

**Trinity
Lutheran
Church**

**December 10,
2023**

**Second
Sunday
of Advent**

**217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN**

**Website
[www.trinity
sleepyeye.org](http://www.trinitysleepyeye.org)**

**Phone:
(507) 794-5051**

**Email:
trinitysleepyeye.org**

**Office Hours
Mon-Thurs
9am –3pm**

**Ministers
Every member**

***Interim Pastor*
Grant Fischer
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**Parsonage
794-5641**

***Parish Secretary*
Darlene Brummund
507 276-8013**

***Financial
Secretary*
Pat Stevermer
794-7112**

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Choir Director*
Mary Mulry
794-3768**

***Custodian*
Pat Lowther**

Second Sunday of Advent



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:00 A.M. ~ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023



The Living Christ Calls and Welcomes Everyone as We Gather on this Second Sunday of Advent. The Lord Calls and Gathers All Who Enter This House of Worship! Today we light the “Peace Candle” on the Advent Wreath reminding us how God comes to those least expected. May God help you receive Him who comes bringing good tidings of forgiveness, salvation and eternal life.

We welcome all guests and visitors, praying our worship brings a special blessing upon you and all of us. May you be empowered to leave here to serve others. For those able, fellowship and refreshments are available in the library following our worship.

WORSHIP AIDS

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available from an usher.

ACTIVITY BAGS for young children are on a stand at the rear of church; please return after services. Thanks.

THANK YOU for signing the Friendship Pad ..

I WISH CARDS are in your pews; please let us know your ideas to improve our Trinity home.

GATHERING

WE PREPARE... Stir up your power, and come! John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord’s coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, “See, your God is coming!” We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

PRELUDE /BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP



BELL CHOIR

CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace. **Amen.**

Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of all time,

we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In + Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news! **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW #264

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound-ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

GREETING

Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all. **And also with you.**

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE

In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. 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" (Isaiah 40:1).



We who gather today also seek comfort and peace, yet we are unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us to keep quiet and go with the flow. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace. **We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.**

We light these candles as signs of God's shocking hope and just peace. May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather together to worship and glorify God. Amen.

Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.



1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM 85

Righteousness shall prepare a pathway for God.

You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins.

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.

**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

The first reading is in Isaiah chapter 40, verses 1-11.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. 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.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 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. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” 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. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. 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!” See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 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.**

SECOND READING

2 Peter 3:8-15a

The second reading in 2 Peter chapter 3, verses 8-15a.

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. 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. 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.

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, 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? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

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

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(vs. 2) ELW #257

2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain* Re - joice! Re - joice!

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. 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

Pastor Grant Fischer

SONG OF THE DAY

All Earth Is Hopeful

ELW #266

The musical score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath each note. The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The first staff starts in D major and moves through D/F# (with a melodic line), Em, and A major. The second staff starts in D major and moves through G, Em, A, and A7. The third staff starts in Bm and moves through F#m, G, and D. The fourth staff starts in Bm and moves through F#m, Em7, A, Em7, F#m/A, and D. The lyrics are as follows:

1 To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.

y-el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our

mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how -
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our

cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver-dad. dar-nos li-ber-tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate-way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us. and ev - er sets us free.

HOLY BAPTISM

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

I present **Harper Mae Heiderscheidt** for baptism.

As you bring Harper to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach Creed the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that Harper may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Creed grow in the Christian faith and life? **I do.**

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Creed in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? **I do.**

People of God, do you promise to support Creed and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Harper Mae Heiderscheidt, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Creed with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Harper Mae Heiderscheidt, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized. **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH God in your mercy....Hear our prayer.

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.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

We Give Thee But Thine Own

ELW 686



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

(THE USHERS BRING UP THE OFFERING)

OFFERING PRAYER

Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

SENDING

BLESSING

May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



SENDING SONG

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

ACS #949

1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
 2 Dark-er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
 3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
 4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your

lamps mid - night trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps
 morn - ing soon lies be - fore break - ing, lo, the
 lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your

trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
 lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
 soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
 trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

Refrain

Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry;

chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al - most done.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Our Thanks To All Who Serve The Body Of Christ

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship
Accompanist	Mary Mulry
Acolyte	Caleb Oscarson
Readers	Larry Baumgardt
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen
Greeters	Jeff & Lynette Carlson
Ushers	Eric & Juli Wahlborg
Altar Guild	Joleen Dittbenner



WE WELCOME into the Trinity family **Harper Mae Heiderscheidt**, child of Tyler Heiderscheidt and Kayla Christopherson. She is sponsored by Nichole and Andy Mathwig. May God give them the servant faith to fulfill the promises made before God and this congregation today, bringing Harper to share eternally in the Kingdom of God.

God bless Harper in her life of faith!

OUR THANKS to everyone who participated in the Advent dinner as we prepare our hearts for the season of Advent.

AND... to everyone who donated their time and talents to decorate and beautify our church for the season of our Savior's birth.

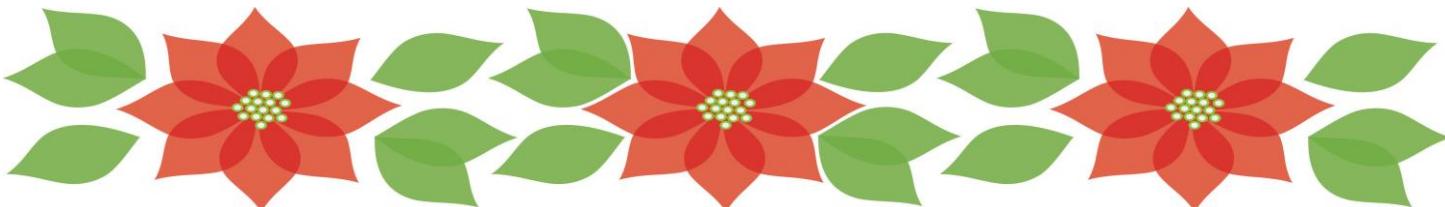


IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT THAT DOUBLE BATCH or two of your favorite Christmas cookies to donate to the cookie walk. Our sale is from 10:00 – 11:00 on Sunday morning, December 17th. Please deliver your cookies, krum cake, rosettes, or other special treats to the church kitchen by **Saturday, December 16th** at Noon if possible.

LEFSE MAKERS ARE NEEDED MONDAY, DECEMBER 11th BETWEEN 4:00 AND 8:00 PM. PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE OFFICE. Come when you can! Please spread the word to your family and friends about this great bake sale. Contact Darlene Brummund with any questions at 276-8013. All proceeds go to people in need with Action Team funds by Thrivent. Thanks so much for your encouragement and participation!



IF YOU'D LIKE TO PURCHASE A POINSETTIA for \$14.00 in honor of or in memory of a loved one(s), please sign up in the church office **Today!** You have the option of ordering a red, white, or pink poinsettia. Please specify when you sign up. You are welcome to take your plant following the Christmas Eve services on Sunday, December 24th.





Trinity friends! Please turn in your filled Christmas food boxes to the church narthex **today**. Help us spread some love this holiday season!

A new Advent Calendar is available in the back of the Sanctuary



Trinity Wednesday Church School

Please join us for Trinity's "Dining Out", following church services 12/17/2023. "Breaking Bread Together" is an opportunity to get to know each other better and share stories. We will be meeting at 11:00 AM at the Golf Course Meeting Room. Our goal will be to Dine Out" the 3rd Sunday of each month!

You are invited to Trinity Church School on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30! Our students will be following the Sunday School Curriculum at the evening classes. This change has been made after asking our parents if this change would help with busy children's activities. Please join us! Confirmation classes are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Welcome to all our students!

SEMC has the New Flu and the Bivalent COVID booster available. You have call SEMC at 794-3691 to schedule an appointment. Forms for the vaccine are available at the church in the narthex or on the SEMC website.

Boosters are also available at Randy's Drug. Please call ahead. Flu shots are available anytime.



Painting Classes in Session!

DECEMBER 20TH 6:30-7:30 PM

Painting class with John Ebenhon Grades 3-6th

Christmas craft painting prek-2nd grade

Christmas treats will be provided

Projects will be on display for the Christmas Service for families to admire!

RSVP:
No later than December 3rd. Please use your remind app or text 507-215-2866

Holiday Bake Sale

The Trinity Women of the ELCA
Invite everyone to attend our 33rd Annual

Cookie Walk

Sunday, December 17th

10:00 ~ 11:00

Following the Christmas Program

Held at

Trinity Lutheran Church

217 Brackenridge SW, Sleepy Eye

Proceeds Will Go To People In Need

Supplemental Funds Provided By Thrivent Action Team



Sundown Lutheran Church is having our grown-up Christmas program on Sunday, December 10th at 5:00. We'll have a chili supper afterwards in the basement. All are welcome! Please spread the word. Sadly, this is likely to be our last one at Sundown, so we hope to see some friends there.

Women and Children in Need

ITEMS NEEDED FOR NUMAS HAUS.

Gift cards to Kwik Trip, Hy-Vee
New bath towels and wash cloths
Glass baking dishes and mixing bowls
Children's mittens, socks, underwear
Arts and crafts for kids
Women's personal grooming items
2024 planners
Kitchen utensils, spoons spatulas etc
Crib sheets
Board books for kids
Baby Doll and Barbies
Toddler toys especially with music.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR IVY HOUSE

Unscented laundry detergent
Paw Patrol toys
Dress up clothes
Little girls makeup/hair items
Size 6 diapers
Dolls and Barbies
New baby/toddler size blankets

The Food Shelf needs your help as well.

Thank you!

SHOP LOCAL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON AT THE

**SLEEPY EYE
CRAFT
AND
VENDOR
SHOW**

Find us on Facebook for vendor sneak peeks!

DEC. 10 . 10:00-2:00PM
SLEEPY EYE EVENT CENTER

40+ VENDORS
FOOD AVAILABLE
PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOCAL NON-PROFITS

December 10, 2023

We are Jesus' messengers, preparing the way for him.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday	Mark 1:1-8	John the Baptist prepares the way
Monday	Isaiah 26:4-9	The way of the righteous
Tuesday	Malachi 3:1-4	God promises a messenger
Wednesday	Luke 1:5-17	God's messenger in the temple
Thursday	Psalm 90:1-12	God and time
Friday	1 Timothy 1:12-17	The unlimited patience of Christ
Saturday	Psalm 27:7-14	Lead me in a straight path
Sunday	John 1:6-8, 19-28	John's witness to the Light

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK



***It is written in Isaiah the prophet:
"I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way."***

(Mark 1:2)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, make us ready to be your messengers, preparing the way for you to come to others. Amen. (Mark 1:2-3)

Mealtime Prayer:

God our Savior, thank you for this food and all who prepared it. Help us to prepare the way for you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God be good to you. May he forgive your sins and give you his peace. Amen. (Psalm 85:2, 8, 12)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Have you ever been a messenger to someone? Share your memories.
- John the Baptist was God's messenger sent to "prepare the way" for Jesus. What does John's message mean to you?
- We are God's messengers, too. What message do we have to share with other people?

DEVOTIONS

If you have not already done so, set up a home Advent wreath. This week, light both the first and second candle on your wreath. In doing so, use the following words:

The second candle on our Advent wreath is the BETHLEHEM CANDLE. After a long wait, the Savior that God had promised was born in Bethlehem. He was sent to bring us peace with God.

Have a household member read Micah 5, verses 2 and 5. Then say this prayer together, repeating after the leader:

Lord God, thank you for Jesus our Savior, born in Bethlehem. Fill us with peace as we get ready to celebrate his birth. Amen.

SERVICE

We can share God's message of love with others by doing kind deeds. Using note cards or other materials, make a "road" to attach to a wall in your home. Write the words of Mark 1:3 on your "road." As your household journeys through the second week of Advent, record any acts of service you perform on "sticky notes" and attach these notes to your "road." Pray that your acts of service may help others to see and know Jesus.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

As a household, decorate and number enough envelopes for each day left before Christmas. String them on a ribbon or cord and hang it up, perhaps with a sprig of green and a red Christmas bow at each end. Place a Christmas symbol or a Bible verse in each envelope and seal it shut. Take turns opening a package each day. The anticipation will grow as the line of packages decreases and Christmas approaches.



Trinity's Mission Statement

We are a community where Jesus is Lord: our mission is to invite, welcome, nurture, and equip all people to be disciples in His name.

TRINITY'S PRAYER CHAIN Send an email to secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org or call the office at 507 794-5051. Leave a message.

TRINITY'S WEBPAGE Send an email to the church office at secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org and let Darlene know you want your newsletter via email!

TRINITY IS NOW ON FACEBOOK

"Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) Sleepy Eye MN"

The Trinity Tidings newsletter is now also posted on www.sleepyeyeline.com
watch this site for community news and events.



If you haven't already, please consider *Simply Giving*, an automated giving program for your offering. You determine the frequency of your offering which is deposited into Trinity's account the same day it is withdrawn from your account. It's a "hassle-free" way to give.

Talk to Pat or Darlene if you are interested. Thank You.

Last week at Trinity

Weekly Worship Attendance:	115
Weekly Confirmation Attendance:	20
Wednesday Church School Attendance:	42
Weekly Giving: (5730.00 Needed)	\$4316.63
December Giving:(\$28,650.00.Needed)	\$4316.63
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$213,267.66
Amount needed to meet Budget	\$280,700.00

We need everyone's help to meet our Budget!



Thrivent members are reminded to direct their Choice Dollars each year any time after April 1st of the year.

This Week's Prayer Concerns

Pray for Trinity...that the Holy Spirit would keep our Trinity family united as we continue in worship and in helping others as we are able ...

Pray for the Church...that the Holy Spirit would empower us to live in the image of God so that we would speak and act in every way bringing glory to God before all the nations and peoples with what we have been given...

Pray for our World...that pain of this Covid-19 pandemic, which has penetrated so many lives that your light Lord would help us to see your presence and that the Spirit would lead us to seek the truth and practice grace for all who are hurting...

Pray for all who are ill, afflicted, or recovering...that the Holy Spirit would give comfort and daily strength to Krista, Trisha, Mark, Diane, Cindy, Sherry, Kali, Jerry, Beth, Harold, Sarah, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Milo, Ed, Carlo, Dorothy, Story, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Linette, Tammy, John, Tony, Ted, Connor, Kimora, and Mary Jo.

Pray for the beloved... who now rest from their labors in God's mercy and for all who mourn the personal loss of loved ones... that God would fill each one with the hope of our Lord's promise to bring us to a new heaven and earth where suffering, crying, pain and death will be no more....

Pray for all families...that the Holy Spirit would bring compassion and mercy to all who are separated from one another and each would give way to mercy, love and reconciliation...

Pray for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces and those far from home...for **Brady Augustin** and his wife ...and for all of our military Veterans that the Holy Spirit would guard them in safety and keep their hearts stayed in Christ...

Pray for the missionaries of our church (ELCA)...that they proclaim their witness of the Gospel throughout the world.

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