

# Trinity Lutheran Church

**November 19,  
2023**

**Twenty Fifth  
Sunday  
after  
Pentecost  
Lection 33**

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Southwest  
Sleepy Eye, MN

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“

*Well done,*  
good and faithful servant.

... *Enter*  
into the joy of your master.”



# TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ LECTION 33

## SETTING 10



*Sundays after  
Pentecost*

**9:00 AM NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

**THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WELCOMES ALL!** *We are gathered in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who beckons us to come to Him in faith and repentance. May the gospel of the Lord inspire and fill you with the Spirit! Fellowship & refreshments are available in the Library immediately following our Sunday worship.*

### GATHERING

**WE PREPARE...** *Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ’s coming among us.*

**PRELUDE/ PARISH NOTICES**



Trinity Choir

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✙ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,

**you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world’s violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding. God’s compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✙ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**



# GATHERING SONG

*Lord of Glory, You Have Brought Us*

ELW#707



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood  
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,  
3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest  
4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood



as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -  
of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our  
char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have  
as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -



men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en  
thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,  
done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—  
men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,



bles - ings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful  
warmed by you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py  
in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your  
hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of



and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.  
and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.  
poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you."  
all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

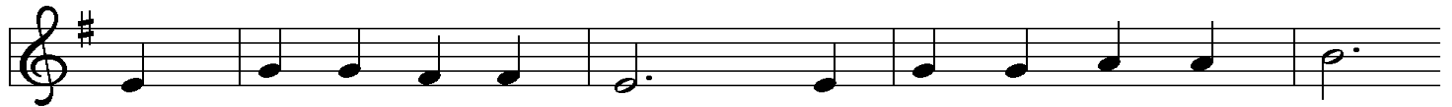
## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

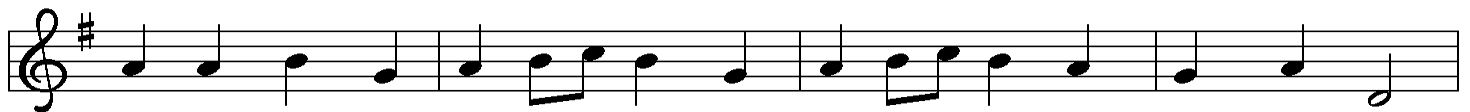
## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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# WORD

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## FIRST READING

## Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

*Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.*

*At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."*

*Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.*

*That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.*

*I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.*

*Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.*

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

## SECOND READING

## 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

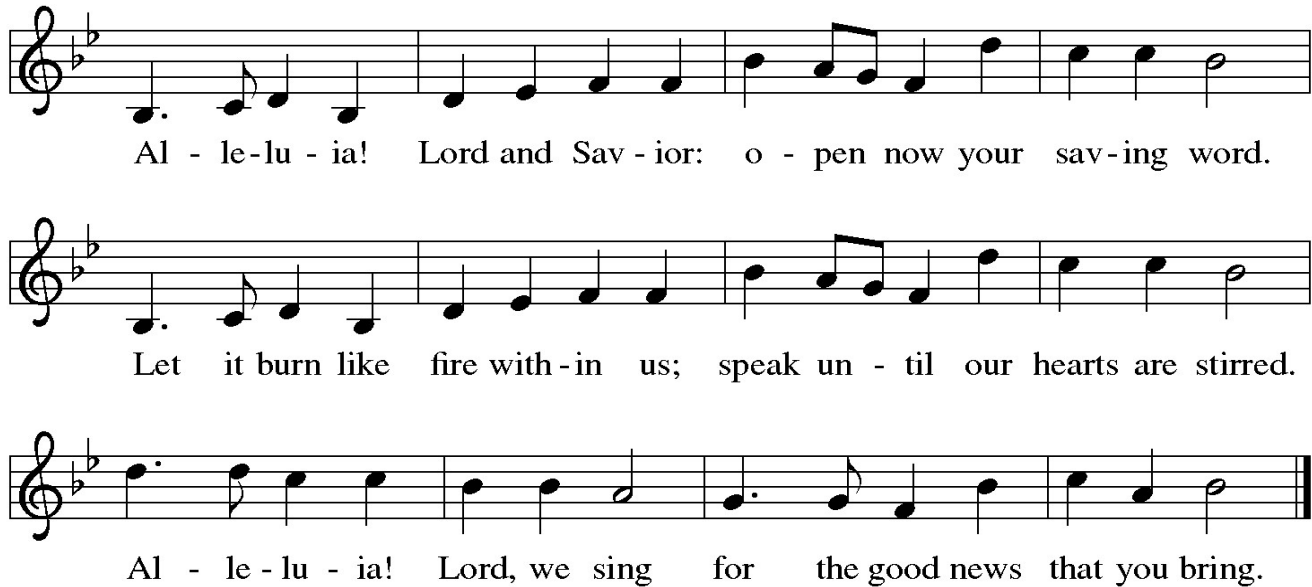
*Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.*

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

Children's  
Message



## HYMN OF PRAISE (Please stand if able)



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*[Jesus said to the disciples:] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"*

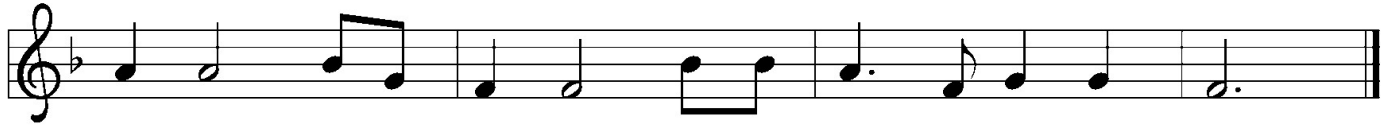
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Grant Fischer



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

*Refrain*

## 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;**

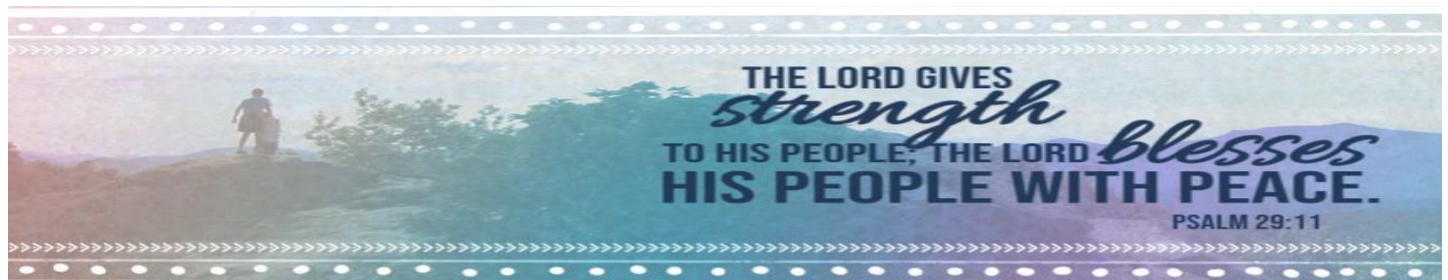
**he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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 ON INTERCESSION** Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

**THE PEACE**



**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**

Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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**MEAL**

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**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.**

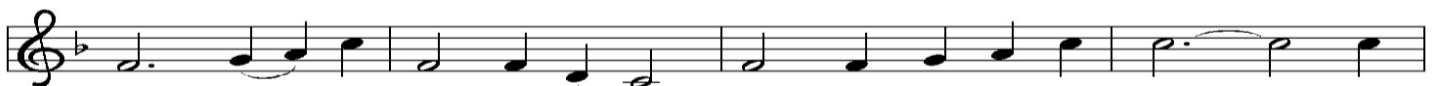
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us,  
that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

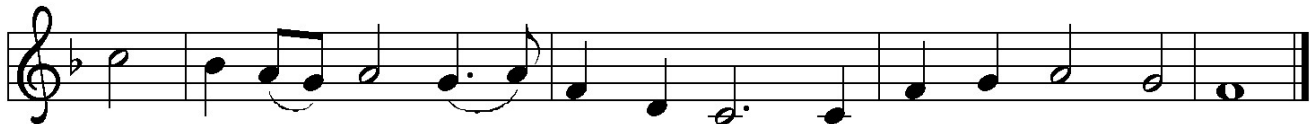
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### DISTRIBUTION

*(Please sign the Welcome Pads and pass to your neighbor.)*



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

### PRAYER

Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet. **Amen.**

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## SENDING

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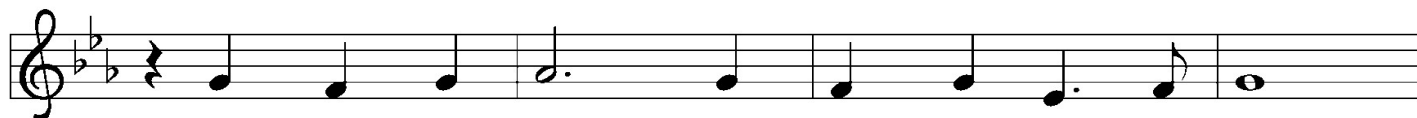
### BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

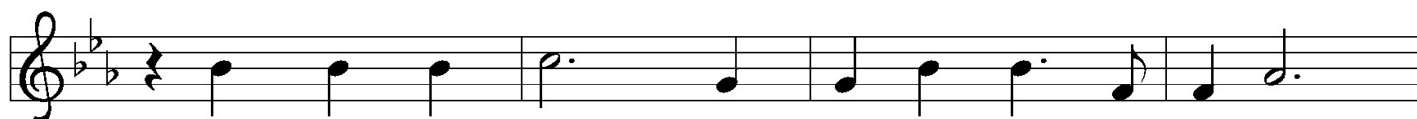




1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,  
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.  
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.  
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;  
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,  
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;  
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.  
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing  
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.  
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

**DISMISSAL**

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



## Our thanks to all who serve the Body of Christ

SUNDAY		9:00 Worship
Accompanist	Mary Mulry	
Acolyte	Riley Voigt	
Reader	Karen Voge	
Communion Assistants	Dave Vosbeck, Brian Polesky, Larry Baumgardt	
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen	
Greeters	Harold & Bonnie Pettis	
Ushers	Doug Domeier, Keith Lendt	
Altar Guild	Jolene Dittbenner & Nicole Stevermer	

Trinity friends! Please pick up Christmas food boxes in the church narthex (and the instructions of what to pack in them) beginning today. Help us spread some love this holiday season!



**SPECIAL OFFERINGS** –During the month of November, we think of our abundance and willingness to share with others less fortunate. For this reason, the Board of Stewardship designates the Thanksgiving Eve offering to ELCA World Hunger. Gifts are accepted for this initiative to the end of the year.

The second special offering that is usually emphasized in November is the Women of the ELCA Thankoffering. These funds are all sent into the churchwide office to support the ministries of the Women of the ELCA. Blue envelopes will be placed in narthex mailboxes—however, you may also use your regular offering envelopes by designating “Thankoffering” on the special giving line... Thank you for any and all gifts!



**Board Directors are reminded their 2024  
proposed budget were due November 15<sup>th</sup>!**

Thank you for all the orders to benefit our Women of Trinity and our work here. Wreaths will be delivered the after the Thanksgiving Service. As always, thank you all for your support!



*A new Advent Calendar will be available in the Sanctuary.*

Dear Members of Trinity

10-27-23

For several years now our congregation has faced various challenges, a significant erosion of financial resources is one. Our intent is to strongly heighten awareness & ask for your help. The decline in giving towards the “General Fund” for the budget coupled with increases in operating costs is our primary concern.

We are very grateful for faithful Givers within our Congregation. Gifts are used to support Gods work according to the wishes of the Giver via the **“general fund”** and / or the **“non-budget fund”**.

**“General Fund”** gifts support projected expenses per the annual budget related to the overhead required to operate the church facility, staff salaries, education, evangelism, and youth programs, plus a benevolent tithe to the ELCA Synod *just to name a few*.

**“Non-budget fund”** gifts support special giving specified by the Giver. A few examples are Meals that matter, Youth trips, Lutheran World Relief, Bible Camp, Food Backpacks, Endowment / memorial Funds. The Building Fund account is in the “non-budget fund” which is used to fund capital building improvements such as the recent building improvement projects.

Per the table below, budgetary & actual spending reductions have occurred. Recently reductions of expenses in part have come via the sacrifice of Staff salary increases, reductions to the Synod and certain programing, much of which is unsustainable. Significant inflationary pressures have added to the financial challenges as well.

General fund year to year summary					
	<b>**2023 thru 10/11</b>	<b>Year end 2022</b>	<b>Year end 2021</b>	<b>Year end *2020</b>	<b>Year end 2019</b>
Annual budget	\$ 298,000.00	\$ 304,000.00	\$ 309,000.00	\$ 307,400.00	\$ 310,000.00
Actual contributions	\$ 169,434.87	\$ 285,263.02	\$ 286,720.25	\$306,705.00	\$ 291,902.69
Actual expenses	\$ 215,365.63	\$ 300,810.82	\$ 314,549.52	\$ 274,832.00	\$ 290,777.82
<b>Difference between actuals</b>	<b>\$ (45,930.76)</b>	<b>\$ (15,547.80)</b>	<b>\$ (27,829.27)</b>	\$ 31,873.00	\$ 1,124.87
<b>General fund Reserve availability</b>	<b>\$ (1,274.56)</b>	<b>\$ 45,078.69</b>	<b>\$ 58,181.79</b>	<b>\$ 86,253.73</b>	<b>\$ 54,239.52</b>
<b>**Budget for entire year all other lines thru 10-11-23</b>		<b>*Includes \$29,731.88 in covid funds</b>			

Reserve funds (savings) designated for budgetary expenses are depleted, having been used to bridge the gaps between actual giving & actual expenses. Therefore, to meet the most basic obligations, we are forced to borrow from the “non-budget” fund with a balance of \$29,799.84 as of 10/11/23, these funds that are used towards budgetary expenses are then unavailable for their designated purpose going against the Giver(s) wishes. Presuming they can be these funds will need to be paid back. **The current trend would result in all forms of reserve cash being exhausted at some point in 2024.**

*You may say budget concerns are not new, so what’s different now? The answer is previously cutting expenses and / or use of reserve general funds would get us through the year. As indicated reserve general funds are depleted and expense reduction options are limited, threatening the work of our Congregation like never before which will force significant changes.*

For your review, along with a copy of this letter you will be receiving your Q3 giving statement which will include prior years giving. We pray we can pull together as a Congregation and work towards securing Gods work, through our hands by getting us back to a stable financial footing – to do this **we are asking for your help**. We understand inflation is impacting many in their personal lives, but any additional help you can provide is meaningful. **We are confident in your response and together we turn our eyes to the Lord for guidance to whom all things are possible!**

### The Stewardship Board

Larry Baumgardt, Director  
Pat Stevermer, Financial Secretary

Matt Miller  
Mark Miller





Please join us for Trinity's "Dining Out", following church services today. "Breaking Bread Together" is an opportunity to get to know each other better and share stories. Please sign up at Darlene's Office Window so we can make reservations. Location to be determined. Our goal will be to "Dine Out" the 3rd Sunday of each month!



### Trinity Wednesday Church School

We have begun 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. We are thankful for 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.



**MEALS THAT MATTER** Remember! Prepared frozen meals are in the freezer for you to deliver to a friend or neighbor who have had a life changing event- illness, birth of a baby, death in the family.



**OUR PIE FELLOWSHIP WILL FOLLOW  
THE THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE.  
PLEASE CONSIDER BRINGING A PIE  
TO SHARE. THANK YOU!**





## “Living the Word *Today*”

### **2023 Equipping Congregations Day**

**Date:** Saturday, December 2, 2023

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Vinje Lutheran, Willmar, MN

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

-Congregation Members-Council Officers-Christian Educators

-Worship & Youth Leaders-Pastors... Everyone!

**Childcare Available!**

We are trying to be mindful of the amount of food we order for lunch. Getting an accurate count for registration will help. ***Trinity may bring as many people as we wish at no additional cost.*** In the past we have sent between 10-12 people and would like to again. Please talk to Pastor Grant or Darlene if you wish to attend.

**Registration for childcare is separate. Parents will register with their children.**

Please **do not** include them in your congregation's count. Daycare Registration will be available soon! Please call the synod office if you have any questions about childcare for the ECD. There is NO additional cost for childcare as long as your congregation is registered.



**Rolf A. Jacobson**

*Luther Seminary Dean of the Faculty, Professor of Old Testament and  
The Alvin N. Rogness Chair of Scripture, Theology, and Ministry*

**“The Spirit of God is Loose in the World”** What is the basic nature of reality and human society? Christians answer this question differently than other folks. For Christians, the answer starts with the promise that the Spirit of God hovers over all of creation. The Spirit is loose in the world, bringing about God's promised and preferred future. The church grows into its identity when individuals and communities locate the movement of God's Spirit in their context and get involved with what the Spirit is up to.

### Workshops:

A finalized workshop list will be available online soon on our SWMS website.

Attend your choice of 2 out of 6 workshops.

#### Schedule:

8:30 – 9:00 AM Registration

9:00 – 9:30 Welcome/Hymn Sing

9:30 – 10:20 Speaker Rolf Jacobson

10:20 – 10:30 Transition Time

10:30-11:30 Workshop 1

11:30 – 12:15 PM Lunch

12:15 - 1:15 Workshop 2

1:15 – 1:30 Transition Time

1:30 – 2:30 Speaker Rolf Jacobson

2:30 – 3:15 Sending Blessings

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

## THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS COME TO LIVE AND WORK IN US

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Acts 2:1-21	The Holy Spirit comes
Monday	Joel 2:18-29	God will pour out the Spirit
Tuesday	Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29	The Spirit is promised
Wednesday	Acts 4:5-21	Peter and John give witness
Thursday	Acts 4:23-31	The believers pray for boldness
Friday	Acts 8:14-25	Samaritans receive the Spirit
Saturday	Psalms 33:12-22	The Lord is our help and shield
Sunday	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	God creates sky and earth



### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

**“The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others.”** 1 Corinthians 12:7 (CEV)

### **SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:**

A Prayer for the Week:

Send your Spirit upon us, Lord. Give us new life, so that we may praise you forever. Amen. (Psalm 104:30,33)

Mealtime Prayer:

Come, Spirit of God and be our guest, our table to grace and our food to bless. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus give you peace, fill you with joy, and breathe into you the Holy Spirit. Amen. (John 20:19-22)

### CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share an experience you have had with wind or fire.
- When God gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first Christians on the day of Pentecost, a strong wind came from heaven and tongues of fire came to rest on them (Acts 2:1-21). How were the believers changed?
- In what ways have you experienced the Holy Spirit's power in your life?

### DEVOTIONS

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 tells us that the Holy Spirit gives special gifts to all believers to use in serving God and others. For each member of your household, draw a large dove figure on a white card and cut it out. In your home devotion times this week, take a few minutes to talk about the gifts you see in each other. Write these gifts onto the doves. Display them on your bedroom doors. Say prayers of thanks to God for the gifts given to each member of your household. As an additional activity, decorate your home with “flames” cut from red, yellow and orange paper or with streamers.

### SERVICE

1 Corinthians 12:7 tells us that the Holy Spirit gives us gifts to use as a special way of serving others. Have a discussion about how members of your household are using their God-given gifts for the sake of others. Brainstorm ways in which you could use them more effectively.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Plan an evening time when you can tell the Pentecost story (Acts 2:1-21) around a campfire, brazier, or in front of a fireplace. Talk about how heat, light and flames relate to the work of the Holy Spirit. Toast marshmallows to add to the experience!

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Go to [www.vibrantfaithathome.org](http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org) for more faith-forming activities

***Please take your bulletin home for weekly devotions***





## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.sleepyeyeonline.com](http://www.sleepyeyeonline.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: 86

Weekly Confirmation Attendance: 16

Wednesday Church School Attendance: 45

Not Available

**We need everyone's help to meet our Budget!**



*Thrivent members are reminded to direct their Choice Dollars each year any time after April 1<sup>st</sup> 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 **Trisha, Mark, Diane, Cindy, Sherry, Audrey, 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... especially the family and friends of **Audrey Johnson**...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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