



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**Saturday, December 6, 2025**  
**2nd Week of Advent**  
**Ezekiel: Valley of Dry Bones**

\*Indicates please stand as you are able

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

*“God So Loved the World”*

Sir John Stainer

arr. Lloyd Larson

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**GATHER**

**\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS\***

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

“Mourning Prayer”

L: Unto you God,

**C: we bring our crippling pain for the violence inflicted on our siblings in their journey to a better present.**

L: Unto you God,

**C: we bring our contained anger for the indifference of Western countries, for the ongoing violations of human rights and the drafting of unjust laws.**

L: Unto you God,

**C: we bring our private indignation for the racism that poisons civil coexistence and interpersonal relationships.**

L: You who, in Jesus, have proclaimed blessed are those who mourn, free us from a conniving silence and a dumb resignation; transform our pain, our anger, and our indignation into a lamentation so loud it cannot go unheard. May our mourning for justice be unrestrained.

**C: Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG\***

*"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"*  
vs 1 & 2

**WOV #630**  
Wayne L. Wold  
Yiddish folk tune

©1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress OL#85955

1. Light one candle to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall bring salvation to Israel,  
God fulfills the promise.

2. Light two candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
gently lead them homeward.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY\***

**God of breath, You promised new life to your people in exile by breathing into a valley full of dry bones. Breathe new life into us, so that we might live passionately for you. Amen.**

**\*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH\***

Light 2 Candles

**WORD**

**KID'S SERMON**

**Pastor Rick**

**GOSPEL READING**

**EZEKIEL 37:1-14**

L: The good news according to Ezekiel 37

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord." <sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

<sup>8</sup> I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup> I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. <sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

L: The gospel of God.

C: Praise be to God.

## SERMON

Pastor Rick

## SONG OF THE DAY

*"When Our Song Says Peace"*

ELW #709

Richard Leach & Thomas Pavlechko

W:©1997 Selah Publishing Co., Inc. M: © 2003 Augsburg Fortress OL #18604

1. When our song says peace and the world says war,  
we will sing despite the world.  
We will trust the song, for we sing of God,  
who breaks the spear and sword  
and stills the storm of war.
2. When our song says free and the world says bound,  
we will sing despite the world.  
We will trust the song, for we sing of God,  
who opens prison doors  
and sets the captives free.
3. When our song says home and the world says lost,  
we will sing despite the world.  
We will trust the song, for we sing of God,  
who brings us home at last,  
and gives a song to all.

**\*CREED\***

**Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: You spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.**

**By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: Freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.**

**Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: Forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.**

**Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us; renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need.**

**Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.**

*A Statement of Faith as written by our Lutheran Sisters and Brothers from our Book of Worship*

**\*PRAYERS\***

**P:** God of grace,

**C:** **Hear our prayer.**

**\*PEACE\***

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**MISSION MOMENT**

*If you have a monetary offering, please place in the plate as you leave worship today, or use this code to give electronically.*



**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER\***

**P:** Voices singing an anthem of thanksgiving: no more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground. He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found.

**C:** **Amen.**

## MEAL

### **\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING\***

L: Loving God, we call to mind the heavenly banquet revealed to us through Jesus, into whose life of communion we have been invited. So, before we dine and fellowship, we give thanks for your invitations and for your gift each day. Bless the hands that cooked and prepared this meal, remembering also the hands doing the work we cannot; the hands of fishers and farmers; of those who till and harvest the land, of laborers who pack, stack, and deliver; as well as the empty hands of the hungry. While we eat and drink, we count our blessings, as we receive them all in your name.

C: **Amen.**

### **\*WORDS OF PROMISE\***

P: This piece of dry bread, that I stole while my captor was looking the other way is my body.

C: **Take. Eat. Do this in remembrance of me.**

P: This cup of saltwater in which I was drowned. Is the new covenant in my blood.

C: **Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.**

P: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

C: **Amen.**

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER\***

ELW pg. 112

**Creator God, in heaven, holy be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION\***

## **COMMUNION**

### **\*COMMUNION BLESSING\***

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: **Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION\***

**As we have been nourished at this table, we pray for those who are hungry, thirsty, impoverished. Help us share what we have received, to be your bread broken for others.  
AMEN.**

## SENDING

### **\*BLESSING\***

- P: May the road be smooth under your feet and the trees shade you on your way. May the desert be smooth under your wheels and may your water be enough. May the sea be smooth under your boat and the winds blow you gently across the borders. May kindness be your companion and your guide.
- C: **Amen.**

### **\*SENDING SONG\***

*"It Is Well With My Soul"*

**ELW #785**  
Horatio G. Spafford & Philip P. Bliss  
Public Domain

1. When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

#### *Refrain*

It is well (it is well)  
with my soul, (with my soul,)  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

2. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
let this blest assurance control,  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
and has shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*
3. He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;  
my sin, not in part, but the whole,  
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*
4. Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;  
even so it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

**\*SENDING\***

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

**\*POSTLUDE\***

“”

# Prayer List

## Members

Eric Biedermann  
Tim Anderson  
Jean Purath  
Mary Ann Miller  
Barb Klaman  
Pastor Paul Schairer  
Shirley Garvin  
Cooper Hopkins  
Mary Ann Armstrong  
Madyson Hopkins

## Friends & Family

Steve Eulberg, friend of Jim & Margaret Frye  
Ramona Haeder, sister of Rebecca Roland  
Jules Webb, daughter of Martha Webb  
Marilu Ritzman, friend of Rob & Aida Schmidt  
Douglas Hardie, friend of Rob & Aida Schmidt  
David Horton, brother of Sara Mullarkey  
Jim Belak, son-in-law of Barbara Baggs  
Barbara Pardo, mother of Cheryl Dolan  
Jennifer & Dale Barnett, friends of Marilyn Morrissey  
Jan Johannes, sister of Jo Anne Gearhart  
Susie Kragmeier, daughter of Kate Stieben  
Beth Barnett, daughter of Carolyn & Eric Biedermann  
Erin Slocum, daughter of Patty & Don Heyse

To watch a recorded service, go to <https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranFC>  
Or visit our website and click on "To view recorded services click HERE!"

**To all who gather:** We are Reconciling in Christ, which means we strive to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and to work for racial equity and to commit to anti-racist work.

We welcome believers, seekers, and the curious, regardless of religious background. God makes no distinction based on race; ethnicity; immigration status; economic status; physical, mental, or developmental circumstances; or other life circumstances. God loves and welcomes all people. Therefore, we welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

*From Pastor Rick:* This community affirms its welcome by accepting me in this place. Diagnosed with Huntington's (HD), my progressing symptoms and neurodiversity are displayed publicly. The uncontrolled movements (chorea) may limit my functionality, or appear in other ways; yet, it is an opportunity to learn and love alongside one another. HD is part of me, but I am not defined by the diagnosis. As for all of us, I am defined as child of God.

**Guests and Visitors:** All are invited to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion (gluten free wafers and juice are available). Your offering is your presence in worship. Please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate as you leave. Don't forget your 'Sweet Treat' plate from the welcome desk!

Worship Note: The red hymnal *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) page numbers are found in the front while song numbers are in the back. If you have any questions about worship or Trinity, our clergy or welcome table hosts are happy to help.

**Parents and Caregivers:** God's children of all ages are welcome in worship. If helpful, please use the Family Break Room outside the worship space or a "Worship Activity Bag" - available near the welcome table. On Sunday, if needed, we offer a fully trained Nursery; staffed by Tiffany K. and Zoe K.

**Special needs:** Hearing-assistance devices are available during our services. Holy Communion can also be brought to the seats of those who are unable to come forward. Our Welcome Table Hosts can help with any of these special needs.

### In Ministry Today

**Worship Assistant:** Sherry Albertson-Clark  
**Communion Prep:** Sherry Albertson-Clark  
**Welcome Table Host:**  
**Fellowship Host:**  
**Prayer Writer:** Pat Wiedower  
**Bread Baker:** Dan Merz  
**Flower Arrangement:** Volunteers from  
St Paul's Episcopal

### Trinity's Clergy Leader:

Pastor Rick Reiten

### Trinity's Staff:

Carrie Hansen	<b>Music Coord. &amp; Organist</b>
Tessa Espinosa	<b>Chancel Choir Director</b>
Clinton Ellerbe	<b>Saturday Worship Leader</b>
Austin Naylor	<b>Interim Bells Director</b>
Brenda Harju	<b>TLC Preschool Director</b>
Brenda Moore	<b>Financial Manager</b>
Deana Andrist	<b>Office Administrator</b>
Amanda Backsen	<b>Director of Communications &amp; Volunteer Coord.</b>
Claire Pickerel	<b>AV Technician</b>
Jennifer Reeve	<b>Shared Children's Minister</b>
Tiffany Klijewski	<b>Nursery Coord.</b>
Zoe Klaman	<b>Shared Nursery Attendant</b>

*\*Staff Emails are available on our website\**

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

#### **Monday (December 8 )**

12 pm Sermon Discussion-Fireside  
6p Property-Fireside  
6:30 pm (5) NoCo Male Spirituality

#### **Tuesday (December 9)**

4:30 pm Birdhouses for Habitat-Room 2  
6:30 pm Exec Council-Fireside

#### **Wednesday (December 10)**

5 pm Bells of Trinity-Room 1  
6 pm Advent Service  
6:30 pm Soup Supper  
7 pm Chancel Choir

#### **Thursday (December 11 )**

9:30 am Bible Study-Room 2  
3 pm Spanish Class-Room 2  
3:30 pm 301FP Get Together  
4 pm Finance-Zoom

#### **Friday (December 12)**

10 am Quilting Group

#### **Saturday (December 13)**

5 pm Worship

#### **Sunday (December 14 ) **Advent 3****

9 am Adult Forum-Room 2  
9 am Confirmation-Room 8  
9 am Sunday School-Room 3  
9 am Youth Group-Room 6  
10:30 am Shared Worship –  
Children's Christmas Pageant  
11:30 am Fellowship

### Coming Up:

#### **Wednesday, Dec 17**

Advent Service @ 6 pm  
Soup Supper @ 6:30 pm

#### **Christmas Eve, December 24**

**3 & 5 pm Trinity Candlelight Services**  
**8 pm St Paul's Christmas Eve Service**

#### **Christmas Day, December 25**

**10 am Mary of Magdala Christmas Mass**

## **Trinity Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.**

Trinity Lutheran – ELCA is a welcoming and inclusive faith community.

We are Reconciling in Christ, which means we strive to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and to work for racial equity and to commit to anti-racist work.

We welcome believers, seekers, and the curious, regardless of religious background. God makes no distinction based on race; ethnicity; immigration status; economic status; physical, mental, or developmental circumstances; or other life circumstances. God loves and welcomes all people.

Therefore, we welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

So, how can you learn more about Trinity?

Visit our website at [www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org)

Consider joining us for worship or one of our ministry events.

Contact one of our clergy for a chat.

We believe we are not a complete community, and that God is calling new people to join us and to find their place at Trinity.

We invite you join us on the journey of faith!

Saturdays at 5p.m. (Livestreamed & Recorded for Viewing)

Sundays 10:30 a.m. (Livestreamed & Recorded for Viewing)

**Trinity is a welcoming faith community living together in God's love to share the joy of Jesus Christ.**

### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

301 E. Stuart St., Fort Collins, CO 80525 (970) 482-1226

Website: [www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org) email: [office@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:office@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**TLC Preschool - 221-9852**



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Liturgy: "Liturgies from Below: Praying with People at the Ends of the World, 2011"