

JOY

December 28-29, 2024



Trinity Lutheran Church
213 North Pennsylvania Ave. | Mason City, Iowa 50401 | 641-423-0536 | trinity-mc.org

First Sunday after Christmas

December 28, 2024—5:00 p.m.

December 29, 2024—9:00 a.m.

Livestream Worship Service/KCMR 97.9

The birth of Christ brings good news of great joy to all people, which is cause for celebration. On this Sunday after Christmas, we encourage you to be playful, to not take yourself too seriously, to laugh. For laughter is like hope—it has a ripple effect. It's one of many ways we live and share the good news.

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. A

unstaffed nursery is available during the **9:00 and 10:30**

services, located on the 2nd floor just outside the north sanctuary door (door under the stained glass window door).

Seating for People with Limited Mobility is reserved in the pew located in front of the Technical booth.

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.

Serving in Worship This Weekend

Pastor Pastor Dan Gerrietts
Pastor Beverly Butler

Organist Teresa Jacobson

Greeters Gary & Sharon Lindgren

Coffee Fellowship
Tonya Brunsvold, Rhonda Smith

Scripture Readers
5:00 p.m. Sally Becker
9:00 a.m. Danny Miller

Acolytes Jay and Audrey Lingbeek

Technical Support
9:00 a.m. Carter Rockwell, Penny Bennett
Addison Koob

Worship Transportation
Dean Graven, Craig Remmen

Ushers
5:00 p.m. John Barron, Stu Vold
9:00 a.m. Randy Elsbernd, Candy Marshall,
Kevin Hendrikson, Jake Rockman

Building Host
Randy Elsbernd

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

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

*Call to Worship

L We have named our joy out loud, and it is clear—

C God is in our joy.

L God is in this room.

C We have reason to celebrate.

L We have a reason to sing.

C Thanks be to God for the bright hope of this day.

*Opening Hymn

Joy to the World

ELW 267

*Confession and Forgiveness

L Joyful God, you told us that in order to enter the kingdom of heaven,
we must be like children.

**C Did you mean that like children, we must practice unhindered joy?
Did you mean that like children, we should lean into laughter, release our
cynicism, and open ourselves to delight?**

L In a world as broken and battered as ours, we admit,

C this often seems easier said than done.

L Forgive us, patient God, for the moments when we are so focused on the bad
that we miss the good.

**C Forgive us for hearing the nativity story and responding with indifference
or distraction.**

L We know that even now you are sowing delight in our lives. Open our hearts up to it.

**C With gratitude we pray.
Amen.**

L Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

C We are seen. We are loved. We are forgiven.

L That is news worth celebrating! That is news that should make us want to cheer, laugh,
cry with relief, dance, and sing all at the same time! So in response to God's goodness,
I invite you to rise in body or spirit and join me in the sung response. Let us make a
joyful noise for God's abundant mercy.

Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270

Prayer of the Day

L God of angel choruses and contagious laughter,
we know that you speak to us in the quiet.
We know that when we bow our heads and fall to our knees,
you are there, hovering close, calling our names.
We also trust that when we throw our heads back in laughter,
when we dance and clap with joy,
when we skip and sing with gratitude,
that also there, you are speaking.
So on this Sunday morning we pray:
open our ears and hearts to hear what it is that you are saying.
Meet us in joy.
Meet us in delight.
Meet us in the hope of this Christmas season.

C Amen

WORD

Children's Sermon (9:00)

Dani Vogel

First Readings: Luke 2:10

Isaiah 9:2-3

L But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. (*Luke 2:10*)
The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder. (*Isaiah 9:2-3*)

Hymn

Angels From the Realms of Glory

ELW 275

Practice Joy | *Joy Found in Scripture*

Second Readings: Matthew 2:10

Psalm 98

L When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.
(*Matthew 2:10*)

O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

The Lord has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

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

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

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it,
the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity. (*Psalm 98*)

Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful

ELW 283

Practice Joy | *Joy Found in Community*

L The peace and joy of Christ be with you.

C And also with you

Third Readings: Psalm 126:1-3
Isaiah 55:12-13

L When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
Then our mouth was filled with laughter
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”
The LORD has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced. (*Psalm 126:1-3*)

For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off. (*Isaiah 55:12-13*)

Hymn *Go Tell It On the Mountain* ELW 290

Announcements

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.



Special Music *Candlelight Carol* by John Rutter
Mixed Quintet—Jennaya Everist, Maggie Gerrietts, Gavin Ryner
Jack Willrett, Holden Willrett

***Offering Hymn** *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* ELW 276

*Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!*

*Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!*

***Offering Prayer**

L Thank you, God, for the gifts you have given us – gifts that bring us joy and are shared for the joy of others. Bless what we have gathered, that it might bring about your reign and your life in our community and world. In Jesus' name,
C Amen

Practice Joy | *Joy Found in Healing*

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. Usbers 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.

Hymn

The First Noel

ELW 300

SENDING

***Prayer**

L Holy One, indeed you have done great things for us.
In the midst of our heavy and hurting world, we have many reasons to rejoice.
We are grateful for the people, the experiences, the unexpected blessings and the simple moments of care that we have received from your hand.
Trusting in your goodness, we remember all in need, especially...
When our joy becomes scarce, remind us of your unending grace in our lives.
When hope becomes dim, grant us laughter.
When love seems absent, help us remember that we have much to be grateful for.
O God, you are near and that is good news of great joy for all people.
In your holy name we pray.

C Amen

***Hymn**

Angels We Have Heard on High

ELW 289

***Sending**

P Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trinity's Pastoral Care Staff makes regular visits to Mercy One North Iowa hospital. But not everyone who is hospitalized appears on the clergy list. If you are hospitalized and wish to be visited, please contact the church office.

Sunday Morning Coffee Servers

Volunteering to serve coffee is fun, not too difficult, and it's a wonderful way to meet or catch up with the congregation and visitors. A member of the Ministries Committee is there to assist you. We have *openings from January to June 2025*, so whether you are new to volunteering for Sunday coffee or you have volunteered in the past, please sign up for a Sunday on the bulletin board by the church office.

The 2025 Flower Calendar and Bulletin Calendar

have been posted. If you'd like to honor a loved one, remember a birthday and/or an anniversary while enhancing Trinity's sanctuary for the celebration of worship, please consider donating altar flowers or colored bulletins for a weekend. Both calendars are located on the bulletin board next to the church office. Altar Flowers are \$45 and Bulletins are \$25.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, December 30

9:00 a.m. Quilting (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, December 31

NO BASES Exercise

Noon

Staff Meeting

Wednesday, December 25

Happy New Year

Church Building and Offices Closed

Thursday, January 2

8:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (Gathering Space)

Saturday, January 4

Holy Communion Celebrated

5:00 p.m. **Worship Service**

Sunday, January 5

Holy Communion Celebrated

9:00 a.m. **Worship Service**

9:15-10:15am Sunday School

10:30 a.m. **Worship Service**

Wednesday Night Alive—Will resume on **January 8th**

Meal at 6:00 p.m and programming beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Book Discussion

Monday, January 13 | 1:00 PM | The Gathering Space

Our next book is *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni. *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* is a heartwarming novel that celebrates overcoming the unfairnesses of life." Multiple copies are available to check out from the Trinity Lutheran Church office.

Scholarship Applications

Attention High School seniors and current college students: Scholarship applications and re-applications for the 2024-2025 school year are available to pick up outside the church office. Forms are available on Trinity's website. Applications must be turned in to the church office by **March 1, 2025**.

All year end contributions for 2024 need to be turned in to the church office by noon on December 31, 2024