

First Sunday after



December 27, 2020 - 10:30 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

www.tlccg.com

Cottage Grove, Oregon

541-942-2373

Rev. James Markus

pastorjim@tlccg.com

Home: 541-767-9934

Trinity Lutheran Church Mission Statement

We commit ourselves to gather together to worship God, to study, to understand, to live His Word, and assist others to do the same.

WELCOME

We welcome you with open hearts so that you may open your heart to God's ever present love. Return to share God's Word with us each week.

AS WE GATHER

Today we conclude our worship series, Prepare Ye, by contemplating how we can share the arrival of Jesus, to others, through our proclaiming. John the Baptist stands as the forerunner of all future proclaimers of Christ and gives us the courage to use our own voices to proclaim our devotion to the One who is born to save.

Thanks to Elder Ron Fenrich for being the proclaimer of the gospel to us today.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME OF PREPARATION

INVOCATION

Elder: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

E: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!

C: Let us proclaim the name of the Lord and ascribe greatness to our God!

E: He is the Rock, his work is perfect and all his ways are just.

C: He is the God of faithfulness who does no wrong.

E: John came proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

C: As it is written in the book of Isaiah the prophet—all flesh shall see the salvation of our God!

HYMN

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

Prepare the royal highway;

The King of kings is near!

Let ev’ry hill and valley

A level road appear!

Then greet the King of Glory

Foretold in sacred story:

Hosanna to the Lord,

For He fulfills God’s Word!

God’s people, see Him coming:

Your own eternal king!

Palm branches strew before Him!

Spread garments! Shout and sing!

God’s promise will not fail you!

No more shall doubt assail you!

Hosanna to the Lord,

For He fulfills God’s Word!

**Then fling the gates wide open
To greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
Its tribute too should bring.
All lands, bow down before Him!
All nations, now adore Him!
Hosanna to the Lord,
For He fulfills God's Word!**

**His is no earthly kingdom;
It comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
For kindness so abounding:
Hosanna to the Lord,
For He fulfills God's Word!**

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

E: Moses writes in our first lesson, "I will proclaim the name of the Lord; ascribe greatness to our God! The Rock, his work is perfect and all his ways are just. He is the God of faithfulness who does no wrong."

Therefore, with contrite and broken hearts, we confess our sin.

C: Heavenly Father, we come to you because you are faithful and your ways are just.

E: But we are soiled by sin.

C: Dirty from misdeeds.

E: Grimy from guilt.

C: Lost in a cesspool of selfishness.

E: Though you are faithful.

C: We are faithless.

E: Though you are just and upright.

C: We can be unjust and dishonest.

Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

E: John the Baptist came proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. He pointed to the one who is mightier—Christ Jesus our Lord. Jesus loves you. Jesus died for you. Jesus lives for you. And Jesus forgives your every sin. And so we say to the world—

C: All flesh shall see the salvation of our God!

✘ WORD ✘

INTROIT *Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon Is 52:10*

¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

²The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

SALUTATION

E: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

E: *Let us pray.* Almighty and everlasting God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus whose birth, baptism, teaching, miracles, death and resurrection empower us to see your mighty salvation. With the open eyes of faith we thank, praise, serve and obey you; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 32:2-4*

²May my teaching drop as the rain,
my speech distill as the dew,
like gentle rain upon the tender grass,
and like showers upon the herb.

³For I will proclaim the name of the LORD;
ascribe greatness to our God!
⁴“The Rock, his work is perfect,
for all his ways are justice.
A God of faithfulness and without iniquity,
just and upright is he.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 15:1-4*

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 3:1-16*

E: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the third chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,

and the rough places shall become level ways,
⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits

in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" ¹¹And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" ¹³And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."

E: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

"On Jordan's Bank"

(Please see next page.)

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

SERMON

Proclaim

A CONFESSION OF FAITH

(Tune: O Little Town of Bethlehem)

**In God the father we believe, the Lord of hosts His name.
 All things from Him their form receive; by His strong Word they came.
 By Him was all created in earth and heav'n above.
 He made them all, things great and small, by His great pow'r and love.**

**In God's Son Jesus we believe, who came at God's own hour,
 Whom Virgin Mary did conceive by Holy Spirit's pow'r.
 He suffered and was buried, was raised at God's own call
 To reign on high, and to draw nigh at last as Judge of all.**

**In Holy Spirit we believe and in Christ's Church on earth.
 The saints, united, faith received, a gift of precious worth.
 He sanctifies and keeps us by His empow'ring love.
 Forgiven, we the grave shall flee to live with God above.**

PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

E: *Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.*

E: Lord Jesus Christ, you are our Divine Warrior who fights for us. Whether it's a mere skirmish or an all-out assault, the battle belongs to you, Lord. Fear and discouragement are not the order of the day; faith and hope are. This gift is for all people and so we confess—

C: All flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

E: Lord Jesus Christ, often we feel like Gideon taking on the Midianite army; like David standing before Goliath; like Elijah facing 400 prophets of Baal; like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in a fiery furnace; like Esther against the Persian government. It's not our competence but your presence that matters. This gift is for all people and so we confess—

C: All flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

E: Lord Jesus Christ, when it seems like evil and terror will triumph, give us eyes to see your power and your might. When we're under attack by the seducer, accuser and condemner, let us see your scars, your resurrection triumph and your all-sufficient grace. This gift is for all people and so we confess—

C: All flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

E: Lord Jesus Christ, when we have to confront darkness in broken people and broken situations, protect us and empower us through the gospel. When our divided hearts wage war inside us and we're tempted to look for another savior, come to us and fight, Jesus. This gift is for all people and so we confess—

C: All flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

(Additional Intercessions as Needed)

E: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

E: 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;

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.**

E: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!

C: **For what was delivered to us was of first importance—**

E: That Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures.

C: **That he was buried,**

E: That he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

C: **To the end that—all flesh shall see the salvation of our God!**

BENEDICTION

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

“Go Tell it on the Mountain”

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain

Be - hold, through - out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.
Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

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CLOSING COMMENTS

Those Who Serve Us

	<u>THIS WEEK</u> , Dec 27	<u>NEXT WEEK</u> , Jan 3
FLOWERS:	Nate & Connie Rowlett	<i>Open</i>
ACOLYTE:	Laura Kreklau	Laura Kreklau
READER:	Elisa Lais	<i>Open</i>
ELDER OF THE MONTH:	Ron Fenrich	Ron Fenrich
USHER OF THE MONTH:	Kitty McCrady	Kitty McCrady
MUSICIAN:	Connie Rowlett	Connie Rowlett
CAMERA:	Brian Spindler	Mary Kreklau
COMPUTER:	Joey Lee	Chip Kreklau
SOUND:	Katie Kreklau	Katie Kreklau



Trinity Weekly – December 27, 2020

TODAY:	Mite Box Sunday
	9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class in Fellowship Hall & via Zoom
	10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary & via Zoom
TUESDAY:	5:15 p.m. TLC Community Kitchen
THURSDAY:	5:15 p.m. TLC Community Kitchen
SUNDAY:	9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class in Fellowship Hall & via Zoom
	10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary w/HC & via Zoom
	Installation of 2021 Church Council
	11:45 a.m. De-decorating of the Sanctuary

JOINING ON ZOOM – Go to zoom.us. At the top of screen, click “Join a Meeting” and then enter meeting ID # and passcode which is 675675.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS, Sundays, 9:15 a.m. Meeting ID: 818 9958 3985

WORSHIP SERVICE, Sundays, 10:30 a.m. Meeting ID: 896 3437 0678

RECORD OF LOVE – Offerings can be mailed to the church or dropped off on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday mornings. *Sun, Dec 20 Offerings: \$1,970*

Sun, Dec 20: Attendance: Sanctuary – 43 & Online – 42 Total: 85

FLOWERS – Our flowers are presented to the Glory of God. Today they are in honor of Robert and Connie Rowlett’s 50th Wedding Anniversary.

PRAYING FOR THE MYRTLEWOOD CIRCUIT CONGREGATIONS – Pastor Greg Howald and St. James Lutheran Church in Myrtle Point.

SIGN UP SHEETS – *We need servants!* Please look over the **2021 Sign-up Sheets** that are posted on the bulletin board by the church office. Here’s the options: Acolyte, Flowers for the Sanctuary, Reader during Worship Service, Usher.

DE-DECORATING - Oh Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree - Please stay, if you are able, **following worship on January 3rd** for the “de-decorating” of the sanctuary. Wreaths need to be disassembled, trees taken down, and swags put away. *Please bring gloves, pliers and flat edge screw drivers.* Thank you.

OUT OF OFFICE – Pastor Jim will be out of the office the week of Dec 27.

INSTALLATION OF 2021 CHURCH COUNCIL - All new and returning Church Council members will be installed during worship on January 3rd. Thank you for your service.

OFFERING ENVELOPES – The 2021 offering envelopes have been placed in your mailbox. Those of you who had envelopes with the number 71 through 80 will notice that you have a new number for 2021. Please DISCARD ANY UNUSED 2020 envelopes.

Please stop by the church to pick up your box. Remember that Connie is in the office Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and the doors are open. If you have not received weekly envelopes in the past, but would like to have some, please contact Joyce McCullough. (541-942-3933) or Pat Fordyce.

JOYFUL RESPONSE - Electronic Giving--Fast, easy, and secure!

Support the work of your church through Electronic Giving. Have your weekly or monthly contribution debited from your checking or savings account and transferred directly into the church account safely and electronically—you’ll never have to remember your checkbook again! Enrollment forms are posted on the bulletin board by the church office.

STEWARDSHIP – Luke 2:39 – “And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord...” The Law of God is good. Of course, it always shows us our sins, but that is good, too! We need to be driven back to the forgiveness of Christ. And the Law also shows us the truly blessed way to live. As Mary and Joseph found their joy in a godly life, so should we see the Law as a guide for Christian living and the roadmap for saying thank you to the Lord for all His grace and mercy to us.

TWIM BARGAINS

- The 2021 wall **calendars** and pocket calendars are here and for sale. The wall calendars are \$5.00, pocket calendars are \$4.00. Also available are Christian themed sticky note pads for 25-cents! See Peggy Brown or Pat Fordyce to get this good stuff.
- Trinity's annual **Cookie Walk** is cancelled due to Covid restrictions. HOWEVER, the ladies of TWIM are asking for you to consider what you would have spent on ingredients to make cookies for the Cookie Walk. Then make that a donation for Bethesda Lutheran Auxiliary! ***The month of December there will be a container in the hallway on Sundays where you can place your donation.***

PORTALS OF PRAYER – The January through March 2021 Devotional Booklets are here.

The Lutheran Hour Broadcast Sunday Mornings 8:00 a.m. on KKNX - 840AM

January 3

“Too Much”

(Mark 1:1-2:12)

The Gospel according to St. Mark shows us the Savior Who is always on the move.

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

PRAYER CHAIN

“...keep on praying for all the saints.”

Eph. 6:18b

If you have a need or a joy for which you would like others to join with you in prayer, please contact Linda Ducker webduck@hotmail.com, 541-942-7260.

WORSHIP AT TRINITY – These options are available:

- 1) In Sanctuary – Gather with one another maintaining social distancing and following “Protocols for Gathering for Worship.” Holy Communion is offered on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays.
- 2) Streaming Service via Zoom – Stream service to your home. (Meeting ID: 896 3437 0678 and Passcode: 675675) We recognize that not everyone feels comfortable, yet, going out in public. Bulletins are available through our Little Library outside the Fellowship Hall.
- 3) Bulletin/Sermon via mail – There are a few folks who do not have access to Zoom. Each Monday a bulletin with sermon is mailed for a personal time of worship.

If you are worshipping from home, individual communion is available from Pastor Jim. Get in touch with him via phone, 541-942-2373, or email: pastorjim@tlccg.com.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS - A very grateful Thank You to everyone who thoughtfully contributed money toward poinsettias that helped decorate the altar area for our joyous Christmas Celebration of God's great Love for us! It was appreciated.

**All Christmas Poinsettias were offered to the
Glory of God in Celebration of Jesus' Birth.**

Altar Flowers given in Memory of:

Elaine Monighan by Linda and Michael Stahl
Marcia Anderson by Nancy and Steve Vasilakes

Christmas Poinsettias given In Memory of:

Bob Bauder by Irene Bauder
Joe Bovee, & Lou & Forrest Thornhill
by Sherran Bovee
Donna Perini & Margi Matlock by Barbara Hooker
Kerry O'Fallon & Mae & Frank Delyea
by Mary Jo O'Fallon
Bill Schmidt, Daddy & Grandparents Bolin & Johnson,
and Bernice & Fred Fuller by Penny Schmidt
Lowell Zentner by Janet and Jack Spindler
Cherlynn Ashley by Nancy Vasilakes
Phillip Chamberlain by Jill and Wally Weintritt

Christmas Poinsettias given in Honor of:

Family and Friends by Sharon and Bob Stender
DaNelda Strode by her Secret Sister

***“Arise and shine, for your light has come”
Rejoice with the heavenly choir of angels, Alleluia!***