

**Trinity
Lutheran
Church**

**December 7,
2025**

**Second
Sunday
of Advent**

**217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN**

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

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9am -3pm**

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Every member**

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Pastor @
trinitysleepyeye.org**

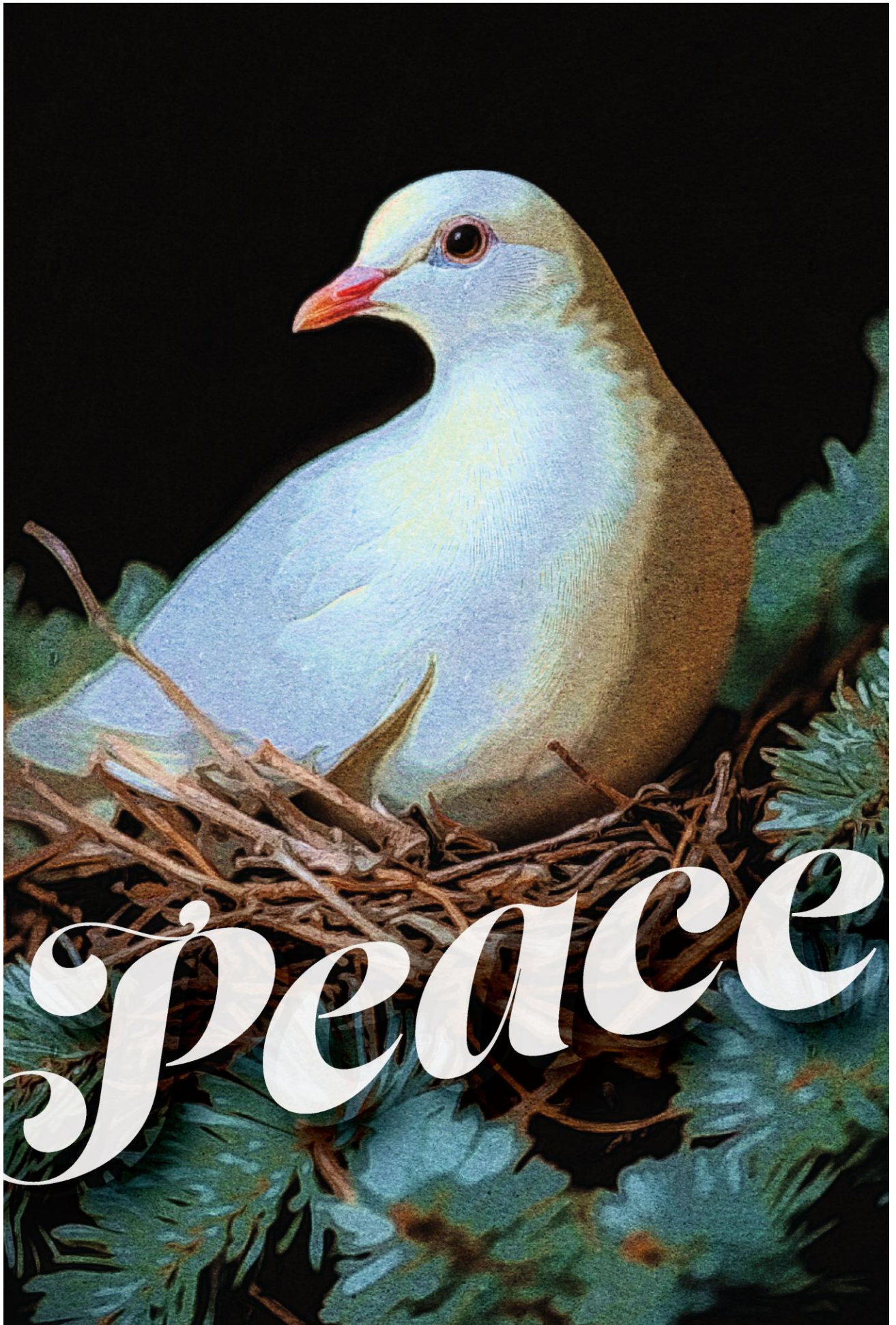
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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 A.M. ~ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025



The Living Christ Calls and Welcomes Everyone as We Gather on this Second Sunday of Advent. You are invited by Christ to trust the promise of his presence given and shed you in the bread and cup today. Children, not yet receiving Communion, are always invited to come forward to receive a personal blessing.

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 as it is passed to you during Communion distribution today.

PREFERENCE to receiving grape juice is indicated by raising your index finger to the server.

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

GATHERING

WE PREPARE... Advent is all about promise, a time of hope and expectation. The fulfillment of the promise depends on our own level of preparation and willingness to repent and draw near to God. As the darkness of winter increases, we turn toward the light of Christ's coming. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. Therefore, prepare and wait. Do not lose heart.

PRELUDE/ PARISH NOTICES/BELL

TREK KIDS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who is the light and life of all the ages. **Amen.** Trusting in Jesus Christ, who came to share our humanity and bring light to this broken world, let us come before God without fear to make our confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Comforting God,

we confess before you and in the presence of one another that we are sinners who fail to live as you desire. So often we place our trust in ourselves and not in you. We do not love each other as you have commanded. Because of us, your whole creation suffers. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us. In your boundless patience and mercy, lead us to live by faith in your promise. Amen.

In the advent of Christ, the dawn from on high breaks upon us with light and healing. God promises full pardon and complete forgiveness to all who turn from sin and place their trust in Christ, the light of the world. Hear and believe the good news that all your sins are forgiven. With God nothing is impossible. **Amen.**

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.**

THE PROMISE OF PEACE

Advent is a time for God’s people to awaken their longings.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

Where there is division, we long for unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

Where there is hostility, we long for resolution.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

Where there is separation, we long for reunion.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

Today we light two candles. The **first candle** represents the everlasting hope that has touched our lives in the person of Jesus Christ. In a world of division, brokenness and uncertainty, the **second candle** summons our hearts to the One called Prince of Peace. As the light shines, may we embrace and extend the peace of Christ in all that we do and say.



Please Join the Choir in “*Where the Promise Shines*”

Congregation:

Lead us on, lead us on to a morn - ing where the
 prom - ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on
 to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shine

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

The First Reading is in Isaiah, chapter 11, verses 1-10. Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David’s royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-13

The Second Reading is in Romans, chapter 15, verses 4-13. God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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



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

Matthew 3:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 3rd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**"

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

SERMON

Pastor David Nissen



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.

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 **Jack Ronald Emmanuel Petersen** for baptism.

As you bring Jack 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 Jack 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 Jack 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 Jack grow in the Christian faith and life? **I do.**



Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Jack 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 Jack 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.**

Jack Ronald Emmanuel Petersen, 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 Jack 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.**

Jack Ronald Emmanuel Petersen, 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.

OFFERING

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING

ELW #881



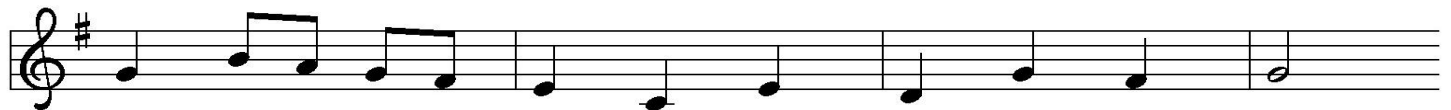
1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



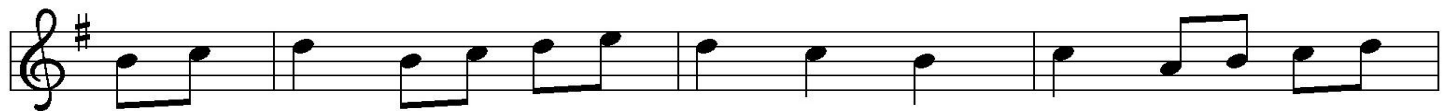
God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



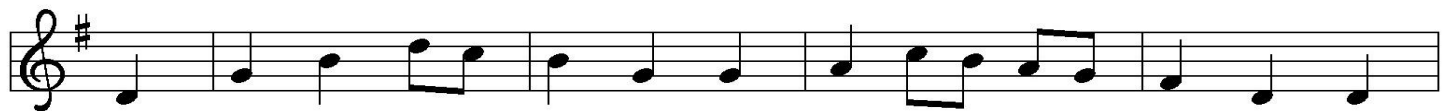
still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



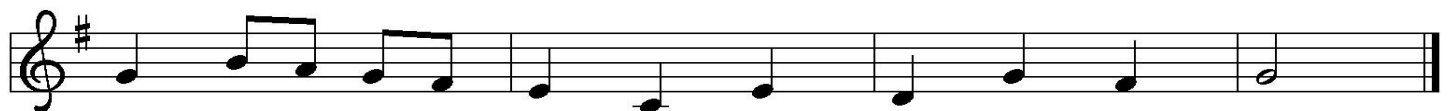
God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

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

(The offering is brought forward by the ushers during the song)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: respond after Lord, God of grace,



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



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

SHARING THE PEACE

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

MEAL

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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with the earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



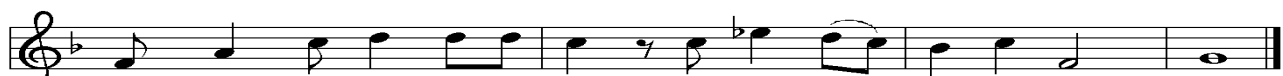
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

THE 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. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

Come, eat, drink, and live the life God has for you.

Holy Communion



COMMUNION HYMN

ELW #487



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

COMMUNION BLESSING The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his peace. **Amen.**

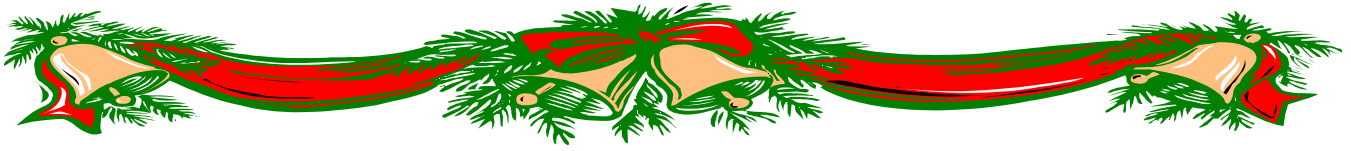
PRAYER OF THANKS

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



SENDING SONG

All the Earth is Hopeful

ELW #266



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.



yel 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.

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

Our Thanks To All Who Serve The Body Of Christ

SUNDAY		9:00 am Worship
Accompanist	Mary Mulry	
Acolyte	Hudson Braulick	
Reader	Karen Voge	
Communion	Larry Baumgardt at the rail	
Sound Tech	Russ Sorensen	
Greeter	Chris Mangen	
Ushers	Dennis Mangen, Mark Miller	
Altar Guild	Joleen Dittbenner	



WE WELCOME into the Trinity family **Jack Ronald Emmanuel Petersen**, son of Mike and Emily Petersen. Jack was born September 3rd, 2025. He is sponsored by Dan and Natalie Petersen. May God give them the servant faith to fulfill the promises made before God and this congregation today, bringing Jack to share eternally in the Kingdom of God. God bless Jack Ronald in his life of faith!



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

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 by Dec. 10th. 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 service.



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 14th. Please deliver your cookies, krum cake, rosettes, or other special treats to the library by Saturday, **December 13th** at 1 pm if possible.

LEFSE MAKERS ARE NEEDED TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH BETWEEN 4:00 AND 8:00 PM. 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!



Thank you to the people of Trinity for your incredible generosity!

“Trick or Treat” MHS food drive

Blankets– tied with Love

TREK donating 175 pounds of food!

Continued support throughout the year.

With your donations our shelves are restocked to provide food for the needy in our area.

*Sleepy Eye Food Shelf,
Ann McCabe*

*Remember...Our Food Shelf Box is in the back of the Sanctuary.
The Good Work of this Church continues!*



Trinity's Christmas Progressive Open Houses December 7th

Please join us for some
Christmas Treats, Fun &
Song with Pastor Dave at

1:00 The Brummund's
208 Water St. SW

2:15 The Beito's
900 1st Ave. South

3:30 The Johnson's
28586 Highway 68

All are WELCOME!



Children's Christmas Program

December 14th at the 9:00 AM Worship!

Holiday Bake Sale

The Trinity Women of the ELCA
Invite everyone to attend our 35th Annual

Cookie Walk

Sunday, December 14th

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

December 14th Christmas Hymn Sing

5:30PM - light supper to follow
Join us in celebrating the season in song!



IT'S TIME FOR CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES

It is time to start thinking about filling a Christmas Food Box for the families of our weekend food kids. Boxes are available for you to pick up and fill. There are those in our community who are struggling to provide basic needs for their families. In the state of Minnesota 1 out of 7 children is at risk for hunger. One in four Minnesota households with children are food insecure. Currently we are feeding 49 children from 36 families. We are asking you to shop for a family and put items on the list in a box provided for you. These boxes will be given to the families prior to the Christmas break when children do not have access to breakfast and lunch at school. The FFA will be giving each child a fleece blanket and personal care products.

Thank you for being the hands of Jesus.



MEALS THAT MATTER

The delicious meals are available in the freezer located in room 109 just off the dining room and we now need your help. The meals are to be given to people who are experiencing some sort of life changing event, be it a new baby, illness, a death in the family, or anyone you think would benefit from a tasty, readymade dinner. Remember, you are the hands of Jesus in our world.

Thank you for being the hands of Jesus!





Trinity Lutheran Church – 2025 Building Fund Campaign

"Rooted in Faith" – Preserving Trinity for Generations to Come

Thank you for your faithful support of Trinity Lutheran Church. **We are launching a vital campaign to raise \$75,000 over the next two years to fund capital improvements approved by the congregation—specifically, the removal of the sanctuary's north and south wall windows and repairs to the parking lot.** We are grateful for your past generosity and ask that you prayerfully consider supporting this campaign as well.

Campaign Summary

- **Goal:** \$75,000
- **Timeline:** Now through the end of calendar year 2025
- **Purpose:** Fund congregation-approved property repairs and upgrades
- **How to Help:** **One-time gifts or pledges over time! The Stewardship Board is asking members for contributions toward the \$75,000 goal via direct payment(s) and/or pledging payments on a schedule of their choice over a two-year period.**

Bridge Financing Options (if required)

1. **Member Loans:** Promissory notes starting at \$5,000, 2% interest, repaid in installments through 2027.
2. **Commercial Financing:** Will be considered only if needed.

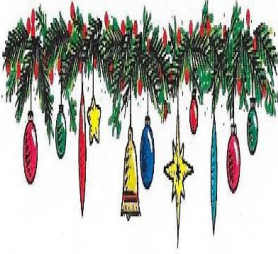


















Please prayerfully consider how you can support this important campaign. Your ongoing support is a blessing to our church and God's mission. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do!

Please return pledge cards to the church office or contact Pat Stevermer with any questions.

Blessings in Christ,
The Stewardship Board

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." — Acts 20:35

DECEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Office Closed 9 am Quilting 5 pm  <i>Decorating our Church</i>	2 5 pm  <i>Decorating our Church</i> 6:30 AA	3 9 am Women's Bible Study 1 pm Ross Park 6 pm TREK 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Confirmation	9 8 am-Men's Bible Study		
7 9 am- Holy Communion/ Baptism 10:15 am Fellowship 1-4 pm Trinity Christmas Gatherings at the Brummund, Beito, & Johnson Homes All are Welcome! 	8 9 am Quilting 4-8 pm Lefsa Making Are you baking for the Cookie Walk Yet? It's our way of helping so many people in need in our area! 	9 3:30 pm Prokindship for Kids 4-8 pm Lefsa Making  <i>Making Lefsa</i> 6:30 AA	10 9 am Women's Bible Study 6 pm TREK 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Confirmation 8:15 pm Parish Planning Council 	11 7 am Men's Bible Study Are you baking for the Cookie Walk Yet? It's our way of helping so many people in need in our area! 	12 Are you baking for the Cookie Walk Yet? It's our way of helping so many people in need in our area!	13 Drop off Cookie Walk Goodies In the Library by 1 pm Thank You for making a difference! 
14 9 am- Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 5:30 pm Christmas Hymn Sing  <i>Children's Christmas Program</i>  <i>Cookie Walk</i>	15 9 am Quilting 3:30 pm Prokindship for Kids	16 6:30 AA 7:30 pm Stewardship Bd.	17 9 am Women's Bible Study 1 pm Ross Park 6 pm TREK 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Confirmation	18 8 am-Men's Bible Study	19	20 Tidings Articles Due 
21 9 am- Holy Communion 10 am Fellowship 11 am  <i>Breaking Bread Together</i> 	22 9 am Quilting	23 6:30 AA	24  <i>Christmas Eve Service 4:00 PM</i>	25  <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26	
28 9 am- Worship 10 am Fellowship  <i>FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</i>	29 9 am Quilting	30 6:30 AA	31 New Year's EVE			

December 7, 2025

Advent is a season for preparing.

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 Matthew 3:1-12 Prepare the way of the Lord
Monday Isaiah 40:1-11 A voice crying in the wilderness
Tuesday John 1:19-28 The testimony of John the Baptist
Wednesday Matthew 12:33-37 A good tree bears good fruit
Thursday Zechariah 2:10-13 Shout and be glad
Friday Hosea 14:1-7 Repentance brings blessing
Saturday Psalm 32 I acknowledged my sin
Sunday Matthew 11:2-11 Jesus and John the Baptist



SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“A messenger is calling out in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight paths for him.’” Matthew 3:3 (NIRV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, make our lives straight paths that lead others towards you. Amen. (Matthew 3:3)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank you for all you have prepared for us to share and eat and enjoy. Help us to prepare the way for you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you great joy and peace as you trust in God. May the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with hope. Amen. (Romans 15:13)

CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a change you have made in your life. Why did you make it?
- John the Baptist called on people to “repent” because God’s kingdom was near (Matthew 3:2). What does repent mean to you?
- What is one thing about yourself that you would like God’s help to change?

DEVOTIONS

In the second week of Advent, light the first and second Advent candles.

Say: This is the second week of Advent. We light our second candle to remind us that this is the season for preparing. We are preparing for Jesus to come again into our hearts, our homes and the world. (The candles are lit.)

Read: Read one of the following verses: Matthew 3:3, Matthew 3:2, Malachi 3:7, Acts 3:19, Hosea 12:6, Revelation 3:19, 1 Peter 1:13, James 5:8.

Pray: Let us pray: Lord God, in this time of preparation for Christmas, make us ready to receive Jesus. Help us turn away from sin and turn to him as our Savior. Amen.

SERVICE

Set aside time as a household to prepare Christmas cookies or treats. Using cellophane and ribbon, sort them into gift packages to give away to friends and neighbors. “Prepare the way for the Lord” by praying, by name, for those who will receive your gifts.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Set up a box or empty crib under your Christmas tree. Each night have household members place pieces of straw in the crib (or yellow yarn or shredded paper strips) for kind acts done that day that help to “prepare the way for the Lord.” On Christmas Eve, when the crib is filled with straw, place a nativity figure of the Christ child in the crib.

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Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

Please take your bulletin home for your 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 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 CHECK IT OUT!!

"Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) Sleepy Eye MN"

The Trinity Tidings newsletter is now also posted on 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. *Please pick up your statements and envelopes in your mailbox. Thank You!*

Last week at Trinity

Weekly Worship Attendance:	79
Website	78
Bible Studies Attendance:	10+7+2= 19
TREK/Confirmation	70
Weekly Giving: (5730.00 Needed)	\$7139.65
November Giving: (\$23,640.00 .Needed)	\$31,295.32
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$245,295.97

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 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 **Susie, Jane, Krista, Trisha, Mark, Sherry, Kali, Isak, Kenneth, Joan, Vivian, Kim, Pam, Pat, Trish, Beth, Harold, Rita, Paul, Ray, Lorinda, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Vivian, Milo, Ed, Carlo, Dorothy, 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 family...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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Thrivent members are reminded to direct their Choice Dollars each year any time after April 1st of the year. Please consider naming Trinity for your Choice Funds. Call 800-847-4836 and have your ID Number available