



# Trinity Trumpet

December 2023

## Pastor's Letter

The midweek Advent services at St. Peter are looking at familiar Advent hymns and the scriptures they come from. This week's focus is O Come, O Come Emmanuel. I lost myself in a rabbit hole of fun facts working on this, and decided it was too interesting not to share it with all of you. So if you came to the November 30<sup>th</sup> Advent service, sorry you're getting this twice. But if you didn't and you enjoy this article, consider coming to the following weeks (Thursdays at St. Peter, there is a potluck at 6 pm, worship starts at 7 pm).

A little bit of history to get us started. The hymnal attributes this hymn to the *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, an ancient book of Latin poetry and music. It was probably written for a monastic community in the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> century. Called the "O Antiphons," antiphon being a churchy word for a short sentence sung with a refrain, O referencing that they all start O something. Or, my favorite term for it, because it sounds fun, these chants were also called the "Great Os." The antiphons were sung, one a day, for the seven days leading up to Christmas Eve. The final antiphon, which we sing first and last, this call for Emmanuel to come, would be paired with the Magnificat, the song Mary sang in Luke chapter 1 while visiting Elizabeth. I find this history so powerful because it reminds me that when we sing O Come, O Come Emmanuel, we are entering into a millennia old tradition of calling on God to come. We are joining our voices with millions of believers before us, who have sung these words as they awaited the coming Savior. This hymn gets to one of my favorite things about the Christian tradition, we didn't make it up. We weren't the first and we won't be the last. We are simply taking our place in the choir of the faithful, singing as long as our voices carry and then passing the song along to those who follow.

The antiphons each begin with descriptions of the coming Messiah in the Old Testament. O come, O Wisdom, O Lord of might, O Branch of Jesse,

O Key of David, O Dayspring, O King of nations. The Messiah will bring wisdom, power, hope, continuity, they will rule over the nations. And finally, O come, Emmanuel. Emmanuel the one the prophet Isaiah foretold. Who's name, as the Gospel of Matthew tells us, means God with us. Oh, and check this, this is a total fun fact, but those monks, super clever. We sing it in English, but it was originally sung in Latin. So, the antiphons would have started *O Sapientia* for Wisdom, *O Adonai*, a Hebrew word for God, *O Radix Jessi*, stem or root of Jesse, *O Clavis David*, Key of David, *O Oriens*, dayspring, *O Rex Genitium*, King of the Gentiles, *O Emmanuel*. Take the first letter of each of those words, and you get SARCORE. Which, if in reverse is the Latin phrase *ero cras*, which means, "I will be present tomorrow." The monks buried the promise of God with us in the order of the verses of the song. We sing O Come Emmanuel both first and last, bookending the promise, but our ancestors held off on Emmanuel until the very end because Emmanuel, God with us, was the promise the whole, not just hymn, but our faith is built on. This promise that God is with us, that God slips into skin to be with us.

I don't have O Come, O Come Emmanuel on the Sunday hymn list until Christmas Eve. Which, it occurs to me is fitting, given this history. But maybe consider reading or singing it yourself as a devotional practice as we move through the Advent season. And if you do, as you do, I invite you to set aside all the historical fun facts I just gave you and let these ancient words wrap around you and run through you. Consider as you sing them, the millions of voices who have sung them before you, the millions yet to sing them who will sing them in days and weeks and years and millennia to come. And remember that promise that echoes through all of them, that the one who was promised is coming.

Note: Fun Facts courtesy of the History of Hymns blog from Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church. You can read their article on O Come, O Come Emmanuel, and many other beloved hymns, at: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/history-of-hymns>

O Come, O Come Emmanuel – ELW 257

- 1 O come, O 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 O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
embracing all things far and nigh:  
in strength and beauty come and stay;  
teach us your will and guide our way. Refrain

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might,  
as to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times you gave the law  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. Refrain

4 O come, O 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

5 O 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

6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain

7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us new. Refrain

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. Refrain

Peace,  
Pastor Kjersten

## Special Christmas Worship Opportunities

### **Sunday, December 24 at 10:30am - Pop-up Advent Pageant**

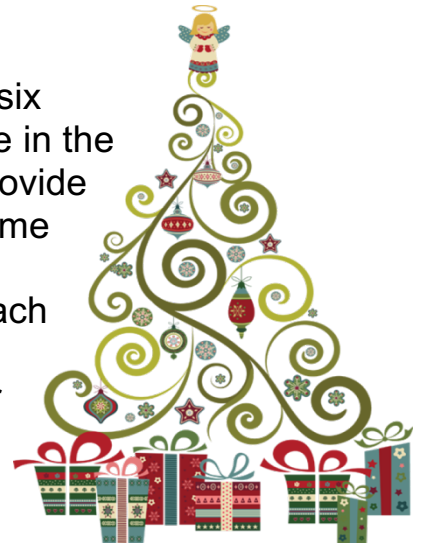
We're celebrating Advent 4 this year with the always popular Trinity Lutheran Church Pop-Up Christmas Pageant: ADVENT VERSION. This is the Children's Christmas Pageant you remember as a child, but without the long, boring rehearsal and you never have to age out of participating! There will be singing, costumes, laughter and more! Come a few minutes before worship to choose a part, pick up a script and a costume, and join in the fun. There will be parts of all sizes, from starring roles to, well, stars. Want to just sit and watch? There's a part for you too! The Heavenly Host help sing all the songs. The Advent pageant is a great event to bring friends or family.

### **Christmas Eve Service - Sunday, December 24 at 7:00pm**

We welcome the birth of our Savior with the traditional service filled with readings and carols and ending with the singing of Silent Night by candlelight. Bring your Advent Bags to place under the Christmas tree.

## Tree of Wishes

As has been our long tradition, we have again adopted six families from Santa's Helper. There are tags on the tree in the narthex for you to pick a name of a family member to provide a gift. After you have selected your tag(s), sign your name on the sheet to the left of the tree. After you have purchased and wrapped your gift (\$20 - \$25 range), attach the tag and return to Trinity by Thursday, December 14, so that we can have everything ready and organized for the pickup by the families. If you can't get into Trinity to pick up a tag, contact Connie Everson or Eileen Martens and we'll see you get one! Thanks again for your generosity!!



## **Worship and Music Planning Meeting Tuesday, December 12, 10:30 am**

The worship and music team will be meeting on Tuesday, December 12th to plan worship for the season of Epiphany. Who is the worship and music team? It is anyone who is interested in brainstorming for our worship life together. We think up a theme for the season, then create the parts of the service, including music and decorations. Everyone is welcome to come brainstorm and help dream up what our Epiphany worship will be like.

### **FED: Faith, Food, Fellowship**

November 16 was our first dinner church with the Woman's Co-op, and it was incredible! Over 70 people joined us for an hour of worship followed by a meal. And the feedback we've received has been overwhelming. With the chaos of December, the worship team for that service has decided to plan the next service for January, and then start monthly from there. The tentative date is the third Thursday of the month, so January 18, at 5:30. We are also workshopping a better name than "Alternative Worship Service." The current lead name is FED, which plays on being fed by the Word of God, fed by food, and fed by fellowship.





## A God Sighting in our Fellowship Hall

Talking about our budget, Pastor Kjersten mentioned our building as one of our largest expenses because we value the ministry our building provides. Here's an example, did you know that a few weeks ago [Woman's Co-op](#) hosted an impromptu services day for the homeless community in our social hall on minutes notice? That is the kind of amazing ministry we are able to provide with the help of our partners in this space. Shout out to Co-op for a job well done!



## Road Runners

On Thursday, December 14, the Road Runners will meet for their monthly meal at Clara's downtown @6:00. We're meeting at night to be able to enjoy the beautiful lights in Battle Creek.



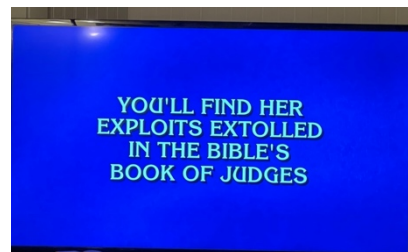
## Under One Roof

Saturday, November 11 saw the return of this annual celebration of the combined ministries in our building. Approximately 40 folks enjoyed a yummy potluck featuring turkey and ham!



## Jeopardy

If you heard Pastor Kjersten's sermon on Sunday, November 19, about strong women, you had a little help in answering this question on Monday the 20th. The category was "A Little 'Deb' Will Do Ya". Can you answer it? The answer is following this month's recipe. Remember to give your answer in the form of a question!!



## Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Meeting is scheduled for immediately after the service on Sunday, December 10, for the purpose of adopting the 2024 Budget. A copy of the budget was provided for you in the November Trumpet to study and prepare any questions you may have concerning our financial plans for next year. Copies will also be available at the meeting. Doug Martens has provided an updated amount of \$69,310.00 as our pledges for 2024.



Also, we will be continuing our discussion on becoming a community center by hosting Bob Kamphuis, a community organizer has been working with us on this project. Please review your copy of the proposed bylaws and the minutes of the September 17 congregational meeting to be ready for any further questions you may have concerning our moving to becoming a community center.

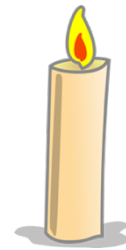
## December Caroling

After four years, Trinity Caroling at The Oaks and the Legacy is returning!!! We plan to gather in the lobby of The Oaks on Friday, December 15, around 4:45 and begin singing around 5. We will then move to The Legacy to continue singing there. Afterwards, a gathering is planned at the Eversons (226 Pennbrook Trail) to enjoy some fellowship with our Trinity family. Eversons will provide the sloppy joes, snacks and dessert (Connie's rum balls, Rice Krispie Treat trees and Dark Chocolate Salted Caramel Oreo Pie – see recipe below – are all rumored to be on the dessert menu.) It's always a fun filled evening – folks are still smiling on Sunday – and we'd love to have you join us at 4:45 on the 15<sup>th</sup>!! At work until 5? No problem, join us at the Eversons as soon as you can get there.



## Sanctuary Candles

We change out the candles in the sanctuary for Christmas Eve. You can contribute to the candle fund in honor or memory of a loved one. Simply place a contribution in the offering plate labeled “candle fund.” **Candles are \$12** each, any amount helps beautify the sanctuary.



## Trinity's Master Clinician

Our own Diane Andert received the 2023 Michigan Occupational Therapy Association Award of Excellence: Master Clinician at a gathering of the Association at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island in October. Diane was recognized for her contributions to the field as a clinician, administrator, innovator, educator, entrepreneur and mentor of many OTs. We've all known for years how outstanding Diane is here at Trinity and we are delighted that she has been recognized by her professional peers too!



## Advent Bags

We are once again collecting food for the Franklin Food Pantry by filling our Advent Bags during the month of December. Bags are available in the sanctuary and can be filled with canned goods, box pasta, cereal, crackers, macaroni & cheese, etc. Place your filled bag by the tree in the front of the sanctuary. We'll be taking the bags to the Pantry on January 2. Thank you for your continued support of this worthwhile ministry in our community.







## RECIPE CORNER

### Dark Chocolate Salted Caramel Oreo Pie

- 1 Regular Package Oreos (about 35) minus 1 because you always need an Oreo Cookie
- 1 C. Butter (2 sticks)
- 2/3 C. Packed Brown Sugar
- 1 ¼ C. Heavy Cream
- 1 12oz Package Dark Chocolate Chips (Note: not semi-sweet. Also, the packages now are 10oz so I buy a second bag & add some.)

- Crush Oreos (food processor if you have one), add 1 stick of melted butter, mix and press in a pie plate or a spring form pan with the crust going up the sides of the pan. (I have a friend that used a square baking pan too.). Freeze 10 minutes.
- Combine butter stick #2 and brown sugar in a small pan. Cook over medium heat whisking until it starts to bubble. Continue for 1 minute. Remove and slowly whisk in ¼ C cream until smooth. Cool 15 minutes. Pour over the crust and return to the freezer for 30-45 minutes. Do not fully freeze caramel.
- Place chocolate chips in a glass bowl. In a small saucepan, bring 1 C. cream to a simmer over medium-high heat. Pour over chocolate chips and allow to set 5 minutes and then whisk until completely smooth. Pour over the caramel and freeze for 30 minutes OR refrigerate covered until ready to serve (this is what I do).
- Just before serving, sprinkle with a flakey salt like kosher salt or sea salt. Store covered and serve chilled.
- The recipe says “Serves 8-12” BUT this is so rich I cut into 16 pieces.

Jeopardy Answer: Who is Deborah? Did you know it????

## **Dear Trinity Lutheran Church Family,**

As many of you know, I am a student in the Lutheran Diaconal Association. I attended my first seminar from October 1-6,2023. There were four things that stood out to me most during that week.

1. The hospitality that was shown to me during that week.
2. The worship services I took part in during that week.
3. The learning that took place during that week.
4. The friendships that were formed during that week.

I will highlight each of these topics in their own section below.

### **Hospitality**

I was both excited and afraid to be invited to attend this event. I was excited because I view every person I meet as a chance to make a new friend. I was afraid because this would be the first time that I have traveled and stayed away from home for an extended period of time without the assistance of a family member or close friend. I was also afraid because I didn't want others to feel uncomfortable because of my physical challenges. I need not have worried though. Deaconess Diana and Bill Iltzsche shared the gift of hospitality with me by opening their beautiful home to me for the week. Diana is a retired Special Education teacher. Their daughter works as a physical therapist in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The way I move through the world was nothing alarming or new to them.

### **Worship**

Each day we took part in two worship services. One took place in the morning. The second worship service took place in the evening. One of the most meaningful parts of worship for me was being able to hear and start to learn **The Diaconal Litany**. Because of the fact that the Litany is very meaningful as well as very long I have chosen to include only six parts of it here.

#### **L: Merciful Father, compassionate Son, consoling Spirit:**

C: Remember in mercy the sick and the dying, The suffering and persecuted, The fearful and distraught, The bored and despairing.

By your goodness grant relief to all in need and strengthen them to trust in you.

**L: Son of Righteousness:**

C: Take the side of the oppressed; Protect those who are vulnerable, especially the young; Curb sinners in their way; Restore the fallen; And turn all hearts to receive your righteous judgment.

**L: Source and end of our salvation:**

C: Convert to yourself those who hate you;  
Arouse those who have become dull towards you; Enlighten those who have closed their eyes to you; Strengthen those who trust you;  
Guide those who seek you.

**L: I believe that God made me and all creatures:**

C: Teach me, O my maker, to look up on my person and my abilities as your gifts, so that I may trust your care for me.  
So that I may be delivered from jealousy and envy,  
So that I may see you hidden in my neighbor and there serve you with gladness.

**L: I believe that Jesus Christ is my savior:**

C: By your cross, loving redeemer, crucify in me all evil desires and unbelief; By your unspotted righteousness, clothe me in your own self that I may be delivered to God forever;  
By your service to fallen humanity, lead me to serve you among the fallen of the earth; By your glorious resurrection from the dead, raise me to live with you forever.

**L: I believe in the Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of Life:**

C: Raise me up anew, creator Spirit, by confidence in your daily and rich forgiveness of my sins;  
Bind me in unity of love with the saints in your community;

Awaken me to the presence of your saints in unexpected places;  
Quicken in me lively anticipation of my resurrection from the dead.

## Learning

I learned so many things at student seminar, that sometimes it felt as though my brain would not be able to hold anymore information. The seminar had two Hallmarks or main ideas.

1. Mutuality involves intention, discernment and fairness.

At the end of the week my group taught about mutuality by acting out three skits that we had written. This was so much fun. Each of us used one of our previously identified strengths to show that we understood the meaning of mutuality.

2. Diaconal Focus involves recognizing brokenness in our world and doing what we can as the diaconal community to bring about healing.

1. There is brokenness in families due to trauma.
2. There is brokenness in our environment due to natural disasters. These might include floods or forest fires.
3. There is brokenness in our country due to under employment and homelessness.

Friends: The thing I enjoyed most about student seminar is the friends that I made. When I walked in the room at the beginning of the week we were strangers. By the end of the week, it broke my heart to leave them. We had become diaconal community/family.

1. Julie is a church secretary
2. Alley is a receptionist at a nursing home.
3. Lisa is a hospital chaplain.
4. Nancy is a retired homemaker.

Please join me in praying for these remarkable women. Please also pray that there will be a way for me to stay connected to diaconal community..

Growing in His service,  
Tresa Machel Garver  
Proud Lutheran Diaconal Student

## NEW YEAR'S EVE TOP TEN WORSHIP



Let's ring in the New Year with a good ole' fashioned hymn sing! We'll compile Trinity's Top Ten List of Favorite Hymns, and we'll sing them for worship to ring in the new year.

Circle up to 10 of your favorite choices and turn the form into Pastor Kjersten by no later than Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. If your favorite isn't listed, feel free to write it in. You can vote multiple times, and lobbying is encouraged. Have a favorite you want to sing? Tell all your friends what's your favorite and get them to write it down as well. There will be a couple of hymnals on the sign-up table by the Christmas Tree in case you need a refresher.

### Christmas Songs

- ELW 269: Once in Royal David's City
- ELW 270: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
- ELW 272: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
- ELW 274: On Christmas Night
- ELW 275: Angels, from the Realms of Glory
- ELW 276: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
- ELW 277: Away in a Manger
- ELW 278: Away in a Manger
- ELW 279: O Little Town of Bethlehem
- ELW 281: Silent Night, Holy Night
- ELW 282: It Came upon the Midnight Clear
- ELW 283: O Come, All Ye Faithful
- ELW 284: 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime
- ELW 288: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
- ELW 289: Angels We Have Heard on High
- ELW 290: Go Tell It on the Mountain
- ELW 291: Let Our Gladness Have No End
- ELW 292: Love Has Come
- ELW 293: That Boy-Child of Mary
- ELW 294: In the Bleak Midwinter
- ELW 295: Of the Father's Love Begotten
- ELW 296: What Child Is This
- ELW 297: Jesus, What a Wonderful Child
- ELW 299: Cold December Flies Away
- ELW 300: The First Noel



### **Epiphany Songs**

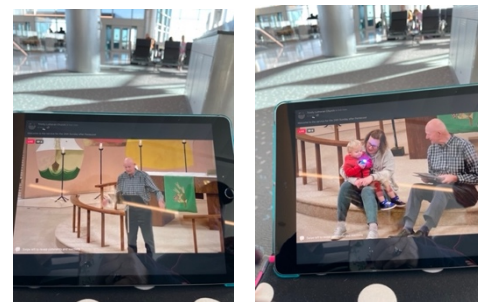
ELW 302: As with Gladness Men of Old  
ELW 303: Brightest and Best of the Stars  
ELW 307: Light Shone in Darkness  
ELW 308: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright  
ELW 310: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise  
WOV 646: We Three Kings of Orient Are

### **Trinity Favorites**

ELW 531: The Trumpets Sound the Angels Sing  
ELW 532: Gather Us In  
ELW 556: Morning Has Broken  
ELW 574: Here I Am, Lord  
ELW 641: All Are Welcome  
ELW 671: Shine, Jesus, Shine  
ELW 677: This Little Light of Mine  
ELW 715: Christ, Be Our Light  
ELW 717: Let Justice Flow like Streams  
ELW 720: We Are Called  
ELW 721: Goodness Is Stronger than Evil  
ELW 723: Canticle of the Turning  
ELW 726: Light Dawns on a Weary World  
ELW 733: Great Is Thy Faithfulness  
ELW 763: My Life Flows On in Endless Song  
ELW 765: Lord of All Hopefulness  
ELW 773: Precious Lord, Take My Hand  
ELW 793: Be Thou My Vision  
ELW 815: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light  
ELW 866: We Are Marching in the Light

## **FaceBook Live Worship**

So, you find yourself in an airport (this is Denver International) or any other location away from Trinity on a Sunday morning – what do you do? You tune in to watch our service via Facebook Live or via the link on our website!! One super positive result of the pandemic is being able to worship with your Trinity Family wherever you are on a Sunday morning. Can't worship right at 10:30 Eastern Time? No problem, the video is available soon after the service ends. As Jeff Andert mentioned in one of his sermons, there's always time for Facebook worshipers to get a second donut!!



## **Six Women from Church History that You Need to Know About Free Learning Opportunity through the Synod**

The North/West Lower Michigan Synod announces the next session of our Adult Theological Education program: Six Women from Church History that You Need to Know About. Join the Rev. Dr. Joy Schroeder for a six-week study of Christian women through the ages starting on January 16, 2024!

The Rev. Dr. Joy Schroeder, an ELCA pastor, is Professor of Church History at Capital University, where she teaches in the Department of Religion and Philosophy and Trinity Lutheran Seminary. She holds the Trinity Chair in Lutheran Heritage. Dr. Schroeder earned a B.A. in Classics from Luther College, a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame.

She is the author of five books on the history of how Christians and Jews have interpreted scripture. Her most recent book, co-authored with Marion Ann Taylor (University of Toronto) is *Voices Long Silenced: Women Biblical Interpreters through the Centuries* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2022).

Ever since the beginning of Christianity, women have been teachers, writers, and preachers of the Gospel. Learn about the struggles and accomplishments of six exemplary women from church history:

Perpetua (d. ca. 202), North African martyr and visionary writer

Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179), Saxon nun and theologian

Argula von Grumbach (ca. 1492-ca. 1554), Bavarian Lutheran reformer and pamphlet writer

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz (1648-1695), Mexican nun and poet

Jarena Lee (1783-1864), African American preacher

Pandita Ramabai (1858-1922), Indian Bible translator and founder of women's shelters

Dr. Schroeder will discuss these women's inspirational lives and writings.

The class will meet on six consecutive Tuesday evenings: January 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13, 20, 2024 from 7:00 – 8:15pm ET via Zoom. This course is open to all adults, both laypeople and rostered ministers, and is free of charge. Sessions will be recorded and available to registered participants. Registration is required and will close on January 5 2024. Register now on the synod website at: <https://www.mittensynod.org/events/adult-theological-education/>.

Additional information, including Zoom links, will be sent via email closer to the start of the course. If you have additional questions, please contact [communications@mittensynod.org](mailto:communications@mittensynod.org).

## ELCA presiding bishop issues statement on Israel-Hamas war

10/13/2023 12:00:00 PM

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?" —Psalm 22:1

Dear church,

As Lutherans, we are accustomed to holding tension between two truths. Thus the ELCA denounces the egregious acts of Hamas, acts that have led to unspeakable loss of life and hope. At the same time the ELCA denounces the indiscriminate retaliation of Israel against the Palestinian people, both Christian and Muslim.

For the past week we have borne witness to the horrors of the escalating crisis between Israel and Hamas. We also watch a growing humanitarian crisis in Gaza as Israel blocks food, water, fuel and medical supplies and as airstrikes continue to cause unbearable civilian casualties ahead of a just-announced ground assault. We see Israelis and families around the world in the agonizing wait for word about the fate of loved ones killed or taken hostage by Hamas. We are in anguish, grieving and praying for all people who are living in trauma, fear and uncertainty.

Among us are Palestinian Lutherans who are fearful for their families, their communities and their homeland. In our communities we have Jewish and Muslim neighbors, who are also facing the horrors of this crisis and its impact on their loved ones.

It is difficult to find words that suffice in the complexity of this moment, and in the web of relationships that bind us together, as church, with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and our interreligious partners. Yet God has called us to be a people who stand with others amid suffering.

We must also call a thing a thing. The power exerted against all Palestinian people — through the occupation, the expansion of settlements and the escalating violence — must be called out as a root cause of what we are witnessing. We are committed to our long-standing accompaniment of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

The God who liberates us calls us to be a liberating witness. May it be so.

In Christ,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Things you can do:

- Find updated resources and statements from the ELCA [here](#).
- Join our partner Churches for Middle East Peace for prayer every Wednesday from 12:30 to 1 p.m. Eastern time. Register [here](#).
- Call your lawmakers today through the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121 and urge them to take action to deescalate the conflict and uphold unrestricted humanitarian aid to Gaza. Find your member of Congress at [govtrak](#).
- Support Lutheran Disaster Response [here](#).

## December Prayer Partners

We are praying weekly for Lutheran Congregations in our Synod. Our prayer partners for December are:



**December 3** – Lutheran Church of the Savior, Kalamazoo,  
Rev. Alexander Steward, Contracted

**December 10** – Trinity Lutheran Church, Kalamazoo, Rev. Ken Johnson,  
Senior Pastor, Rev. Jacob Lehman, Associate Pastor

**December 17** – Bethany Lutheran Church, Kaleva, Rev. Zachary Nelson

**December 24** – Mamrelund Lutheran Church, Kent City, Rev. Michael  
Conklin

**December 31** – Ascension Lutheran Church, Kentwood, Father Michael  
Wernick

## Worship Volunteers & Readings for December

### Lay Assistants, Sound Board

**December 3** – LA: Mary Conklin  
Sound: Don Boulton

**December 10** – LA: Chase Lehman  
Sound: Ellis Cutler

**December 17** – LA: Tresa Garver  
Sound: Don Boulton

**December 24** – LA: Doug Martens  
Sound: Ellis Cutler

### Readings

Isaiah 64: 1 – 9  
Psalm 80: 1 – 7, 17 – 19  
1 Corinthians 1: 3 – 9  
Mark 13: 24 – 37

Isaiah: 40: 1 – 11  
Psalm 85: 1 – 2, 8 – 13  
2 Peter 3: 8 – 15a  
Mark 1: 1 – 8

Isaiah 61: 1 – 4, 8 – 11  
Psalm 126  
1 Thessalonians 5: 16 – 24  
John 1: 6 – 8, 19 – 28

2 Samuel 7: 1 – 11, 16  
Luke 1: 46b – 55  
Romans 16: 25 – 27  
Luke 1: 26 – 38

**December 24 cont.**

**Christmas Eve**

Isaiah 9: 2 – 7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2: 11 – 14  
Luke 2: 1 – 14, [15 – 20]

**December 31** – LA: Kendra Witkowski-Lehman  
Sound: Don Boulton

Isaiah 61: 10 – 62:3  
Psalm 148  
Galatians 4: 4 – 7  
Luke 2: 22 – 40

### Advent Wreath Lighting

**December 3** – Mary Conklin and Mary Mahurin  
**December 10** – Lehman Family  
**December 17** – Jan Mead and Linda Herman  
**December 24** – Doug and Eileen Martens

## December Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

**12/12** – John Kolodzieizyck  
**12/24** – Sharon Cutler  
**12/27** – Melody Mason

### Anniversaries

**12/27** – Barry & Kathy Chapman



## Prayer Requests

### COMMUNITY

Sharon Cutler  
Pam Ellison-Kring  
Linda Hermann  
Rose Walentowski  
Tish Gancer

### IN OUR HEARTS/ON OUR MINDS

Jim Hines (Maxine's Nephew)





## **OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT WITH TRINITY**

Trinity's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/trinity.church.581>

"Like" the Trinity Facebook page to follow events and activities.

### **WEBSITE**

Trinity website: <http://www.tlcbattlecreek.org>

Check out the **What's New** tab to see the latest events going on at Trinity. You can also find transcripts of Pastor Kjersten's sermons under the **Worship** tab.

### **TRUMPET**

To update your newsletter email/mail preferences, contact Pastor Kjersten at [pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org](mailto:pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org) or 963-5356. Let us know if you would like to be added our quarterly mailing list to receive a color brochure of what's new at Trinity.

### **ONLINE GIVING**

Trinity now has online giving. Simply go to Trinity's website, <http://www.tlcbattlecreek.org> and click on the yellow button that says "Donate" on the bottom left corner of the page. Or go to Trinity's Facebook page and click on the blue button that says "Donate" on the right side of the page.

# DEC2023

SUN            MON            TUE            WED            THU            FRI            SAT

					<b>01</b>	<b>02</b>
<b>03</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>09</b>
10:30 Worship Coffee Hour <b>Cookie Exchange</b>	8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-Op Monday Mixer	1:00 Bible Chat FaceBook Live <b>12:30 Food Pantry</b>	10:30 Bible Chat 7 Choir	Advent Service @ St. Peter 6 Potluck 7 Service		
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
10:30 Worship <b>Congregational Meeting</b> Coffee Hour	8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-Op Monday Mixer	1:00 Bible Chat FaceBook Live <b>10:30 Worship &amp; Music</b>	10:30 & 5:30 Bible Chat 7 Choir	<b>Tree of Wishes gifts due.</b> Advent Service @ St. Peter 6 Potluck 7 Service	<b>5 Caroling @ The Oaks, Dinner following @ The Eversons</b>	
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
10:30 Worship Coffee Hour	8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-Op Monday Mixer	1:00 Bible Chat FaceBook Live <b>7 Council</b>	10:30 & 5:30 Bible Chat 7 Choir	<b>6:00 Road Runners @ Clara's</b> Advent Service @ St. Peter 6 Potluck 7 Service		
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
10:30 Worship Coffee Hour 7 <b>Christmas Eve</b>	-----	<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Kjersten</b>	<b>Gone</b>	-----	
<b>31</b>						
10:30 Worship Coffee Hour						

