

**WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1505 College Avenue, Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310-4861

**SUNDAY, December 15, 2024**

*Pastor Donavon W. (Bill) Heithold, Jr.*

E-mail: [t1churchlcms@yahoo.com](mailto:t1churchlcms@yahoo.com)

Bible Classes and Sunday School, 9:00 AM,

Office: 575-437-1482

Website: [www.trinityalamogordo.org](http://www.trinityalamogordo.org)

Divine Service 10:15 AM

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE  
Third Sunday in Advent  
DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR**

✠ INDICATES TO STAND

HYMN OF INVOCATION ..... PAGE 700

“LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING”

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ..... PAGE 203

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ..... PAGE 204

✠ PSALM 85; *antiphon: verse 2*

Pastor: <sup>1</sup>LORD, You were favorable to Your land;

**People: You restored the fortunes of Jacob.**

Pastor: <sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of Your people;

**People: You covered all their sin.**

Pastor: <sup>3</sup>You withdrew all Your wrath;

**People: You turned from Your hot anger.**

Pastor: <sup>4</sup>Restore us again, O God of our salvation,

**People: and put away Your indignation toward us!**

Pastor: <sup>5</sup>Will You be angry with us forever?

**People: Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?**

Pastor: <sup>6</sup>Will You not revive us again,

**People: that Your people may rejoice in You?**

Pastor: <sup>7</sup>Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD,

**People: and grant us Your salvation.**

Pastor: <sup>8</sup>Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

**People: for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.**

Pastor: <sup>9</sup>Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,

**People: that glory may dwell in our land.**

Pastor: <sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;

**People: righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

Pastor: <sup>11</sup>Faithfulness springs up from the ground,

**People: and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

Pastor: <sup>12</sup>Yes, the LORD will give what is good,

**People: and our land will yield its increase.**

Pastor: <sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before Him

**People: and make His footsteps a way.**

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
And to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: <sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of Your people;

**People: You covered all their sin.**

✠**KYRIE** ..... *PAGE 204*

*The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent.*

✠**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY** ..... *PAGE 205*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**ALL: Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING -- ZEPHANIAH 3:14-20**

Reader: The Old Testament reading for the third Sunday in Advent is from the third chapter of Zephaniah.

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
<sup>15</sup>The 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. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup>The 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. <sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. <sup>19</sup>Behold, 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. <sup>20</sup>At 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.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**THE GRADUAL** (*Zechariah 9:9; Psalms 118:26, alt.*)

Pastor: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

**People: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

Pastor: Behold, your King is coming to you;

**People: righteous and having salvation.**

Pastor: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**People: From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

**THE EPISTLE -- PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7**

Reader: The Epistle reading is from the fourth chapter of Philippians.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

✠ **ALLELUIA AND VERSE** ..... *PAGE 205*

**✠THE HOLY GOSPEL -- LUKE 7:18-28**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the seventh chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>calling 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?" <sup>20</sup>And 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?'" <sup>21</sup>In that hour He healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind He bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>And 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. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me." <sup>24</sup>When 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? <sup>25</sup>What 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. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send My messenger before your face, who will prepare Your way before You.' <sup>28</sup>I 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."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

✠ **THE NICENE CREED** ..... *PAGE 206*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** ..... *PAGE 331*

**"THE ADVENT OF OUR KING" STAND ON LAST VERSE**

**THE SERMON "WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR ME?"**

✠ **THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** ..... *PAGE 207*

**OFFERING**

## COMMUNION STATEMENT

The Lord's Supper is celebrated by this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites us to His table as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:29-30) and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, you are asked to **refrain until you** first speak with the Pastor or an elder.

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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CLOSING HYMN .....	PAGE 917
<b>"SAVIOR, AGAIN TO THY DEAR NAME WE RAISE"</b>	

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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**NEXT WEEK'S TEXTS:** Psalm 80:1-7; Micah 5:2-5a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

**NEXT WEEK:** How many times did people want to be delivered before Jesus came and even now?

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**THIS WEEK'S READINGS:** Ecclesiastes 3—Song of Solomon 3

1. In Proverbs we had various writers. One of them was Solomon who also wrote Ecclesiastes. In his writings there are all sorts of one liners or little portions that we have heard throughout our lives. Which one of them do you remember using or hearing that you might even use today?
2. Why might the song of Solomon be a good book to look to, to see how marriage is supposed to be like for a husband and wife, recognizing the relationship Christ has for His bride the church?

### LCMS STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

**December 15 – Advent III - Philippians 4:5-6** – “The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Wouldn’t you like to be free from worry and anxiety? Isn’t it worry and anxiety that often keep us from living the generous life God has called us to? St. Paul contrasts anxiety with prayer, supplication and thanksgiving in making our requests known to God. In other words, when you are tempted to anxiety and worry, pray to the Lord with a thankful heart and pour out your supplications before Him.

### LIFE QUOTES FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

**December 15** - “Who is going to be king? Christ or Herod? Christ or I? Every day we make dozens of decisions which either acknowledge Christ’s lordship or which assert our own. The star of the Magi reminds the Christian that he has a gracious King to whom he can, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, submit his will and live. By His word Christ desires to reign in our hearts through faith!” *Rev. Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota* – **A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)**

### LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR

**December 15 – Advent III** – Gospel-motivated voices For Life bring reasonableness to the cultural conversation about life issues (Philippians 4:5). It means a message of joy and hope instead of just another angry and fearful demeanor. The sanctity of life proclaims good news to neighbors made poor (Luke 7:22) by pressures toward abortion and physician-assisted suicide. God remains mighty to save (Zephaniah 3:17), even in surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis.

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### ***T H I S   W E E K***

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 THROUGH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:00 A.M.</b> <b>10:15 A.M.</b>	<b>Christian Education Hour</b> <b>Divine Worship/Communion</b> <b>Mission Sunday-LHF</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	6:00 P.M.-8:30 P.M.	Gideons-Great Room
<b>TUESDAY</b>	9:30 A.M.	Ruth Bible Study
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	9:00 A.M.	Men’s Bible Study
	4:45 P.M.	Bell Choir Practice
	6:00 P.M.	Soup & Sandwich Supper
	<b>7:00 P.M.</b>	<b>Advent Worship Service</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	9:30 A.M.	Quilters
<b>SATURDAY</b>	5:00 P.M.	Meet at church to go Christmas caroling
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:00 A.M.</b> <b>10:15 A.M.</b>	<b>Christian Education Hour</b> <b>Divine Worship</b>

### ALTAR FLOWERS

*The flowers adorning the chancel area this morning have been placed to the glory of God by Cheryl Sandenaw in memory of her grandparents.*

## MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 3

### HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED: EVERLASTING FATHER

Our third midweek Advent sermon is “Everlasting Father”—a title given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6. We will learn why Jesus is called “Father” even though He is the eternal Son of the Father. We will also learn why Jesus is called “Everlasting.” Finally, we will learn why Jesus’ title “Everlasting Father” is such a great comfort to us—especially when we face trials or suffering in this world.

SOUP & SANDWICH SUPPERS: The last sandwich supper before the Advent service is at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Advent service at 7:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board for providing soup or sandwiches. Just sign up your name and what you plan to bring for whichever advent service you wish to provide soup.

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### LWML

**December 9-22**, the ladies of LWML has the children’s gift tree up for the children in our area who may not have a Christmas. Please help us by taking an ornament off the tree to give these children a good Christmas by sharing God’s love. Please bring the wrapped gifts to the church and place them in the matching ornament tub. More information to come in the weekly bulletins.

**NOTE: All Gift tree gifts for children need to be wrapped and returned to church by Wednesday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Presents will be delivered/picked up on Friday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, Dec. 21. Questions talk to Merry Zumwalt (575-434-0035) or Sue Kelly (575-430-2100).**

**January 4<sup>th</sup>** LWML ladies will be taking down the Christmas decorations. More info to come.  
Susan Kelly, LWML Secretary

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** We will be Christmas Caroling on Saturday, December 21. We meet at the church at 5:00 to carpool. Bring a couple of cookies to share with other carolers after caroling. Hot chocolate and tea is provided.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.** Our Christmas Eve Service will be at 7:00 p.m., not 6:00 p.m. as recorded in the December calendar. There will be no service on Christmas morning.

**THE DECEMBER ACTIVITY DAY** for children will be Monday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Abby Anderson will be in charge and planning all the activities. Snacks will be served. If you have any questions please contact Sue Kelly at 575-430-2100.

**DISTRICT CONVENTION DELEGATE:** The district convention is scheduled for May 29-30, 2025 in Lone Tree CO. Each congregation may be represented by one delegate as well as the Pastor. Any member who would like to be our delegate to the District Convention should see Pastor or Dick Dommers. We would like to get this information to the district office by the end of this month. Travel and lodging costs would be covered.

**PLEASE BEGIN SAVING YOUR CHANGE:** The 2025 Baby Bottle Campaign will begin on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. The campaign will run until February 23<sup>rd</sup> when all bottles should have been returned. Please keep this campaign in mind as you accumulate change in the next few weeks. More information will be available in the January *Trinitarian* and in upcoming bulletins.

**FLOWER CHART FOR 2025** has been posted. Please sign up for your special occasions or in memory of someone. The cost is \$36.00 for two arrangements or if you would like to share with someone the cost is \$18.00. I would like to ask that you come to the front of the church after the service on the Sunday you have flowers and I will give you the flower arrangements. Thank you to all of you who have been faithful in providing flowers.  
Cheryl Richey

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on AM 850 & KFuo.org** Join us as we continue our study of Isaiah on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and look at chapters 15-18 in the Gospel of John on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Don't forget to tune in for the 100th anniversary edition of JOY!, airing this Sunday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 1:00 and 7:00 p.m. CT! Find the full program schedule at [kfu.org/joy](http://kfu.org/joy).

**MISSION FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER** is the **Lutheran Heritage Foundation** - Translating, publishing, distributing, and introducing books and materials that are Bible-based, Christ-centered, and Reformation-driven. (*This is what Pastor Cramm uses for support for Africa trips.*)

**VISITOR MUGS:** The committee has put together some coffee mugs for our visitors. They are located on the inside bottom of the Guestbook podium. A very handy place for you to get one to give visitors when you show them the guest book and ask them to sign it. Please, on the Sundays that you are hosting be sure to hand out a mug to each family. Thanks for helping us with this.

**TRACT OF THE MONTH: A Simple Explanation of Christmas:** "Christmas is the day when Christians remember and celebrate Jesus' birth over two thousand years ago. God's only Son, Jesus, was born to live His life among humanity and to die for the forgiveness of sins everywhere. He is our Savior and the baby born in the manger: the reason Christians celebrate. This booklet briefly describes the biblical account of Jesus' birth and some of the traditions Christians have for celebrating Christmas in their congregations and families." Be sure to pick up a copy of this month's tract to read.

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### **BACKPACK MINISTRY**

We are collecting food items for the Love INC Backpack Ministry for the Tularosa schools. Please leave your donations in the tub in the south hallway. A list of items needed is posted above the tub. You may make a monetary donation if you prefer. Contact me at 575-214-9942 if you have any questions. Thank you for your support. Cheryl Richey.

#### **Back Pack Food Suggestions**

Small boxes of Cereal	Cereal Bars
Fruit cups	Shelf stable milk boxes
Cheese Crackers	Small bags of Chips
Soups or stews	Tuna or Chickens salads
Juice Boxes	Fresh Fruits

**Other suggestions are welcomed and appreciated!**

**OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE**

**SUNDAY, DEC. 8, 2024:**      **WORSHIPPED: 62**      **ONLINE: 4**  
**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11, 2024:**      **WORSHIPPED: 37**      **ONLINE:** .....

**SUNDAY, DEC. 8, 2024, GENERAL FUND:** \$1,614  
**DOLLAR PROJECT:** \$6.00  
**FLOWERS:** \$108.00

**ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY**

**MUSIC:** Bobby Anderson

<b>HOSTS:</b>	Dick & Jan Dommers	<b>ELDER:</b>	Jim Wilkes
<b>ALTAR GUILD:</b>	Christine Schlehuser	<b>TELLERS:</b>	Sandy Klose
	Beverly Van Duyn		Susan Kelly
<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>	Merry Zumwalt	<b>SOUND TECH:</b>	Jim Kline
<b>USHERS:</b>	Bob Thede, Tammy Thede		
	Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson		
<b>1ST LESSON:</b>	Cheryl Sandenaw	<b>2ND LESSON:</b>	Vicki Leonard

**ASSISTING IN OUR WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICE, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>**

**MUSIC:** Michael Cortez

<b>ELDER:</b>	Jim Wilkes	<b>SOUND TECH:</b>	Jim Kline
<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>	Merry Zumwalt		

**ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**MUSIC:** Bobby Anderson

<b>HOSTS:</b>	Ben Clark & Jennifer Davis	<b>ELDER:</b>	Robert Rentschler
<b>ALTAR GUILD:</b>	Christine Schlehuser	<b>TELLERS:</b>	Joyce Macon
	Beverly Van Duyn		Bob Klose
<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>	Merry Zumwalt	<b>SOUND TECH:</b>	Vicki Leonard
<b>USHERS:</b>	Gerald Moore, Irvin Torres		
	Bob & Sandy Klose		
<b>1ST LESSON:</b>	Gerald Moore	<b>2ND LESSON:</b>	Dick Dommers



**HEAVENLY FATHER, WE COME TO YOU IN  
PRAISE AND PRAYER**

**Darrell & Sheila Anderson**, Darren Belcher, Donna Belcher, **Allen Burmeister**, Ellen Clark, Douglas Clark,  
**Pastor Kevin Cramm**, Donna & Billie Crawford, Mike Fladhammer, Lee Fellows, Gari Ann Gage,  
**Darlene Gilmore**, Donna Holiday, Veronica Holman, Scout Hughes, Jim Johnson, Michelle Luevano,  
**Robyn Luevano**, Damian Orchard, Cindy Ostler, Chad Parks, Logan Radford, Connie Rogers, Laura Salazar,  
Jessica Schroeder, Judy Smith, Roger Strom, Sarah Van Dorn, Ann Waghorn, Hannah Weathers, Betty Wilkes,  
Paul Woodruff, Karen Zinn, Martyrs for the faith, Our Nation's Leaders, Public Safety Personnel,

*We also pray for those who are on the long-term prayers in the Trinitarian.*

**FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY IN THE MILITARY**

Tom Bass, Heather Beck, **Zac Collins**, Brendon Garritano, Ryan Hobson, Caleb Jaecks, Daniel Smelser,  
Bryant Roeske, Kyle Steeby, Tanner Wedd, and all troops serving in harms way

**LEST WE FORGET**

**PRAISES AND THANKSGIVING**

**FOR OUR HOMEBOUND**

**Kay Burger**, **Lothar Butzkies**, **Frank & Shirley Enyeart**, Rodney Greer, **Shirley Hill**,  
**Colleen Sandenaw**, **Lee Wood**,

**AMEN**

**PRAYER REQUEST CARDS**

If you wish to place a name on the prayer list, you must complete a **blue prayer request card**. The cards are located on the credenza to the right as you leave the sanctuary. If the individual needs to remain on the prayer list, the requester will have to update the request card every two weeks by calling the church office or completing a new card. If not updated after two weeks on the weekly prayer list, each name will be transferred to the extended prayer list which will be published in the Trinitarian.