

**TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

*Christmas
Market*

BAKE SALE
LIVE PIE AUCTION
SILENT & LIVE AUCTION
OF CRAFTS AND GOODIES
KIDS CRAFTS
FOOD AND MUSIC
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
539 SOUTH STREET- CASHTON

DECEMBER 10, 4-6 P.M.

All Funds Raised Support Trinity's Ministries





St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI
2nd Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023
**Inviting People to
Journey with Christ's Family
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

****(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)***

Announcements

Gathering
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

'Christ, Be Our Light!'

We long for the peace of Christ in our world.

C: Come Prince of Peace

Hymn: **"Christ, Be Our Light"** **ELW #715, v. 2**

Listen for the voice of the prophet
crying out in the wilderness:
prepare the way of the Lord.

Come, Prince of Peace

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him
And the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord.

Christ, shine on the earth today

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation.

Amen.

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Everlasting God,

you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.

**We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.**

We are complicit in systems of exploitation.

We choose comfort over courage.

We are careless with creation's bounty.

Look upon us with mercy.

Turn our hearts again to you.

**Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways
for the sake of our waiting world.**

Amen.

Hear these words of assurance:

God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.

In the tender compassion of ☩ Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all.

Amen.

Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

ELW #254

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

And also with you.

***KYRIE**

ELW p.184

***Canticle of Praise**

"Glory to God"

ELW p.185

We ask that all members join the Women of ELCA and pray this prayer as
you rise in the morning, and as you prepare to retire each evening.

Lord, Jesus Christ, I bring to you:

Jada, Myles, & Conner Garske; Britain Hahn; Amara Brandau; Chase
Brandau; Avery Brueggen; Riley, Aria & Hudson Brueggen; Nolan & Logan
Buchholz; Thadyn & Ayawyn Conner; Vanessa & Elliott Ornes; Lailah
Eckes; Lena Ornes; Porter Sorenson; Josie Ornes; Brooklyn, Madelyn,
Kaylin, Emma, Bryce, Marah, Bria, Ava, Katie, & Benjamin Gruen; Braylee
Zimmerman; MaKenzie & Cooper Powell; Wesson & Arden Mayne;
Vanessa, Mia, & Brek Anderson; Tyler & Jaden Bever; Carlee, Collin, &
Camden Neidfeldt; Morgan Speicher; Krista & Sierra Cook; Franklin &
Douglas Wildes; Sophia, Derek & Deacon Erdman; Kody Tormoen; Callie
Fleming; Miranda, Daphne & Linus Arndt; Emma Elder; Bryson Lamb,
Elizabeth Wildes; Alaina & Braxton Holthaus; Jayda Leis; David, Sam &
Zachary Ross; Gannon & Ellory Tormoen; Jase & Margo Picha; Watson
Sebranek, Violet Ford, Hunter Puhl, Eason Kelbel, Cole, Caleb & Connor
Redding; Brooke, Claire, Grace & Bree Olson; Alayna, Alivia & Levi
Wytttenbach; children throughout the world.

That your spirit will dwell with them according to your will. That they will
grow in the knowledge of you and know that they are dearly loved by you.
I pray that you will protect them from deception by the evil one and all his
darts that would lead them astray. May they do well in school, learning and
discerning what direction you have in mind for them. I also pray for all
children every where, that you would keep them in your care.

In Jesus name I pray.

Amen

LETS DO THIS!

Meet Aidden Tilly. For just over 2 months, he's been waiting for a heart at Mayo, in Rochester, MN. He was born with a significant heart defect and to sum up, he only has half a heart. Currently, he is on a continuous infusion while living at the hospital. This has put him on the highest status on the donor list, even though he's been waiting for years. He may only have half a heart, but it's full of love for dogs. He's obsessed with the therapy dogs that come in, and recently saw pictures of Panda and loved them. Since he will be in the hospital through Christmas, his first away from home, we'd like to make the Christmas season stay easier. As a way to give him some extra strength and support, we are hoping to send him lots of Christmas cards with lots of pictures of doggos to decorate his room with! His mom is staying at the Ronald McDonald House, and cards can be sent there. Please send photos if you have a doggo, and please share to spread the word. Merry Christmas!

Ronald McDonald House
Aidden Tilly
850 2nd Street SW
Room #323
Rochester, MN 55902

Aidden's mom worked with Steve Brandau's sister Debbie.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Grace Lutheran in Elroy is holding a fundraiser for the Grace Luther League members in support of the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Send your kids to the event and parents have a night out!! Saturday, December 16, 5:00—9:30 PM. Cost is \$10.00 for the initial child and \$5.00 per each additional sibling. The children must be 2 years to 12 years old.

***Prayer of the Day**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!"
 And I said, "What shall I cry?"
 All people are grass,
 their constancy is like the flower of the field.
⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,
 when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
 surely the people are grass.
⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
 but the word of our God will stand forever.
⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
 O Zion, herald of good tidings;
 lift up your voice with strength,
 O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
 lift it up, do not fear;
 say to the cities of Judah,
 "Here is your God!"
¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
 and his arm rules for him;
 his reward is with him,
 and his recompense before him.
¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
 he will gather the lambs in his arms,
 and carry them in his bosom,
 and gently lead the mother sheep.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;
 you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
²**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
 and blotted out all their sins.**
⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
 for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn
 their hearts to you.
⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
 that your glory may dwell in our land.**

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Meltesen, Darlene Babbitt, Judy Bever, Sally Dana, Scott Geier,
 Alan Sherman, Erin Laperle.

CALENDAR

Wed., Dec, 13	Movie Matinee	12:30 PM
Sunday, Dec. 17	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR HORN

Pastor Horn will lead worship next Sunday. He has been such a blessing to St. Paul's, we would like to show our appreciation by having cake and coffee after service. Please join in giving thanks for his ministry to St. Paul's.

SOLES FOR JESUS

We have an opportunity for you to help spread the Gospel and clean your closets!! Souls for Jesus is an organization located in Milwaukee with their mission to send new or gently used shoes to countries in Africa, where 1 in 2 people live in poverty. Since 2010 a total of 774,361 shoes have been sent to the following countries:

Ethiopia, Kenya, Bundi, Tanzania, Mozambique, Lesotho,
 Liberia, Zambia, Swaziland, Botswana

We have placed boxes in the corner of the narthex for you to place any shoes you wish to donate. Thank YOU.

FALL, 2024 FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Are you a hoarder when it comes to Christmas decorations? Buy new ones but keep the old packed away, for whatever reason. We'd like, as you unpack your decorations this year and set those you decide not to use to the side, to consider donating them now so we can have a fundraiser next November. Lori Brueggen has offered to spearhead this fundraiser which will also include other vendors to bring people to the event.

**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.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*Benediction

*Hymn **Soon and Very Soon** **ELW#439**

Dismissal

P: Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People; Pastor: Bill Horn; Organist: Nalani Bever;
Reader: ; Altar: Barb Bever & Karen Arzt

IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Robert Cale,
Matthew Dutton

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

Second Reading

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

2 Peter 3:8-15a

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia. Lord,”

ELW p. 188

GOSPEL READING

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

The holy gospel according to Mark 1:1-8

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Reverend Karen Sparling

*Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

ELW# 257

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION (Merciful God, receive our prayer.)

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

Offertory Hymn

“Hark, the Glad Sound”

ELW #239 v. 1

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God our provider, by your merciful hand
abundance springs up from the earth.
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.
Let them be a sign of your steadfast love
and faithfulness for all people,
through Jesus Christ our Savior.
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.