcome the stranger in your name. Listen to these and all our prayers, restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.*

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OFFERING**

*You may place offering in a passed plate, or in one of the Bulletin Stand offering plates at the end of worship as you leave the church.*

### **OFFERTORY:**

***You Are Holy (M. Imboden & T. Rhoton)***

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together.

**God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION

*White grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond*

Amen.

## **DISTRIBUTION:**

*Kyrie Eleison*

(C. Tomlin, M. Redan, M. Maher, & J. Ingram)

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

(ELW 257)

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

Now may the body and blood of our lord and savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together.

**God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

May God strengthen us to the end;  
Christ draw near to our very gates;  
and the Holy Spirit awaken our spirits;  
until, with eager longing,

we greet the day of our † Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN:

### *Hark, the Glad Sound! (ELW 239)*



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE:

*Take My Life That I May Be (F. Havergal & W. Pharris)*

## Serving in Worship

**TODAY — Dec 3, 2023**

**Altar:** Conyers Family

**Reader:** Diane Fiedler

**Communion Assistant:**

Molly Bredehoff

**Fellowship:** Bobbie & Al Schimek

**NEXT SUNDAY — Dec 10, 2023**

**Altar:** Conyers Family

**Reader:** Lisa Guarneri

**Communion Assistant:**

Stuart Guarneri

**Fellowship:** Martha Leonard

## Trinity Happenings:


<b>Sun, Dec 3:</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Second Worship of Advent w/ Band</b>
	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Sunday School behind Gruver Rm</b>
	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>Fellowship in Gruver Rm</b>
Mon, Dec 4:	9:00am	<i>Becoming Study in Gruver Rm</i>
	5:00pm	Theology PUB @ Coal Creek Downtown
<b>Wed, Dec 6:</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Women's Study in Gruver Rm</b>
	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Wednesday Supper in Gruver Rm</b>
	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Wednesday Worship in Gruver Rm</b>
Thu, Dec 7:	11:45am	MUGG Campus Meeting @ Rendezvous Café
<b>Sun, Dec 10:</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Third Worship of Advent w/ Choir</b>
	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>Fellowship in Gruver Rm</b>
Mon, Dec 11:	9:00am	<i>Becoming Study in Gruver Rm</i>
	5:00pm	Theology PUB @ Coal Creek Downtown
<b>Wed, Dec 13:</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Women's Christmas Luncheon @ Denise Greller's (2667 Jefferson)</b>
Thu, Dec 14:	11:45am	MUGG Campus Meeting @ Rendezvous Café
<b>Sun, Dec 17:</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Last Worship of Advent w/ Choir and Food Drive Blessing</b>
	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Sunday School behind Gruver Rm</b>
	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>Fellowship in Gruver Rm</b>






# *Advent Food Drive*

*Stock the Cabinet!*



*Card tables for donations are at  
the entrances to the Sanctuary.*

*Please be generous before our  
drive blessing during the Fourth  
Worship of Advent on Dec. 17th.*





*Remember, the lights aren't on just Sundays during the season! Stop by any office hours—Monday thru Thursday 10am to 2pm—and enjoy a little peace in our Sanctuary.*

**QUESTIONS ABOUT GIVING?** If you ever have any questions about your financial gifts to Trinity, please contact Trinity's financial secretary, Alison Shaver, at [alebuda@uwyo.edu](mailto:alebuda@uwyo.edu). If you need an up-to-date statement of giving, please contact the church office.

**2023 Year-To-Date as of October 31**

**Income** - \$172,555.43

**Expenses** - \$175,010.85



**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Pastor Nate:** (307) 231-5371 † [pastornate3421@gmail.com](mailto:pastornate3421@gmail.com)

- Congregation President* ..... **Brett Moline**
- Pastor* ..... **Nathan Keith**
- Accompanist* ..... **Trinity Band**
- Financial Director* ..... **Linda Lebeda**
- Financial Secretary* ..... **Alison Shaver**
- In the Office* ..... **Lisa Guarnieri**