

# JESUS IS THE CHRIST

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL  
830 E. PLAZA CIRCLE  
LITCHFIELD PARK, AZ 85340

50 YEARS  
TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH & SCHOOL

JANUARY 14, 2024

623.935.4665

WWW.TRINITYLCS.ORG

50 YEARS  
TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH & SCHOOL

1974-2024

In 1974, seven families from St. Paul's Lutheran Church gathered together to establish a mission church in Litchfield Park, Arizona. [They met in the Ada Bundschuh's living room!] They decided to name the new mission "Village Lutheran Church." (Later, in 1978, they changed the name to "Trinity Lutheran Church.") **This year we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary.** In many and various way, we thank God for this place for our families to worship, to study the Word, to grow in faith, to meet Christian friends, and to serve our neighbor with our gifts!

## 50th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

It's not too late to help us in planning the events of our congregation's 50th Anniversary! Our next meeting is **SUNDAY, JANUARY 28 @12:30pm** in the Church office Board Room!

## January AMOS

Calling all seniors! You are invited to a time of great Christian fellowship and fun. The next January date is January 24, the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. We start at 10AM. Activities include devotions, games, and recognition of January birthdays. *Bring your own lunch.*

## Church Nursery

**We love your little ones!** Children are welcome in worship! If your little one needs to burn off some energy, the Nursery is available at all of our Sunday worship services, except 6pm. (If you would like childcare during our Sunday 6pm worship, please contact Ruth Fisher at 480-235-1473.)

## 2024 Offering Envelope

The 2024 Offering envelopes are available for pick-up in the Church Narthex and in the FLC. If you would like envelopes, but have not signed up for them please contact Amy Thursam in the Business Office. Envelopes are helpful in streamlining the counting process and ensuring proper donation credit. *Thank you for supporting Trinity Lutheran Church.*

## Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church!

**We are glad that you are worshiping with us this morning. If you are visiting with us, we consider you an honored guest and pray that you enjoy your worship experience. If we can help in any way, please see an elder or usher for assistance.**

## HOW TO LISTEN TO A SERMON

### LISTEN FOR THE GOSPEL!

The number one thing to listen for in a sermon is the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. How is the Gospel being proclaimed? What has God done for you? How does it apply to you? Do you believe what is being proclaimed to you? The Gospel is what creates and strengthens your faith. Be sure to listen for, identify, and apply the Gospel to your own life! The Gospel creates and strengthens your faith!

### Remembering A Lutheran Hero And Martyr

During the Thirty Years War (1618-1648), Roman Catholic rulers attacked the Protestant regions of Germany with the hope of stamping out the Reformation. The battles that followed forced 10s of thousands of people out of their homes. Disease and famine deepened the misery, causing a level of suffering similar to what we see today in parts of Africa. Finally, the Swedish king, Gustavus Adolphus II (1594 – 1632), led his armies to defend the Protestants. His armies victory at the battle of Lutzen ensured the survival of the Reformation. But Gustavus Himself died in the fighting. Today we remember and thank God for this "Lion of the North" and his sacrifice. *Concordia, The Lutheran Confessions, "Introduction ... with intrepid hearts", p.10 [slightly adapted]*

### The Lutheran Confessions does/does not

The Lutheran Confessions (that is, the Book of Concord) never takes the place of the Bible. Rather, they distinguish between what the Bible teaches and the false teachings of others, which undermine the use of God's word. They give Christians a common voice to confess their faith to the world. *Concordia, The Lutheran Confessions, "Introduction ... with intrepid hearts", p.12 [slightly adapted]*

### Are you getting emails from Pastor?

If you are not getting our weekly email each week now, then we do not have a good email address for you. **Please send your email to Pastor & he will get you on the list: [DBolte@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:DBolte@TrinityLCS.org)**

### There are many ways to support Trinity Lutheran Church. Take a look!

**Electronic Giving:** Visit our Website at: [Trinitylcs.org](http://Trinitylcs.org) and click on the "Giving" tab. There are step by step instructions to help you set up your account.

**Bill Pay:** This is an automatic online Bill Payment Transaction through your Banking Institution to Trinity Lutheran Church. This is a free service through your bank and it alleviates the hassle of writing checks or buying stamps.

**Traditional Offering Envelopes:** Offering envelopes are available through the church office as a confidential, secure way to give that allows us to keep a record of your giving for personal and tax purposes. Envelopes are helpful in streamlining the counting process and ensuring proper donation credit. The 2024 Offering envelopes are available for pick-up in the Church Narthex and in the FLC. If you would like envelopes, but have not signed up for them please contact Amy Thursam in the Business Office. 623-935-4665 ext 215 or [athursam@trinitylcs.org](mailto:athursam@trinitylcs.org) *Please remember to use black or blue ink to write your checks. Red, pinks and purple inks are undetectable by our check reader.*

*Trinity is hard at work to ensure your generous gifts to share the Gospel are processed accurately and as quickly as possible.*

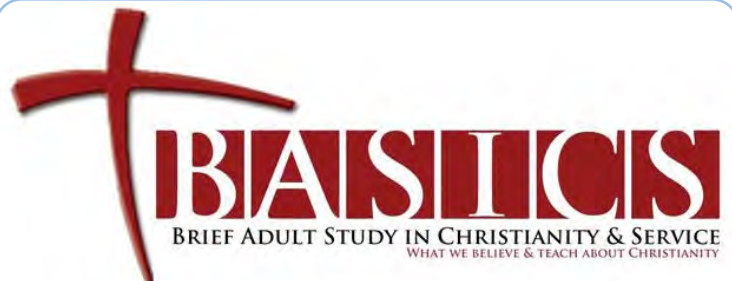
## The Miracle of Holy Baptism!

How, then, can water cleanse and renew our souls? Simple everyday water certainly cannot do this. But God has established a merciful institution: that when a sinner is baptized with water in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, so God Himself desires to be present there and through this, with His Word connected with the water, to wash the baptized's soul of all his impurities, make him into a temple of the Holy Spirit, and call him His child and raise him up to be an heir of eternal life. A great and inexpressible wonder happens in Holy Baptism – that man born in sin is reborn to be a child of heaven. Baptismal water is, therefore, a saving, gracious, heavenly, divine water, full of the wonder of divine grace and compassion. St. Paul called it a washing of rebirth and renewal of the Holy Spirit and said elsewhere: "As many of you are baptized, you have put on Christ." Yes, and St. Peter said: "Baptismal water saves us." *C.F.W. Walther, Treasury of Daily Prayer, p. 947*

### News from the LWML

We Celebrate LWML Mite Box Sunday on the 2nd Sunday of each month. TODAY, January 14th is Mite Box Sunday. Our Focus Mission is: Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairments, Lutheran Braille Workers.

The next LWML meeting is Saturday, January, 20th at 1pm, with a Bible study.



### New Member Class: BASICS

Our next New Member Class will be running from Feb 18 – March 24 ! This 6-week class meets on Sunday afternoons from 4:30--5:30pm in the Adult Classroom. This class is the route to membership here at Trinity. It is a concise review of the key doctrines of the Christian faith, and a good chance to meet new people! Please RSVP Pastor ([dbolte@trinitylcs.org](mailto:dbolte@trinitylcs.org)) if you plan to attend so he can make sure to have enough resources on hand!

### 3-minute Mingle

For the next 3 minutes seek out a visitor or a person you don't know well and talk with them, then you can go and talk with your friends.



### Men of Faith

Our men's group is studying the official teachings of the Lutheran Church in the "Book of Concord."

It is a casual time of study and friendship!

You are welcome to join us; we meet on **Tuesdays at 630pm** in the Adult classroom just off the narthex of the sanctuary.

### Mission Moment

**We come to God with empty hands. We have nothing to give as sinners. Jesus fills us up with forgiveness, love, mercy, peace, and joy!**

"God has given us two hands, one to receive with and the other to give with." by Billy Graham



There are so many empty hearts out there in the world! Pass on God's love on to them!

• **Are you a helper?** Tell them why you help! "Jesus has been so good to me, I want to share this with everyone!!"

• **Are you a good listener?** Tell your friends that Jesus always listens and can fill their empty hearts and lives.

• **Do you like to tell stories?** Tell others how Jesus has freed you and filled you!

**Invite friends** to come to be filled by Jesus!  
**Invite a neighbor or co-worker to church.**

### Newsletter Articles

To submit an article for the newsletter, email to [newsletter@trinitylcs.org](mailto:newsletter@trinitylcs.org) The deadline for article submission is Tuesday at noon.

### UNDERSTANDING THE ABSOLUTION

Sometimes visitors in a Lutheran service of worship are surprised to hear in the general confession and absolution our pastors saying: "Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

Our Lutheran Confessions help us to understand why our pastors speak this way: "It is not the voice or word of the man who speaks it, but it is the Word of God, who forgives sin, for it is spoken in God's stead and by God's command"(AC XXV.3).

Absolution is the Lord's life-giving, sure and certain word that does for us what no surgery, medicine, therapy, counseling, or advice can do for us. The Lord's Word of Absolution doesn't cover up or hide our sin. Nor does it give us only a temporary relief that soon fades away. Our Lord's word of absolution reconciles us to God the Holy Trinity.

*What About Confession and Absolution?*  
Dr. A. L. Barry, President  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

### OASIS BIBLE STUDY & CONFIRMATION

Every Wednesday from 6:30pm-7:45pm thru May. Pastor will lead the **Adult Bible Study** in the Church.

### CONFIRMATION

**Mondays, 6:30pm-7:30pm** • 8th grade

**Wednesdays, 6:30pm-7:45pm**

4th/5th grade, 6th grade, and 7th grade

### How Do You Know What Is Sin?

*Whether or not anything is a sin is not determined by what we think, or how we feel, about it, but solely by this: does it or does it not agree with the Word of God?...The question whether anything is or is not sin, is not determined by our personal opinion, our knowledge, our intention, or our will, but solely by this one fact, whether or not it is an agreement with the will of God....Thus, to sin means to do what God forbids, or not to do what He enjoins, or not to be as He wants us to be.*

A Summary Of Christian Doctrine, E.W.A. Koehler, p.62-63

### January LET'S GO

**Let's Go!** is going to **State 48 Brewery** to sample their beverages as well as their outstanding cuisine in this New Year! The restaurant is rated as one of the best in Surprise. You are invited to join us for good fellowship & good eating. **State 48 Brewery** is located at 13823 W. Bell Rd in Surprise, just off Litchfield Rd. We will meet at the usual 6:30PM on Thursday, January 25. Please reserve your spot by January 24 with Wilma Rupprecht: 630 888 4233.

### Prayer of the Week

*Lord Jesus, we thank you that you are the Christ, the long-awaited Messiah of the Old Testament, anointed with the Holy Spirit to do the work of salvation for us. Help us to ever confess that, and keep that truth always in front of us. Give us the assurance that you have done the work of salvation for us and in our place, so that we may rest from our work, and live in peace with you now, and eternal joy in your heavenly Kingdom later. We ask that you send the Holy Spirit to us, so that we may live, confessing you to be the Christ, the Son of God, so that those in our lives may believe and have life in your name. Amen!*

### Sunday Morning – 8:45 Bible Study

The Book of Acts is being studied with Ed Rupprecht as the leader in the Founders Hall across from the Sanctuary. Coffee, donuts & Christian community abundantly offered. All are welcome.

### VLHS is Hiring!

Valley Lutheran High School is seeking a reliable individual to aid them in their shuttle service from the West side of the Valley. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in this paid/flexible position please contact Mr. Gast at [tgast@vlhs.org](mailto:tgast@vlhs.org) or 602-230-1600





# Trinity Lutheran Church

CHRIST-CENTERED • BIBLE-BASED • FAMILY-FOCUSED



Trinity Lutheran School is back in session after Christmas break and gearing up for the second semester. The support of the congregation makes this ministry possible. Children learn to be disciples of Christ through exceptional education and a firm foundation in God's word. The

Gospel is shared daily as the staff works to prepare children for this life and for the next. The teachers are key to carrying out this mission. We have introduced the pre-school, kindergarten and first grade teachers. Today we meet our second grade teachers.

### Meet Mrs. Krieger, Second Grade teacher

Mrs. Sue Krieger has taught for 36 years in Lutheran Schools, primarily in primary grades. She attended Concordia University Nebraska for both her undergraduate and graduate degrees. Mrs. Krieger and her husband (a teacher at Valley Lutheran High School) are the proud parents of four children and have been blessed with nine grandchildren. When she isn't teaching, Mrs. Krieger enjoys sewing, crafting, and spending time at the beach with her grandchildren.



### Meet Miss Measel, Second Grade teacher



Miss Ashley Measel recently graduated from Arizona Christian University where she had the opportunity to play collegiate basketball. She still loves to stay involved in basketball and continues to share her love of the sport as a coach at Trinity. In her free time, Miss Measel loves being on the basketball court or spending time with her family.

Miss Measel has been a part of the Trinity family for over 15 years. Her time here at Trinity began as a student in preschool and she became a Trinity Alumni in 2014. Not long after, she began to work at Trinity in Child Care, Preschool, and Elementary school. She is excited to step into her new role at Trinity and see what God has in store for our amazing school. A favorite Scripture verse is "Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31

### Trinity Lutheran School • We're Hiring!

TLS has an opening for a part-time middle school teacher (20 hours/week). Applicants must have a valid teaching certification and fingerprint clearance card. **Please email your resume to [ARohloff@trinitylcs.org](mailto:ARohloff@trinitylcs.org)**

### COLLECTING OLD TRINITY PHOTOS!

The 50th Anniversary Team created a shared Google photo album as a "dump" for TLC photos that might be of interest in a photo album. Feel free to add photos you might have of Trinity people, events, correspondence, etc, and please share the link with anyone else who might be interested in contributing! If you need to scan pictures, we can do it! Please let the church office know.



Here is the link for your photos:  
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/iaRYkSEF7HYPwk7Y8>

### Meet Our Staff

#### Rev. Dave Bolte

Senior Pastor  
DBolte@TrinityLCS.org  
Deaconess Ruth Fisher  
Director of Family Ministry  
RFisher@TrinityLCS.org

#### Juliann Dolge

Director of Music  
JDolge@TrinityLCS.org  
Amy Thursam  
Business Manager  
ATHursam@TrinityLCS.org

### Questions about Trinity School?

#### Astraea Rohloff

Principal  
[ARohloff@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:ARohloff@TrinityLCS.org)

#### Heather Chapman

Early Childhood Director  
[HChapman@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:HChapman@TrinityLCS.org)

### Sunday Worship on Campus 830 East Plaza Circle • Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

7:30am Traditional Worship  
9:00am/10:15am Contemporary Worship  
11:30am Blended Worship  
6:00pm Casual Traditional Worship

Services are also posted on Facebook and [TrinityLCS.org](http://TrinityLCS.org)  
School: 623.935.4690 • Church: 623.935.4665