

It is
TIME
to seek the
LORD.

— *Hosea 10:12* —



First Sunday after Christmas

December 27th / December 28th 2020

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

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Marinette, WI 54143
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Trinity Ev. Lutheran School

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Welcome to Trinity!

We're glad you're here to worship!

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Tesch
(715-587-8521) or Principal Danell (715-732-2956)

To Shepherds as They Watched by Night

(Hymn 53 vv.1-4)

- 1 To shepherds as they watched by night
Appeared a host of angels bright;
"Behold the tender babe," they said,
"In yonder lowly manger laid,
- 2 "At Bethlehem, in David's town,
As Micah did of old make known.
It is the Christ, your Lord and King,
Who will to all salvation bring."
- 3 Oh, then rejoice that through his Son
God is with sinners now at one;
Mad like yourselves of flesh and blood,
Your brother is th'eternal God.
- 4 What harm can sin and death then do?
The true God now abides with you.
Let hell and Satan storm and rave,
Christ is our brother - you are safe

Please rise

Confession of Sins

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

Assurance of Forgiveness

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated

Old Testament Lesson

Christmas has passed for another year. I wonder how many people missed it. For some, the expectation of joy is over. For others, the pressure is gone. Some will remember time with family and friends. Others will remember time without them. Far too few will share our lasting joy of God's love. Jesus came to us. God is still with us. He enfolds us in grace and mercy.

Where can someone go if they don't have God? Where can they find hope? Where can they find peace? Who will save them when the problems get too big? What can they do when money isn't enough? Or when people let them down? Who will be with them when they face death?

There is only one God, only one Savior. He calls out for people to turn to him and be saved. And he calls out with our voice.

Christmas has passed, but we still have a gift to share. We have a message of hope for people in despair, a message of love for those who are alone. We have light for people in darkness and the gift of life in a world filled with death. We offer the Word of God and the Savior of all.

Isaiah 45:20-25 (EHV)

²⁰Gather! Come! Draw near together,
you survivors from the nations.
They have no knowledge
-those who are lifting up their idols of wood
and praying to a god that cannot save.

²¹Make an announcement and come close.

Let them consult together.

Who made this known ahead of time?
From time past who announced it?
Was it not I, the LORD?
There is no god except me,
a righteous God and Savior.
There is no one except me.

²²Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth,
because I am God,
and there is no other.

²³I have sworn by myself.
From my mouth a righteous word has gone out,
and it will not return unfulfilled.
Indeed, to me every knee will bow,
and every tongue will swear allegiance.

²⁴"Only in the LORD," they will say of me,
"Only in the LORD is there true righteousness and strength."
To him they will come and be ashamed-
all those who are angry at him.

²⁵In the LORD, all the descendants of Israel will be justified.
They will be praised by him.

Epistle Lesson

The noise of the world's Christmas is passing away. The joy of our Christmas is just beginning. The gifts God has given us live in our hearts and enrich our lives. God's gifts bring us peace and delight. They change us. They make us more like Jesus.

Think about the gifts God lists in Colossians 3: heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Priceless gifts from our heavenly Father.

Now we get to use them, to make our lives a little better, to share the love of God, and glorify him with lives of thanks. We offer forgiveness. We live in love. The peace of Christ directs our hearts.

Let's let the word of Christ dwell in us richly. Let's teach and admonish. Let's sing and give thanks together. Let's do everything in the name of Jesus. He came to us on Christmas. He stays with us forever.

Colossians 3:12-17(EHV)

¹² Therefore, as God's elect, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint against anyone else. Forgive, just as Christ forgave you. ¹⁴ And, in addition to all these things, put on love, which ties things together in perfect unity. ¹⁵ Let

the peace of Christ control your hearts, to which you were also called, in one body. And be thankful.

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God.¹⁷ And everything you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Behold, a Branch Is Growing

(Hymn 47)

1 Behold, a Branch is growing
Of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sang, foreknowing;
It springs from Jesse's race
And bears one little flow'r
In midst of coldest winter,
At deepest midnight hour.

2 Isaiah had foretold it
In words of promise sure,
And Mary's arms enfold it,
A virgin meek and pure.
Through God's eternal will
This child to her is given
At midnight calm and still.

3 The shepherds heard the story
Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of glory,
Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped
And in the manger found him,
As angel heralds said.

4 This flow'r, so small and tender,
With fragrance fills the air;
His brightness ends the darkness
That kept the earth in fear.
True God and yet true man,
He came to save his people
From earth's dark night of sin.

5 O Savior, Child of Mary,
Who felt our human woes,
O Savior, King of glory,
Who conquered all our foes,
Bring us at last, we pray,
To the bright courts of heaven
And to the endless day.

Gospel Lesson/Sermon Text:

Did you ever wonder how many people realized who it was who came to the temple that day? Most people just passed by a peasant couple carrying a baby. But two people knew. God revealed himself to Simeon and Anna. And they praised God and gave him thanks. They sang and they rejoiced. How could they not? God was right there, fulfilling promises and bringing redemption. They kept telling people about the child to anyone who would listen.

Now God has revealed himself to me! If he had he revealed himself to anyone else, I could understand that; but he has revealed and given himself to me, the most unworthy of people. That I will never understand; but I will receive him and sing his praises to all who will listen.

He comes to you today in Word and Sacrament. How many people miss that?

God has revealed himself to us. Let us praise him and give him thanks. Let's sing and rejoice. How can we not? God is here. Let's share the joy and tell everyone who will hear us.

Luke 2:25-40 (EHV)

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, waiting for the comfort of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him into his arms and praised God. He said,

²⁹ Lord, you now dismiss your servant in peace, according to your word,

³⁰ because my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared before the face of all people,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.

³³ Joseph and the child's mother were amazed at the things that were spoken about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Listen carefully, this child is appointed for the falling and rising of many in Israel and for a sign that is spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶ Anna, a prophetess, was there. She was a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old. She had lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage,³⁷ and then she was a widow of eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple complex, since she was worshipping with fasting and prayers night and day. ³⁸ Standing nearby at that very

hour, she gave thanks to the Lord. She kept speaking about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When they had accomplished everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town, Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

Prayers for Our family and Friends

The Beaumont Family, Melanie Bell, Milferd Behnke, Ashleigh Bourdelais, Ardice Cerney, Gladys Constine, Geri Garbrecht, Jean Harper, Dorothy Johnson, Rose Karr, Noah & Kristin Olson, Lisa Schmitt, Aaron Wood and Jesse Zach

Prayers for those called to protect

Military: Jesse Adams (Sue Connor's son), Greg Carow (Dennis Carow's godson/nephew), Aeron Forsberg (Linda and Gene Erickson's grandson), Dayton Godfrey (Dave & Cindy Schacht's great-nephew), Joshua Jansen (Isaac Jansen's cousin), Jesse Johnston (Jim & Laurie Johnston's son), Patrick Noppenberg (Denis & Deb Vieth's son), Aaron Stocker Jr. (Martina (Dura) Stocker's husband), Dylan Vanko, (Roy and Grace Chmela's grandson), and Thomas Weirich (Mary Bush's nephew).

Firefighter: Steve Campbell.

Police: Greg Haemker, Raymond Cashaw (Pastor Sonnemann's niece's husband) and **David Peterson** (Jamie Tesch's uncle). Ask the Lord to bless them, strengthen them, and keep them safe.

The Lord's Prayer:

*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.*

The Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

The Benediction:

*P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.*

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

Joy To The World

(Hymn 62)

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is
come!

Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him
room

And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and
nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior
reigns!

Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods,
rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows
grow

Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings
flow

Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with
truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his
righteousness

And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his
love.

TRINITY'S CORE MISSION

Shining the Light of the Gospel in our community.

John 8:12 - *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

Matthew 5:16 - *"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*