

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**  
**Rev. Andrew Preus – Pastor**  
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**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas**  
**January 4<sup>th</sup>-- anno Domini 2026**

(Guest Speaker – Seminarian Karl Jacobson)

**DEAR VISITORS:** As a congregation in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, Trinity practices **closed communion**, which means that we only commune those who are members in good standing of sister congregations and have been instructed in the Christian faith as it is summarized in Luther's Small Catechism. If you are a visitor and desire to commune at Trinity, **please speak to Pastor Preus before the service.**

The Order of Morning Service  
*TLH p. 5*

**Hymn of Invocation** ♫ *Hail the Day So Rich in Cheer*

*TLH #78*

*Stand for final stanza*

**Invocation, Confession & Absolution**

*pg. 5*

*Please remain standing through the conclusion of the Collect of the Day.*

Service of the Word



**Introit** ♫

Out of the mouth of babes and nursing | infants\*

    You have or- | dained strength,

**because of Your | enemies,\***

**that You may silence the enemy and the a- | venger. (Psalm 8:2)**

O | LORD, our Lord,\*

    how excellent is Your name in | all the earth!

**What is man that You are mind- | ful of him\***

**and the son of man that You | visit him?**

For You have made him a little lower than the | angels,\*

    and You have crowned him with glory and | honor.

**You have made him to have dominion over the works | of Your hands;\***

**You have put all things un- | der his feet. (Psalm 8:1, 4-6)**

**Gloria Patri** ☩ *Glory be to the Father*

**Kyrie** ☩ *Lord, Have Mercy*

**Gloria in Excelsis** ☩ *Glory to God in the Highest*

**Salutation & Collect of the Day**

**Sit**

**Old Testament Reading** ☩ *Genesis 46:1-7*

Israel moved with all he had. When he came to Beersheba, he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.

<sup>2</sup> God spoke to Israel in a vision at night. "Jacob, Jacob!" He said. "Yes," he answered.

<sup>3</sup> "I am God, the God of your father," He said. "Don't be afraid to go down to Egypt, because I will make you a great people there. <sup>4</sup> I will go down to Egypt with you and bring you back again. And Joseph's hand will close your eyes."

<sup>5</sup> Jacob moved from Beersheba. Israel's sons took their father Jacob, their children, and their wives in the wagons Pharaoh sent to get them. <sup>6</sup> They also took their cattle and the other livestock they had acquired in Canaan. And so *Jacob* and all his family *came to Egypt*. <sup>7</sup> He took with him to Egypt his sons, his grandsons, his daughters, his granddaughters — all his descendants.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



**Gradual** ☩

Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the | Gentiles,\*  
to give thanks to Your holy name, to triumph | in Your praise.

**You, O LORD, are our | Father;\***

**Our Redeemer from Everlasting | is Your name.** (Psalm 106:47; Isaiah 63:16)

**Epistle** ☩ *1 Peter 4:12-19*

Dear friends, don't be surprised that you're being tested by a fiery trial as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But as you share Christ's sufferings, be happy so that you will also be full of joy when His glory will be revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you're insulted now for the name of Christ, you're happy because the Spirit of glory and power, *the Spirit of God, is resting* on you.

<sup>15</sup> Of course, none of you should suffer as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or one who meddles in the affairs of others. <sup>16</sup> But if you suffer for being a Christian, don't feel ashamed, but praise God with that name. <sup>17</sup> It is time for the judgment to start in God's temple. But if it is starting with us, how will it end for those who refuse to listen to God's good news?

<sup>18</sup> If it is hard for a righteous person to be saved, what will happen to the ungodly and the sinner?

<sup>19</sup> So you, too, who suffer as God wants you to suffer, entrust yourselves to your faithful Creator and keep on doing good.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*



*Verse*

Alle- | Iuia.\*

Alle- | Iuia.

**My mouth shall speak the praise | of the LORD,\*  
and all flesh shall bless His holy name forever. Alle- | Iuia.** (Psalm 145:21)

**Triple Hallelujah**

**Gospel**  *Matthew 2:13-23*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

After the wise men left, Joseph saw an angel of the Lord in a dream, who said, "Get up, take the little Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the Child to kill Him." <sup>14</sup> Joseph got up at night, took the little Child and His mother, and went to Egypt. <sup>15</sup> He stayed there until Herod died. In this way what the Lord said through the prophet was to come true: *"I called My Son out of Egypt."*

<sup>16</sup> When Herod saw that the wise men had tricked him, he became very angry and sent men to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and in all the country around it, up to two years old, according to the exact time he had found out from the wise men.

<sup>17</sup> Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah came true:

<sup>18</sup> *A cry is heard in Rama!*

*Weeping and bitter wailing: Rachel crying over her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are gone.*

<sup>19</sup> But when Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in Egypt in a dream <sup>20</sup> and told him, "Get up, take the little Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel. Those who tried to kill the little Child are dead."

<sup>21</sup> Joseph got up, took the little Child and His mother, and came to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> But when he heard, "Archelaus has succeeded his father Herod as king of Judea," he was afraid to go back there. And being warned in a dream, he went to Galilee. <sup>23</sup> He came and made his home in a town by the name of Nazareth. And so what was said through the prophets came true: "He will be called a Nazarene."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**Apostles' Creed**

pg. 12

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day** ☙ *I Walk in Danger All the Way*

TLH #413

**Sermon**

*Stand*

**Offertory**

pg. 12

*Sit*

**Gathering of the Offering**

*Stand to sing as the offerings are brought forward*

*We give Thee but Thine own,  
Whate'er the gift may be  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.*

Please complete the  
Record of Fellowship in the  
folder in your pew.

Prayers

**General Prayer**

pg. 14

**Lord's Prayer**

TLH #263

**Hymn** ☙ *O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe*

**Concluding Collect**

**Benediction**

*Sit*

**Hymn to Depart** ☙ *Rejoice, Rejoice, This Happy Morn*

TLH #79

**Silent Prayer**

**Ushers for today:** Matthew Otten, David Otten, Alton Swann

**Next week:** Keith Rethemeyer, Charlie Scheer, Karson Eads, Jacob Preus

**Greeter for today:** Andrew Rethemeyer

**Next Week:** Larry Scheer

**Acolyte today:** Colton Swann

**Next Week:** Nolan Pelster

**Flower and Altar Care:** **January:** Devin Eads

**Organist:** Andrew Finck

**Prayer and Petitions:** Jim Buchheit family on his passing this week. Ken Altemeyer (hospice). Rachel Preus, Wayne Scheer and Sue Eads, health concerns. Homebound: Virginia Behrens, Ray & LeeAnn Rohling, Diana Scheer, Paul & Sue Laune; Missionaries: Brandt Klawitter, mission work in Norway; Pastor James May (missionary to Africa); Rev. David Preus (missionary to Romania); Michael & Naomi Ersland, Lutheran Bible Translators. Immanuel Lutheran School, Washington; Camp Trinity; Luther Classical College; Christ the King Lutheran High School.

**Birthdays and Annivers:** Conor Pelster, Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>, Bill Horne, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> (sorry missed last week); No birthdays/anniversaries on list for this week.

*(Please email [office@trinitynewhaven.com](mailto:office@trinitynewhaven.com) if your birthday or anniversary has not been listed or was incorrectly listed, so the records can be updated with correct information)*

**Joint Epiphany Service – January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Immanuel, Washington.**

**Confirmation/Wednesday School Reconvenes on January 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**Voter's Meeting** – January 18<sup>th</sup> after church service (downstairs)

**Ladies Aid** – January 18<sup>th</sup> after church (conference room)



## Smalcald Articles

*Bookofconcord.org*

Preface (*Continued from last week*)

10 But to return to the subject. I verily desire to see a truly Christian Council [assembled some time], in order that many matters and persons might be helped. Not that we need it, for our churches are now, through God's grace, so enlightened and equipped with the pure Word and right use of the Sacraments, with knowledge of the various callings and of right works, that we on our part ask for no Council, and on such points have nothing better to hope or expect from a Council. But we see in the bishoprics everywhere so many parishes vacant and desolate that one's heart would break, and yet neither the bishops nor canons care how the poor people live or die, for whom nevertheless Christ has died, and who are not permitted to hear Him speak with them as the true Shepherd with His sheep. 11 This causes me to shudder and fear that at some time He may send a council of angels upon Germany utterly destroying us, like Sodom and Gomorrah, because we so wantonly mock Him with the Council.

12 Besides such necessary ecclesiastical affairs, there would be also in the political estate innumerable matters of great importance to improve. There is the disagreement between the princes and the states; usury and avarice have burst in like a flood, and have become lawful [are defended with a show of right]; wantonness, lewdness, extravagance in dress, gluttony, gambling, idle display, with all kinds of bad habits and wickedness, insubordination of subjects, of domestics and laborers, of every trade, also the exactions [and most exorbitant selling prices] of the peasants (and who can enumerate all?) have so increased that they cannot be rectified by ten Councils and twenty Diets. 13 If such chief matters of the spiritual and worldly estates as are contrary to God would be considered in the Council, they would have all hands so full that the child's play and absurdity of long gowns [official insignia], large tonsures, broad cinctures [or sashes], bishops' or cardinals' hats or maces, and like jugglery would in the mean time be forgotten. If we first had performed God's command and order in the spiritual and secular estate, we would find time enough to reform food, clothing, tonsures, and surplices. But if we want to swallow such camels, and, instead, strain at gnats, let the beams stand and judge the motes, we also might indeed be satisfied with the Council.

(*Continued next week*)