



*THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT*

~~TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH~~ | Saline, Michigan

**THANK YOU** for joining us in God's house today! We cordially ask that our guests sign one of the guestbooks located at either the front or back entryways, or fill out a "Let's Get Acquainted" card located in the hymnal pew rack and place it in the collection plate.

**THANK OFFERING:** Members of Trinity give their offering as an expression of love and thankfulness to the Lord and to help support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

**RESTROOMS** are located at the back of the upper level (the annex), and in the basement (down the back stairs of the sanctuary or annex). Handicap access is available, please ask an usher for assistance.

**CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION:**

In His Word, God makes it clear that the Lord's Supper is to be shared by people of a common proclamation of faith (1 Corinthians 11:26; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Without judging anyone's hearts, we invite those who share in our confession by their membership in our congregation or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) and who are properly prepared (1 Corinthians 11:27-29) to receive the Sacrament. Page 295 in the front of Christian Worship provides a guide for preparation.

Guests, we would love to have you join us in communion fellowship in the future, and for that to be possible, we ask that you speak with one of the pastors so that we may speak with you on how that would be possible. We thank you for respecting the way we celebrate the Lord's Supper in our congregations.

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***SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT***



1 When all the world was cursed by Mo - ses' con - dem - na - tion,  
 2 Be - fore Saint John was born, he leaped in joy - ful meet - ing,  
 3 Be - hold the Lamb of God, who bears the world's trans - gres - sion,  
 4 O grant, dear Lord of love, that we re - ceive, re - joic - ing,



Saint John the Bap - tist came with words of con - so - la - tion.  
 con - fess - ing him as Lord whose moth - er he was greet - ing.  
 whose sac - ri - fice re - moves the dev - il's dread op - pres - sion.  
 the word pro - claimed by John, our true re - pent - ance voic - ing,



With true fore - run - ner's zeal the great - er one he named,  
 By Jor - dan's roll - ing stream, a new E - li - jah bold,  
 Be - hold the Lamb of God, who takes a - way our sin,  
 that glad - ly we may walk up - on our Sav - ior's way



and him, as yet un - known, as Sav - ior he pro - claimed.  
 he tes - ti - fied of him whom proph - ets had fore - told.  
 who for our peace and joy will full a - tone - ment win.  
 un - til we live with him in his e - ter - nal day.

Text: tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt.; Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711, abr.  
 Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701  
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*Please stand if you are able*

## INVOCATION

**M:** The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

### LORD, HAVE MERCY

- M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

- M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of

Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in



all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and

ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,

but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,

you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;

you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the

King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts, and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

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## *The Word*

### First Reading

*Zephaniah 3:14–17*

<sup>14</sup>Sing out, daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, you daughter of Jerusalem. <sup>15</sup>The LORD has removed the judgment against you. He has turned back your enemy. Israel's king, the LORD, is in your midst! You no longer need to fear disaster. <sup>16</sup>In that day Jerusalem will be told, "Do not be afraid, O Zion. Do not give up. <sup>17</sup>The LORD your God is with you as a hero who will save you. He takes great delight in you. He will quiet you with his love. He will rejoice over you with singing."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Choir

## **Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Lo, He comes with clouds descending, Once for our salvation slain;

Thousand, thousand saints attending swell the triumph of His train:  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him. Robed in dreadful majesty;  
Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing, Shall the true Messiah see.

Yea, Amen! Let all adore Thee, High on Thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory; Claim the kingdom for Thine own:  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Thou shalt reign and Thou alone.  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Thou shalt reign and Thou alone.

## Second Reading

*Philippians 4:4–7*

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

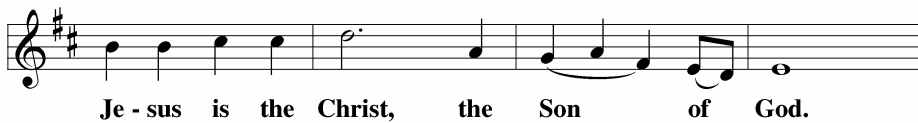
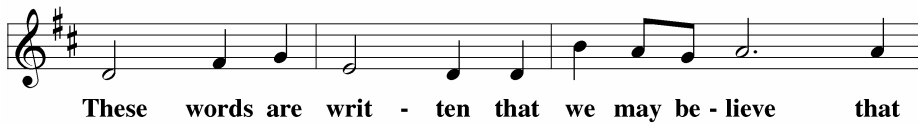
*Please stand if you are able*

## VERSE OF THE DAY

*Matthew 11:10*

Alleluia! I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.  
Alleluia!





## Gospel

*Luke 3:7–18*

<sup>7</sup>So John kept saying to the crowds who came out to be baptized by him, “You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup>Therefore produce fruits in keeping with repentance! Do not even think of saying to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ because I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. <sup>9</sup>Even now the ax is ready to strike the root of the trees. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is going to be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

<sup>10</sup>The crowds began to ask him, “What should we do then?”

<sup>11</sup>He answered them, “Whoever has two shirts should share with the person who has none, and whoever has food should do the same.”

<sup>12</sup>Tax collectors also came to be baptized. They said, “Teacher, what should we do?”

<sup>13</sup>To them he said, “Collect no more than what you were authorized to.”

<sup>14</sup>Soldiers were also asking him, “And what should we do?”

He told them, “Do not extort money from anyone by force or false accusation. Be satisfied with your wages.”

<sup>15</sup>The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might be the Christ. <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But someone mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor. He will gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” <sup>18</sup>Then with many other words, he appealed to them and was preaching good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Please be seated*

## 324 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

CW 324



- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?
- 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.
- 3 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,
- 4 Sin's debt, that fear - ful bur - den, let not your souls dis - tress;
- 5 He comes to judge the na - tions, a ter - ror to his foes,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light.  
Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.  
who mourn o'er joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.  
your guilt the Lord will par - don and cov - er by his grace.  
a light of con - so - la - tion and bless - ed hope to those



O Je - sus, let your Word be a lamp to light my way,  
Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing that led you to em - brace  
De - spair not; he is near you, he's stand - ing at the door  
He comes, for you pro - cur - ing the peace of sin for - giv'n,  
who love the Lord's ap - pear - ing. O glo - rious Sun, now come,



to show me how to please you, to guide me ev - 'ry day.  
in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race!  
who best can help and cheer you and bids you weep no more.  
his chil - dren thus se - cur - ing e - ter - nal life in heav'n.  
send forth your beams most cheer - ing, and guide us safe - ly home.

## Sermon

Luke 3:7–18

### “The Lord is Near—Rejoice!”

*Please stand if you are able*

#### NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen**

*Please be seated as we prepare the altar for Holy Communion*

*Please stand for prayer*

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C:** 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.

## *The Sacrament of Holy Communion*

Trinity Lutheran Church follows the historic Christian practice of *close communion*. We ask that only members of Trinity or one of our sister congregations partake of the sacrament. If you are not a member, please see the note about Holy Communion in the beginning of the Worship Folder.

**M:** The Lord be with you.



**C:** And al - so with you.

**M:** Lift up your hearts.



**C:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**M:** Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my  $\dagger$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

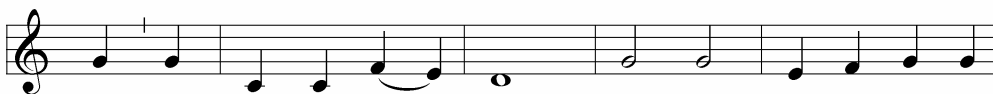


C: A - men.

### O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



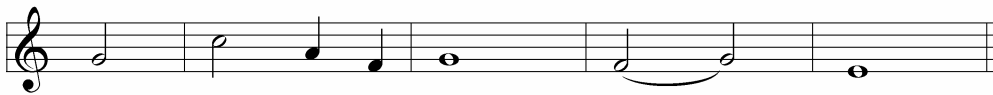
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

*Please be seated*



1 As an - gels joyed with one ac - cord up - on the  
2 He came, not clothed in maj - es - ty nor pow'r that  
3 This done, he soared to God's right hand, yet or - phaned  
4 In ev - 'ry age— let praise a - bound— he comes; we



ad - vent of our Lord, so let us glad - ly  
suits his de - i - ty. In low - ly state he  
not his cho - sen band, for he, not bound in  
hear his voice re - sound. His glo - rious gos - pel



praise the name of him who from the Fa - ther came.  
walked till he in dy - ing set us cap - tives free.  
grace and pow'r, at - tends his own each day and hour.  
does not cease to bring us com - fort, joy, and peace.

- 5 He comes in water to the child and cleanses it, from birth defiled.  
This washing seals his pard'ning grace and shows the Father's kindly face.
- 6 He comes to us in bread and wine to give himself and gifts divine.  
O praise him for this sacrament, redeeming love's great testament!
- 7 Lift up your heads! All grief and pain shall vanish when he comes again.  
Where we shall see him face to face, there joy alone shall have a place.

Text: Werner H. Franzmann, 1905–1996, abr., alt.

Tune: Latin, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

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*Please stand if you are able*



**C:** Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - news his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**M:** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C:** A - men.

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



**C:** A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Please be seated*



# 326 O Jesus, Grant Me Hope and Comfort

CW 326



1 O Je - sus, grant me hope and com-fort; O let me ne'er in  
2 O Je - sus, with thy ad - vent qui - et my rest - less soul and



sor - row pine. My heart, my soul, yea, all my be - ing, O  
anx - ious mind. In true hu - mil - i - ty I wel-come thee,



Je - sus, trust a - lone in thee. Thou Prince of Peace, thou  
Je - sus Christ, my joy di - vine. My thoughts, de - sires, and



Pearl from heav - en, true God, true man, my Morn - ing Star!  
all my long-ings I ded - i - cate, O Christ, to thee.

## *Refrain*



O come, thou pre - cious Sun most ra - diant, thy beams il -



lu - mine my heart, my soul. O come, thou pre - cious



Sun most ra - diant, thy beams il - lu - mine my heart, my soul.

Text: tr. Walter E. Buszin, 1899–1973; Wilhelm Osterwald, 1820–1887

Tune: Johann Franck, 1618–1677

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## **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**Officiant**

**Organist**

Pastor Pappenfuss

Marcia Marion Ackling

**Choir Director**

Sarah Hanke

**Accompanist**

Laura Sala

**Deacons**

(8:30 a.m.) Duane Mason and Dave Stevenson

(11:00 a.m.) Robert Niethammer and Gary Knowlton

**Ushers**

(8:30 a.m.) Dale Finkbeiner and Mark Finkbeiner

(11:00 a.m.) Dave Boswell and Jake Vershum

**Altar Guild**

Judy Lindemann and Sharon Boswell

**Videographer**

Ann Latowski

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