



# A Promise of THE PAST

## ADVENT 2025

*The 1st Sunday of Advent*

NOVEMBER 29 & 30, 2025



SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND

***Pastors***

Dan Gerriets, Daniel Hanson, Beverly Butler

***Preacher***

Pastor Dan Gerriets

***Organist***

Mark W. McClellan

***Acolytes***

Brody Bolinger, Ella Bolinger

***Scripture Readers***

Saturday: Roger Rossum      Sunday: Kirk Hardcastle

***Rite of Healing Assistants***

Saturday: Sue Schilling, Mary Galazin      Sunday: Karen Young

***Technical Support***

Madelyn Hurd and Team

***Greeters***

Saturday: Dan and Millie Godfrey, Roger Rossum      Sunday: Randy and Kathy Dedor

***Coffee Fellowship***

Ronda Smith, Tonya Brunsvold

***Worship Transportation***

Dean Graven, Vivian Heller

***Building Host***

David Stine

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Given by Linda Nelson

*in memory of Loved Ones*

*and in honor of the wonderful staff at Trinity*

# *The 1st Sunday of Advent*

## *Rite of Healing*

Saturday, November 29, 2025 - 5:00 PM

Sunday, November 30, 2025 - 9:00 AM with Livestream / KCMR 97.9

## **TRINITY ADVENT 2025: *A PROMISED SAVIOR***

### **Today: A Promise of the Past**

In the season of Advent, we count down the days until Christmas. This Advent, we center our worship on God's promise: the promise of a Savior. Trusting in God's enduring faithfulness, we prepare our hearts to celebrate Jesus' birth on Christmas while our longing hearts wait in hope for God's promised Savior's reign of peace.

This week, we reflect on "A Promise of the Past." Jesus didn't fall from the sky. He is the fulfillment of a promise made to people as their world fell apart - a promise waited on for generations. Remembering Christ's coming in Bethlehem, we see God's steadfast love across the generations. What God promises, God will do.

**Welcome to Trinity!** We are glad you're here. If you are new to Trinity Lutheran, please complete an informational card which can be found in the pews.

**We love having small children in worship!** Those needing a space to change or feed little ones are welcome to use the **Child Care Room** located next to the nursery. An **unstaffed nursery** is also available, located on the 2nd floor just outside the north sanctuary door (the door under the stained glass window door).

**Seating for People with Limited Mobility** is reserved in several places throughout the Sanctuary. Just look for the blue accessibility signs.

**Large print bulletins and listening devices** are available from the ushers.

**Activity Bags** are available for children during worship. They are located in the narthex and at the front of the church. Please return them at the end of services.



**Our Mission** *We are called to share God's healing love through Christ's forgiveness and our personal servanthood.*

## Prelude

## Welcome

### Confession and Forgiveness

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of  Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn      *My Lord, What a Morning***

ELW 438

### \*Greeting

P Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy and peace be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

### \*Prayer of the Day

P O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

## **Lighting of Advent Wreath and Children's Sermon (Sunday)**

L This Advent, we countdown the days until Christmas by lighting candles on the Advent wreath. Each bright light shines hope into our world and our hearts. God's love is near.

**C Jesus, you are our light and our salvation.**

L Today, we light the first Advent candle, remembering God keeps promises, even promises made long ago.

**C Jesus, you fulfill the promise of God's saving grace.**

L Jesus, we carry your light with us wherever we go. Shine in our hearts, Lord Jesus.

## **First Reading: Micah 5:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> Now you are walled around with a wall;  
siege is laid against us;  
with a rod they strike the ruler of Israel  
upon the cheek.

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the  
time  
when she who is in labor has brought  
forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in  
the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of  
the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall  
be great  
to the ends of the earth,

<sup>5</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

If the Assyrians come into our land  
and tread upon our soil,  
we will raise against them seven shepherds  
and eight rulers.

<sup>6</sup> They shall rule the land of Assyria with  
the sword  
and the land of Nimrod with the drawn  
sword;  
they shall rescue us from the Assyrians  
if they come into our land  
or tread within our border.

<sup>7</sup> Then the remnant of Jacob,  
surrounded by many peoples,  
shall be like dew from the LORD,  
like showers on the grass,  
which do not depend upon people  
or wait for any mortal.

L The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 27: 1-7; 14**

L The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**C When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,  
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

L Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.  
Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

**C One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;  
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the temple.**

L For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,  
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up on a rock.

**C Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.  
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the  
sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the Lord.**

L Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.

**C Wait for the Lord and be strong.  
Take heart and wait for the Lord!**

## \*Gospel Acclamation

ELW pg. 142

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the first chapter.  
C Glory to You, O Lord.

## \*Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:1-17

<sup>1</sup> An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

<sup>2</sup> Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, <sup>3</sup> and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, <sup>4</sup> and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, <sup>5</sup> and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, <sup>6</sup> and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, <sup>7</sup> and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, <sup>8</sup> and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, <sup>9</sup> and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, <sup>10</sup> and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, <sup>11</sup> and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

<sup>12</sup> And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, <sup>13</sup> and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, <sup>14</sup> and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, <sup>15</sup> and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, <sup>16</sup> and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, who bore Jesus, who is called the Messiah.

<sup>17</sup> So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

L The Gospel of the Lord.  
C Praise to You, O Christ.

**Hymn of the Day**

*Awake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*

ELW 436

**\*Prayers of Intercession**

P Lord in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

**\*Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

**Announcements**

**THANKSGIVING**

**Offering**

Text to Give is available at Trinity!

Simply text the amount you wish to give to 833-412-0093.

Or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

Please note where your gifts should be directed towards.



**\*Offertory**

Lord, we bring our gifts to you;  
Symbols of our love made new;  
As we wait for Christ, our Light;  
Bless our hearts with hope made bright.

(Sung to the tune of *Take My Life, That I May Be*, ELW 685)

## \*Offering Prayer

P God of healing and hope,  
you bless those who are hungry,  
promising to fill them with good things.  
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.  
In the name of Jesus Christ our Savior,  
now and forever.

C Amen.

## RITE OF HEALING

### Healing

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing - with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing.

In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world,  
we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

C Amen.

### Laying On of Hands and Anointing

*Those who wish to receive laying on of hands and anointing will come forward and stand as one might do in order to receive communion. Your forehead will be anointed by a pastor while a healing touch spiritual minister lays a hand on your shoulder. Ushers will assist in directing you forward. All who sense the need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives, the lives of others, and the world are invited to come forward.*

### Prayer

P Living God,  
through the laying on of hands, anointing and prayer,  
grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing.  
When we are afraid, give us courage; when afflicted, give us patience;  
when dejected, give us hope; and when alone,  
assure us of the support of your holy people.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

### **\*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.

### **SENDING**

#### **\*Blessing**

**P** The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,

God the Son save you,

and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you 

and grant you a faithful and courageous heart

now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**\*Sending Hymn**

***Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers***

ELW 244

#### **\*Sending**

**P** Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

*Please Note: There is no Sunday School this Sunday.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE!

### **Wednesday, December 3 | 6:00 PM**

A Community Meal is served from 6:00pm to 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall for a free-will offering. This week's menu: Chili Dogs, Chips, Salad, Fruit

### **ADVENT VESPERS SERVICE | 6:30—7:00PM | Sanctuary**

The service will combine story, Scripture, music, and prayer to connect our hearts this season of longing, anticipation, and hope.

### **\*Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room | 6:30pm—7:30pm**

Trinity's Choir is open to all vocalists, high school age & older. Please join us!

## **YOUTH PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES**

### **\*Nursery | 6:30pm—7:30pm | The Nursery is located on 2nd floor, just outside the Sanctuary.**

The Nursery is UNSTAFFED but is available for preschoolers and their parents during this time.

### **\*Campfire Kids, Grades 1-6 | Rm 208 | 6:30pm—7:30pm**

Campfire Kids is our elementary programming here at Trinity on Wednesday nights. Students embark on fun Bible adventures with their leader Nate Ruge, and other wilderness guides, as they experiment with Bible Stories and Faith Traditions. In December, we will explore our Nordic heritage and some traditions, including Santa Lucia.

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## **LEGACY APPRECIATION LUNCHEON Wednesday, December 3 | 12:00 Noon**

Have you named Trinity in your will or estate plans? Have you made a gift to the TLC Legacy Fund, or want to learn more about this opportunity? Then you are invited to a catered luncheon at the North Iowa Regional Commerce Center (9 N Federal Ave, Mason City). We want to thank you and share stories of how your gifts to the Legacy Fund and other memorials are helping Trinity live out its mission. The Meal will be catered by Cynthia Lewerke of the Decker House. To register, see the sign-up clipboard by the office or go to [trinity-mc.org/legacylunch](http://trinity-mc.org/legacylunch)

## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA Thursday, December 4 | 1:30pm | Fellowship Hall**

Join us for this annual time of fellowship and a presentation by fiber artist Norrie MacIlraith. A free will offering will be collected for Trinity Baby Kits. Friends are welcome!

## **TRINITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA Saturday, December 6 | 5:00 pm**

A special service of music and scripture featuring Trinity's Choir and Bronze Bell Choir entitled "A Child Born in the Quiet". Join us for this special evening of music at Trinity!

## **SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TAG and YSS NORTH IOWA GIVING TREE**

The Ministries Committee is again sponsoring this opportunity and thanks you for all your support in brightening the lives of these children in need! The Giving Tree, at the East Entrance, is filled with tags! Stop by and choose a gift to give. The tags will indicate whether to wrap the gift or leave it unwrapped. Please have all items returned to the church **by Friday, December 12**.

## **CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!**

Sound the trumpets, strike the drum — time to get the band back together again for the 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service here at Trinity! Participation in the band's rehearsals held on the two Sundays before Christmas Eve is encouraged. Contact Nathan Elsbernd: [nelsbernd19@gmail.com](mailto:nelsbernd19@gmail.com)

## **TRINITY CHRISTMAS**

### **SING-ALONG Sunday, December 7**

5:00pm-7:00pm | Join us for some jolly caroling and fellowship at Fat Hill Brewery! Bring an appetizer to share. A free will offering will be collected for Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank and the Community Kitchen. Please note that this is an Adult Event.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

### **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Sunday, December 14 | 10:30AM

Our annual program features all Sunday School Children and Trinity Youth telling the story of Jesus' birth. See you there!

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Individuals, couples or families interested in reading the Advent Liturgy and lighting the Advent Wreath on any of the upcoming Sundays? Please sign up on the clipboard outside the office or give us a call!

## **THANK YOU**

Throughout October, we explored what scripture teaches us about God's money story and how our own money stories can be reimagined and restored. We heard sermons, prayed, reflected on questions...and we have responded!

On two Faith Promise Weekends this month, we received more than 160 Faith Promise Forms for the coming year. Thank you for prayerfully considering what offering you will make to God through our church in 2026. Your gifts are an act of worship and an investment in God's work through us.

Our prayer is that you will find release and restoration in your life as you put God first in your giving and your living. May we all experience the joy that comes from knowing our gifts honor God and change lives!

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

### **MONDAY DECEMBER 1**

**9:00 AM** Centering Prayer (Rm 322 and on Zoom)  
**6:00 PM** Bronze Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2**

**8:00 AM** BASES Exercise Class (Gathering Space)  
**12:00 PM** Staff Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3**

**7:00 AM** Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)  
**8:30 AM** Women's Bible Study (Rm 300)

### **Wednesday Night Alive**

**6:00 PM** Advent Meal in the Fellowship Hall  
**6:30 AM** **ADVENT VESPERS SERVICE**  
**6:30 AM** Choir Practice and Youth Programs

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4**

**8:00 AM** BASES Exercise Class (Gathering Space)  
**10:30 PM** Clappers and Coffee Rehearsal (Rm 307)  
**1:30 PM** **Christmas Tea (Fellowship Hall)**

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6**

**5:00 PM** **CHRISTMAS CANTATA**

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7**

**9:00 AM** **WORSHIP SERVICE - Livestream, 97.9**  
**10:30 AM** **WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**11:30 AM** Youth Group (Fellowship Hall)

## **POINSETTIAS AND CHRISMAS MEMORIALS**

Poinsettia memorials (\$17) and Christmas memorials **are being accepted through December 14th**. Sign up on the clipboard or give us a call in the Office.