

Trinity Lutheran Church

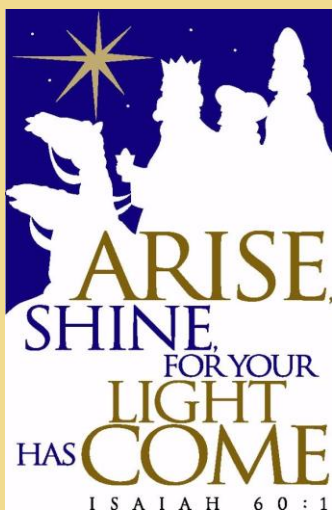
A Congregation of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod
1508 Whispering Pines Road, Albany, GA 31707, 229-436-5272

Rev Dough Hudson- Pastor

The Messenger

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From Your Pastor

From Your Pastor

December 2020

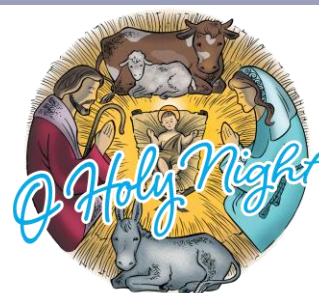
And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so.
(Genesis 1:14-15)

Our human calendars have evolved somewhat over the years, but since the very beginning of creation, God provided ways to divide and measure days, years and seasons. The reason is simple: to maintain order. For many centuries, the Church has adhered to the order set out by the Creator, creating a comforting rhythm for our Church year, which begins with Advent. As Christians, we should once more focus on the season of Advent (from the Latin word *adventus*, which means 'coming' or 'coming into') which begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. This is because Jesus' birth is second in importance only to His resurrection. And although a penitential season, it is not so penitential as the Season of Lent. It is more a time of muted joy: we look forward to remembering and celebrating the first coming into the world of our Savior, yet with the full knowledge of the price of His coming. We reflect on God's gracious gift of Himself to us, providing hope in a fallen world.

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The Ladies Bible Study

*Meets on Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the
social hall Everyone is welcome.
We are studying The Book of Isaiah.*



Let us Celebrate December



- 1 Heather Grebel
- 1 Emily Hoffman
- 4 Dolly Satharia Kruparavam
- 13 Rev John Dede
- 14 Bob Logan
- 19 Matthias D. Rabe
- 24 Grayson Logan
- 27 Monte Wilson
- 28 Drew Lansberry



- 1 Rev. John Dede
- 4 Dolly Satherig Krupavavam
- 4 Lea Ann Burkart
- 8 John Troeger
- 15 Matthias D. Rabe

Advent helps to remind us to prepare to receive Jesus, the hope of the world. This is why the liturgical color for Advent is blue (or violet) symbolizing anticipation, hope and repentance in preparation for our coming King. Therefore, the Gloria in Excelsis is usually omitted from the liturgy during Advent. But not always: if you travel during the season of Advent and happen to visit a congregation that continues to use the Gloria in Excelsis, they are not in error. They are simply tradition acknowledging that every Sunday is a mini-Easter celebration, which it rightly is.

Ironically another tradition has its seeds with German Lutherans several centuries ago: the concept of the Advent wreath. However, the modern version is not nearly so old. Our Advent wreaths today hearken back only to the 19th century when a parish pastor in Germany created one to help the children of his parochial school mark the time leading up to Christmas. This tradition crossed the ocean to America in the 1920's, much to the delight of candle makers! The Advent wreath contains four candles—three blue and one pink—one for each Sunday in Advent. The pink candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent, called Gaudete Sunday, *gaudete* being the Latin word for 'rejoice.'

We also gather for Evening Prayer on Wednesday's during Advent, preceded by a simple soup and sandwich meal. This, too, helps remind us that although joyous, there was a price for our salvation: Jesus not only came into the world for us—He also died for us.

In His service and yours, I am

Pastor

Pastor Hudson



Treasurer's Report & Council Meeting Notes

Financial Report Jan 1 through Nov 27, 2020

Total Income: \$111,732.00 Budgeted: \$116,512.85 Deficit <- \$4,780.85>
Total Expenses: \$99,554.00 Budgeted: \$117,073.97 Underspent \$71,519.00

Budget

Members of the Budget Committee continue to work on the budget. Presentation to the Church Council for their approval and recommend to the Congregation scheduled for December 6, 2020, after worship service.

With restrictions caused by the COVID-19, presentation of the budget will have been done virtually through a conference call, or other means.

Copies of the budget are to be mailed out to all voting members by, December 8, 2020. A Voter's Assembly Conference call is scheduled for December 16, 2020, with all available voters.

With the decline in giving it is estimated that the budget, Estimated Income for FY 2021 \$112,324.00. Budget requests received \$127,797.00. If approved by the council and congregation, we will have a deficit of \$15,473, this awaits submission to the council and congregation for approval.

Council Meeting Notes of November to be available in the Church Office after the December Council Meeting.

Special Notices

Coffee Fellowship will begin at 11:30 a.m. Sunday Dec 6, 13, 20, and 27

Advent Wednesday sandwich and soup supper will be held at 6:00 p.m. December 2, 9, and 16

Advent Wednesday Worship Service live and Facebook will be held at 7:00 p.m. December 2, 9, and 16

The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service live and Facebook is scheduled for December 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day Service live and Facebook is scheduled for December 25, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

*Can we pray with you?
Please call Mrs. Roberta Caulder
229-883-1482 or
The Church office 229-436-5272
with your prayer request*

ATTENTION

Be sure you check the calendar for all of the wonderful events during December for Advent and Christmas. Along with the regular meetings and events.



You're Invited



December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Advent 11:00 AM First Sunday in Advent worship service DS-3 w/Holy Communion live and on Facebook 12:30 PM Advenchurch	30	1 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study	2 9:30 AM Sonshine Circle 6:00 PM Advent Soup and Sandwich Supper 7:00 PM First Wednesday in Advent Evening Prayer Worship Service	3	4	5
6 12:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:00 AM 2nd Sunday in Advent Worship Service live and Facebook live	7	8 6:00 PM Special Council Meeting to approve recommendation for 2021 Budget 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study	9 11:00 AM Ladies Fellowship and Social 6:00 PM Advent Soup and Sandwich Supper 7:00 PM 2nd Wednesday in Advent Worship Service Evening Prayer	10 9:00 AM Worship and Music Committee Meeting	11	12
13 11:00 AM 3rd Sunday in Advent Worship Service, live and Facebook live 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 12:00 PM Voters Assembly virtual meeting and live	14	15 6:00 PM Elders Meeting 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study 7:00 PM Council Meeting	16 9:30 AM Sonshine Circle 6:00 PM Advent Soup and Sandwich Supper 7:00 PM 3rd Wednesday Advent Worship Service Evening Prayer	17	18	19
20 11:00 AM 4th Sunday in Advent Worship service, in person and live on facebook 12:30 PM Coffee Fellowship	21 First Day of Winter	22 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study	23 9:30 AM Sonshine Circle	24 7:00 PM The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Live and Facebook live	25 Christmas Day 10:00 AM The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day Service Live and Facebook live	26
27 11:00 AM First Sunday after Christmas live and Facebook 12:30 PM Coffee Fellowship	28	29 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study	30 9:30 AM Sonshine Circle	31 7:00 PM New Years Eve Service live and Facebook live	1 10:00 AM New Years Day Service live and facebook live	2

Puzzle!

Use the code to complete Isaiah's prophecy about Jesus, our Savior.



CODE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q

10 23 13 17 14 6 18 21 21

11 14 12 10 21 21 14 13

6 24 23 13 14 1 15 4 21

12 24 4 23 2 14 21 24 1 ,

22 18 16 17 3 8 16 24 13 ,

14 5 14 1 21 10 2 3 18 23 16

15 10 3 17 14 1 , 25 1 18 23 12 14

24 15 25 14 10 12 14 .

I S A I A H 9 : 6 , N I V

Answer: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6, NIV



What We Believe, Teach and Confess

With the historic, universal Christian Church, we believe in one God who, makes Himself known and works all things through His Son Jesus Christ; and in the presence and power of The Holy Spirit, as confessed by the ancient Church in Her Creeds: namely, the Apostles', Nicene and Athanasian Creeds. We believe that all Scripture is given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and that God is therefore the true Author of every word of Scripture -meaning it is without error.

We believe God comes to us and speaks to us through His means of grace – Word and Sacrament. Accordingly, our worship is sacramental and liturgical, following the ancient custom and practice of God's Church. By sacramental we mean that we observe Holy Baptism and Holy Communion as the sacramental acts ordained by Jesus Christ Himself during His earthly ministry. By liturgical, we mean that the calendar of the Church Year centers around God's marvelous acts of salvation completed for us in His Son, Jesus Christ.

The Church Calendar is organized into three sections: Sundays and seasons, feasts and festivals, and commemorations. The Sundays and Seasons are marked by certain liturgical colors, with the five basic colors being white, red, green, violet or purple, and black. Upon entering the nave-often called the 'sanctuary'- these colors are an instant reminder of where we are in the Church Year.

If you would like more information about our church, please speak with Pastor Hudson.