

# What does Christ mean?



**DECEMBER 11, 2022**

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

**830 E. PLAZA CIRCLE • LITCHFIELD PARK, AZ 85340**

**623.935.4665 • WWW.TRINITYLCS.ORG**

## The Angel Trees are BACK!

**The Angel Trees will be going up in the sanctuary & FLC Thanksgiving weekend.** There are 2 ways that you can help serve those in our community who are in need at Christmas.

- The little brown envelopes can be used for cash, checks or gift cards. They can be returned to the box set by each Angel Tree. The most requested gift cards are for Target, Walmart, Frys and Gas cards. Cards in increments of \$25.00 or \$50.00 are the most needed. Cash and checks will be used by Angel Tree to shop for individuals who's gift tags are either not returned or not picked or last minute requests.
- The white gift tags will have information for an individual you can shop for, their age and their present wish. Please return the gift UNWRAPPED (gift bags are OK) with the tag securely fastened to the gift.



**All gifts need to be returned no later than TODAY, 12/11 and monetary contributions please by 12/18.** This will give the Angel Tree team members time to sort, shop and return to Ruth in time for Christmas! Questions? Contact **Deaconess Ruth Fisher** [RFisher@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:RFisher@TrinityLCS.org)

Share with the Lord's people who are in need.  
Practice hospitality. Romans 12:13

*Angel Tree thanks you for supporting our mission to  
"Serve those in our community who are in need at Christmas."*

## Christmas Memorial Service

**Christmas Memorial Service  
Sunday, December 18 th 7:15 PM**

Our Christmas Memorial Service allows members and friends of Trinity to worship in a quieter Christmas setting of scripture and special music. A portion of the service is set aside to give families an opportunity to remember loved ones not present this year.



You are invited and encouraged to set aside Sunday evening, December 18 at 7:15 p.m. and join us. This service is designed for the entire family, if you have family and friends visiting you during the holidays, please bring them with you. Childcare will be available upon request. *An RSVP is not required but appreciated.*

*You may contact Jan Reynolds:  
[JReynolds@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:JReynolds@TrinityLCS.org) or 623-523-1158*

**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.**

## CROSS Training for Parents & Adults!

**Sundays at 10:15am, ADULT CROSS TRAINING** meets in the **Board Room** in the church office with **Janet Sienkiewicz** leading. Adults study the same stories as the children to encourage family faith sharing! (Questions? Ruth Fisher 480-235-1473 or RFisher@TrinityLCS.org)

## Sunday Morning-- 8:45 Adult Bible Study

The Gospel according to St. Luke will be studied with Rev. Les Self as the leader. In the Founders Hall across from the Sanctuary. Coffee, donuts & Christian community abundantly offered. All are welcome.

## AMOS = A Ministry of Seniors

AMOS will meet on Wednesday, December 14, 2022 in Founders Hall from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

### Our next meeting is our Christmas Potluck!

BRING A DISH TO PASS (we have a warming oven for hot dishes). Our approximate time frame will be a short bible study, litany, then eat at 11:00. We will have birthday cake! **JOIN US IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS.**

## "MEN OF FAITH" GROUP

**The Men of Faith men's group will not be meeting during December.** We are re-starting on Tuesday, January 3 at 6:30pm in the Adult Classroom.

**COME AND JOIN US!** We are a small group in an informal study of theology! We are starting the book "Concordia, the Lutheran Confessions" — you can buy it online (\$40), or Pastor may have some used copies you can purchase (\$20). This is good chance to think through the major teachings of the Christian faith; this is one way that you can grow in your Biblical literacy and doctrinal soundness! If you have questions, please contact Pastor Bolte! **Write it down: Tuesday, January 3 at 6:30pm!!**

## CHILDREN WELCOME!

Children are always welcome at worship! If you are concerned that your little one needs to run off energy, our Church Nursery would be happy to help during Sunday worship services! At the sanctuary, the nursery is by the Lamb sign. At Family Life Center, nursery is Preschool Rm 109.



## Christmas at Trinity Invitations

**Pick up an invitation to pass out or mail today! This postcard lists all our Christmas Services times.**



Here is an easy way to invite friends to church! Pick up a few each Sunday to pass out and mail. This hand held card doubles as a postcard. Put a letter stamp on it and mail adding, "I would love to have you come with us!" Hand this card to a friend at coffee and say, "Come with me this year so you can see why Jesus is so important to me." Make sure your friends know about God's love for them! Be creative and let Ruth know how you shared these cards! **SHARE THE HOPE OF JESUS!**

## Prayer of the Week

*Lord Jesus, you are the Christ, the long promised Messiah of the Old Testament times! We thank you for coming into the world to save us from our sins. We thank you for Your perfect life and Your sacrificial death which earned our salvation; something we could never have done on our own. Give us faith to believe this, and comfort us with the sure and certain promises of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Amen!*

## LWML News

Mark your calendars for December 13th and 20th for soup suppers at 5:30, in Founders Hall.

Also mark those calendars for December 17th, at 12:30pm, Lunch will be provided. Bring your favorite dessert. Don't forget your mite stocking. After we eat will go caroling at The Groves.

## Women's Monday Night Bible Study

Women's evening Bible Class meets the first and third Monday evenings at 7 pm in Founders Hall. We continue our study of Psalms. All women are invited to join us! *For more information call Pat Paulson at 623-935-1485 or Karen Onstad at 623-935-4589.*

## 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).

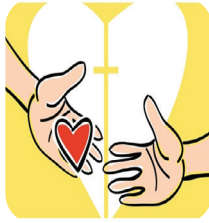
Absolution is the Lord's life-giving, sure and certain word that does for us what no surgery, medicine, therapy, counseling, or advice can do for us. The Lord's Word of Absolution doesn't cover up or hide our sin. Nor does it give us only a temporary relief that soon fades away. Our Lord's word of absolution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

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

## 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.**

**"God bestowed new life on us in Holy Baptism. He now comes to feed and nourish us. We cannot go back to the cross, but because the risen and ascended Christ possesses all the authority of God's Right Hand, He can and does bring the fruits of the cross to us."**

*The Blessings of Weekly Communion, Kenneth W. Wieting, p.21*

## OASIS BIBLE STUDIES & CONFIRMATION

**NO OASIS Dec 21 or Dec 28**

Every Wednesday from 6:30pm-7:45pm thru May. Pastor will lead the **Adult Bible Study** in the Church. Trinity's **teens in grades 8-12** meet in the LIGHT Lounge youth room to study God's Word with Ms. Laura.

**Prepare your youth for life & Holy Communion! CONFIRMATION**

**Mondays, 6:30pm-7:30pm**

8th grade - Pastor Bolte, Adult Classroom

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

5th & 6th grade - Charlene Nichol, Adult Classroom

7th grade - Ruth Fisher, Room 404

### Why go to the Lord's Supper?

But those who are mindful of their weakness desire to be rid of it and long for help. They should regard and use the Sacrament just like a precious antidote against the poison that they have in them. Here in the Sacrament you are to receive from the lips of Christ forgiveness of sin. It contains and brings with it God's grace and the Spirit with all His gifts, protection, shelter, and power against death and the devil and all misfortune. So you have, from God, both the command and the promise of the Lord Jesus Christ. Besides this, from yourself, you have your own distress, which is around your neck. Because of your distress this command, invitation, and promise are given. This ought to move you. For Christ Himself says, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick" [Matthew 9:12]. In other words, He means those who are weary and heavy-laden with their sins, with the fear of death, temptations of the flesh, and of the devil. If, therefore, you are heavy laden and feel your weakness, then go joyfully to this Sacrament and receive refreshment, comfort, and strength [Matthew 11:28].

*Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions, Large Catechism, Sacrament of the Altar, V.70ff*

## The Christmas Eve Praise Choir is back in action soon!

**Christmas Praise Choir rehearsals**

will be held on Saturdays in the FLC. If you are interested in joining us for this wonderful evening of music and worship, please let Juliann know at the church office or between church services. **We would love to have you sing with us!**



## 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**

*Advent*  
**Midweek Services**

Our next two Advent Midweek Tuesday services are the 13th & 20th at 7pm. Prior to the service, the LWML will be hosting an Advent dinner beginning at 5:30pm. (This is a free-will offering dinner for them.)

## AmazonSmile

**A Way to Help Trinity spread the Good News of the Gospel!**

*What is AmazonSmile?*

AmazonSmile is a **simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop**, at no cost to you.

Shop at smile.amazon.COM (instead of www.amazon.com). Every time you shop Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of whatever you buy to **YOUR** chosen charity.

*How to choose your Charity?*

Once signed into AmazonSmile, you will be prompted to pick a charity. You can choose one from the provided list or type in Trinity Lutheran Church or School. It's that easy.

*We thank you for considering Trinity Lutheran Church & School as the recipient of your AmazonSmile charity of choice.*

## 2023 Offering Envelopes!

The 2023 Offering Envelopes are available for pick up in the Narthex and at the Family Life Center. If you would like envelopes, but have not signed up for them please contact Amy Thursam or Jan Reynolds. Envelopes are helpful in streamlining the counting process and ensuring proper donation credit. Please remember your envelopes are associated with your name, please write your name on it. *Thank you for supporting Trinity Lutheran Church. Many Blessings to you and your families.*





# Trinity Lutheran Church

CHRIST-CENTERED • BIBLE-BASED • FAMILY-FOCUSED

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

# CROSS TRAINING

Sunday school for all ages

JOIN US Sundays at 10:15!

- 3s-Kinder:** Julie & Daniel Dodson and Elli Guiney, Marshall Cantrell, & Ms. Laura (Room 106)
- 1-3-grade:** Zack Nelson (Founder's Hall)
- 4-6-grade:** Bruce Rogers (Adult Classroom)
- 7-8-grade, High School/SR Youth:** Travis & Lindsey Guiney (The LIGHT Lounge)
- Adults:** Janet Sienkiewicz (Boardroom)

**Lesson 12: THE RESCUING QUEEN**  
Esther

Text: Esther 2:15-23; 3:12-13; 4:12-17; 7

**Bible Truth: BIBLE TRUTH**  
God preserves His people.

**Learner Goal:** I know God protects me from harm.

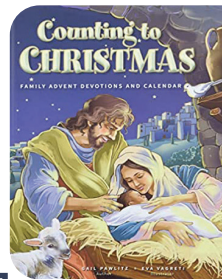
**Law/Gospel:** I face hardship in this broken world.  
No matter how desperate things are, the Lord keeps His plan to save me in Jesus, His Son.



### It's An Advent Tradition

Daily Video Devotions are BACK!  
New videos will be posted each morning throughout Advent beginning November. 27, right around 3am.  
You'll definitely want to SUBSCRIBE to get an alert when a new video is posted!

- **Children & Families:** Counting to Christmas  
--> [tinyurl.com/yukd94a6](http://tinyurl.com/yukd94a6)
- **Tweens & Teens:** Be Born in Us Today  
--> [tinyurl.com/yubxtt79](http://tinyurl.com/yubxtt79)
- **Everyone** A Son is Given by Lutheran Hour Ministries  
--> [tinyurl.com/47sb3rkb](http://tinyurl.com/47sb3rkb)



### 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)

### Meet Our Staff

**Rev. Dave Bolte**  
Senior Pastor  
[DBolte@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:DBolte@TrinityLCS.org)  
**Deaconess Ruth Fisher**  
Director of Family Ministry  
[RFisher@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:RFisher@TrinityLCS.org)  
**Laura Nelson**  
Dir. of Children & Youth Ministries  
[LNelson@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:LNelson@TrinityLCS.org)

**Juliann Dolge**  
Director of Music  
[JDolge@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:JDolge@TrinityLCS.org)  
**Jan Reynolds**  
Director of Care Ministry  
[JReynolds@TrinityLCS.org](mailto:JReynolds@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