

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024



**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
EAST BERLIN, PENNSYLVANIA**

PRAYER LIST:

Sandy Abnett
Denny Adams
Carole Aldinger
Joyce Altland
Bobbi Becker
Leo Bennett
Emily Booth &
Family
Clive Bower
Scott Bowman
Jamie Boyer
Sandy Boyer
John Breneman
Delores Brillhart
Seville Brown &
Family
Bella Bryden
Tammy Burke
Valerie Bushey
Jim Carbaugh
Tom Carroll
Beckett Chappell
Tara Chappell
Family of Buford
Chidester
Tim Cowliflower
Mark Deputy
Glen Dixon
John & Susan Dutton
Hallie Elicker
Judy Eckrote
Justice Einsig
Billy Eisenhart
Darlene Eisenhart
Barry Emig
Jason Emlet
Barb Enright
Ermaleen Etter

Carol Fadenrecht
Karen Fichett
Robin Starry Fields
Marieann Flick
Sharon Fox
Joe Fretz
Bob Fulcher
Kathy Gallichio
Lou Ann Gebhart
Kelly Grim Gobbell
Rodger Grim
Chelsea Grimm &
Family
Gruver Family
Rosie Guier
Katie Hebe
Sandy Heisler
Rich Heldibridle
Pixie Henry
Lester Herman
Maxine Herman
Sherri Hickey
Linda Holland
Kim Holub
Elena Grace Hull
Trenton Hull
Flo Jones
Waylon Keller
Susie Klass
Al Klein
Dolores Kmetz
Stephanie Koontz
Bryce Krichten
Eddie Krichten
Emma Krichten
Doris and Mike
Krichten
Mel Lebo
Wanda Lebo
Don Lehmann

Michele Lener
Maklin Lighty
Donna Linn
Chris Long
Larry Luckenbaugh
Freda Manzullo
Meredith Marascio
Drew Martin
Jim Mauk
Betty May
Brandon McCarthy
Pr. Terry McCarthy
Don McCully
Jackie Messinger
Ray Mixell
Luann Morris
Dillon Muller
Butch Mummert
Bob & Mary Myers
Karen Myers
Missy Nelson
Ardith Nyht
Bonnie Olcus
Susan Parkinson
Cyndy Parmer
Irene Paul
Kelli Payne
Linda Poe
Noah Rinehart
Donna Rubicam
Tiffany Rudisill
Rachel Sanders
Robert Secrist
Molly Shaw
Christine Sheads
Lisa Sheads
Mary Shoemaker
Darlene Shrader
Logan Siekerman
Barb Smith

June Smith
Kim Smith & Family
Family of Phyllis
Spahr
Sandra Taylor
Jordan Teal
Roberta Teal
Angela Thornton
Lee Ann Trayer
Family of Bill Tritsch
George Vance
Clark Warner
Keanan Weedon
Vickie & Jack White
Linda Williams
Doris Wolf
Debbie Young
Debra Zearfoss
Mimi Zepp
Baby Liam
Jose, Yadira, &
Cristian
Jorge and Family
Bob F.
McKena
Amanda
Wendy
Those who serve
others
Military Personnel
Refugees
Those with private
concerns
Flood/Hurricane
Victims
People of Syria
People of South Sudan
Nations in conflict

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

PRELUDE

"The Angel Gabriel"

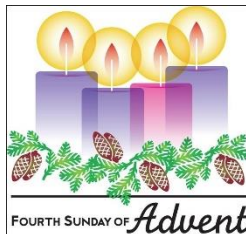
Robert Lau

Please take a moment to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Rev. Susan J. McCarthy

Children are invited to come to the front of the nave for a time of worship and learning. During the Advent season we'll light the Advent Wreath and hear about the themes for each week as we wait for both our celebration of the Nativity and also for the coming of Christ. Today's theme is LOVE.



ADVENT MUSIC

"Light One Candle"
(Verse 4)

ELW 240

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,
we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through ✝ Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.
Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN** *“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”* ELW 265

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Micah 5:2-5a

The prophet Micah, having pronounced judgment upon Judah, speaks of a future shepherd-king who, like David, will come from the small town of Bethlehem. (Ephrathah refers to the area around Bethlehem.) This king will restore Israel and bring peace. New Testament writers understood this passage to be referring to Jesus.

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

^{5a} and he shall be the one of peace.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

THE MAGNIFICAT (SONG OF MARY): Luke 1:46b-55 *(read responsively)*

^{46b} My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

⁴⁷ my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ **for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.**

From this day all generations will call me blessed:

⁴⁹ you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.

⁵⁰ **You have mercy on those who fear you,
from generation to generation.**

- ⁵¹ You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
⁵² **casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.**
⁵³ You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ **You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,
to remember the promise of mercy,**
⁵⁵ the promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his children forever.

Here ends the Song.

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 10:5-10

The author of Hebrews uses the image of religious sacrifice to convey the significance of Christ's coming. Through obedient acceptance of God's will, Christ allows his own body to become the greatest sacrifice of all, one through which we are made a holy people.

- ⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.
⁷ Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”
⁸ When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in
sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are
offered according to the law), ⁹ then he added, “See, I have come to do your
will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ And it is by
God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of
Jesus Christ once for all.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-55

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

KIDS' COOKIE BREAK

Children are invited to the social hall for an activity and a snack.

SERMON

Rev. Susan J. McCarthy

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *“Savior of the Nations, Come”* ELW 263

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

We begin our prayer together in worship each week. Please continue our prayer Monday-Saturday by praying each day for the concerns of the church, the world, and all those in need. Please pray for those on our prayer list daily.

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God’s presence.

A brief silence.

God our uniter, call us together in your name and enable us to pursue your justice in the world. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God our creator, form us into faithful stewards of all that you have made. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God our sovereign, as Mary proclaims a new way of life that lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things, nurture in everyone a desire to care for anyone who is overlooked and ignored. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God our beacon, hold closely the frightened, anxious, depressed, and ill, especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, *pause*. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God our guide, shepherd the disciples here. Bless the discerning of future ministry and open our hearts to voices in the community around us. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God our life, in gratitude for those who have died, we praise you for your faithfulness throughout history. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of the coming Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Those gathered share a sign of Christ's peace with those around them. This may be a handshake, a hug, a wave, a smile, etc.

OFFERING

Your offering here at Trinity is an act of worship. In discipleship we dedicate all of our selves to the Lord for his use in the world: our talents, our treasures, and our time. Thank you for your giving here as we seek to do God's will together! (Offering plates may be found at either entrance to the worship space.)

MUSICAL OFFERING “Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming”

John Denton

***OFFERTORY** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
(Verses 7 & 8)

ELW 257

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.

Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,

you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.

At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.

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.
Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.
Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith, increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever.
Amen.

***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.

***FRACTION AND INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.
Thanks be to God!

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We believe Christ himself invites you to this holy meal. All believers are welcome to receive the sacrament at his table. Holy Communion will be served in a continuous flow. Please come forward to receive the bread and wine from the ministers. Also available are gluten free wafers, grape juice, and sealed pre-consecrated wafer/juice packets.

*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 HYMNS

<i>“Canticle of the Turning”</i>	ELW 723
<i>“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”</i>	ELW 254
<i>“Joy to the World”</i>	ELW 267

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our coming Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

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**

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✝ bless and keep you now and forever.

Amen.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

J. S. Bach



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Announcements
To Serve God And His Church
During The Coming Week

Sunday.....	10:30a.m.	Nativity Game-Social Hall
Sunday.....	6:30p.m.	AA Meeting
Monday.....	6:00p.m.	Bible Study
Tuesday.....	7:00p.m.	Family Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday.....	10:00p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
Wednesday.....		Merry Christmas!
Wednesday.....		Video Prayer Service
Thursday.....		Church Office Closed
Thursday.....	6:30p.m.	AA Meeting
Friday.....		Church Office Closed
Sunday.....	8:15a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sunday.....	9:00a.m.	Worship Service

Assisting in the Service Today: Assisting Minister: Amber Nickey; Lector: Melissa Henry; Communion Assistant: Bob King; Ushers: Terry Yealy, Jay & Susan Smith; Altar Guild: Sami & Jer Kurtz; Hymn Leader: Sami Kurtz; Cookie Break: Giovanna Biles; Acolyte: Grace Warner.

We welcome visitors – If you have questions during worship, feel free to ask the ushers in the back or anyone around you. We believe Christ himself invites us to His Table; all believers are invited to share in Holy Communion. If you'd like to join our mailing list, please fill out a visitors' slip and place it in the offering plate or scan the QR code here.



Blank Giving Envelopes are available in the pews if you need an envelope for giving contributions.

Offering Plates are located in the rear of the sanctuary and in the narthex (lobby) near the front entrance. Please make your giving your first or last act of worship today. Thank you for participating in Christ's ministry here!

Everyone is Invited to a Christmas Activity where we'll hear the nativity story with a lot of fun and candy and a hymn! This will take place during the Sunday School hour **TODAY**, Sunday, December 22. Please stay after worship and meet us in the social hall!

Bible Study Mondays at 6pm studying some of our favorite (and maybe not so favorite) hymns. They tell us biblical stories, offer praises to God, echo the Psalms, and so much more! Please zoom in to be a part of this great conversation and learning! Zoom link opens at 5:30 for social time; study begins at 6:00. Ask Pastor Susan if you have questions. Zoom link will be sent in Monday's announcement email.

Did You Move or Change Your Phone Number? Any updates to the church directory should be sent to Jen in the church office at secretary@trinitylutheraneb.org

Coffee Station: Trinity's coffee station located in the narthex is available for anyone to use. In addition to coffee, there is hot chocolate and occasionally, hot cider. Directions for using the Keurig are listed next to the cups. We are looking for sponsors to help

purchase the cups/lids and k-cup pods that are used in the machine. Please sign-up on the sheet by the coffee station. Thank you!

Attention Kiddos! Anyone helping with, or wishing to help with, the Family Christmas Eve service please stay **TODAY** after the Christmas Activity to work out details. Meet Pr. Susan in the sanctuary.

“Fill My Cup” Women’s Retreat @ St. Paul, Broadway, Hanover is 1/18/25. All women are invited from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 18, 2025 for a day of learning, worship and fellowship. The speaker will be Eric Burns, proprietor of Merlin’s Coffee in Hanover. Be ready to taste test some coffees! Deacon Jan Davis will lead us in Bible study (please bring your own Bible), a craft and worship. Please bring a dessert to share if you are able. Registration is \$20.00 and is due by Sunday, January 12. Family and friends are welcome! Contact Jen in the church office for a registration form or look for one in the upcoming January newsletter.

The Discipleship Team is looking for a few volunteers to substitute as Sunday School teachers & help to plan for the future of Christian

Education here at Trinity. Please let us know how you'd like to help! Reach out to Pastor Susan, Lisa Miller, or Joshlyn Sharrer for additional information. Thank you!

Save the Date! for the next Family Retreat – March 21, 22, 23, 2025

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. -- 2Corinthians 9:7

MANY THANKS to you for your generous support of our general operating expenses and ministries here at Trinity! Your prayerful participation in giving time, talent and treasure make Christ's work possible here. Thank You!

Use this QR code to donate today:



WELCA Pie Sale: January 23 & 24
WELCA will be making Shoo-fly and Cherry pies. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Proceeds will go to help with the bell tower repairs.

The January Newsletter will be a combined issue with February that will be published at the beginning of January. Articles for January & February are due December 20.

Use the Online Directory on Church Connect! If you have a smartphone, tablet or computer we encourage you to register by simply scanning the QR code and/or entering the web address



<https://trinitylutheraneb.churchtrac.com/> and follow the instructions in the Church Connect brochure to create your account. Please note the app is NOT in either the Google or Apple App store and must be downloaded from the website. One of the benefits of Church Trac is the ability for Trinity to publish an on-line directory (with pictures) if you choose and print a full pictorial directory with photos you provide. For those Church Connect users, you can upload and change your photos as you desire and control what information to share. This is just one of the many features of the software. If you need any assistance, please contact Jen Guiher or Bob King.

2024 Weekly Contributions			
Budget vs. Actual			
Through December 16, 2024			
Month	Amount	YTD 2024	%
December Budgeted Income	13,308	226,231	
December Actual Income	13,821	209,972	
Over/(Under)Budgeted Income	513	(16,260)	(7.2)

December 15, 2024 Worship Totals

Worship Service114
 Online Livestream *Views.....*58/116

**Trinity Directory Deadline!!!
 January 15, 2025**

If you wish to have your family photo included in the directory you must do one of the following on or before January 15, 2025.

- Complete registration on Church Connect
- Arrange to have you photo taken by Bob King or Mark Boyer
- Email or Text your digital photo Bob King
 - Email: rlkingwalst@comcast.net
 - Text: 717-877-0616

We highly recommend registration on Church Connect that offers the following benefits:

- ✓ Ability to manage your individual and family profiles
- ✓ Trinity Website
- ✓ Real-time online directory with ability to call and email by simply clicking on a link
- ✓ View and print Contribution statements
- ✓ Trinity Events Calendar

Step- by- step instructions to register on Church Connect have been previously emailed and are available at the Church or by contacting Bob King.

***Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
East Berlin, Pennsylvania***

Our Mission: We are a family of Christian disciples committed to making Christ known while loving and serving God and neighbors.

Our Vision: To fulfill our mission, we will:

Worship through liturgy, music, prayer & Sacraments;

Teach God's Word and nurture spiritual growth;

Serve and provide for those in need;

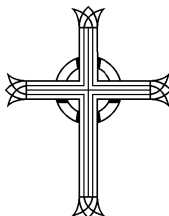
Witness to others by sharing the Gospel;

Celebrate with fellowship;

Return with joy what God has given;

Be active in our community and the Church.

Worship, Serve, Celebrate!



Worship: Sunday, 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.

Ministers: The People of Trinity

Office Phone: 717-259-9125

www.trinitylutheraneb.org

secretary@trinitylutheraneb.org

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 7:45am – 11:45am Friday 9am-1pm

Staff

Rev. Susan McCarthy, Pastor.....717-778-5548

Dona Lerew, Council President610-233-6724

Jennifer Guiher, Church Secretary717-259-9125

Karen Wire, Church Organist717-873-4795

Sue Clauser, Church Treasurer717-259-0724

Bonnie Boyer, Prayer Chain Contact717-259-0879

Siena Potts, A/V Coordinator.....717-259-9125