

November 29, 2020
9:30 Worship
1st Sunday of Advent



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
“Participating in God’s mission of life”
7104 - 39th Avenue
Kenosha, WI 53142

*We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation
(All are welcome here)*

Email: churchadmin@trinitykenosha.org
Phone 262-694-5050

*When jealous advisors tricked the king into outlawing worship of God,
Daniel remained loyal to God. After surviving the sentence of execution by
lion, Daniel’s courage turned an entire kingdom toward God.*

*The mission of God is life. Hope replaces despair. Faith replaces fear. Life
replaces death. How are you participating in God’s mission of life?*

WELCOME

AM: Good morning. Welcome to Trinity, Kenosha in the name of the Lord. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who welcomes and affirms all persons into the life of our faith community. Our sermon today will be given by Dalton Rosa-Ruggieri.

We extend a special welcome for those watching who are new to our faith community and invite you to explore our ministries by visiting our website at trinitykenosha.org. Our new member team leader, Joe Falduto, is eager to listen and answer your questions about our ministries. Please feel free to email him. Welcome to worship!

** Brief video about Advent will play*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

AM: We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

C: Amen.

The first candle is lit by Gwen Hammond.

♪ Light One Candle To Watch for Messiah, verse 1 #240

*Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.*

Brief announcement on making your own Advent wreath

GATHERING SONG

♪ *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* #256

*Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim that God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever.*

*For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
Calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God away.
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior; hills, bow down in humble favor.*

*Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.*

FORGIVENESS AND CONFESSION

AM: We gather in the name of God Eternal, God Incarnate, and God Companion. Amen.

Trusting in the abundant mercy and everlasting love of the Holy Triune God, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

AM: Renewing God,

C: ...You have come into our world to live among us, yet we often lose sight of this and seek to manufacture our own truth. We are afraid to share your word lest others judge or mock us. We ignore your wisdom because it isn't convenient. We allow ourselves to be defeated by despair. Forgive our negligence and breathe new life into our heavy hearts.

AM: God knows our every weakness and still loves us and upholds our life. May your sins be forgiven, your past forgotten, and your hope restored in the name of our incarnate savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen

SONG OF PRAISE

♪ *Oh, Sing to the Lord* *Hymn 822*

Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.

Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.

Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.

For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.

For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM: Let us pray together the Prayer of the Day. Protective God,

C: ...You guarded over your faithful servant Daniel when his life was threatened, because he refused to dishonor you. Show us the power that the smallest acts of faith may have to influence the world for good, by the help of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

AM: Scriptures today will be read by D'Arcy Pye.

L: Through the proclaimed word of God, the Holy Spirit moves to instill and deepen faith.

A reading from the gospel of Luke.

(Luke 23:1-5)

²³Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate.

²They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." ³Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king

of the Jews?” He answered, “You say so.” ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.” ⁵But they were insistent and said, “He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

L: A reading from the book of Daniel.

(Daniel 6:6-27)

⁶So the presidents and satraps conspired and came to the king and said to him, “O King Darius, live forever! ⁷All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. ⁸Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked.” ⁹Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict. ¹⁰Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously.

¹¹The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. ¹²Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, “O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?” The king answered, “The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.” ¹³Then they responded to the king, “Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.” ¹⁴When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him.

¹⁵Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.” ¹⁶Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” ¹⁷A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel.

¹⁸Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him. ¹⁹Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. ²⁰When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” ²¹Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! ²²My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” ²³Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. ²⁴The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

²⁵Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: “May you have abundant prosperity! ²⁶I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: For he is the living God, enduring forever. His kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end. ²⁷He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.”

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON - video

Dalton Rosa-Ruggieri

A moment of silence follows the sermon for the movement of the Holy Spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY

♪*Abide with Me, vv. 1,2,4* **Hymn 629**

*In heav'n above, in heav'n above, where God our Father dwells;
How boundless there the blessedness! No tongue its greatness tells.
There face to face, and full and free,
The everliving God we see, our God, the Lord of hosts!*

*In heav'n above, in heav'n above, what glory deep and bright!
The splendor of the noonday sun grows pale before its light.
The mighty sun that goes not down,
Before whose face clouds never frown, is God, the Lord of hosts!*

*In heav'n above, in heav'n above, God has a joy prepared,
Which mortal ear has never heard, nor mortal vision shared,
Which never entered mortal thought,
In mortal dreams was never sought, O God, the Lord of hosts!*

APOSTLES CREED

AM: Let us confess our faith together with the words of the 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 THE CHURCH

AM: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: Almighty God,....**"Hear our prayer"**

AM: The perceived threats and dangers of this world don't seem as overwhelming when we turn to you, O Lord. Tame the lions which paralyze us from moving forward in faith and courage. Almighty God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Turn us away from the frenzy of holiday merchandising, that we might be fully present to anticipate the fulfillment of your promise. May our days be filled with light and hope as the hemisphere enters its darkest season. Almighty God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: We have demonized, exploited and driven the wildness of your creation to extinction. Bless the work of all those who attempt to rescue endangered species and protect threatened habitats. Almighty God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: When we feel we are most abandoned and alone, it is then that you come to us with your holy presence and comfort. Be especially with those who feel isolated at this time of year, and with those whose needs are particularly known to us today... Almighty God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Hold all your saints and martyrs in your eternal care, safe until the day when all the living and the dead shall be reunited in your love. Almighty God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Our eyes await the fulfillment of all your promises, the answer to all our prayers: your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

C: Amen.

PEACE

AM: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

AM: If you are gathered with friends or family, share a word of peace with one another.

OFFERING

AM: During this season of “together while apart” your financial gifts given to the glory of God are especially precious and needed.

Three ways to give:

1. Mail a check to Trinity, 7104 - 39th Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53142
2. Text a dollar amount with dollar sign (i.e. \$20) to: 262-429-9785
3. Select the “Giving” button on our homepage,
www.trinitykenosha.org

Thank you, and thank God for you!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

AM: Let us pray:

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

AM: As we pray together the Lord's Prayer, please use the version that best nurtures your faith.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

BLESSING

AM: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord's face shine on you
and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and
give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

♪ *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.*

*Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.*

DISMISSAL

AM: Almighty God guide, bless, and keep you, that you may be faithful
in the ministry to which you have been called as a baptized child of
God. Amen.

C: Thanks be to God.