

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Little Mountain, South Carolina
3rd Sunday of Advent

We Prepare for Worship

Silence and meditation

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

(* Please stand as able)

*Gathering Hymn *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers* Hymn 25

*Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness page 77

*Apostolic Greeting page 78

*Prayer of the Day

P. Let us pray together.

C. God of glory, give your children eyes to see and ears to hear so that we might recognize the signs of your kingdom as it comes among us. Teach us to rejoice in your presence and work among us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(We Sit)

God's Word Proclaimed

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel verse 1-3

Joy Candle

Hymn 34

Cantata

The appointed lessons are included for you to read and meditate on as you desire.

*The Lord's Prayer

*The Peace

(We Sit)

We Offer Our Thanks and Praise to God

The Offering

*The Offertory Hymn *Create in Me* page 96

*The Offertory Prayer

Merciful Father,

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God Sends Us Into The World

*Blessing page 97

*Sending Song *Awake, Awake, and Greet...* WOV Hymn 633

*Sending and Charge

*Doxology Hymn 564

Before Worship: Speak to the Lord
During Worship: Let the Lord speak to you
After Worship: Speak to each other

Welcome to worship today. We especially extend a warm welcome to all who are visiting with us today. We are strengthened by your presence and hope that you will worship with us again soon. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to become a part of our church family here at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Please sign the friendship pads at the end of the pew.

*The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and
in honor of Kadence's 8th Birthday
By Blake & Jessica Derrick*

DIRECTORY & YEARBOOK TIME

Committee Chairs and Council Liaisons

Please be courteous and have all end of the year reports by Ministry Committees completed and turned into the office by December 22, 2024.

2024 end of the year giving is due no later than December 29th.

The **List to Serve Bereaved Families** will be updated for 2025. Anyone wishing to be deleted from the list is asked to notify the church office by January 5, 2025. New members will automatically be included on the list unless the office is notified not to include them. If you have previously requested to be deleted, calling again is not necessary.

Offering envelopes are ready to be picked up. They are located outside of the Nursery. Please pick up yours and your families.

Prayers: Kaye Shealy, Cade Floyd (Nephew of Patsy Frick), Travis Spires, Hannah Drafts, Al Asbill (Brother of Alice Martinez), Jake Bearden (Grandson of Dot Abrams), Scott & Cheri Bell, Susan Hill (Mother of Crystal Crouch), The Director of Youth and Education Ministries position, Molly Kednocker, Micheal Torrence, Jean Miller (Mother of Pam Bush), Jean Alewine, Bobbie & Andy Bickley, Gerald & Jonell Shealy. *If you would like to include someone on our weekly prayer list, please call Pastor Randy at (803) 537-2303. Unless otherwise notified of a need, members will remain on the list for one month and non-members for two weeks.*

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴“Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. ¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says the LORD.

Psalm 85

¹ Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² **You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.**

³ You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.

⁴ **Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!**

⁵ Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

⁶ **Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?**

⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

⁸ **Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.**

⁹ Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰ **Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

¹¹ Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.

¹² **Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.**

¹³ Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be

anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

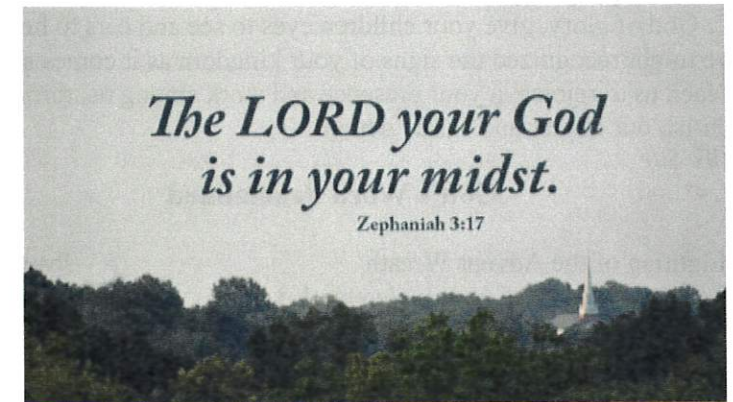
Gospel: Luke 7:18-28 [29-35]

¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” ²⁴When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’” ²⁸I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.” [²⁹(When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John, ³⁰but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.) ³¹“To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? ³²They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.’” ³³For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’” ³⁴The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’” ³⁵Yet wisdom is justified by all her children.”]

Questions arise from John and his followers about the true identity of Jesus. The Lord’s response is one encouraging them to see, hear, and understand that he is the one sent by God. On this Third Sunday in Advent, we are reminded that God is always near. He hears our prayers and grants us the joy of his salvation. That precious gift comes to us most clearly in the person of Jesus who is “God with us.”

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

531 Church Street
Little Mountain, SC 29075
Office: (803) 345-2841 / (803) 945-7336
Pastor Randy Drafts
Email: office@holyltc.org



*“Preaching, Teaching and Serving
in Christ’s Name”*



SERVING TODAY, December 15, 2024

Acolyte: Dustin Winn
Crucifer: Cooper Morales
Bulletin Folder: Kaylee Hentz
Lector: Mary Spires
Greeters: Kevin & Wendy Shealy
Nursery: Rebecca Edwards, Emily Wooten
Altar Guild: Wanda Havird & Holly Havird
Flowers: Blake & Jessica Derrick
Usher Chair: Kevin J. Shealy
Elevator: Jerry Shealy
Ushers: Kelvin Chapman, Jake Loadholdt

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, December 22, 2024

Acolyte: Keaton Lindler
Crucifer: Cooper Morales
Bulletin Folder: Natalie Winn
Lector: Sheri Wicker
Greeters: Rodger & Karen Winn
Nursery: Morgan Shealy, Robin Loadholdt
Altar Guild: Wanda Havird & Holly Havird
Flowers: Lane & Caroline Attaway
Usher Chair: Kevin J. Shealy
Elevator: James Wieters
Ushers: Bob Peters, Steve Layton

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, December 24, 2024

Acolyte: Keaton Lindler
Crucifer: Daniel Williams
Lector: Ted Arnold
Altar Guild: Wanda Havird & Holly Havird
Communion: Lin & Frank Lake
Flowers: Lane & Caroline Attaway
Usher Chair: Kevin J. Shealy
Elevator: James Wieters
Ushers: Bob Peters, Steve Layton

If you are unable to serve, please arrange to switch with someone or contact an alternate.

Attendance December 8: Worship: 168 Sunday School: 45

Our Weekly Commitments and Needs – General Fund:

Amount Needed Weekly in 2024	\$	6,531.00
Amount Received Last Sunday	\$	9,880.58
Difference	+	\$ 3,349.58

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

531 Church Street
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Office (803) 345-2841/(803) 945-7336
Pastor Randy Drafts
Email: office@holtylc.org
Website: www.holytlc.org
Facebook @ Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

December 15, 2024

*We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today!
We pray that Christ will touch you with His love so you may be empowered
to be His witnesses in the world. Please join us throughout the week for
worship, Bible study, community outreach and fellowship in Christ Jesus.*

What's Happening This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, December 15th

Confirmation	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:15 a.m.
Christmas Program Practice	9:15 a.m.
Worship / Christmas Cantata	10:30 a.m.
Teens for Christ: Caroling & Christmas Party	3:30 p.m.
Choir	4:30 p.m.

Monday, December 16th

Prayer Shawl	9:00 a.m.
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Tuesday, December 17th

GLASS	6:30 p.m.
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Wednesday, December 18th

Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 22nd

Sunday School	9:15 a.m.
Christmas Program Practice	9:15 a.m.
Worship	10:30 a.m.
Children's Christmas Program	6:00 p.m.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

We are looking for members to join our cleaning teams for 2025. These 4 teams rotate throughout the year and are responsible for cleaning the parish building, bathrooms, sanctuary, and hauling away weekly trash. With 4 teams, it means that each team serves 3 months per year. We have had several folks ask to come off of their team after many years of service and we are looking to rebuild! Please contact the church office or let Pastor Randy know if you would be interested in serving as part of a cleaning team.



All Committee Gathering

Following Worship on Sunday, January 5th, everyone is invited to the “All Committee Gathering” in the Trinity Life Center. Lunch will be served. After lunch, our committees (listed below) will meet to elect chairpersons, review responsibilities, and plan for 2025. Even if you are not part of a committee in 2025, we welcome your presence. It is a great opportunity for you to sit in on a committee that interests you and learn more about how they serve throughout the year.

Executive

Bill Loadholdt – Council President
Carter Lake – Council Vice President
Chris Crouch – Secretary
Spyros Lezimis – Treasurer

Cemetery

Charles Frick – Cemetery Manager
Sheri Wicker – Treasurer
Billy Caldwell – Assistant Treasurer
Kelvin Chapman
Marty Frick
Curtis Hardy
Mark Kibler
James Sligh
Robbie Wicker
*Ted Arnold

Christian Education

Amy Collins
Holly Havird
Melissa Kednocker
Brittany Frick
Melisa Livingston
*Chris Crouch
*Carter Lake
*Julie Haltiwanger

Church Property & Grounds

Curtis Boland
Darin Boland
Daniel Curtis
Larry Grooms
Frank Lake
Cameron Kaihara
Maxton King
Marty Frick
*Britton Havird
*Bill Loadholdt
*Bob Peters

Preschool

Amber Koon – Preschool Director
Ashley Boland
Hannah Drafts
Cindy Frick
Jenna Lake
Kaye Shealy
Sheri Wicker
*Philip Armstrong

Social Ministry

Emily Clements
Crystal Crouch
Betty Cumalander
Diane Hardy
Janet Kibler
Ritchie Koon
Charles Shealy
Kim Steffy
*Helen Koon
*Danny Newton

Stewardship/Finance

Spyros Lezimis – Treasurer
Barbie Rodgers – Assistant Treasurer
Phillip Allison
Bobby Chapman
Rod Steffy
James Wieters
*Tony Shell

Worship & Music

Brett Lindler – Director of Music
Ministries
Lauren Armstrong
Bobby Chapman
Cindy Frick
Donna Fulmer
Maxton King
*Joe Boland

* indicates Council Liaison

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Grandpa's Story

December
22ND

Hear Grandpa
Joe's story as he
reminds us of the
true reason for the
season.

HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
6:00PM

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW
(Bring app or
dessert
to share)



Directory Update

One Per Family

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Husband Cell Phone: _____

Wife Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Anniversary Date: _____

Husband Birthday: _____

Wife Birthday: _____

We would like birth year for everyone for church records.

Please!! No one will see these.

Children Living At Home:

1. Name: _____

Birthday: _____

2. Name: _____

Birthday: _____

3. Name: _____

Birthday: _____

4. Name: _____

Birthday: _____

Are you a Thrivent member? _____

**Please "PRINT" clearly and turn in to church office or
place in the offering plate.**

*If your child is not living in the home but at college or has their own apartment etc.;
please let us know and have them fill out a separate form for themselves.*