

Third Sunday of Advent Children's Service

The Word became flesh and lived among us,
And we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Advent Litany – Finding Awe in the Ordinary

Advent 3 – Technology and distractions

L: How can we find awe in the ordinary things that take up our time? Computers and TVs, cars, radios and cell phones – all those things that can feel both like a gift and a burden at times with which we are easily distracted! Yet even in our distractions, you invite us to find your holiness shining through.

A: Help us to see the awe of your presence at all times. Open our eyes to how you meet us in every moment—even in our distractions—and delight in our joy. **Amen.**

L: We light three candles and look for ways to find the awe of you, O God, in the ordinary things of life. (Advent wreath is lit.)

Hymn of the Month:

We Are Waiting for Jesus

1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.

We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, silence, reflection, and song.

**Today our young people are the ones who will bring the
Word of God to life through word and song!
Please journey with them as they make a joyful noise to share
the hope of Advent and Christmas.**

Reading One: Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his, we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

Please join us in singing "Make a Joyful Noise" as printed in your bulletin.

SONG: Make a Joyful Noise. *(children will enter during the song)*

Refrain:

Make a joyful noise all the earth! Worship your God with gladness. Make a joyful noise all the earth. Come to this place with a song.

Know that your God has made you. Know it's to God we belong.
And come to this place with joyfulness and praise. Worship your God with a song!

Refrain:

Make a joyful noise all the earth! Worship your God with gladness. Make a joyful noise all the earth. Come to this place with a song.

Enter these gates, thanksgiving. Enter these courts with praise.
Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy name. Worship your God with a song!

Refrain:

Make a joyful noise all the earth! Worship your God with gladness. Make a joyful noise all the earth. Come to this place with a song.

Reading Two: Luke 2: 1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her first born son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

SONG: Twinkle, Twinkle Great Big Star

Reading Three: Luke 2:8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

SONG: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

(Congregation joins in singing after it is played through once)

Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the new-born king.
Peace on Earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the new-born king!



Reading Four: Luke 2: 15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So, they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child who was lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SONG: Go Tell it on the Mountain

(kids will play the song once then the congregation and Adele will join them for the first verse)

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Reading Five: The Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
For you Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed.
You, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy is your name.
You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.
You have shown strength with your arm and scattered the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.
You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.
You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of
mercy, the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever.

SONG: Away in a Manger

(Congregation joins in singing verse 2 and 3)

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Reading Six: John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

SONG: Silent Night

(Congregation joins in to sing the last 2 verses)

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly host sing alleluia!
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Reading Seven: Matthew 2:1-2 8-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage." But Herod sent the Wise Men to Bethlehem saying, "Go and search for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them went the star that they had seen at its rising until it stopped over the place where the child was. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

SONG: O Come All Ye Faithful

(Congregation joins in the second time through singing verse 1)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the king of angels,
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Reading Eight: John 3: 16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Reader places a heart in the stable

SONG: Jesus Loves Me

(congregation joins in singing the 3rd time through)

Jesus loves me! He who died
heaven's gates to open wide;
He will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in.
Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Thanksgiving for the Word:

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

Offertory (Usher please bring the offering to the altar)

Offertory Song

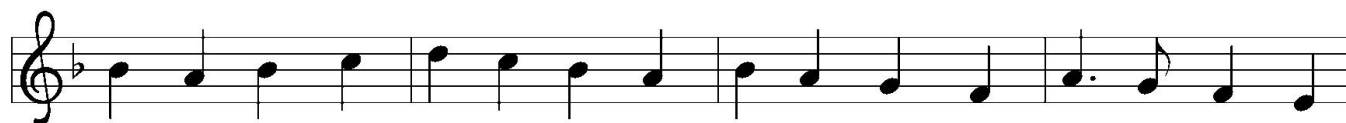
For the Fruit of All Creation



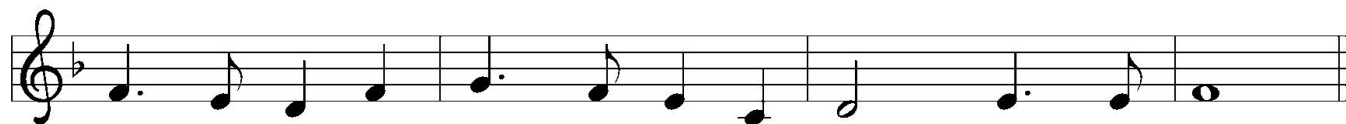
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Prayer

The Holy Spirit prays with us and through us.

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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 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.

In Christ Jesus we meet the God who knows our weakness
And bears the wounds of the world.
Therefore, let us be bold as we pray,
Trusting that God draws near to those in any kind of need.

Time of Silent Prayer

Prayers of Intercession

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

God of power and mercy, we praise you for Jesus and his acts of healing and liberation. Lead us to proclaim the good news from generation to generation, that all may place their hope in you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

When lands are parched and dry, bring rain and snow; where wilderness is barren, sow seeds of life. Fill the lands with trees that grow, plants that flower, and creatures that thrive, as nature proclaims the wonder of your works. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

When there is injustice or corruption among nations and leaders, root it out. Turn their attention to inequity and the cries of the poor. Instill a deeper sense of compassion and care in all who govern. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

When bodies weaken and hearts grow fearful, speak your blessing. We pray especially for those we hold in our hearts. In uncertain times, remind us of the promise spoken to our ancestors in faith. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

When people are imprisoned or held captive, break the chains and offer release. Strengthen the work of the church in restorative justice, breaking cycles of poverty, and welcoming the immigrant especially we pray for Global Refuge and Lutheran Social Services. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

As we await your coming, we give thanks for the faithful who have lived and died in faith. May their boldness of faith inspire our witness and work. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. **Amen.**

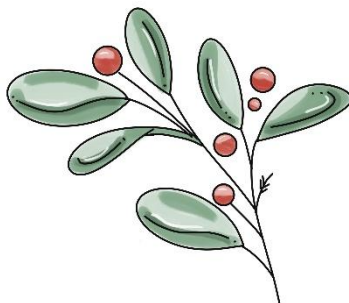
The Lord's Prayer

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

Blessing

May God who comes among us,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: All Earth Is Hopeful



All Earth Is Hopeful

Toda la tierra



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.



y el 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. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Special Worship Leaders this morning:

**Athena Haynes
Zoe Koch
Emily Strauss
Eli Fisher
Ryan Wiedenheft
Drew Killingsworth
Noah Warner
Malachi Herrmann
Emma Killingsworth**

**Carlie Wiedenheft
Zane Warner
Tyler Wiedenheft
Lincoln Smith
Brock Parker
Clair Conner
Macie Berg
Natalie Thompson
Mason Russell**

At 8:00...

Pastor:

Pastor Jen Herrmann

Usher:

Cindy Norman & Rich Miller

At 10:30...

Pastor:

Pastor Jen Herrmann

Usher:

Ken Schenk & Bill Bertsch

December Altar Care:

Ann Streaan & Sally Warner

PRAYER CONCERNS

To all affected by food and housing insecurity in Erie county; FAITH members, including, Mary Ann Neidler, Bishop Yehiel Curry and the ELCA staff; firefighters and emergency personnel of Sandusky.

Pastor Jen can be contacted at 419-822-7630 or jen.herrmann@gmail.com

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God from Larry & Pat Wiedenheft in honor of brother Jim Bertsch's birthday today.

ATTENDANCE

December 7th: 48 + 20 = 68

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GOODNESS

General Fund – \$6143.00

This Week at Trinity

TODAY	Children's Service Sunday School	8:00 am & 10:30 am 9:15 am
MONDAY	Bellevue @ V2 V1 @ Huron	7:30 pm
TUESDAY	Bible Study	10:00am
WEDNESDAY	"We All Belong" (Narcotics Anon.)	7:00 pm
SATURDAY	"We All Belong" (Narcotics Anon.)	11:00 am
SUNDAY	Communion Service Sunday School	8:00 am & 10:30 am 9:15 am

Come enjoy cookies and fellowship in the upstairs gathering room after each service! Let's celebrate the youth for doing a wonderful job with today's program. And, come and get your family or individual Christmas picture taken at the same time!



On **January 4th, 2026** Sunday school will be celebrating Epiphany and ringing in the new year with hats & horns. **Wear your pajamas!**

We'll also be collecting cereal boxes to be donated to Care & Share and Grace's Table. Everyone in the church is welcome to help with the project. Baskets will be in the upstairs gathering room for your cereal boxes.

HELP US KEEP OUR NEIGHBORS WARM with socks, mittens, underwear, and gloves with the tree in the back of the sanctuary. Donations will be given to Care & Share. Thank you for helping!





GET OUT THOSE UGLY and FUNNY CHRISTMAS garments and join in the fun by wearing them **NEXT Sunday, December 21st**. And this year, you'll have no excuse to not participate as Congregational Life will have ties for the men and corsages for the women. We hope you get in the spirit of Christmas with us!



OUR ELCA GOOD GIFTS TREE is back again this year. This is our annual wider church mission support event and is out for you to purchase items.

This is how this works:

Pick an ornament from the tree which you would like to support.

Take it and an envelope with you, fill out the information needed on the envelope.

Place the money in the envelope.

Bring it back next week with you or mail it to the church office.

You get to keep the ornament or give it to the person you have honored or a family member of someone you have memorialized.

