

Second Sunday in Advent ***December 3rd & 4th, 2016***

Welcome to worship! Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near! The Forerunner prepares for the coming Christ by preaching repentance that brings renewal of life. The Root of Jesse will come in swift judgment on the unrepentant but in mercy and grace for God's people. His coming will end the wickedness of the world and usher in a new age restored to the perfection with which God made it.

Communion Announcement

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Here at Trinity we practice a "close" Communion. God tells us that we are to be properly prepared for the Lord's Supper and that we show a unity in our faith when we go to Communion. Since the Lord's Supper is an expression of our common confession and we wouldn't want to put our guests in the awkward position of confessing beliefs they might not hold to, we ask that only members of the WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) and ELS (Evangelical Lutheran Synod) church come forward. If you have any questions or are interested in membership please speak with Pastor Pope.

Our Worship

Order of Service: "Divine Service II" on page 28 of the *Christian Worship Supplement* (blue hymnal)

Hymns: 702, 709, 750*, 743*, 769 (*Communion Hymns)

*St. John's Newtonburg Lutheran School Junior Choir sings after the Psalm (Sunday)

Prayer of the Day: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10 (NIV84)

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. ²The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—³and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. ⁵Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. ⁶The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. ⁷The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. ⁹They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner

for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.

Psalm of the Day: 14 on page 40 (blue hymnal)

Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13 (NIV84)

⁴ For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs ⁹ so that the Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing hymns to your name." ¹⁰ Again, it says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹ And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to him, all you peoples." ¹² And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him." ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia. (Luke 3:4,6 cf. NIV)

The Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12 (NIV84)

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea ² and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." ³ This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" ⁴ John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

⁵ People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶ Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹ And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.

¹⁰ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

Sermon Text: Isaiah 11:1-10

“ WITH CHRIST, ENJOY THE SPIRIT’S COUNSEL ”



We welcome those visiting this weekend. If you are a resident of this area and have no church home, we invite you to consider Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, town of Liberty. If you're interested in membership, please speak to the pastor. We pray the blessing of God's Holy Spirit upon his Word, which you have heard with us tonight. Come worship with us again!

Announcements:

Organist & Singing

Our organist this weekend is Mrs. Janice Loppnow from Trinity, Kiel. We thank her for beautifying our worship with her organ playing.

Thank you to St. John's, Newtonburg, Junior Choir and their director, Mrs. Ann Wilson, for singing our Lord's praises on Sunday.

Sharing Table – December 4th

Our Sharing Table is Sunday, December 4th, after worship. Feel free to bring extra vegetables, homemade canned goods, baked goods, or crafts. It is for a freewill offering, which this month is going toward the Trinity Teens. Any questions on the Sharing Table, please contact Lisa Kiesow at 905-2813. It is the first Sunday of each month. Thank you to those who participated in November!

Trinity T-shirts

Thank you to everyone that ordered Trinity t-shirts! More than forty shirts were ordered. It was a team effort to produce the shirts. We thank the Board of Evangelism for the initial design, Adriane Campion (Reindl) for doing the graphic design, and Scott's Stuff for printing them. We should receive our order before Christmas. Please put your payment in the church secretary Polly Ney's church mailbox. A generous donation has also been made for us to purchase an inventory of shirts for anyone to buy in the future. Please let Pastor Pope or Polly Ney know if you'd like to buy one. It is \$8.50 for cotton t-shirts and \$14.50 for dry-wicking shirts, in silver or gold. Sizes XXL and higher are a slightly higher price.

Blood Drive

Thank you to those that donated during our Red Cross blood drive on Thursday, December 1, and to the Trinity members who volunteered to help that afternoon.

Trinity Library

The Trinity church library is now open and ready for self-checkout. The books have been categorized in three categories: Adult Fiction, Adult Non Fiction and Children's. Enjoy!

Church Office Hours

The Church Office hours have changed. The new hours will tentatively be: Monday - Friday 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Advent by Candlelight – December 3

Our first Advent by Candlelight (a tea event for women and a special way to get into the Christmas spirit) was a success and enjoyed by all that attended. Thank you to those women that hosted the tables, those that were guests and to Lois Fischer and Linda Wallander for organizing this event. Thank you!

Christmas at Sinawa

Trinity Church will again have a decorated cabin at Christmas at Sinawa. We encourage our members to come and attend this event. It takes place on December 3rd and 4th. The hours for Saturday are 4:00-9:00 and Sunday from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Our cabin is before the Living Nativity. You will see decorated cabins, a living nativity, wagon rides and food for purchase. Hope to see you there!

German Advent Service at Louis Corners – Dec. 10th

A German Christmas service will be held at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 19214 County Road XX, Kiel (Louis Corners) on Saturday, December 10, 2016 at 2:00 pm. The service- liturgy, bible passages with responsive hymns will be in German. Rev. Waldemar Loescher, Rev. Henry Koch, Rev. Robert Weiss, and Rev. Theodore Olsen will preside in this service.

Contact person - Ernst Gutschow @ 920-773-2386. Afterward, there will be a great array of Christmas cookies and snacks. All are welcome to come and worship.

Coming Soon to First German

... an afternoon of popcorn and a movie! A feature film by Salty Earth Pictures, "Mr. Scrooge to See You", follows the classic character from "Christmas Carol" as the next Christmas helps him find the true meaning of Christmas. It's a beautiful story for the whole family, presented by First German Evangelism Committee. The movie will begin at 2:00PM on Saturday, December 10, 2016 in the gymnasium. This event is **FREE!**

Living Nativity at St. Paul's Howards Grove

In celebration of the Good News of Jesus' birth, our congregation has again been working hard on a live-outdoor presentation of the Nativity. The presentation, now in its 14th year, is always the first weekend in December. The scheduled for this year is; Saturday,

December 3rd, Sunday, December 4th and runs every 20 minutes. Times for Saturday are 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm and the time for Sunday is 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. In addition, we will feature signed presentations on December 3rd at 8:00 pm for the hearing impaired. Admission is free and so is parking. All guests are invited to come into our gym, decorated as the town of Bethlehem at night, to warm up and enjoy hot chocolate, hot cider, coffee and cookies and listen to musical entertainment. We also feature a special display of interesting Nativity sets owned by members of St. Paul's. They will be located in our commons.

Concert Service with Musical Meditations – Dec. 11

For our 9:30 am service on December 11, we are blessed to have “**Sunday Morning with Spirited Strings**”. Alicia Michelle and her sisters will carry out this concert service for us. Alicia is a WELS member and a very talented violinist from the Appleton area. See her website: aliciamichellemusic.com. The offering to support our congregation's ministry will be during the service. A door collection after worship will support Alicia Michelle's music ministry. There will be Christmas treats afterwards. Please join us! The Bd. of Evangelism is providing treats, but If you'd also like to bring treats for after the service, please bring them to the church kitchen on the night of December 10 or on Sunday morning, the 11th.

Holy Communion – First Weekend of December

Because of the service concert on Dec. 11, we are having holy communion today instead of the usual second weekend of the month. There will not be holy communion on the weekend of Christmas but the Lord's Supper will be served on New Year's Eve.

Repeat Performance

GOT BAGS?

People are shopping for Christmas and Repeat Performance has been very busy. One of our cashiers asked me to put out a plea for more bags and wrapping materials. We use plastic bags in all sizes

and are especially short of paper shopping bags. We wrap breakables in tissue paper. A good source for that is the tissue from old patterns for dresses, etc.

You may drop these off at any time or give them to one of our volunteers. Thanks!

Advent Presentation

The Treble Choir of St. John's Newtonburg, cordially invites you to join them for an **Advent Presentation on 12/21 @ 6:30 PM** as we view our Savior through Mary's eyes.

Save the Date! All welcome – men, women and children. *A Mother Remembers* will be presented by St. John's Treble Choir, in the church proper.

The movie, "My Son, My Savior", published by Northwestern Publishing House, is the basis for *A Mother Remembers*.

Please feel free to invite a friend to join you, as it is a great evangelism opportunity.

There will be light refreshments available with fellowship following the presentation.

Happy Birthday

12/3 Carol Kasten
12/4 Kim Fischer
12/4 Leilyn Preston
12/4 Allayna Schreiber
12/5 Sherri Kasten
12/8 Scott Bratz
12/8 Mark Kiesow
12/11 Todd Glaeser
12/11 Shelby Johnson

Happy Anniversary

12/6 David & Jessica Jungbluth – 19 Years

If you have a December birthday or anniversary and it is not listed correctly please let us know so we can update your information. Thank you!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat.3rd	4-9 p.m.	Christmas at Sinawa
	7:00 p.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
Sun.4th	8:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class
	9:30 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:30 a.m.	Sharing Table
	4-8 p.m.	Christmas at Sinawa
Wed.7th	4:45 p.m.	Catechism
Thurs.8th	7:00 p.m.	Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Board of Spiritual Affairs
Sat.10th	10:30 a.m.	Children's Christmas Eve Practice
	12:00 p.m.	Pizza Party
	1:00 p.m.	Caroling (All are welcome to sing)
	7:00 p.m.	Worship
Sun.11th	8:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	8:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class
	9:30 a.m.	Concert Service with Spirited Strings
	10:30 a.m.	Refreshments
Tues.13th	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Wed.14th	5:30 p.m.	Catechism
Thurs.15th	7:00 p.m.	Choir

Ushers

Saturday, Dec. 3rd Steve Pleuss, Gary Vetter

Sunday, Dec. 4th Andy Fisher, Ron Kasten, Wayne Otto, Len Arnold

Greeters

December 4th Denise Preston

December 11th Jim & Grace Ott

December 18th Dave & Tara Mellstrom Family

Altar Guild: December – Group 4

Marilyn Kaufmann, Marie Knutson, Grace Ott, Jennifer Pankratz