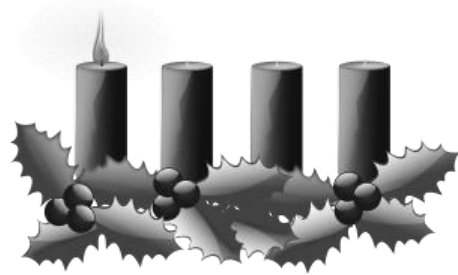


**First Sunday of Advent  
November 28, 2021**



Welcome

**P** This is the day that the Lord has made!

**C** Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Confession and Forgiveness

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

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

*Silence for reflection and self examination*

**P** 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.**

**P** 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.**

Greeting

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C And also with you.**

Opening Hymn

*O Come O Come Emmanuel*

1 Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

- 2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*
- 3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save  
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*
- 4 Oh, come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by your advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*
- 5 Oh, come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray together. **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Peace

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

First Reading *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

....*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 25:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

**Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*...The Word of the Lord.*

***Thanks be to God.***

*Please stand as you are able*

**Gospel Verse**

***Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?***

***You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.***

*The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.*

*(sung) Glory to you, O Lord.*

**Gospel Luke 21:25-36**

Jesus said "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

...*The Gospel of the Lord.*

(sung) ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

*Please be seated*

### Youth Time - Lighting of the Hope Candle

#### ***Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah, vs. 1***

Light one candle to watch for Messiah; let the light banish darkness.

He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.

### Choir Anthem

#### ***We Await You***

### Meditation

#### Hymn

#### ***Beautiful Savior***

1 Beautiful Savior,  
King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee,  
truly I'd serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,  
fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer,  
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,  
fair is the moonlight,  
bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior,  
Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor,  
praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

### The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the Church

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

#### *A brief silence*

God of presence and peace, strengthen your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your love coming to the world. Open our hearts to recognize your face in all people and in all of creation.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of mighty redwoods and microscopic plants, fields and city parks, the wind and the waves, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. May we nurture what you have lovingly created.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of equity and compassion, bring righteousness and goodness to all peoples of the earth. Give a heart of discernment and integrity to leaders in our communities.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await births, deaths, divorces, new unions, new jobs, retirements, healing from illness, and life transitions of every kind.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, shelter your people from destructive storms. We pray for those whose lives have been upended by natural disasters, for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, and other relief organizations.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of companionship and community, we give you thanks for the saints who journeyed with us and now abide in you. Even in distress and uncertainty, make us confident that your promises endure forever.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

### 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 God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn: *(sung)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The 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.**

*{P Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.  
Share in the feast of salvation.}*

Hymns Before Communion *(sung)*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*As we continue our transition to re-opening, communion will be as follows: Please come up the aisle, pulpit side first, to receive the body/bread or a blessing, then move to receive the blood/wine/grape juice. Place empty glass in receptacle as you return to your seat. At this time, we will not have kneeling or use the altar rail.*

Communion: *From the Small Catechism of Martin Luther: “that person is well prepared [to receive communion] who believes these words, **given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins**, for the words **for you** simply require a believing heart.”*

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Post-Communion Blessing

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

**A** Let us pray. Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit’s power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. **Amen.**

## Prayers and Announcements

### Prayer Petitions

**We remember in our prayers today:** Glenda and Ralph Fretz, Lacy Stang, Arlene Lyman, Evelyn Miske, Grace Root-Derby, Bill Krieger, Carol Diana, Don & Dorothy Ehlers, the Gallo family, and Cynthia Beery. We remember those impacted by war and violence and those affected by natural disasters, and we pray for our men and women in the armed forces.

**Welcome to Worship at TOL:** Following the requirements of Erie County and due to the uptick of Covid infections, we ask that people wear masks all the time when in Trinity Old Lutheran, keep in known “bubbles” and maintain 6 ft distance when relating to others. Thank you for your cooperation and support of our ministry.

**Today’s Altar Flowers:** The flowers are given for the Glory of God from Sharon Wall.

**Christmas Poinsettias:** Please use the sign-up chart for Christmas poinsettias posted on the main bulletin board. This year the cost will be \$8, and the sign-up deadline is Sunday, December 12.

**Worship on Cable TV:** If you are unable to join us for in-person or Zoom worship on Sundays, Lutheran worship is available on Cable TV channel 5, MeTV, Sundays at 10:00 am. “Church Unleashed” is run by Lutheran Pastors Beigner, Griffiths and Smith.

**Offering:** Thank you for your gifts to TOL. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you send your offering through the US mail, please use checks only-please don’t mail cash. We also have online giving through tithe.ly, which can be accessed through TOL’s website homepage ([www.trinityoldlutheran](http://www.trinityoldlutheran)). If you have a smartphone, you can download the Tithe.ly app. Instructions for both ways of giving through Tithe.ly are on our website’s homepage. Please call the office at (716) 836-4868 if you have any questions.

**Mission for November:** The Veterans One-stop Center of WNY, which brings people, resources and organizations together to improve the quality of life for those who have served or are serving in the Armed Forces of the United States and their families. Thank you for your donations to this important organization.

**Adult Ed Classes:** Our classes will resume in January when we begin exploring Judaism and other religions.

**Table Talk:** This **Wednesday, Dec. 1, at 6:30 pm**, please join us for a bi-weekly discussion group. We will use Charlie Schmidtke's new book, "My I's," as a resource for the topics, however, reading the book is not a pre-requisite for attending. This class is held in the evening so that those who work during the day will be able to attend.

**Advent Bible Study:** Pastor Fred will be leading an Advent Bible Study on **Dec. 3, 10 and 17** from 10 – 11:30 in Augustana and via Zoom. Contact Pastor if you would like a Zoom invitation. You can participate in any sessions that fit your schedule.

**Hanging of the Greens:** This **Saturday, December 4**, we will decorate our church home for Advent and Christmas. Please join us that morning from 10 – noon for our annual "*Hanging of the Greens.*"

**New Members' Class:** We will hold a new members' class next **Sunday, December 5** following worship. We invite all who would like to join! At this class, we will be sharing info about the ELCA and our Conference, our church and its ministries, as well as meeting some of our church leaders. Please let Pastor Fred or the church office know that you would like to attend. We will receive new members at worship on **Sunday, December 19**. We look forward to sharing our mission together!

**Annual Congregational Meeting:** Following worship on **Sunday, December 12**, please plan on staying for a brief meeting to vote on our 2022 budget and the slate of 2022 church council nominees. Thank you.

**Christmas Eve Service:** Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held at **7 pm on Friday, December 24**. Come and join us for this special celebration!

**Hope and Healing: A Christian Cancer Support Group:** Linda Sokoley will be hosting a Christian cancer support group on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month from 3 – 4 pm. **It will take place at Augustana** and via Zoom and is open to the congregations of Augustana and TOL, and their friends and family. The group time will include a bible verse, prayer, discussion and sharing as individuals feel comfortable. If you have questions, please contact Linda: 716/694-2451 (cell) or lsokoley@hotmail.com.

**Food Drive:** We are so grateful for all your donations. We will continue to accept grocery donations of non-perishable items, such as:

Soups and other canned goods (vegetables, tuna, etc.)



Peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, applesauce

Boxes of pantry staples, for example, cereal, rice and pasta

*(Please check food expiration dates before donating.)*

Paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels, etc.)

Personal care (feminine hygiene products, bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, diapers, etc.)

Gift cards for Tops or Wegmans

Food items can be dropped off here at TOL Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. – noon by entering through the far-left front door, where the elevator is situated, and placing the bags of groceries in the bins provided there. Thank you for your generosity!

**Book Sale:** Please visit our **Book Sale in the Resource Library**, which is the first room in the hallway near the main bulletin board. There are many books and puzzles to choose from, and additional items are being added each week.

**Devotional:** If you would like a “Christ in Our Home” devotional for October-December, please pick one up in the narthex or call the church office at 836-4868 to have one mailed.

Please notify the Church Office of any schedule changes, member illness, prayer request, etc., so church staff can respond accordingly. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 am–12 noon. Please note that the office is unstaffed on Wednesdays. For a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Fred. For office related matters, please leave a voice mail message.	<b>This week's calendar</b>	Sun	11/28	9:30 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA and GAMAnon Meetings
		Mon	11/29	10 am 5:45 pm	OA Meeting Yoga
		Tues	11/30	7 pm 7:30 pm	Abiding Faith Rehearsal CoDA
		Wed	12/1	12 pm 5:45 pm 6:30 pm	Yoga (via Zoom) Yoga (in Studio and Zoom) Table Talk
		Thurs	12/2	9:30 am 5:45 pm	Yoga (in Studio and Zoom) Yoga (in Studio and Zoom)
		Fri	12/3	10 am 5:45 pm 7 pm	Advent Bible Study at Augustana Meditation Abiding Faith Rehearsal
		Sat	12/4	10 am 1 pm	Hanging of the Greens Abiding Faith Christmas Program
		Sun	12/5	9:30 am 11 am 12 noon 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL New Members' Class Abiding Faith Worship GA and GAMAnon Meetings

**Announcements:** If you'd like to submit a bulletin or Tidings announcement, please send it to [trinityoldlutheran@verizon.net](mailto:trinityoldlutheran@verizon.net) or call 836-4868 by Wednesday morning. Thank you.

### Closing Hymn

### *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers*

- 1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
and let your lights appear;  
the evening is advancing,  
and darker night is near.  
The bridegroom is arising  
and soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
at midnight comes the cry.
- 2 The watchers on the mountain  
proclaim the bridegroom near;  
go forth as he approaches  
with alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
the gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory;  
the bridegroom is at hand.

- 3 The saints, who here in patience  
their cross and suff'rings bore,  
shall live and reign forever  
when sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory  
the Lamb they shall behold;  
in triumph cast before him  
their diadems of gold.
- 4 Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
arise, O Sun so longed for,  
o'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
we plead, O Lord, to see  
the day of earth's redemption  
that sets your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907

### Blessing

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

### Dismissal

Go in peace, Christ is near.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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Liturgical elements: Sundays & Seasons, Augsburg Fortress-License No. SAS026761

*TOL's Free WiFi and Password:*

*N7W7y; Password =  
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