



December 23 & 24, 2023 Weekly Bulletin

Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven S. Billings
Principal/Associate Pastor: Rev. Keith E. GeRue
Church (920) 722-2662, School (920) 725-1715
Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm
Church Admin E-Mail: ChurchAdmin@trinitymenasha.com



✠ This Week at Trinity ✠

Saturday, December 23: ADVENT 4
5:00 PM Worship Service

Sunday, December 24: ADVENT 4
9:00 AM Worship Service
NO ED HOUR

4:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship (no communion)
6:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship (no communion)
11:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight (communion)

Monday, December 25: CHRISTMAS DAY
9:00 AM Christmas Day Worship
CHURCH & SCHOOL OFFICES CLOSED

Tuesday, December 26:
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 7:00-11:00 AM
6:30 AM Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday, December 27:
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 7:00-11:00 AM
NO MID-WEEK SERVICES
NO CATECHISM CLASSES

Thursday, December 28:
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 7:00-11:00 AM

Friday, December 29:
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 7:00-11:00 AM

Saturday, December 30:
9:30 AM Food Pantry
5:00 PM Worship Service

Sunday, December 31:
9:00 AM Worship Service
NO ED HOUR

6:30 PM New Years Eve Service

Monday, January 1: NEW YEAR'S DAY
CHURCH & SCHOOL OFFICES ARE CLOSED

NOTE:
Christmas Day Service will be at 9:00 AM.

December 24 Praise Choir Offering:
"O Holy Child, We Welcome Thee" and "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head"

✠ We Pray For...✠

The Sick: Eileen Acker, Rick Ascher, Kathy Baehman, Dave Bartelme, Mark and Jean Becker, Shannon Braun, Michael Burns, Bruce Christoffersen, Matt Daniels, Nancy Davidson, Jeff Dionne, Tom Drum, Dennis & Judith Durkey, Karen Edwards, George Engele, Frank Erdmann, Sara Flater, Shirley Fleischer, Bruce Gast, Michael Hastings, Colyn Hopfensperger, Mary Howden, Brenda Kempf, Carla Kobs, Sam Koch, Karen Lambert, Jackie Lenox, Bob Lephart, Deb Manteufel, Nancy McMillan, Michelle Mahoney, Wesley Marr, Betsy Meverden, Donna Mies, Dianne Olsen, Betty Paul, Norb Pomerence, Joan Reinke, Dan Schael, Marty Schramper, Ray Schroeder, Jordan Schroeter, Bruce Smith, Judy Smith, JoAnn Smoody, Scott Steenpoorte, Liz Swaney, Elaine Trimberger, Bud & Joyce Tschirgi, Joyce Virchow, Merry Voigt, Betty Wachholz, Carla Watson, Merle Webber, Jodi Wendler, Kurt Wendler, Laverne Werth and Dorothy Wirth.

Celebrating Birthdays: Dana Bouchard, Justin Bouchard, Isabelle Callan, Bonnie Griepentrog, John Henrickson, Jacob Mies, Maxwell Milske and Walker White.

Celebrating Anniversaries: Jeremy & Dana Bouchard and Craig & Sandy Wussow.

Church Office Hours Tuesday, January 2 & Wednesday, January 3: 7:00–11:00 AM
Thursday, January 4—SCHOOL RESUMES & ALL OFFICES ARE OPEN

News, Events, Requests, Etc.

Visit us at: www.trinitymenasha.com_or
"Like" Us on Facebook

Altar Flowers

The flowers this weekend are given in memory of Don Gehrt by the Gehrt Family..

This Weekend's Banners

Advent Banner; Shepherd & Star, "Rejoice, Glory to God in the Highest"

✠ Stewardship ✠

Fourth Sunday in Advent

2 Samuel 7:4-5, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in?' Nathan thought David's idea was great, so he blessed it with the Lord's name. But later that night, the Word of the Lord set him straight. The Word of the Lord, not our own desires or whims, must be the basis for what we think, say and do in God's kingdom.

Join Us for Bible Study at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday *"The Letter to the Romans"*

10:30 AM with Pastors Alliet & Billings,
Small Fellowship Hall

Sunday *"What They Didn't Teach You in Sunday*

10:30 AM **School"** Contact : Pastor GeRue-
Conference Room

Monday Women's Bible Study,

6:30 PM *"Chosen: A Study of Esther"* by Donna
(Pyle) Snow - Conference Room,
Contact: Connie Henkel

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study, *"PRAYER: We*

6:30 AM **Speak to God"** Appleton Retirement
Community, 200 W Packard, Appleton,
Contact Dottie Kraus/All are welcome!

Tuesday *2nd Advent of Christ*, Contact: Blaine

7:30 PM Henkel via Zoom invitation

Thursday Men's Bible Study, *Paul's Letter to the*

6:00 AM **Corinthians**, Contact Steve Reinke,
Large Conference Room

For more information, get in touch with the contact person listed above, or the church office.

Ice Melt Needed

Please help Trinity by donating bags of salt for the winter months. Save your receipts for credit to your offerings. Monetary donations can be marked "Bags of Salt" and dropped in the office.

Daily Prayer

The booklet of Daily Prayer is now available in the Narthex for 2023-2024.

Daily Devotions Direct Link!

There is a link on our website that will give you direct access to Pastor Billings' Daily Devotion videos: <https://www.trinitymenasha.com/daily-devotions>.

Gluten-Free Hosts Available

If you prefer a gluten-free host for communion, please talk with one of the pastors before the service.

Holy Communion

We ask that those desiring to commune be members in good standing of Trinity or of a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. If you have questions regarding this, please speak with one of the Pastors.

Prayer Chain

Barbara Kester is head of the Prayer Chain. If you desire prayers for yourself or someone else, please call Barbara at (920) 722-3228.

Voter's Meeting—January 2, 6:30 PM

There will be a Voter's Meeting to elect new officers and board members for 2024. An agenda is available in the Narthex along with the list of nominees.



✠ Serving Our Lord This Weekend ✠

Saturday, 5:00 PM, December 23: ADVENT 4

Elder on Duty: *Alan Manteufel*
Usher Team: *Roger Voigt*
Communion Assistant: *Vance Pues*
Altar Guild: *Phil & Mary Conradt*
Greeter: *Barbara Kester*
Acolyte: *Richie Sprouse*

Sunday, 9:00 AM, December 24: ADVENT 4

Elder on Duty: *Bart Nielsen*
Usher Team: *Jim Wittmann*
Communion Assistant: *Josiah Nielsen*
Altar Guild: *Craig & Jill Thomas/Jean Zeinert*
Greeter: *Jane Nielsen*
Acolyte: *Mirella Taschner*

Sunday, 4:00 PM, December 24: CHRISTMAS EVE

Elder on Duty: *Bart Nielsen*
Usher Team: *Voigt/Wittmann Teams*
Altar Guild: *Craig & Jill Thomas/Jean Zeinert*
Acolyte: *Maya Torres*

Sunday, 6:30 PM, December 24: CHRISTMAS EVE

Elder on Duty: *Bart Nielsen*
Usher Team: *Voigt/Wittmann Teams*
Acolyte: *Sydney Gast*

Sunday, 11:00 PM, December 24: CANDLELIGHT

Elder on Duty: *To Be Determined*
Usher Team: *Voigt/Wittmann Teams*
Communion Assistant: *To Be Determined*
Altar Guild: *Craig & Jill Thomas/Jean Zeinert*
Acolyte: *Axle Hurst*

Monday, 9:00 AM, December 25: CHRISTMAS DAY

Elder on Duty: *To Be Determined*
Usher Team: *Voigt/Wittmann Teams*
Communion Assistant: *To Be Determined*
Altar Guild: *Craig & Jill Thomas*
Acolyte: *Robbie Kohler*

✠ Serving Our Lord Next Weekend ✠

Saturday, 5:00 PM, December 30:

Elder on Duty: *Alan Manteufel*
Usher Team: *Tom Harrmann*
Communion Assistant: *Bruce Buksyk*
Altar Guild: *Shirley Fleischer*
Greeter: *Betty Allen*
Acolyte: *Payton Lenth*

Sunday, 9:00 AM, December 31:

Elder on Duty: *Bart Nielsen*
Usher Team: *Lee Weinig*
Communion Assistant: *Robert Flater*
Altar Guild: *Jean Zeinert*
Acolyte: *Simon Kroes*

Sunday, 6:30 PM, December 31: New Year's Eve

Elder on Duty: *Bart Nielsen*
Usher Team: *Harrmann/Weinig Teams*
Communion Assistant: *To Be Determined*
Altar Guild: *Jean Zeinert*
Acolyte: *Emma Schmidt*

\$ SCRIP News \$

SCRIP is sold in the Church & School Office Mon.-Fri. from 8:00AM-3:45 PM, and in the narthex before and after worship services.

Fleet Farm @ 10% Rebate!

Kwik Trip @ 9% Rebate!

NOTE: SCRIP will not be sold before & after Christmas Eve or Christmas Day services.

Food Pantry

This month our Pantry is in need of Canned Fruit, Jello, Ketchup, Kleenex, Jam, Jelly, and Dish Soap. If someone you know would benefit from the Food Pantry, please call or text Steve Reinke at (920) 540-5090.

Thank you for all that you do to support our Food Pantry!

Church and School Office Hours

Students will return January 4. School offices are closed and reopen January 4.

Church offices are closed Monday, December 25 and January 1. Office Hours will be 7:00-11:00 AM December 26-29 and January 2-3.

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Connected To Us Isaiah 9:2–7

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6).

In the Christmas story (Luke 2), there are a number of things that don’t seem to connect with the story of salvation. That God would send His only Son from the glory of heaven to the sinful earth doesn’t seem to connect. That the holy and almighty Son of God would chose to be born in a stable and to be visited by lowly shepherds doesn’t seem to connect.

God’s prophet announced that a child would be born into this world. That Child is described as “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6). Jesus comes as the perfect Son of God. He comes to be our Savior. Jesus would be proclaimed by angels who announced that He would bring “on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased” (Luke 2:14). In Jesus, God connects to save His fallen creation.

The most amazing connection is Isaiah’s announcement: “For unto us a child is born” (Isaiah 9:6). God chose to connect with us. He chose to connect with shepherds, wise men, tax collectors and sinners of all kinds. He chose to connect with US.

While we certainly enjoy getting Christmas presents, we don’t often deserve presents. Parents, grandparents, friends and others give us presents because they love us. God gives us the greatest present ever — He gives us Jesus.

Sometimes we may open a special present and ask in surprise, “Is this for me?” God’s answer to us is “Yes!” Jesus was born for each of US! Rejoice in the gift that God has given you. God chose to connect with our world and with each of us at Christmas!

PRAYER

“If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you” (John 15:7).

Jesus, in Your birth, we have been blessed to connect with the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. We ask that you would bless the celebrations of Your birth in our church and in our homes. Amen.

School News

Christmas Eve

- ◆ Sunday, December 24th. 4:00 PM & 6:30 PM Worship, “No Room For God”
- ◆ 11:00 pm Candlelight Worship w/ communion, “The Glory of God”

Christmas Day

- ◆ Monday, December 25th 9:00 AM Worship w/communion, “Taken Out of Man”

New Years Eve

- ◆ Sunday, December 31st, 6:30 PM Worship w/communion, “Everlasting to Everlasting”

Angel Tree

- ◆ We have our annual Angel Tree in the hallway by door #2 at the entrance to the church. For our new families this year, this tree has angels on it with items listed that teachers can use in the classroom or other staff members could use throughout the school year. All you have to do is pick an angel, purchase the item listed, and return it to the respective teacher or staff member. This is a great way to help out your teacher’s classroom or the school through your donation.
- ◆ Classes Resume Thursday, Jan 4th at 8:15am.
- ◆ On behalf of Pastor Billings, Pastor Gerue and the staff of Trinity Lutheran Church & School, we wish you a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

