

# Trinity Lutheran Church

**Dec. 11,  
2022**

## **Third Sunday of Advent**

217 Brackenridge  
Southwest  
Sleepy Eye, MN

Website  
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Office Hours  
Tues-Thurs  
9am –3pm  
Friday  
9-Noon

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Patrick Lowther

# Third Sunday of Advent



# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

9:00 A.M. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022



*All are welcome as we gather on this Third Sunday in Advent preparing for the Savior's coming. Today we light the "Candle of Joy" on the Advent Wreath reminding us how God comes to those least expected. Likewise, He comes now in the power of Word and Sacrament for us. May the good tidings of God's forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life give us power to be the children of God! For those visiting today, we pray our service together will be a blessing to you as your presence is a blessing to this gathering!*

### 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.

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

## GATHERING

**WE PREPARE...** *A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom. Jesus points to signs of God's reign: the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us today: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us. Great JOY is the tone for this third Sunday in Advent.*



*Walk In The Light*

Trinity Choir

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our life, our mercy, our might. **Amen.**  
As we await the day of the Lord, let us confess our sin...

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Great and Holy One,  
**in this time of waning daylight, we confess the shadows of sin in our lives.**  
**We build ourselves up at the expense of others. We rely on our own efforts to make our lives secure. Yet you, O Lord, are the potter, and we are the clay. Come to restore us in your image, remake us into your people, and rebuild what sin has broken, that we and the whole creation may rejoice. Amen.**

Fear not, people of God: the Almighty has done great things for us. God casts away our sin from us and makes of us a new creation. In + Jesus Christ, God comes to set you free. Take heart in the tender compassion of our God. **Amen.**

### 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 JOY

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

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

In the darkness, we long to see the light.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

In the silence, we long for a comforting word.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

In hardship, we long for an act of love.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**

In Christ, we celebrate and rejoice in the promise of joy.

**Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.**



Today we light three candles. The **first candle** radiates the **hope** given through Jesus Christ. The **second candle** calls us to embrace and extend Christ's **peace** to an unsettled world. The **third candle** extends the promise of **joy** to restless souls. Though darkness is present and earthly trials weigh heavy, the promise of Advent offers true **joy** that sustains a weary people.

*Please Join the Choir in singing:*

Where the Promise Shines

Words by SYLVIA G. DUNSTAN  
Music by BOB MOORE

Congregation:



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; 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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# C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S is.....

## BY OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

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C

Joy to the World

HRI

O Come, All Ye Faithful

STM

Away in a Manger

AS

Hark, The Herald Angels Sing

All Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
late in time, be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

*Refrain*

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

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## WORD

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### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 35:10**

*The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and  
make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible  
recompense. He will come and save you."  
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.  
A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people;  
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.  
No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.  
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

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



*Mary, Did You Know?*

Trinity Choir

**SECOND READING****James 5:7-10**

*Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.*

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(vs. 3) ELW #257

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

**GOSPEL READING****Matthew 11:2-11**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord."**

*When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."*

*As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see?*

*Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,*

*'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'*

*Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.*

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

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.

**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 OF INTERCESSION** God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**PEACE**

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

## THANKSGIVING

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray... God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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# SENDING

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## BLESSING

The God of hope, through Christ our peace, in the power of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*Go Tell It On The Mountain*

**ELW #290**

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;  
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*

be - hold, through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

### Our Thanks To All Who Serve The Body Of Christ

SUNDAY 9:00 am Worship	
Accompanist	Mary Mulry
Acolyte	Jacob Fullmer
Reader	Darlene Brummund
Sound Tech	Russ Sorensen
Greeter	Harold & Bonnie Pettis
Ushers	Eric & Juliann Wahlborg
Altar Guild	Melinda Braulick, Joleen Dittbenner

Thank you to the Sunday School, Our Speakers, the Trinity Choir, and Pastor Tim for bringing us this inspiring message in word and song.

Thank you to the Directors, Teachers, Parents, and Volunteers who have made this possible.

Christmas Cookies and Treats available in the Library  
Parents please meet your children in the Friendship Room.







Thank you for the cards, prayers, and especially Pastor Tim for the visits during our illnesses. Trinity is family.

Jerry & Linda Schueller

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO PURCHASE A POINSETTIA** for \$14.00 in honor of or in memory of a loved one(s), please sign up in the church office TODAY. You are welcome to take your plant following the Christmas Morning services on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>.



*Little Christmas Eve is at Sundown Lutheran Church December 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.  
Join them for Chili after the service! All are Welcome!*



# **Holiday Bake Sale**

The Trinity Women of the ELCA  
Invite everyone to attend our 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual

# **Cookie Walk**

**Sunday, December 11<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's Live Nativity*

## *5-8 PM December 11*

*Enjoy the fellowship and beautiful lights at  
the Sportsman's Park  
Concession Proceeds to the Youth*

# Advent is a season of hope.

## 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 11:2-11	Jesus and John the Baptist
Monday	Malachi 3:1-4	A messenger is promised
Tuesday	Isaiah 61:1-7	The Lord's anointed one
Wednesday	Matthew 9:27-31	The blind receive sight
Thursday	Matthew 9:2-7	The lame walk
Friday	Luke 1:5-25	The birth of John announced
Saturday	Psalms 146:5-10	God lifts up those bowed down
Sunday	Matthew 1:18-25	Immanuel – God with us



## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

**“Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord’s coming is near.”**

James 5:8

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

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, give us joy as we wait for you with sure hope.

Mealtime Prayer:

We praise you, O God, for you are good and faithful. You meet our needs of body and soul. In you, we place our hope. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

God is coming to save you. May the gift of hope calm your fears and give you a brave heart. Amen. (Isaiah 35:4)

## CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Are you a patient and hopeful person? In what ways are you impatient?
- The apostle James encourages us to be patient until the Lord’s coming and to not lose hope (James 5:7-10). What things cause people to feel hopeless?
- What helps us keep hope in the Lord?

## DEVOTIONS

In the third week of Advent, light the first three Advent candles.

Say: This is the third week of Advent. We light our third candle as a sign of the hope we have in Jesus. Jesus came to bring us hope, and we are looking forward to his coming again with patience and faith. (The candles are lit.)

Read: Read one of the following passages: Psalm 52:9, Psalm 130:7, Jeremiah 29:11, Matthew 12:18-21, Romans 15:12, 2 Corinthians 1:10, Hebrews 10:23.

Pray: Let us pray: God, in this time of preparation for Christmas, gives us new hope. Increase our faith in your Son, Jesus, and our trust in your promises. Amen.

## SERVICE

As you arrange gifts for one another, prepare a Christmas gift of non-perishable food items to donate to a local charity for a needy individual or household in your community. You may include a Christmas craft item or a signed card from your household.

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Place figures from a nativity scene in different parts of your house. Each day, have household members move them closer towards the manger scene, so that they arrive on the day before Christmas Eve. On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, place the baby Jesus figure into the nativity scene.

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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 devotion***





## 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.

## Last week at Trinity

Weekly Worship Attendance:	91
Weekly Giving: (5846.00 Needed)	\$11,571.14
December Giving: (\$23,360.00 Needed)	\$11,571.14
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$241,288.95
Budget Contributions needed	\$280,543.20
2022 Approved Budget	\$308,000.00

## 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 Audrey, Kali, Alice Mae, Linda, Micah, Jerry, Beth, Harold, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Cindy, Emma, Milo, Ed, Carlos, Dorothy, Story, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Julia Ann, 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 joy and spiritual growth to all who are separated from one another and each would be blessed with their safe return to us...

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

*Please consider naming Trinity for your Choice Funds. Call 800-847-4836  
and have your ID Number available*





# *A Season* *for* Sharing