



## Second 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  
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**AS WE GATHER**

In this month of December, we find ourselves getting ready and preparing for many things, such as gatherings with family and friends, gifts to get and give to others, traditional treats to be made, and decorations for the season. The foremost preparation, of course, is for our Savior's birth. Today we are reminded of another time of preparation that would be after Jesus' birth and prior to His earthly ministry—that of John the Baptist, who would prepare for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. In our busy times of preparing to celebrate this season, today we draw our focus on and give thanks for the one who would raise valleys, level mountains, and make straight the paths for Him.

**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; 14:27; Luke 2:14; Psalm 4:6–8*

- P We light our second Advent 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 second Advent candle has been known by a few different names, including the Bethlehem candle, the preparation candle, and the candle of peace. As we await the angelic proclamation of "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased," we rejoice in the present reality of the peace Christ has assured in and through Him until perfect and eternal peace is ushered in upon His return. In this season, and until that day, we find comfort in His assurance: "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

C **The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

- P Guided by the light of peace, we respond with the psalmist: "There are many who say, 'Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of Your face upon us, O Lord!'"

C **You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.**

- P In peace I will both lie down and sleep;  
C **for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety."**

*Two Advent candles are lit.*

**HYMN****O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL****LSB 357, vs. 3, 4****\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION***Psalm 124:8; 130:3–4; Luke 3:5–6; Philippians 1:6*

P Malachi prophesies about and John the Baptist fulfills the call of the one who would prepare the way for the Lord. John the Baptist would preach a Baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. We, too, seek the forgiveness our Lord has promised, and our Savior gives us assurance as we come before Him in humble repentance.

Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and prepare again to receive Him who came in our flesh, comes through His Word and in His body and blood given and shed for us, and promises to come again, let us stand before Him in humble and contrite confession.

C **We are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and left undone, and we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.**

P We have not loved the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength,

C **and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

P We justly deserve present and eternal punishment, but for the sake of Jesus Christ, we pray:

C **Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Every 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, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May He who began a good work in you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

## **\*KYRIE**

C **Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## **\*SALUTATION**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Malachi 3:1–7b*

<sup>1</sup>Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. <sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup>Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>6</sup>For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### EPISTLE

*Philippians 1:2–11*

<sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### \*VERSE

*Luke 3:4b, 6*

P Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight;

C **all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.**

#### \*HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 3:1–20*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In 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, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup>As 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.

<sup>5</sup>Every 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,  
<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

<sup>7</sup>He 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? <sup>8</sup>Bear 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. <sup>9</sup>Even 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.”

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” <sup>11</sup>And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” <sup>12</sup>Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” <sup>13</sup>And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” <sup>14</sup>Soldiers 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.”

<sup>15</sup>As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup>John 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. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reprovved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HYMN**

**ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY**

**LSB 344**

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**—*See projection screen or inside back cover of the hymnal*

**SERMON**

**Preparing the Way**

**OFFERING**

**\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*Philippians 1:3–11*

Our response to our petitions:

P let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

**\*LORD’S PRAYER**—*See projection screen or inside back cover of the hymnal*

**\*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**

**HYMN TO DEPART**

**HARK THE GLAD SOUND**

**LSB 349**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**Serving our Lord**

		December 8, 2024	December 15, 2024
Musician		Merlin Simon	Diane Streich
Cantor		Dave Workman	Andy Koch
Altar Guild		Nancy Strand and Sharon Drews	Nancy Strand and Sharon Drews
Elder	8am	Andy Olson	Bill Breitinger and Sam Erdman
	10:30am	Kurt Vallin	Matthew Berg and Kurt Vallin
Reader	8am	Dan Schield	Matthew Boll
	10:30am	Keith Prusak	Matthew Berg
Usher Team	8am	Andy Olson	Sam Erdman
	10:30am	Jon Peterson	Open
Greeter(s)	8am	Open	Open
	10:30am	Helen Stoerzinger	Open
Acolyte	8am	Isaac Koch, Beth Koch	Lily Olander, Ian Olander
	10:30am	Dana Vallin, Sabontu Benya	Mason Kolb and open
Projection	8am	Matt Seeman or Jacob Seeman	Matthew Boll
	10:30am	Sebastian Ness	Tim Morris
Live Stream	8am	Jim Nicklas	Jim Nicklas
Coffee Hour	9:15am	LWML	Open – volunteer today!

**COMING UP AT TLO — December 1, 2024 — December 8, 2024****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
Mon	10:00am	Adult Bible Class; studying Proverbs
	3:30pm	PTCO meeting
Tue	1:30pm	Preschool Christmas program - you're invited!
	6:30pm	Moms in Prayer
Wed	6:30am	Men's Bible study
	1:30pm	K-8 Christmas Concert Matinee - you're invited!
	4:00pm	Midweek Confirmation Class
	5:15pm	Soup Supper
	6:30*pm	Advent worship
	7:30pm	Choir rehearsal
Thur	9:00am	Circuit Pastors' meeting at TLO
	6:00pm	Peniel events
	6:30pm	K-8 Christmas Concert - you're invited!
Fri	9:00am	Women of the Word (WoW) Bible study
Sat	2:00pm	Peniel events

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

Sun	8:00*am	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15am	Education Hour for all ages
	10:30am	Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday school students sing
	11:45am	Pizza and Caroling - you're invited!
	12:30am	Peniel Evangelical Church
	6:00pm	Men's Basketball

\*worship online at [www.trinityloneoak.org](http://www.trinityloneoak.org)**Poinsettias for Christmas****Order soon! | 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 the church narthex and church office.



### 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

**Next 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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### Salad Luncheons January 12 and February 9, 11:30am each day

Ladies, after the Christmas celebrating is done, let's gather after worship to enjoy good food and catch up with each other. Mark your calendar! Details to follow.

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### Scrip is a win-win

Need gift cards for Christmas gift giving? Get your shopping done and help TLO's budget at the same time by purchasing gift cards through our scrip program. See Leann Becker for more info.

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## Advent Meal and Worship

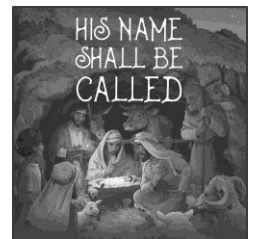
**December 11, 18**

**Meal\* – 5:15pm**

**Worship\*\* – 6:30pm**

Dec. 11 served by Men's Bible Study

Dec. 18 served by WoW Bible study



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. Come learn 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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## **TLO's Giving Tree**

Brighten Christmas for yourself and others by buying a gift for someone you don't know! Gift suggestions and full instructions are on the tree in the narthex, and gifts are due back December 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **The goal:**

The TLO Giving Tree will be helping support Trinity First, an inner-city Lutheran school teaching the Good News of our Lord and Savior to children who might not otherwise ever know Him. The gifts that are on the tree will not be going to the children directly but our gifts will add in raising up the children.

### **Rev. Jonathan Kuehne, campus pastor at Trinity First, describes the school this way:**

*Trinity First Lutheran School (TFL) was established in 1859 and is one of the oldest schools in Minnesota. It is located in the Phillips Neighborhood of Minneapolis. As a highly dedicated missional Lutheran elementary school teaching 150 children aged 3 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, we serve a demographic that is more than 50% below the poverty line, 43% immigrant, and 54% unchurched. We are the only Lutheran elementary school in the Twin Cities with a full-time special education program. Currently, 34% of our students receive specialized educational support. Because 97% of our income comes from generous donations and grants (only about 3% comes from tuition and fees), TFL welcomes families who may not otherwise be able to afford Christian education.*

### **Our response:**

The support of this school and the families of each of these students is a mission that the Lord has asked us all to support. If the Word of the Lord is placed on 1 child's or parent's heart to guide them through the challenges of life, wouldn't that be a blessing? Please prayerfully consider Trinity First Lutheran School this giving season and all year long. Check out their website, [trinityfirstschool.org](http://trinityfirstschool.org), to see the wonderful things God is doing at the school.

### **What to do:**

Take a tag with a wish list gift from the Giving Tree in the TLO narthex. The tags for Trinity First will be clearly marked. Purchase the requested gift and return it WITH THE TAG by December 20. Wrapping the gifts is encouraged, however, larger items may be placed under the tree, unwrapped. Also, there is an Amazon wish list you could check out. These gifts will go directly to Trinity First Lutheran School.

If you have questions, please contact Cindy Rahn at 651-503-1590. Thank you for your participation!

**WEEKLY DEPOSITS: December 1, 2024**

General Fund Income:			
	Current and Mission Weekly Offering - supporting staff and operations	\$	28,855.25
(Our offering budget is \$9,330 per week)			
	Building Reserve Fund - supporting monthly mortgage payments	\$	1,373.00
(Our offering budget is \$675 for per week)			
	Tuition	\$	20,626.81
	1883 School Annual Fund - supporting TLO School	\$	105.00
	Church and school fees	\$	4,263.90
	<b>Subtotal General Fund Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>55,223.96</b>
Special Purpose Income (not available for general fund spending)			
	YTF2 - Yesterday, Today, Forever 2 initiative	\$	285.30
	Acorn Scholarship Fund - supporting TLO School student tuition	\$	1,400.00
	Chapel offerings - supporting Dakota Woodlands, Eagan	\$	16.00
	Sunday school - supporting Rev. Tom Park in Taiwan	\$	2.35
	General support of Rev. Tom Park in Taiwan	\$	N/A
	Fire Alarm System replacement	\$	N/A
	Concordia Fund - supporting TLO members attending a Concordia	\$	N/A
	Young Investors stamps through Lutheran Church Extension Fund	\$	N/A
	<b>Subtotal Special Fund Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,703.65</b>



**Birthdays this week**

- Dec 9 Carrie Foley, Matthew Traeger
- Dec 12 Garrett Lowry
- Dec 14 Steve Niehaus, Rachel Clark



**Calendars, offering envelopes, congregational directory ...these are all waiting for you in the narthex—pick up yours today!**



**Concordia Academy Christmas Concert**

Join Concordia Academy's Chamber Orchestra, Concert Band, Choirs, His People, and art students at CA's 2024 Christmas Concert, "How Great Our Joy!" Performances are Saturday, December 14, at 7:00 pm and Sunday, December 15, at 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens. Go to [www.concordiaacademy.com/christmas](http://www.concordiaacademy.com/christmas) to order tickets online and select your seats.

## Remember in Prayer

### Mission Field:

- The Gospel Outreach Committee of the Lutheran Women In Mission (LWML) provides resources to encourage and equip you to share the Good News of Jesus' great love in your everyday living. Learn to be an everyday missionary at [lwml.org/gospel-outreach](http://lwml.org/gospel-outreach)



### Blessings and Thanksgiving:

- We thank God for the gifts received on GivingTuesday for TLO School!

### 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
- Pam Burdick, recovering from sepsis this week
- 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:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **Phil 4:6-7**



*If you have a prayer request, please contact the church office (651-454-7235). Pastor Kroonblawd and TLO prayer chain members will include your request in their prayer time. Please specify if you want the information printed in our news and notes for congregational prayer. Confidential prayer requests and/or visit requests can be made directly with Pastor Kroonblawd by calling him at 651-235-7600.*



### 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.



### TLO Preschool Concerts

**Tuesday, Dec 10** | **2:00pm**  
**Wednesday, Dec 11** | **8:05am**

You have a wonderful opportunity to see TLO Preschool students share the Greatest Gift! Nothing will put you in the Christmas spirit more than seeing Christmas through the eyes of a child. The December 11 event serves as the TLO School chapel that day. Come and worship!

### TLO School Concerts

**Wednesday, Dec 11** | **1:30pm**  
**Thursday, Dec 12** | **6:30pm**

Join the Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran School advanced and beginning bands, grade 7&8 handbell choir, and K-8 choirs at TLO's 2024 Christmas Program, "O Children Come." Special treat this year – TLO Alum Sarah (Kohn) Jonas is providing violin accompaniment on a lively number!