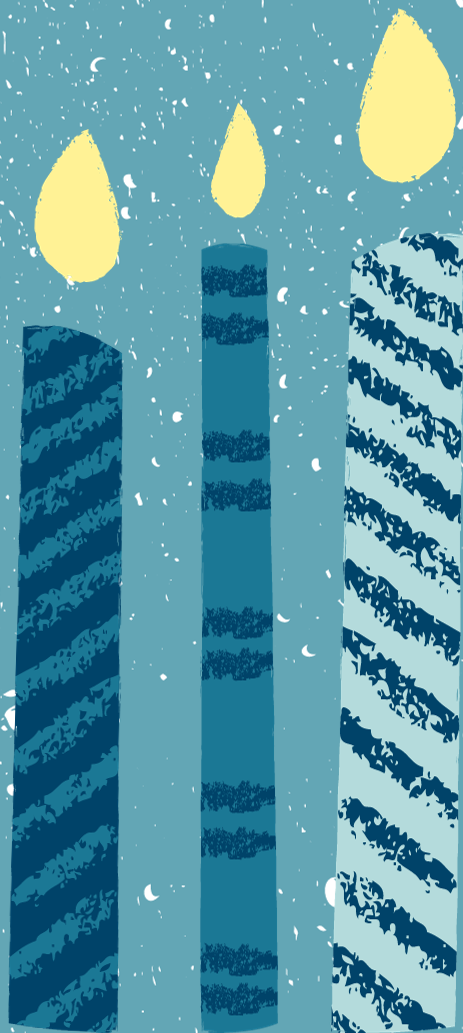


# Trinity Lutheran Church



December 10, 2023  
Third Sunday of Advent  
“Everlasting Father”

# WELCOME

## GATHERING HYMN:

### *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn (ELW 242)*



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;

<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;

<sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

<sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

<sup>8</sup>For I the LORD love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

<sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ADVENT LITANY

So with the prophet Isaiah,  
we proclaim the promise of God:  
**The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.  
For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

## ADVENT PRAYER AND CANDLE LIGHTING

As we light the Advent candles, we call upon Christ,  
Everlasting Father.  
O Adonai and ruler of the house of Israel,  
**Who appeared to Moses in the burning bush  
and gave him the Law on Sinai:  
come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.**

The Spirit and the church cry out:  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**  
All those who await his appearance pray:  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**  
The whole creation pleads:  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## ADVENT HYMN: *Christ Be Our Light* (ELW 715)

- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.**

### *Refrain*

**Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.**

- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain***

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray together.

**Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## PSALM: Psalm 126

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

**Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we are glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup>**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup>Those who sowed with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

## SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Do not despise the words of prophets, <sup>21</sup>but test everything; hold fast to what is good; <sup>22</sup>abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup>May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup>The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

<sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” <sup>20</sup>He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.”

<sup>21</sup>And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” <sup>22</sup>Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” <sup>23</sup>He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,  
‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ ”

as the prophet Isaiah said.

<sup>24</sup>Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup>They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” <sup>26</sup>John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, <sup>27</sup>the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.”

<sup>28</sup>This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

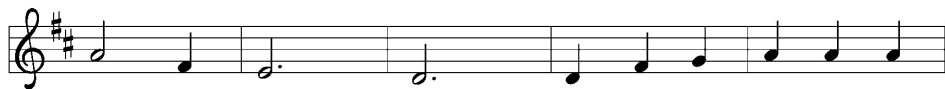
# SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY:

### *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (ELW 815)*



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

#### *Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## **APOSTLE’S 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**

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God’s day of restoration.

*As the lector closes each petition:*

Merciful God,

*The people respond:*

**receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace, and may say, “Peace be with you,” or similar words.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



## OFFERING

*You may place offering in a passed plate, or in one of the Bulletin Stand offering plates at the end of worship as you leave the church.*

## OFFERTORY: Trinity Choir led by Larry Hazlett

### ***Born to the World Is a Shepherd (Robert Leaf)***

*The night was cold, the wind was still,*

*The stars shone down on the meadow.*

*Oh, little lamb, lonely and cold, This night your shepherd must go.*

*Angels sent your shepherd away,*

*Angels will stay to tend you.*

*Born this night in Bethlehem town,*

*Born to the world is a shepherd,*

*Born to the world is a shepherd,*

*Jesus has come as a shepherd to all.*

*The stars above were never so bright,*

*Before the birth of the Savior.*

*Oh little lamb, don't be afraid, Soon shall your shepherd return.*

*Angels sent your shepherd away,*

*Angels will stay to tend you.*

*Born this night in Bethlehem town,*

*Born to the world is a shepherd,*

*Born to the world is a shepherd,*

*Jesus has come as a shepherd to all.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**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.**

## **THE GREAT 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.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

# LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

# COMMUNION

*White grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond*

Amen.

# COMMUNION HYMN: *All 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.

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our lord and savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

**God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

May God strengthen us to the end;  
Christ draw near to our very gates;  
and the Holy Spirit awaken our spirits;  
until, with eager longing,  
we greet the day of our † Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN:

### *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness (ELW 251)*



1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!  
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer-cy ev - er flows.  
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.  
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.  
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—  
The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;  
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.  
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.  
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

## DISMISSAL

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

# Serving in Worship

**TODAY — Dec 10, 2023**

**Altar:** Conyers Family

**Reader:** Lisa Guarnieri

**Preacher:** Denise Greller

**Communion Assistant:**

Stuart Guarnieri

**Fellowship:** Martha Leonard

**NEXT SUNDAY — Dec 17, 2023**

**Altar:** Conyers Family

**Reader:** Martin Greller

**Preacher:** Nathan Keith

**Communion Assistant:**

OPEN

**Fellowship:** Kris Oolman

## Trinity Happenings:

<b>Sun, Dec 10:</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Second Worship of Advent w/ Choir</b>
	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>Fellowship in Gruver Rm</b>
Mon, Dec 11:	9:00am 5:00pm	<i>Becoming</i> in Gruver Rm Theology PUB @ Coal Creek Downtown
<b>Wed, Dec 13:</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Women's Christmas Luncheon @ Denise Greller's (2667 Jefferson)</b>
Thu, Dec 14:	11:45am	MUGG Campus Meeting @ Rendezvous Cafe
<b>Sun, Dec 17:</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Last Worship of Advent w/ Choir and Food Drive Blessing</b>
	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Sunday School behind Gruver Rm</b>
	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>Fellowship in Gruver Rm</b>
Mon, Dec 18:	9:00am 5:00pm	<i>Becoming</i> in Gruver Rm Theology PUB @ Coal Creek Downtown
<b>Wed, Dec 20:</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>NO Women's Study</b>
	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Wednesday Supper in Gruver Rm</b>
	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Wednesday Worship in Gruver Rm</b>
Thu, Dec 21:	11:45am	NO MUGG Campus Meeting
<b>Sun, Dec 25:</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>NO Worship</b>
	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Worship w/ Band and Choir</b>

9-9:30!

Oct 22nd

Nov 5th

Nov 19th

Dec 3rd!

DEC 17TH

Behind the Gruver Room!

**FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES!**

# Advent Food Drive

## Stock the Cabinet!

Card tables for donations are at the entrances to the Sanctuary. Please be generous before our drive blessing next Sunday during the Fourth Worship of Advent.



## **EGGS!**

### **(AND EGG CARTONS!)**

A generous donor would like to *continue* supplying our Campus Cabinet with fresh free range eggs! But, he needs egg cartons. If you have any empty egg cartons to share, please leave them in the Cabinet!



DONATE A  
SANCTUARY  
POINSETTIA  
IN HONOR OR  
CELEBRATION

Please bring your donation by  
December 17th. To feature your  
honoree in the Christmas Eve  
Bulletin, Lisa in the Office will need  
your information by December 18th  
(telcofficeanager@gmail.com).

**QUESTIONS ABOUT GIVING?** If you ever have any questions about  
your financial gifts to Trinity, please contact Trinity's financial  
secretary, Alison Shaver, at [alebda@uwyo.edu](mailto:alebda@uwyo.edu). If you need an  
up-to-date statement of giving, please contact the church office.

**2023 Year-To-Date as of October 31**

**Income** - \$172,555.43

**Expenses** - \$175,010.85



**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Pastor Nate:** (307) 231-5371 † [pastornate3421@gmail.com](mailto:pastornate3421@gmail.com)

*Congregation President* ..... **Brett Moline**  
*Pastor* ..... **Nathan Keith**  
*Accompanist* ..... **Soyeon Kang**  
*Financial Director* ..... **Linda Lebeda**  
*Financial Secretary* ..... **Alison Shaver**  
*In the Office* ..... **Lisa Guarnieri**