

November 29, 2020

First Sunday in Advent



They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and He sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields.

Mark 11:7–8

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Our mission is sharing the saving love of Jesus

DIVINE SETTING 1

Are You Clay or Stone?

Opening Hymn

"The Night Will Soon Be Ending"

LSB 337



1 The night will soon be end - ing; The dawn can -
2 The One whom an - gels tend - ed Comes near, a
3 The earth in sure ro - ta - tion Will soon bring
4 Yet nights will bring their sad - ness And rob our
5 God dwells with us in dark - ness And makes the



not be far. Let songs of praise as - cend - ing Now
child, to serve; Thus God, the judge of - fend - ed, Bears
morn - ing bright, So run where God's sal - va - tion Glows
hearts of peace, And sin in all its mad - ness A -
night as day; Yet we re - sist the bright - ness And



greet the Morn - ing Star! All you whom dark - ness
all our sins de - serve. The guilt - y need not
in a sta - ble's light. As old as sin's per -
round us may in - crease. But now one Star is
turn from God a - way. But grace does not for -



fright - ens With guilt or grief or pain, God's ra - diant
cow - er, For God has rec - on - ciled Through His re -
ver - sion Is mer - cy's vast de - sign: God brings a
beam - ing Whose rays have pierced the night: God comes for
sake us, How - ev - er far we run. God claims us



Star now bright - ens And bids you sing a - gain.
demp - tive pow - er All those who trust this child.
new cre - a - tion—This child its seal and sign.
our re - deem - ing From sin's op - pres - sive might.
still as chil - dren Through Mar - y's in - fant Son.

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Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. 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** 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 Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Kyrie

LSB 152

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

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

P Let us pray together the Collect of the Day.

C **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. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 64:1–9

¹Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence— ²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. ⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

C Alleluia.**Lord, to whom shall we go?****You have the words of eternal life.****Alleluia, alleluia.****P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 11th chapter.**C Glory to You, O Lord.****Holy Gospel**

Mark 11:1–10

¹When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.**C Praise to You, O Christ.****Hymn of the Day***“Savior of the Nations, Come”*

LSB 332

1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
 3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and

here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
 vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
 king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
God was there up - on His throne.
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

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Sermon

"Are You Clay or Stone?"

(Isaiah 64:1-9)

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Presentation of Devotional Books

Offering *(The offering plate and generic offering envelopes are available on the table in the narthex. For electronic giving, please see "Resources" tab at the top of the home page on Trinity's website - - www.trinityaubne.org)*

Offertory

LSB 159

☐ What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Prayer of the Church

LSB 159

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

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.

Benediction

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.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

LSB 343



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK, we pray to our merciful Heavenly Father for:

- ✚ **Healing and strengthened faith in Christ for those who are ill:** Bill Bomberger (friend of the Humphreys), Jack Humphrey, Jami Klingelhofer (Pastor's cousin), Doug Kohlmeyer (Rev. Marcel Kohlmeyer's brother), Lora Kuhlmann (Marlene Dietrich's sister-in-law), Marjie Lewis (Elta Whitney's friend), Debbie Thilliander (sister of Becky Lueders, Sandy Wilson, and Eric Bohling), Tietjen Family (Vicki Ackerman's Uncle's family), and all those in special need.
- ✚ **New congregations (within 5 years):** Cross of Christ, Aurora (served by Rev. Timothy Wells), and Life Church Lutheran, Lincoln (served by vacancy pastor Rev. Bill Steinbauer)
- ✚ **New ministry starts (not yet congregations):** Columbus Lutheran Hispanic Ministry [joint ministry of Peace, Immanuel, 1C] (Sergio Puente, missionary); River of Life, Grand Island [satellite of Trinity, GI] (Rev. Adam Snoberger); The Edge, Holdrege [ministry of Mt. Calvary, Holdrege] (Rev. Kenton Birtell); 211South, Lincoln [satellite of Christ, Lincoln] (Rev. Jeff Scheich); LifeStory, LaVista [satellite of Beautiful Savior] (Rev. Ryan Brons)

THOSE CELEBRATING SPECIAL DAYS THIS WEEK:

Birthdays: none this week

Baptisms: 11/29: Samuel Ackerman; 11/30: Elsa Michel; 12/2: Linda Schultz,
David Scotter; 12/4: Nora Ackley

Anniversaries: 12/4: Gary and Pat Maddox

SUN – 11/29	MON – 11/30	TUE – 12/1	WED – 12/2	THU – 12/3	FRI – 12/4	SAT – 12/5	SUN – 12/6
ADVENT BEGINS 9:00 AM Worship	8:15 - 11:45 AM Preschool	8:15 - 11:45 AM Preschool	8:15 - 11:45 AM Preschool 5:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Worship	8:15 - 11:45 AM Preschool			9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study

THE GOSPEL AT WORK

Christ's Servants Today:

Elder Jim Parrish
Asst Elder Rich Scotter
Organist Sandy Wilson
Acolyte Justin Meyer
.....

.... Our Thankful Response to Christ's Love:

Worship attendance 25
Sunday School attendance 0
Offering \$2132.50
(Weekly Budget \$4434.00)
Special Offering \$100.00

Lessons for next Sunday: Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

Adult Bible Study: No adult Bible Study today – enjoy the Thanksgiving weekend!



Sunday School 2020-2021: *Sunday School classes are in session! We are in recess today for Thanksgiving. Join us next week after worship!*

Devotional Books: Today during worship, a member of the Board of Education will give devotional books to our 3rd grade and 1st grade Sunday School Students. The 3rd graders, Emerson Meyer and Courtney Oltrogge, will receive “100 Bible Stories.” The first grader, Dillon Meyer, will receive “My First Catechism.” We pray these devotional books will be a blessing to the growth of these students’ faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior.

LWML Cards for sale: There are new Christmas, Birthday and other occasion cards for sale in the Fellowship Hall on the small table outside the library. For your convenience, the cards are available anytime the church is open. Find nice scripture-based cards while you support LWML missions!


NEEDED for Sunday School: Nativity set with unbreakable, small figures for class on Dec. 20. Let me know as soon as possible if you have a set that you can loan us. Thank you! Merri Johnson, SS Superintendent 402-274-7011.

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org “Christians engage in adopting not only because we desire to raise children but also—and above all—because the Most High desires their survival and salvation. We adopt because we have been so adopted. We adopt because little ones need homes. We adopt because we have homes and families to share. Life issues mean more than just political debates. Life issues involve more than just personal choices or someone else’s problems. Life issues are always people and Gospel.”
Rev. Michael W. Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life

Announcements November 29, 2020

First Sunday in Advent

Thank you to:

 **Emily Crotty and Angie Becker** for helping out in the Preschool in the absence of one of our teachers.

Thank you to Pastor Daryl Tompkins for coming from Clarinda to lead us in worship today. We are grateful to Pastor Tompkins for returning to spend the morning with us while Pastor Rathjen and his family are traveling for Thanksgiving. May God bless Pastor Tompkins’ preaching and our hearing of God’s Word today.

Dan and Melissa Buman are moving to Omaha in the near future. We thank God for all the ways in which they have been a blessing to Trinity over the years. If you would like to send

them well wishes as they make this transition, please send cards to their current address (1717 Q Street, Auburn) by December 7.

Reminder about Re-Vitality & Christmas Poinsettias: Inserts with information are available in the narthex.

- Re-Vitality: If you'd like to serve on the Core Planning Team, please speak to John Ackerman by Tuesday, December 1st.
- Poinsettias: Please return any information for dedication to loved ones by Sunday, December 6th.

Youth Group offers couches and: There are two couches available to a good home. Pictures of the items are on the door near the coatrack in the narthex.

Preschool Life-Learning Project – You Can Help!: Our Preschoolers will be working hard to earn and save “tickets” for a one-day event at the end of the school year. We need new or gently used small toys (fit easily in a shopping bag), books, and fun items to set up a ‘store’ in the preschool. *Please place items to donation in the box in the Fellowship Hall.* (Everything will be sanitized as the store is organized and set-up!) Thank you for all your support of our little ones in the Trinity Preschool family!

This week on KFUE.org, study "Advent with the Prophets" on Sharper Iron during Advent (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), begin studying Identity on Mental Health Monday with Deaconess Heidi Goehmann (11/30 at 9:00 a.m. CT), and enjoy Midday Moments on creation, family, faith, scripture and the lighter side of life with Gary Duncan and special guests on weekdays at 12:00 p.m. CT. Find these programs on demand at kfuo.org or wherever you get your podcasts.



“The Lord is My Refuge” Bible Verse of the Week:

Isaiah 64:8, *ESV*: But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Midweek Advent Activities:

- Because of COVID-19 concerns, we will **not** have meals here at church on Wednesday evenings.
- Midweek Advent Services will be Wednesday evenings at **7:00 PM, beginning on 12/2/20**. The theme will be based upon a sermon series originally prepared by Rev. R. Lee Hagan. The sermon series is entitled “Jesus: The Son of David, the Son of Abraham, ...” Rev. Hagan is the President of the Missouri District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.



Preschool Staff Recognition

Trinity's Board of Education continues to be impressed with the performance of our Preschool staff members. They continue to demonstrate a high level of skill with the children. They also have shown great initiative and ownership when it comes to teaching the students. The Board of Education would like to show our congregation's gratitude with a gift the next time they are here with all of us – at the Preschool Christmas Program on December 13th. If you would like to donate toward a gift, you may make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church, and put 'Preschool Staff gifts' in the memo line. Any questions, please contact Lisa Scotter (402 575-1960) by Sunday, December 6th.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration!



Help for Honduras

Hurricane Eta recently hit Central America. It has caused much distress for the people there including our brothers and sisters in Christ in Honduras, Nicaragua and Belize.

On November 6th, Deacon Tulio Meza in Comayaguela, Honduras reported, "There are many communities cut off by landslides, river overflows, bridge collapse, flooding, etc. In our community of faith and close to the church, we have cases of families isolated from their homes because they are located in a risk zone. Yesterday, three families who have supported our activities and who have also been favored with some of our social works were evacuated from their homes."

The Trinity Lutheran Elders have approved an effort to receive monetary gifts from individuals in our congregation and other people in our area who would like to help those in Honduras during this time of need. If you would like to help with this effort, please make your check payable to **Trinity Lutheran Foundation**. In the memo line, put "Help for Honduras."

All donations should be received by **Sunday, December 6th**, so that the money can be transferred and help those in need at the soonest possible time. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Rathjen. Thank you!

Ephesians 2:8–10, ESV, For by grace you have been saved through faith.

And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.