



## First Sunday in Advent

Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran Church and School    2950 Highway 55    Eagan, MN 55121  
Rev. James L. Kroonblawd, Senior Pastor    651.454.7235    office@trinityloneoak.org    trinityloneoak.org  
Mrs. Kathryn Jones, Principal    651.454.1139    school@trinityloneoak.org    tloschool.org

**AS WE GATHER**

Though a full month remains before we turn our calendars to 2025, today we can wish a “happy new year” in the life of the church. The Advent season begins a new church year and is a time of preparation, as the Latin “Adventus” means an arrival or coming of someone. More than preparing for the coming of just anyone, here we prepare for our Savior. As we get hearts and minds ready for the Christmas crescendo to come celebrating Christ’s humble birth, we also remain prepared in this season and always as He promises to come again.

**INVOCATION** (Remain Seated)

- P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*John 1:5, 9; Genesis 3:15; Psalm 33:20–22*

- P Each week in Advent, we light a candle as we prepare for the arrival of the Savior, who would come to His people in human flesh and who promises to come again. In a world of darkness, a light shines. Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
- C **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**
- P The first Advent candle is known as the prophecy candle or the candle of hope. We hear again the first promise and prophesy made in the Garden of Eden after the fall into sin: “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.” The Lord has kept His Word through the mouths of prophets who, for generations, pointed people to the promised Savior to come.
- C **The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**
- P Guided by the light of hope, we respond with the psalmist: “Our soul waits for the Lord;  
C **He is our help and our shield.**
- P For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name.  
C **Let Your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in You.”**

*The first Advent candle is lit.*

**HYMN****O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL****LSB 357, vs. 1, 2****\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *1 John 1:8–9; Jer. 33:14, 16; 1 Thes. 3:12–13; Luke 21:28*

- P As we begin the Advent season—a time of preparation for the coming of our Savior and a time of pondering God’s great love for us given in His Son—we also prepare ourselves to come before Him in humility and with honesty. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

- P The prophet Jeremiah proclaims, "The days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made. . . . And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'"
- C **We confess we have not rightly rejoiced in the promises that the Lord made and fulfilled and have instead found our fulfillment in the temporal things of our lives and this world. We have sought our own rightness instead of the Lord's righteousness. Forgive us.**
- P Paul prays, "May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, . . . so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus."
- C **We confess our hearts are full of blame and unholiness. Our love has been misguided and our actions have been self-serving. We have not loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us.**
- P As Jesus speaks of the time of His return, He calls His followers to "straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."
- C **We confess we have not remained ready for Your return, nor realized time is short for the work You've called us to do. We have prioritized other matters instead of Your Word, relied on other things instead of Your presence, and in our thoughts, words, and actions have chosen to live our way instead of by Your commands. Forgive us.**
- P The Lord is our righteousness. He alone establishes hearts blameless in holiness at His coming. Redemption draws near. We are declared righteous, blameless, and redeemed because of the living, dying, and rising of our Savior, Jesus Christ. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

## **\*KYRIE**

- C **Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

## **\*SALUTATION**

- P The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P Let us pray.  
Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Jeremiah 33:14–16*

<sup>14</sup>"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

*1 Thessalonians 3:9–13*

<sup>9</sup>What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, <sup>10</sup>as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, <sup>12</sup>and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, <sup>13</sup>so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### \*VERSE

*Psalms 24:7*

- P Alleluia. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
- C **that the King of glory may come in. Alleluia.**

### \*HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 21:25–36*

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.
- C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup>[Jesus said:] "There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup>people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

<sup>29</sup>And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup>For it will come upon all who dwell on the

face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SERMON HYMN                      THE DAY IS SURELY DRAWING NEAR                      LSB 508, vs. 1, 4, 6, 7**

**SERMON    Preparing for the Savior**

**\*NICENE CREED**

C **I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## \*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After our petitions:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

## OFFERING

### \*PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### \*PROPER PREFACE

\***SANCTUS** —*sung; tune LSB 161*

### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### \*THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### \*PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father... So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

\***LORD'S PRAYER**—*See projection screens or inside back cover of the hymnal*

### \*PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

\***AGNUS DEI**—*sung; tune LSB 163*

**DISTRIBUTION** Distribution is at the rail, with both common cup and individual cup; de-alcoholized wine in center of tray. Gluten free wafers available by signifying to pastor/elder. Please use the pew cards to register your attendance at Holy Communion.

**HYMN**

**ARISE, O CHRISTIAN PEOPLE**

**LSB 354**

**HYMN**

**JESUS CAME, THE HEAVENS ADORING**

**LSB 353**

\***NUNC DIMITTIS**—*sung; tune LSB 165*

### \*POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**\*CLOSING SENTENCES**

*John 1:5, 9*

- P The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- C **The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C **Amen.**

**HYMN TO DEPART**

**THE ADVENT OF OUR KING**

**LSB 331, vs. 1–5**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**Serving our Lord**

		December 1, 2024	December 8, 2024
Musician		Diane Streich	Merlin Simon
Cantor		Andy Koch	Dave Workman
Altar Guild		Nancy Strand and Sharon Drews	Nancy Strand and Sharon Drews
Elder	8am	Andy Olson and Rob Orr	Andy Olson
	10:30am	Sam Erdman and Matthew Berg	Kurt Vallin
Reader	8am	Andy Olson	Dan Schield
	10:30am	Matthew Berg	Keith Prusak
Usher Team	8am	Gary Sheets	Andy Olson
	10:30am	Ben Swenson	Jon Peterson
Greeter(s)	8am	Open	Open
	10:30am	Helen Stoerzinger	Helen Stoerzinger
Acolyte	8am	Sophia Orr, Mason Kolb	Isaac Koch, Beth Koch
	10:30am	Ethan Swenson, Sean Hakanson	Dana Vallin, Sabontu Benya
Projection	8am	Jean Peterson	Matt Seeman or Jacob Seeman
	10:30am	Ben Swenson	Sebastian Ness
Live Stream	8am	Jim Nicklas	Jim Nicklas
Coffee Hour	9:15am	Roxanne and Gary Foley	LWML

**COMING UP AT TLO — December 1, 2024 — December 8, 2024**

**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

Sun	8:00*am	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15am	Education Hour for all ages
	10:30am	Worship with Holy Communion
	12:30am	Peniel Evangelical Church
	6:00pm	Men's Basketball
Mon	10:00am	Adult Bible Class; studying Proverbs
	4:00pm	Privileged to Pray
	6:30pm	Trail Life Troop 2950
Tue	10:30am	TLO leads worship at Lexington Pointe Senior Living
	7:00pm	Board of Elders
	7:00pm	Board of Trustees
Wed	6:30am	Men's Bible study
	4:00pm	Midweek Confirmation Class
	5:15pm	Soup Supper served by TLO Council
	6:30*pm	Advent worship
	7:30pm	Choir rehearsal
Thur	6:00pm	Peniel events
Fri	9:00am	Women of the Word (WoW) Bible study
Sat	9:00am	Decorate the sanctuary and narthex for Christmas!
	1:00pm	Peniel events



**SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

Sun	8:00*am	Worship
	9:15am	Education Hour for all ages
	10:30am	Worship
	12:30am	Peniel Evangelical Church
	6:00pm	Men's Basketball

\*worship online at [www.trinityloneoak.org](http://www.trinityloneoak.org)



**Christmas Decorating**

**Saturday, December 7 | 9:00am | TLO Sanctuary**

Come for fellowship and fun while we decorate the Lord's House. No need to RSVP; just come with a cheerful heart and bring an appetite for Puffy Cream Donuts.





**Poinsettias for Christmas Worship  
through December 14 | TLO Church office**

Help us beautify the Sanctuary for Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia. This win-win also supports our Youth program. Order forms are in today's bulletin, the church narthex and the church office.

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**Christmas Desert and optional Cookie Exchange  
Tuesday, December 17 | 7:00pm | Lana Siewert-Olson's home**

Come and enjoy dessert and conversation with your TLO friends. RSVP to Leann Becker, 612-327-5335 or Lana Siewert-Olson, 651-453-563 (be sure to let us know if you would like a ride) and if you'd like to participate in the cookie exchange, please bring 10 dozen cookies to share.

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**Pizza and Christmas Caroling  
Sunday, December 15 | 11:45am | All ages | Meet at TLO**

Enjoy pizza lunch after late service. Then bring Christmas joy to TLO members in homes and in Care Centers by forming caroling groups that make up to 4 stops. No singing talent needed! Join us! RSVP helpful but not required at [trinityloneoak.org](http://trinityloneoak.org), so we know how many pizzas to buy.

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**Vocalist and Instrumentalists wanted**

For the coming Advent and Christmas season, we welcome musicians to come forward. We can help find music to suit your interests. Contact Diane Streich.

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**Flowers on the Altar**

Altar flowers have been placed by Peter and Faith Jonas. Thanksgiving Day, Nov 28, 2024 was their 50th wedding anniversary. Fifty years ago, they were married on Thanksgiving Day. Many blessings followed including two children and nine grandchildren. 1 Corinthians 13:13: *"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."*

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**Birthdays this week**

Dec 3 Justine Kolb, Christian Larson  
Dec 4 Gary Foley  
Dec 6 Henry Nguyen, Jim Nicklas

**WEEKLY DEPOSITS: November 24, 2024**

General Fund Income:			
	Current and Mission Weekly Offering - supporting staff and operations	\$	8,473.51
(Our offering budget is \$9,330 per week)			
	Building Reserve Fund - supporting monthly mortgage payments	\$	265.00
(Our offering budget is \$675 for per week)			
	Tuition	\$	1,005.84
	1883 School Annual Fund - supporting TLO School	\$	5.00
	Church and school fees	\$	456.30
	<b>Subtotal General Fund Income</b>	\$	<b>10,205.65</b>
Special Purpose Income (not available for general fund spending)			
	YTF2 - Yesterday, Today, Forever 2 initiative	\$	185.30
	Acorn Scholarship Fund - supporting TLO School student tuition	\$	N/A
	Chapel offerings - supporting Rev. Tom Park in Taiwan	\$	44.70
	Sunday school - supporting Rev. Tom Park in Taiwan	\$	0.50
	General support of Rev. Tom Park in Taiwan	\$	120.00
	Fire Alarm System replacement	\$	50.00
	Families in Need	\$	50.00
	Young Investors stamps through Lutheran Church Extension Fund	\$	345.00
	<b>Subtotal Special Fund Income</b>	\$	<b>795.50</b>



**Giving Tuesday | Tuesday, December 3**

Giving Tuesday is the day TLO School kicks off its Annual Appeal. Your financial gifts are vital to sustaining the ministry of TLO School by closing the gap between tuition and operating expenses. Donations, both large and small, help to move our mission forward, providing for the needs of today’s students and strengthening TLO for the future. Donations labeled “TLO School” can be given through the offering plate or the TLO offices, or scan the QR code. *Join us in Empowering Kids to Love to Learn and Live to Serve*



**A Concordia St. Paul Christmas | December 7 | 3:30pm**

The public is invited to “A Concordia St. Paul Christmas” at St. Michael’s Lutheran Church, Bloomington. This will be a worship celebration featuring the choral and instrumental ensembles, including hand bells, of Concordia University, St. Paul (CSP). The event is FREE with pre-reserved tickets at [www.csp.edu/tickets](http://www.csp.edu/tickets) or 1-866-488-4849. **TLO’s own Elizabeth Zenda-Johnson is a member of the Christus Chorus!**

## Remember in Prayer



### Mission Field:

- December 1 is celebrated as “Eat a Red Apple Day.” Students have often placed a polished apple on the teacher’s desk in hopes of influencing report card grades. The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty does not condone bribery, but does advocate for Educational Freedom! See [www.LCRLFreedom.org](http://www.LCRLFreedom.org) for more information and please pray for LCRL, a religious liberty organization in Washington DC that serves as a voice for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and its partners in the public square.

### Blessings and Thanksgiving:

- “Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!” 2 Cor 9:15. What blessings did you thank God for this Thanksgiving holiday? Feel free to tell Him again!

### Those with Health Concerns:

Hospitalized, in rehab, or on hospice

- Char Timm, moved to Heritage Place, Room #105, 3434 Heritage Dr., Edina MN 55355
- Jeff Schaaf, recovering after a stroke and a fall

Dealing with health concerns:

- Eddie Burdick's genetic brain disease is progressing, and symptoms are worsening
- Dixie Cliff
- Teresa Dornseif, sister-in-law of Alice, recovering from ankle reconstruction surgery
- Gloria, Jim Kohn's sister-in-law, continued prayers as she goes through chemo
- Silas Kohn, undergoing treatment for LCH until August 2025
- Joseph Labhart (Flannery’s grandson) ongoing health concerns
- Marilou Larson, close cousin of Alice Dornseif, autoimmune liver issues
- David Nystrom - godson of Alice - recovering at home
- Sharon Phelps, mom of Cindy Rahn, recovering after a fall
- Sally Pieper, recovering at home after surgery
- Joanie Wachter, recovering after knee replacement surgery, please continue to pray!
- Pastor Don Wilke, former TLO pastor, recovering after a serious fall

### Ongoing Prayers

- For our members and friends in care facilities or homebound  
+ Donine Leatherby
- Ryan Kroonblawd - 2nd Year Seminarian - Concordia Seminary - St. Louis, MO



### Our weekly memory verse:

Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” **Rev. 1:7-8**



## Welcome Guests

We are glad you are here today! Here are a few things we thought you would like to know to help you feel at home with us today. If you are visiting please introduce yourself to our pastor, a greeter or an usher. We love to make new friends!

**For those with small children**, a nursery is available, located in the narthex, if you need a place to care for your child. Children's bulletins are in the narthex, or ask an usher.

**Restrooms** are located to the east end of the narthex near the main entrance.

**Large print copies of the worship folder** are available. Please ask an usher.

**At this service we celebrate Holy Communion.** Please speak with our pastor or an elder before communing if this is your first time receiving the Lord's Supper at TLO. The light-colored wine in the center of the individual communion tray is de-alcoholized wine, where the alcohol is reduced to .05%.

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## Advent Meal and Worship

December 4, 11, 18

Meal\* – 5:15pm

Worship\*\* — 6:30pm

During the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of God's Son, who was given the name Jesus—a Hebrew name that means "God saves." In addition to His earthly name, Holy Scripture calls Jesus by various titles which describe something about His person or work.

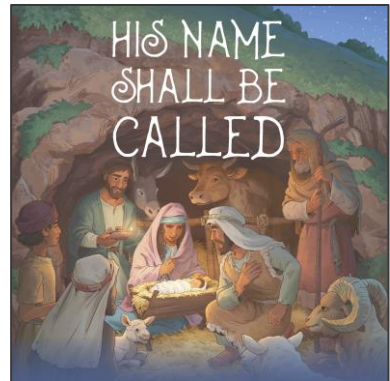
In this year's Advent series, we are going to examine four titles given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6. Those titles are

- "Wonderful Counselor"
- "Mighty God"
- "Everlasting Father"
- "Prince of Peace."

We will learn how each of these titles describes something about who Jesus is and what He did for our salvation.

\* Event Sponsored in part by Thrivent Financial

\*\*Livestreamed at [www.trinityloneoak.org](http://www.trinityloneoak.org)



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