

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

612 Water Street, Sparta, Wisconsin

December 18, 2016 8:15 am



Prelude: Each Winter as the Year Grows Older

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace. **Amen.**

Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

God of all time,

We confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us.

We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace.

In your mercy forgive us.

Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news! **Amen.**

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel vs 7&8

#257

Lighting the Advent Wreath: Advent 4

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe. You sent your Son to be the Light of the world and to spread his light of love to all. As we light the candles of this wreath may its growing brightness remind us of the coming of your Son, so that we may be ready and filled with joy. Amen (Four candles are lit)

***Hymn: Joy to the World!**

#267

***Prayer of the Day**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Reading: Isaiah 7.10-16

Page 554 in the black pew Bible

Psalms 80.1-7, 17-19

Page 470 in the black pew Bible

Refrain: *Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.*

Reading: Romans 1.1-7

Page 913 in the black pew Bible

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Page 188

***Gospel: Matthew 1.18-25**

Page 783 in the black pew Bible

Sermon

Hymn: *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn!*

#242

***Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers: *Lord, Listen to your Children*

#752

Pastor: As we anticipate the fullness of the presence of Christ, we join with the church throughout the world, praying for all who are in need. And we pray; **Have mercy, O God.**

A brief silence.

From the Assembly: For the church universal and all servants of the gospel, for poets and artists, for musicians and preachers, and for theologians and teachers; that all proclaim that God is with us in Christ, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

From the Assembly: For all plants and animals, seas and skies, snow and rain, and all of God's marvels; that all of creation grow and thrive as we bless, protect, and use with care what God has made, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

From the Assembly: For the nations and those in authority, for peace and justice throughout the whole world, and for those who advocate on behalf of others; that all in positions of leadership choose what is good for the community, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

From the Assembly: For the thirsty and hungry, the weak and fearful, those in childbirth, those who mourn, and the sick (*especially*); that they know Christ the Anointed One who dries up every tear and comforts those who suffer, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

From the Assembly: For those who travel near and far, for those who prepare our congregation for worship and celebration, and for those who gather around word and sacrament; that all experience welcome and refreshment, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

From the Assembly: In thanksgiving for the saints who have died and are now at rest; that the witness of their faith point us to the promises of grace and resurrection in Christ, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Pastor: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, those spoken aloud and those known only to you, and grant us peace through Jesus Christ, our coming Savior. **Amen.**

***Sharing of the Peace**

Meal

Offering: *During offering; He Came Down*

#253

1 Timothy 5:18

For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages"

Offertory: *We Are an Offering

#692

***Offering Prayer**

Savior of the nations; come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love; That our faith shines ever new and our lives reveal your light. **Amen.**

***Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed 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.

Communion

Sung During Communion:

#490, 263

***Prayer after Communion**

God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world. Announcing your coming among us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Blessing**

Hymn: *Canticle of the Turning

#723

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: *Mary, Did You Know*

Needed to meet budgeted mission - \$6875.00

Weekly Giving for December 11 – \$2845.45

Simply Giving for 12/11 – 12/17 - \$421.50

Loose Change for Faith in Action - \$115.58

Attendance for Sunday, December 11 - 8:15 - 80 10:30 - 96