

**Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church**

**December 5<sup>th</sup>,  
2021**

**Second Sunday  
of Advent**

**217 Brackenridge  
Southwest  
Sleepy Eye, MN**

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# PEACE



*Prepare the way before me*



**HOLY COMMUNION**  
**9:00 A.M. ~ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**



*The Living Christ Calls and Welcomes Everyone as We Gather on this Second Sunday of Advent. Today 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 invited to come forward to receive a personal blessing.*

*We Thank God for guests & visitors and pray you will receive a special blessing today as we go forth together to love and serve others. If you are worshipping in person and unvaccinated, thanks for keeping your mask on over your nose and mouth all the time you are in the building. You help protect us all.*

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**GATHERING**

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**WE PREPARE:** *Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*

**PRELUDE/BELL/ PARISH NOTICES**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God for whom we wait,

**in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love.**

**Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

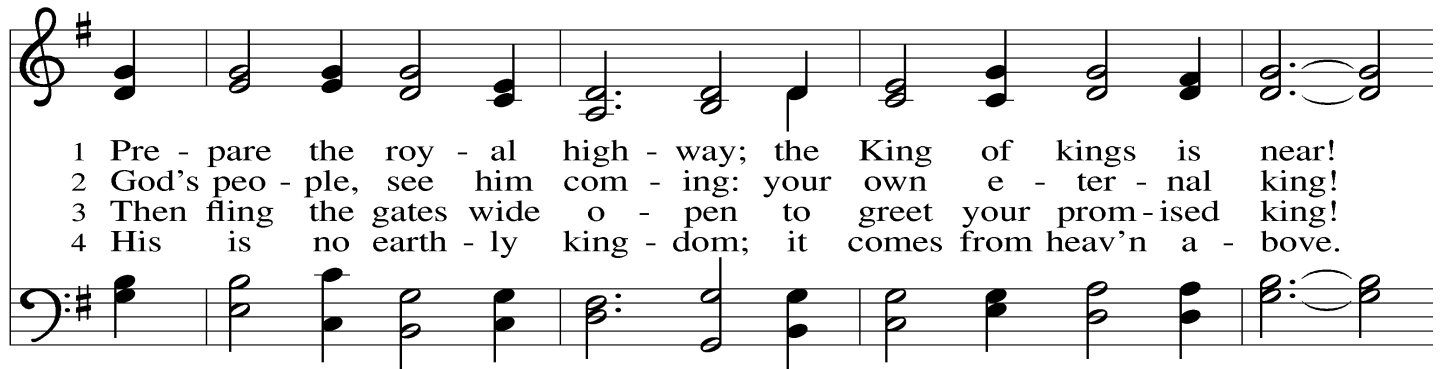
God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, ☩ your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **Amen.**



# 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.**

# ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY

led by the Trinity Choir

## 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:



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www.hopepublishing.com 800-323-1046

## PRAYER

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**



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# WORD

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## FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

*See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?*

*For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.*

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

## SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-11

*I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.*

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh:  
in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

## GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.     **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,*

*"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:*

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

*Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' "*

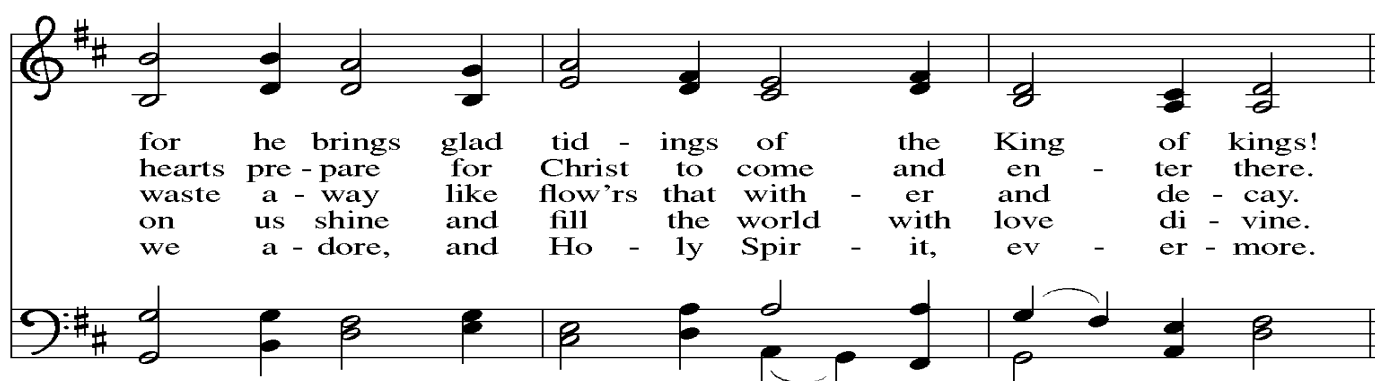
The Gospel of the Lord.     **Praise to you, O Christ.**



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounce - 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.

## 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**



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## MEAL

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### 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.



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

(THE USHERS BRING UP THE OFFERING)

#### PRAYER OF THANKS

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. 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.**

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## SENDING

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#### BLESSING

The love of God who created you, the mercy of ✠ Jesus Christ who died for you, and the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you, keep you at one with all the faithful, living and departed, and remain with you now and forever. **Amen.**





1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

**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	Cody Schultz
Reader	Maren Sellner
Sound Tech	Russ Sorensen
Greeters	Pat Stevermer & Sarah Lendt
Ushers	Eric & Lee Wahlborg
Altar Guild	Mary Hillmer & Joleen Dittbenner



**IF YOU'D LIKE TO PURCHASE A POINSETTIA** for \$12.00 in honor of or in memory of a loved one(s), please sign up in the church office by Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. You have the option of ordering a red poinsettia. You are welcome to take your plant following the last Christmas Eve services on Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>.

**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 in the library on Sunday morning, December 12<sup>th</sup>, following the Christmas Program. Please deliver your cookies, krum cake, rosettes, or other special treats to the church kitchen **Friday or Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> by 1:00 pm** if possible.





**LEFSE MAKERS ARE NEEDED Tuesday, December 7th 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. Our goodies will be available Sunday morning, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Contact Darlene Brummund with any questions at 276-8013. All proceeds go to people in need with supplemental funds by Thrivent. Thanks so much for your encouragement and participation!



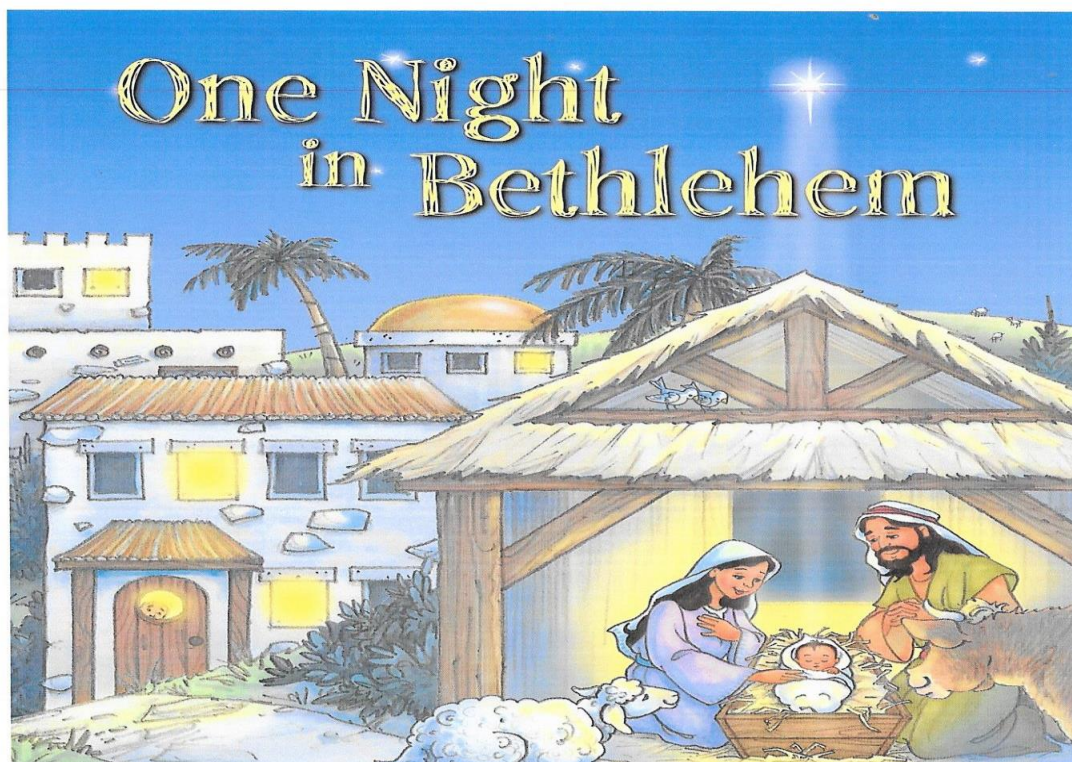
**ADVENT CALENDARS & DEVOTIONALS** are available to each family at the tables in the entrances. Please pick them up as we celebrate with anticipation the season of Advent.

**CUSTODIAN NEEDED!** We thank Alex for his years as an excellent custodian here at Trinity. There is now an opening for this position. The hours are about 6 per week. If you are interested, please contact the office for information.



The Sunday school children will be having their Christmas Program next Sunday, December 12th during worship at 9 am. Please have your kids arrive at 8:40 am that morning so that we can get lined up for the program. They will not be wearing any costumes so everyone can see their cute Christmas outfit.

Practice for the program will conclude **TODAY** with rehearsal in the sanctuary. Words and actions have been sent home with the children to help them be more comfortable with the songs. Thank you for all your support!



**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> AT 9:00 AM**



# Holiday Bake Sale

The Trinity Women of the ELCA  
Invite everyone to attend our 31<sup>st</sup> Annual

## Cookie Walk

Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

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



*Trinity Lutheran Church  
invites you to visit our*

## *Live Nativity*

Sunday, December 12      5-7 pm

Enjoy the beauty of this season with us –  
drive or walk through the Holiday Lights in  
Motion and experience the sights and sounds  
of Christmas – complete with live animals!

*Bonfire, concessions and  
hayrides starting at 5:30*

**HOSTED BY THE TRINITY YOUTH BOARD AND HOLIDAY LIGHTS IN MOTION**



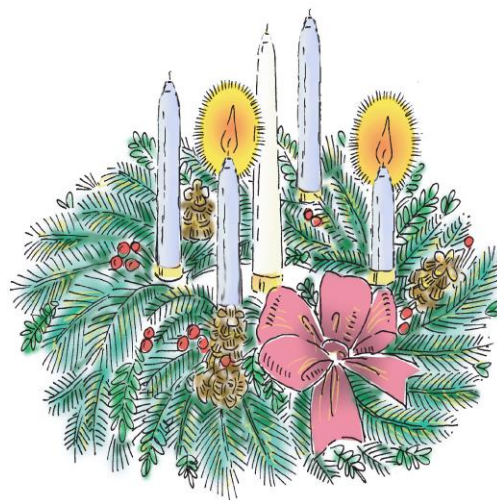


## Prepare the way of the Lord.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 3:1-6	Prepare the way of the Lord
Monday	Isaiah 40:1-11	A voice in the desert
Tuesday	Isaiah 57:14-19	Prepare the road
Wednesday	Isaiah 62:1-5, 10-12	Prepare the way for the people
Thursday	Zechariah 2:10-13	The Lord will come to live among us
Friday	1 Peter 1:13-16	Be holy as I am holy
Saturday	Psalms 85	Righteousness prepares the way
Sunday	Luke 3:7-18	One more powerful is coming



### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

**“Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him.”** Luke 3:4

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Lord, prepare your way in us. Set us straight where we are crooked and make us smooth where we are rough. Amen. (Luke 3:4-5)

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, bless our home with joy this Advent. As we enjoy your gifts, make us ready for your coming. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May God fill you with love. May God help you to make good and loving choices, and keep you pure and holy. Amen. (Philippians 1:9-10)

### CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- ☐ How are you preparing for Christmas? What will you do over the coming weeks to prepare?
- ☐ How does the Advent season of waiting bring joy to your life?

### DEVOTIONS

Use this simple liturgy for lighting the second candle on your Advent wreath this week:

**Leader:** When Jesus was born an angel appeared to shepherds with “good news of great joy.” Our second Advent candle is the candle of joy. As we light it, let us celebrate the joy that Jesus gives us. (Light two candles.)

**All:** Thank you, Lord Jesus, for giving us joy. Fill our home with joy this Advent. Amen.

### SERVICE

Look through this list of ideas for sharing during Advent. Choose one or more to put into practice this week:

- ☐ Look through your clothes and toys for “pre-loved” items that are still in good condition. Bundle them for delivery to a local thrift store.
- ☐ Bake cookies as a family. Keep half and give the rest away.
- ☐ Write an encouraging note to a friend you haven’t heard from in a while.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Set out a Nativity scene but without the manger and baby Jesus. Place the Mary and Joseph figures far from the Nativity, remembering that the couple is traveling a great distance to reach Bethlehem. Each day during Advent, move Mary and Joseph a little closer to the Nativity. Place the baby Jesus in the Nativity scene on December 24th or 25th.

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In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

**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  
CHECK IT OUT!!**

*"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. *Please pick up your statements and envelopes in your mailbox. Thank You!*

### Last week at Trinity

Weekly Giving:	\$9507.37
November Giving	\$39,661.41
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$240,731.84

**We are \$44,557.00 below budget.**

**Your help is needed.**

## This Week's Prayer Concerns

**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 **Beth, Norman, Sue, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Abby, Emma, Ed, Story, Tina, Tammy, Robyn, Beth, Carmen, Julia Ann, Nathan, Linette, Tammy, John, Sandy, Tony, Ted, Connor, Sue, Ed, 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 those preparing for marriage and those newly married...**that God would be glorified in their union, filling every couple with the light and truth of God's grace and power throughout their lives ...

**Pray for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces and those far from home...**for **Brady Augustin** and his wife (Donna Augustin's son stationed in Italy)...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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I am giving permission for free use of any of my hymns to churches during the pandemic, knowing that many churches are struggling right now with their budgets. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

