



Welcome To  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

1354 South Otsego Avenue  
Gaylord, Michigan 49735

Church Phone: (989) 732-4816  
Pastor's Cell Phone: (608) 395-8029

Church Email: [secretary@trinitygaylord.com](mailto:secretary@trinitygaylord.com)  
Pastor's Email: [pastorjoepolzin@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjoepolzin@gmail.com)  
[www.trinitygaylord.com](http://www.trinitygaylord.com)

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

**December 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**

## ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

**We welcome all who gather here today!** We are blessed to celebrate together the mercy, grace, and love we have from God through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Children:** Families with children are *very* welcome here. Having children in church is important so they can begin to learn about their faith in Jesus, and it's good for the whole congregation to see. *Please feel comfortable keeping "squirmy" kids in the service. This is where they belong, too!*

**Pew Cards:** Guests and Members, please fill out the card you picked up on the way in and place in the offering plate on the way out. You may note specific prayer requests there.

**If standing is difficult:** Please feel free to remain seated during any portion of the service. Please let an Elder or Usher know if you need communion in your pew seat.

**About our celebration of Holy Communion:** We celebrate the Lord's Supper in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood contrary to that which is stated above do so to their great harm, and also because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with Pastor. Those not communing are still invited to come forward for a blessing from Pastor, and you may indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

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## SHARING OF THE PEACE and GREETING

P: Peace be with you.  
C: **And also with you.**

*(From Divine Service Setting One LSB pg. 151 ff.)*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Please stand as able*

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### INTROIT

*Psalm 85:8-9, 12-13; antiphon: 85:7*

P: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,

C: **and grant us your salvation.**

P: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

C: **for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.**

P: Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,

C: **that glory may dwell in our land.**

P: Yes, the LORD will give what is good,

C: **and our land will yield its increase.**

P: Righteousness will go before him  
C: **and make his footsteps a way.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,  
C: **and grant us your salvation.**

## **KYRIE**

*Mark 10:47*

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.  
C: **Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## **SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.  
C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.  
Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers  
C: **and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation;**  
P: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
C: **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;  
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;  
<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 grant to those who mourn in Zion—

to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;  
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.  
<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 wrong;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

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

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;  
my soul 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 like a priest with a beautiful headdress,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

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

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE 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 prophecies, <sup>21</sup>but test everything; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup>Abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup>Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup>He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as able*

## VERSE

*Matthew 11:10b*

P: Alleluia! Behold, I send my messenger before your face,

C: **who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

*John 1:6-8, 19-28*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

C: **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 bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>19</sup>And this is the testimony of 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, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to 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, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup>even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." <sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## NICENE CREED

C: **I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **SERMON**

*Please stand as able*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*Each petition ends with this response:* P: Lord, in Your mercy,  
C: hear our prayer.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

*2 Timothy 4:22*

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Colossians 3:1*

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

*Psalm 136*

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and give Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: **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.**

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and give it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## PAX DOMINI

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

C: **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*Communion will be served in a continuous fashion. Households may commune at the same time together. Ushers will help direct you forward via the center aisle; please return to your seats via the side aisles. Gluten-free bread is available for those who need it, as is non-alcoholic grape juice. Simply request either when you come forward to receive Communion.*

*Please stand as able*

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

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.

C: **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS and SENDING WORDS

P: We go to live for Jesus!  
C: **We go to share His love!**

### Acknowledgements

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### Next Week's Readings (Fourth Sunday in Advent):

OT Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Epistle Reading: Romans 16:25-27  
Gospel Reading: Luke 1:26-38



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