

December 13, 2020
9:30 Worship
3rd 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)*

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Phone 262-694-5050

Although Israel had sinned and was exiled, God still promised a better future. One day God would adorn the people with salvation and righteousness.

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?

PRELUDE

♪♪ **Come As You Are**(B. Glover, D. Crowder)

Come out of sadness, from wherever you've been.

Come broken-hearted, let rescue begin.

Come find your mercy, oh sinner come kneel

Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal.

So lay down your burdens, lay down your shame.

All who are broken lift up your face.

Oh wanderer come home, you're not too far.

So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are.

There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed,

Come sit at the table, come taste the grace.

There's rest for the weary, rest that endures.

Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't cure.

So lay down your burdens, lay down your shame.

All who are broken lift up your face.

Oh wanderer come home, you're not too far.

So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are.

Come as you are. Fall in his arms. Come as you are.

There's joy for the morning, oh sinner, be still

Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal.

Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal.

So lay down your burdens, lay down your shame.

All who are broken lift up your face.

Oh wanderer come home, you're not too far.

So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are.

So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are.

WELCOME

AM: Good morning. Welcome in the name of the Lord to Trinity, Kenosha. 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.

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!

ADVENT INTRODUCTION

P: In Advent, we're reminded how much we need a Savior, and we look forward to our Savior's second coming even as we prepare to celebrate his first coming at Christmas. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming" or "visit." In the season with this name, we keep in mind both "advents" of Christ: the first in Bethlehem and the second yet to come.

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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

AM: We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

C: Amen.



*The three candles are this week are lit by
Kenzie, Khloe & Kilie Kruse.*

♪♪ Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah verse 3, Hymn #240

*Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.*

GATHERING SONG

♪♪ My Lord, What a Morning... Hymn #438

*My Lord, what a morning; my Lord, what a morning;
Oh, my Lord, what a morning when the stars begin to fall,
You will hear the trumpet sound, to wake the nation underground,
Looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.*

*My Lord, what a morning; my Lord, what a morning;
Oh, my Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall,
You will hear the sinner cry, to wake the underground,
Looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.*

*My Lord, what a morning; my Lord, what a morning;
Oh, my Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall,
You will hear the Christian shout, to wake the nation underground,
Looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall.*

FORGIVENESS AND CONFESSION

P: We gather in the name of God the Creator, God the Incarnate, and God the Advocate. 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.

P: Merciful 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.

P: God knows our every weakness and sin yet loves us and affirms our lives. Hear this good news! Your sins are forgiven. Your past regrets and shame forgotten and your hope restored in the name of our incarnate savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

All: Amen

SONG OF PRAISE

♪♪ Let the Whole Creation Cry Hymn 876

*Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high!"
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing, "Praise to our almighty king!"
Praise God, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love;
Sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice.*

*Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem loud and bold,
And let children's happy hearts in this worship take their parts;
From the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll:
"Holy, Holy, Holy One; glory be to God alone!"*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: ...You restore to your people all that has been lost. Renew our hopes for the future and our zeal for serving you as chosen and beloved children, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

AM: Scriptures today will be read by Dru Spitzer..

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

A reading from the gospel of Luke.

(Luke 4:16-21)

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,
¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

L: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

(Isaiah 61:1-11)

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁵Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines; ⁶but you shall be called priests of the Lord, you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. ⁷Because their shame was double, and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot, therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs. ⁸For I the Lord

love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Create in Me A Clean Heart Hymn #186

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit
from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free
Spirit.*

SERMON -

Pastor Tom

HYMN OF THE DAY

♪♪ Hark, the Glad Sound! Hymn 239

*Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.*

*He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held,
The gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.*

*He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.*

*Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.*

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: Please text your prayer requests to 287-8098.

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: Generous God,....**"Hear our prayer"**

AM: More valuable than expensive clothes or symbols of status is the robe of righteousness with which you cover us. Teach us to treasure the gifts of your kingdom blessings more than the material things which we are tempted to pursue. Generous God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Build up and restore ruined relationships and shattered connections with those from whom we feel distanced. Forgive harmful words and actions and teach us to value love and compassion above the need to be right and to justify ourselves. Generous God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Just as the earth brings forth shoots and a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, you will keep your promise to renew all of creation, even after all the damage it has suffered. Make us co-creators in your reconciling work, defenders of living things and the environment which supports them. Generous God,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Those who mourn will one day celebrate again. Heal all those struggling with grief, regret, sadness, or any sort of illness, especially those whom we name before you... Generous God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: We honor St. Lucia for her generosity and devotion to her faith, and we pray to be as bold in our own proclamation of your gospel. Generous God,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: *(Here other petitions are offered)* Generous 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.

There are 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

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 - Pastor Tom

BLESSING

P: 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

♪ *All Earth Is Hopeful*..... *Hymn #266*

*All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!
Furrows lie open for God's creative task:
This, the labor of people, who struggle to see
How God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.*

*People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:
"A virgin's mother will bear Emmanuel";
She conceived him, "God with us," our brother,
whose birth restores hope and courage to children of this earth.*

*Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;
New highways opened, new protocols declared.
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!
All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!*

*We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib.
This same Lord Jesus today has come to live in our world;
He is present, in neighbors we see our Jesus is with us,
And ever sets us free.*

DISMISSAL

AM: Go. Live by faith. The advent of the Lord is getting nearer.

C: Thanks be to God.