

Trinity **SONRISE** News



Trinity Lutheran Church

on the Sunrise Side of Michigan

2021

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR AZZAM

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Whenever the President of the United States enters a room at an official function, his entrance is announced following the playing of the Presidential March. When the Queen of England enters the room for an official function, Her Majesty is announced, and the people hear God Save the Queen. The Season of Advent looks at several occasions where Jesus not only entered, but with fanfare. And so, in our Special Services for Advent and Christmas we will look at such official entries.

On December 1st we will begin at the end when Jesus comes to us in Glory . . . with the trumpet call of God and with the voice of the Archangel.

On December 8th we will re-examine the arrival of Jesus to Jerusalem riding a donkey . . . with the people announcing, Hosanna to the Son of David.

On December 15th we will look at how Jesus came to the womb of a virgin named Mary . . . with the announcement of Gabriel, the Archangel.

Then on December 24th, Christmas Eve, we will look at Jesus's arrival in a manger . . . with the announcement of the entire heavenly host.

Finally, on December 25th, we will hear how Jesus came as the Eternal Word, as told by Moses and John.

As you prepare for Jesus's arrival how will you prepare? If you choose to follow the examples of those who officially announced it, think of the words used by all who announced him. Think of the fanfare and preparation that was taken for such announcement. And finally think of the words you might use as you regularly welcome Jesus into your hearts, your home, and in your words to others. "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Amen.

Pastor Azzam



"THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND MADE HIS DWELLING AMONG US."

HAVE YOU MADE ROOM IN YOUR HEART FOR HIM?

"She gave birth to her firstborn, a Son. She . . . placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn" *(Luke 2:7)*

STEWARDSHIP

Who Is Jesus?

Some couples expecting a baby are eager to know the sex of the child beforehand for obvious reasons – like appropriate nursery décor, blue or pink clothing, even choosing names. Others like to wait till the baby is born to find out if they are parents of a baby boy or a baby girl.

Joseph and Mary had no such dilemma. An angel appeared to each with the same message: *“She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel’ (which means God with us)”* (Matthew 1:21-23).

Thirty plus years later, this Jesus rode into Jerusalem as people shouted, *“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord!”* but some asked, *“Who is this?”* After all Jesus had done throughout His three-year ministry, people still didn’t know who He was! Even those who answered the question gave an insufficient reply: *“This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee”* (Matthew 21:9-11).

The same terrible reality is ours today: Not everyone knows who Jesus is. Some, like those in Jesus’ triumphal path that day, say He was a great prophet or teacher. Others say He was a fake, an imposter. How would you answer the question, *“Who is Jesus?”* We, like Peter, have the only true answer: *“[He is] the Christ, the Son of the living God”* (Matthew 16:16). Not only did Peter have the answer, he directs us, *“In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect...”* (1 Peter 3:15 NIV).

As stewards of the Gospel, we must be prepared. We must be studying God’s Word and be in prayer that we might be empowered by the Word and equipped by His Spirit to give answers to those who ask and to use the wonderful, natural opportunities that the Christmas season affords to speak about the Savior, the reason for our Christmas joy.

May God empower us all to spread the wonderful news that Jesus Who is the Savior of the world has come to redeem us and to give us an abundant life now and life with Him in eternity.

-Bill Davis, Stewardship Chair



December Mission of the Month God’s Children – Haiti

God's Children Haiti (formerly Bon Samartian) is a non-profit, 501c3, faith-based mission dedicated to helping the country of Haiti with its five greatest needs; Faith in Jesus Christ, Health Care, Food, Housing for Children in Need, and Education. You can use a mission envelope that can be found in your envelope packet to support the “Mission of the Month.”

If you already support a mission, please continue to do so by designating that particular mission by name on a Mission envelope.



Joan Abney, Wayne Fortney, Chris Gresens,
Ron Kaiser, Rev. Dean Muhle of Hale,
Nancy Weidenfeller



Homebound:

Alice Dettmer – Medilodge

Military:

Alex Anderson (Navy)
Jason Cooper
Courtney & Karina Pierce (Army)
Marc Stiller (U.S.A.F. – Sherman)



Mia Lucci Ludeña, infant daughter of Alec and Melissa Ludeña was brought into the loving arms of our Savior through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, November 28, 2021. May God bless and keep her in his loving care.



**Trinity Lutheran Church & Thrivent
Angel Tree Adopt a Family Project**

A free will offering for a family of 10 was taken at the church on Sundays, November 21st and November 28th. The family had a house lined up to rent but the landlord decided not to rent. They are currently living in one room at Camp Inn and sleeping on blow up mattresses. They only have a microwave & tiny refrigerator. The children range in age from 6 months to 14 years. We plan to purchase clothes, a toy and a prepared Christmas dinner for this family. We will also purchase a 3-seat stroller as one of the children has special needs and uses a walker. In addition, we will purchase cereal, snacks, canned meals and juice boxes. Three members of the congregation will be shopping for the family to show love from our community. Please keep the family in your prayers.

All donations must be received by December 5th.

Lutheran Witness Subscriptions

It's the time of year when members of the congregation have the opportunity to order or renew subscriptions of *The Lutheran Witness (LW)*. *LW* provides Missouri Synod laypeople with stories and information that complement congregational life, foster personal growth in faith, and help interpret the contemporary world from a Lutheran Christian perspective. It is a wonderful publication and a voice for the Gospel in each home. If ordered through the church, subscriptions are \$11.60 per year (March through February). If you would like to renew or order a subscription, you must let the church office know on or before **December 12, 2021**. Subscriptions are available from Concordia Publishing House at the price of \$19.99 per year.



Thank
you

A great big thank you to everyone that came out to help with the outdoor cleanup of the church! Your help and hard work is certainly appreciated!



2022 Offering Envelopes

Your 2022 offering envelopes will be available on the counter in the fellowship hall until December 12th. After that date, envelopes not picked up will be placed in the mailboxes. Please do not use these until January 2, 2022.





SERVICE TIMES

8:00 a.m.
and
10:30 a.m.
(through December)

Bible Study
at 9:15 a.m.

Bible Study Opportunities



- Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the Sunday School wing.
- Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study at Burger King at 8:30 a.m.
- Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study meets via Zoom for the winter months. For more information contact Ruth Golm at 989-724-5679 or at gbgcpro@gmail.com.
- Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. – meets in-person in Sunday School wing.



Midweek Advent Services Wednesdays, December 1st, 8th, and 15th 7:00 p.m.

There will be three Advent Midweek services this year.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| December 1 st | <i>"Jesus Comes Again in His Glory"</i> – Luke 21:25-36 |
| December 8 th | <i>"Jesus Comes to His People Humbly, Riding on a Donkey"</i> – Luke 19:28-40 |
| December 15 th | <i>"Jesus Comes in the Incarnation"</i> – Luke 1:39-45 |

There will be NO soup suppers



CHRISTMAS
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Services Friday, December 24th

5:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service & Holy Communion
"Jesus Comes to Us in a Manger" – Luke 2

Christmas Day Service Saturday, December 25th

10:30 a.m.

"The One Who Came is the Eternal Word"



T.L. C.W. News

Trinity Lutheran Church Women (TLCW) meet the third Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend. The TLCW Christmas Party will be held at 12:00 noon on December 9th at Carolyn Lindhorst's home. All ladies are invited to attend. Please bring an appetizer to share.



Trinity Bells of Glory Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 12, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Everyone is welcome to attend!



Church Directory

We would like to update the church directory, and would appreciate a photo of you and/or your family for inclusion in the directory. You can email a photo to: churchoffice@trinityoscoda.org or you can bring in a photo for us to scan.

If you would like to double check to make sure that your contact information on file with the church is correct, just write your name, address, phone number(s) and email address on a piece of paper and put it of the clip on the office door. Your assistance is appreciated.



Randy & Cindy Rourke

12/16

Charlie Rainey	12/3
Kathy Azzam	12/6
Gregory Pancost	12/7
Larry Akers	12/12
Christine Rogel	12/17
David Wagner	12/18
Wayne Fortney	12/19
Laurie David	12/23
Barbara Dewald	12/24
Adam Dettmer	12/25
Amanda Brown	12/26
Joseph Garrison	12/26
Jack Inman	12/29
Clara Pavlak	12/29
Jennifer Agtergael	12/30
Nancy Kreuzwieser	12/30
Ardith Akers	12/31

Know the Elders

The Board of Elders concerns itself with the wellbeing and spiritual life of our congregation and pastor. Pastor Azzam and your Elders are happy and eager to hear from you!

They may be reached at:

- Pastor Azzam - 739-4820
- Mitch Davis, Jr. - 989-820-1469
- David Golm – 989-724-5679
- Roger Tack - 989-293-8050
- Ron Weidenfeller - 724-7701



Church Council Meeting
Thursday
December 9, 2021
2:00 p.m.



Tuesday
December 7, 2021
2:00 p.m.

CHURCH FUNDRAISER – SPARTAN NASH DIRECT YOUR DOLLARS PROGRAM



Through the Spartan Nash Direct Your Dollars Program our church can earn \$1,000 per year simply by collecting \$150,000 in eligible receipts from Family Fare or any of the more than 160 Spartan Nash owned retail stores or fuel centers in nine states. A container is provided in the fellowship hall for collecting your receipts.

QUIZ

1. When was Jesus born?
2. Where in the Bible do we read about the Birth of Jesus?
3. What was the name of the prophet whom Christians believe predicted the birth of Mary's boy child?



Alabama was the first state in the US to recognize Christmas as an official holiday!

Christmas wreaths are religious symbols. The Christmas wreath first originated as a symbol of Christ. The holly represents the crown of thorns Jesus wore at his crucifixion and the red berries stand for the blood he shed.

Silent Night is the most recorded song. It has had more than 733 different versions copyrighted since 1978.

HUMOR



DEADLINE

The deadline to submit articles for the January Newsletter is December 19, 2021



Answers to Quiz	
1.	The date is not specified in the Bible
2.	Luke 2
3.	Isaiah