

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 1, 2023

Service Notes:

Hymns: 382, 389, 938, 372, 386, 360, 375
 Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 11:1-5
 Epistle: Galatians 4:1-7
 Holy Gospel: Luke 2:22-40
 Sermon: "Seeing Your Salvation" Luke 2:22-40

Divine Service Setting Two, page 167

Day	Date	Time	Attendance
Saturday, Christmas Eve	12/24	4:00 p.m.	156
		6:00 p.m.	51
Sunday, Christmas Day	12/25	9:00 a.m.	107

BULLETINS AND FLOWERS are given by Anna Farkas in celebration of Pat Wagner's birthday.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated today. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing.

THE STAFF AT OUR FATHER'S THANKS EVERYONE for the many cards and gifts we received for Christmas. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. We pray that you all have a Blessed New Year as together we serve our Lord at Our Father's.

THANK YOU I would like to thank everyone for the cards and gift basket to welcome me into my new home. Thank you also to the school children for the kind notes you wrote me. That was so nice! I am now at Clifden Court at 6801 West Loomis Road in Greendale. If you want to keep in touch, feel free to send cards or phone me anytime. Anna Rose Consigny

SCHOOL/CHURCH OFFICE HOURS will be limited during the Christmas break. In the event of an emergency, please contact Pastor Nuckols at (512) 466-3840. For school-related issues, please contact Bob Cahill at (210) 473-7109.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/ADULT BIBLE CLASS There will be no Sunday School/Adult Bible Class on January 1. Sunday School/Adult Bible Class will resume on January 8.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK continues through Tuesday, January 3. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 4.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday 01/01 **New Year's Day Service** 9:00 a.m.
Monday 01/02 No School/Christmas Break
through Tuesday, 01/03/2023
 Wednesday 01/04 Morning Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
 Thursday 01/05 **EPIPHANY EVE SERVICE** 6:30 p.m.
 Sunday 01/08 **DIVINE SERVICES** 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
 Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
 Scrip Orders Due

WE PRAY for Karen Awe, Bill Blue, Michael Borchardt, Sr., Janet Brown, Jennifer Chapel (niece of Linda Christian), Karen Christiansen, Kevin Coerper, Anna Rose Consigny, Sandy Damms, Harriet Davidson, Cheryl Fisher (sister of Lynn Hester), Daut Gaba, Gerald Garske, Carol Georgson, Glenn Georgson, Judy Hanson, Jessica Hetts (niece of Virginia Scholz), Elaine Howe, Jackie Johnson (mother of Don Johnson), Michelle Johnson, Konnie Otto, Angeline Pence, Jeff Pfander (brother of Todd Pfander), Virginia Scholz, Susan Sochowski (wife of Mark Sochowski), and Joan Wolfersdorff (sister-in-law of Donna Metzfeld).

SCRIP Orders are due next Sunday, **January 8**. A Scrip order box, order forms, and envelopes are located in the narthex and church/school office. Place your order and check made out to Our Father's in one of the boxes, *OR* you may order online with the Presto Pay Plan at www.shopwithscrip.com. The website has a list of participating retailers. **Please note that the website name has changed to raiseright.com, but the shopwithscrip.com link will still get you to the correct page to view vendors or place your order.** Call Linda Hojnacki with any questions at (414) 427-5949.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) is seeking to fill the role of District Vice President in the South Wisconsin District. LCEF provides financial resources and related services for ministry, witness, and outreach of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS). The LCEF District Vice President acts as consultant to district LCMS congregations by building relationships, identifying needs and proposing solutions (loans, investments and ministry services). To find out more about this job opportunity, please visit LCEF Careers at: <https://lcef.org/careers/>

2023 FLOWER AND BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP The charts are now up in the narthex. Please consider signing up to sponsor flowers for the altar or bulletins in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special date or event. We are able to accommodate two flower donations and one bulletin donation per week. The cost for each is \$25. Write a separate check to Our Father's Lutheran Church and put it in an envelope labeled on the outside *for flowers* OR *for bulletins*. This envelope may be placed *in the offering collection* OR *dropped off in the church office*.

CLASS OF 2023 COOKBOOKS The Eighth Grade Class is selling cookbooks, "*OFLS Class of 2023 Favorite Recipes*," as a fundraiser for their trip to St. Louis. The books are \$13 with a collection of hundreds of favorite recipes. Contact an 8th grade student or the church/school office regarding purchasing a cookbook. Thank you for your continued support for this trip. The Class of 2023: Sebe, Orlando, Danny, Henry, Joshua, Mayah, Amber, Alivia, Brayden, and Mariah

***OUR FATHER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH, SCHOOL, AND CHILDCARE CENTER***

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THE READINGS AND PSALMODY FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 1, 2023

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 11:1-5 (ESV)

¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

² And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE READING

Galatians 4:1-7 (ESV)

¹ I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything,

² but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father.

³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world.

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,

⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40 (ESV)

²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord
²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord")

²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law,

²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹ "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.

³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed

³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶ And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin,

³⁷ and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day.

³⁸ And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the

Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE PSALMODY

Psalm 89:1-8 (ESV)

¹ I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

² For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."

³ You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:

⁴ 'I will establish your offspring forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'" Selah

⁵ Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

⁶ For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?
Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,

⁷ a God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones,
and awesome above all who are around him?

⁸ O LORD God of hosts,
who is mighty as you are, O LORD,
with your faithfulness all around you?

INTROIT

Your decrees are very | trustworthy;*
holiness befits your house, O Lord, for- | evermore.

Your throne is established | from of old;*
you are from ever- | lasting.

The Lord reigns; he is robed in | majesty;*
the Lord is robed; he has put on strength | as his belt.

Yes, the world is es- | tablished;*
it shall nev- | er be moved.

The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted | up their
voice;*

the floods lift up their | roaring.

Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves | of
the sea,*

the Lord on high is | mighty!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Your decrees are very | trustworthy;*
holiness befits your house, O Lord, for- | evermore.

Your throne is established | from of old;*
you are from ever- | lasting.

Psalm 93:1, 3-4; antiphon: vv. 5, 2

**THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER
FOR THE WEEK OF
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

“Seeing Your Salvation”
January 1 through January 7, 2023

Let us remind ourselves once more that there are twelve days of Christmas, even as there are twelve tribes of Israel and twelve apostles. For many, Christmas is observed like a birthday—here for a few hours and then it is gone. For the Church, Christmas is the fulfillment of all the hopes of Israel and the basis of all the hopes of the New Testament Church. Indeed Christ is the center of all history, and through Christ all history is understood. The twelve days of Christmas call us back to the revelation of all our hope in the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures. There the Son is revealed and the Holy Spirit works in the hearts of men through them. There we are taught of the mysteries of Baptism and the Sacrament and learn how they bring about life in our bodies of death. The twelve days will end, but the festival of Epiphany will remind us that the Gospel has gone out into all the world. So the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures bring life to all nations.

INVOCATION: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

THE CREED

VERSE: ⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.” **Matthew 7:7-8 (ESV)**

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK: O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

PSALM OF THE WEEK: 89:1-8

PSALMODY PRAYER: In Your faithfulness, Your mercy never fails us, O Lord. Keep us as Your sons firm in faith that we confess You as our Father and the Rock of our salvation. You have given us help in all our needs. **AMEN.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday	No School
Tuesday	No School
Wednesday	Matthew 2:1-12
Thursday	Luke 2:21-24
Friday	Luke 2:25-40
Saturday	Matthew 3:13-17

CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: The Lord’s Prayer

The Seventh Petition

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to himself in heaven.

The Conclusion

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

What does this mean? This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by him; for he himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

Luther, Sermon on Luke 2:33-40 (1531): The gospel should instill such amazement in us that we, too, would exult and proudly assert: I have been baptized in Christ; there is no doubt that through Lord Jesus I become a lord and can overcome death and sin, and heaven and all creation must serve my best interests. ... On the day of judgement, he will say to me, even as he already does, You are my dear brother; everything that is mine is yours, you shall live with me in eternity. ... But that I should believe this of myself or you of yourself, that is lacking because we do not see it in ourselves. We do not feel it. We do not experience it. In our thinking, St. Paul and St. Peter are lords and sovereigns over heaven and earth. But whether I, too, am a lord and sovereign, that I do not know. But what does it mean to believe? If I do not believe it of myself, that I have become a lord and sovereign over heaven and earth because of Christ, then certainly I cannot believe the same of Peter and Paul. Again, if I do not believe that through Christ I have gained the heavenly inheritance, then I do not believe that Christ became man for me and that I have been baptized into Christ. That is why the Evangelist Luke spoke so highly of the faith of the father and mother. For where there is righteous faith, the fruit follows that we marvel at and are happy about the great grace and blessing which is ours through this little child. But where this fruit is not present and the heart does not marvel nor is joyous, there either is no faith or the faith is not as firm as it ought to be. For if such faith is present, which trusts with certainty that we poor sinners have been

translated into eternal life and righteousness, a person ought to feel at least a small spark that lifts up one's heart with joy and affords courage against despair, trouble, and persecution. One will then be defiant and say to both the evil and the world, Why should I be dismayed however much sin, death, devil, world, pope, or emperor rage against and vex me? If the pope or emperor takes my life, theirs is a far greater loss than mine. They may take the husk and peeling, but the kernel and treasure remains, that I have been made free from sin through Christ and have been rescued from eternal death and God's wrath. This they cannot take from me. If only this little child remains, the rest may go. For a Christian does not focus on this temporal and transient life as does the world, but rather on the future eternal life. (*Sermons of Martin Luther: House Postils* 1:156-158, Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996)

PRAYER: Each day a different aspect of Christian life is covered.

Monday	Our Baptism, calling, and daily work
Tuesday	Deliverance from sin and temptation
Wednesday	Marriage, family, and schools
Thursday	The Lord's Supper, the Church, and Her Pastors
Friday	The Preaching of the Cross, the persecuted, and missions
Saturday	True repentance and restoration of the withering
Sunday	The Hope of the resurrection and faithfulness to the Word

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

OR

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

HYMN OF THE WEEK: *LSB 372 "O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is"*
(stanza 4)

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 8, 2023

“With You I Am Well Pleased”

HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: 596, 406, 384, 412, 400, 403, 594

READINGS

Joshua 3:1-3, 7-8, 13-17

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Matthew 3:13-17

The words and actions of Jesus in this text are a source of great comfort. Our dear Lord willingly goes to be baptized by John the Baptizer. He goes to be baptized that through His baptism He might bestow His righteousness upon us in our baptism. He goes to be baptized with sinners that He might take the sins of all upon Himself. Now we who are sinners go to the waters of baptism and He exchanges His holiness for our sinfulness. He goes to the waters that He might command His apostles to baptize. He is baptized that, through the baptism that He commands, disciples would be made, that is, faith would be created and sinners would be justified. The opening of heaven confirms that through baptism heaven itself is opened to those who believe in the promise offered at the font. The Spirit descends that we might have no doubt that where baptism is carried out in the name of the Blessed Trinity the Holy Spirit is freely given to the baptized. The Father declares that this is His beloved Son so that we might hear from His own mouth that baptism makes us His own children, sons of God through the faith given to us at baptism. In the waters of baptism, the Father declares His pleasure with us for the sake of His own dear Son who first went into the waters. Holy Baptism is a visible sign of our justification, for it is the declaration of God, not of the pastor or of the congregation or of the baptized, that the one baptized is forgiven for the sake of Christ.

Music at Historic Trinity

Epiphany Choral Vespers

Sunday, January 8th, 2023 3:00 p.m.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

1046 N 9th Street

Milwaukee, WI 53206

Ben Cullit, Organist & Choral Director
(Our Savior, Whitefish Bay)

Rev. Brandon Kolbe, Preacher
(Trinity Lutheran Church, West Allis)

Rev. M. Douglas Peters, Liturgist
(Trinity Evangelical Lutheran, Milwaukee)

Choir from surrounding churches

Music
at

Historic
Trinity
2023

*Reception to follow service