

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

553 Ashmoor Avenue

Bowling Green, KY 42101

Office # (270) 843-9595

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www.holytrinity-lc.org

The Sermons are archived on our website.
Check it out if you want to revisit the message.

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Transformation Station & Bible Classes: 9:15 a.m.



WELCOME TO ADVENT WORSHIP

We gather in hope as we await the coming Messiah.

TO OUR VISITORS: We are delighted that you have joined us tonight.

We pray that the service blesses you and invite you to worship with us again. If you are seeking a church family or would like to know more about Holy Trinity, please contact the Church Office at (270) 843-9595. We are here to serve you. Please be sure to provide us with your address and phone number so that we might extend a special welcome.

CELEBRATING CHILDREN AT HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH:

To the parents of our young children, may we suggest:

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome
- Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of the pastor, deacons, readers, acolytes, choir, etc.
- Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.
- If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to Me."
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

A NURSERY is available for infants up to children starting Kindergarten. Exit the sanctuary to the rear, and follow the hallway to the left, then turn at the first hallway to the right. Parents are welcome to worship with their children, but please use the nursery as needed. If you have any questions regarding the nursery please contact Laurie Seavey at (270) 991-1172.

TO THE MEMBERS OF HOLY TRINITY: The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our church is growing. Please welcome all children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

WORSHIP BAGS for our young worshipers are located in the Narthex.
Please use these as needed during worship.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available from the Ushers.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE
December 4, 2019

*With expectant and joyous hearts,
let us prepare ourselves to celebrate the coming of Christ.*

PLEASE REMEMBER: Silence/Turn Off your cell phone

as you come into the Sanctuary to worship the Lord. While you are silencing your phone, we also encourage you to 'check in' on Facebook that you are with us today. Thank you.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OPENING HYMN

L.S.B. #357

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
(Verses 1, 3, & 5)

THE INVOCATION

Liturgist: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

THE SENTENCES FOR ADVENT

Psalm 24

Liturgist: The earth is the LORD's, and the fullness thereof,

People: **the world and those who dwell therein,**

Liturgist: for He founded it upon the seas

People: **and established it upon the rivers.**

Liturgist: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

People: **And who shall stand in his holy place?**

Liturgist: He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

People: **who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.**

Liturgist: He will receive blessing from the LORD

People: **and righteousness from the God of his salvation.**

Liturgist: Such is the generation of those who seek him,

People: **who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

(CONTINUED)

(3)

Liturgist: Lift up your heads, O gates!
People: **And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

Liturgist: Who is this King of glory?
People: **The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle!**

Liturgist: Lift up your heads, O gates!
People: **And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

Liturgist: Who is this King of glory?
People: **the LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!**

Liturgist: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
People: **and to the Holy Spirit;**

Liturgist: as it was in the beginning,
People: **is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

L.S.B. #340

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"
Georg Weissel & Catherine Winkworth

**Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near,
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring;
Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise
Your joyful songs of praise.**

(CONTINUED)

(4)

**Redeemer, come and open wide
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine;
Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on
Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame
We offer to Thy name.**

FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

Reader: The Old Testament Reading is from the 25th chapter of Isaiah.

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷ And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸ He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,
“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE CHORAL ANTHEM

Sanctuary Praise Choir

“Where is the Savior?”

Please stand for

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew,
the 13th chapter.

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE GATHERING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Our offerings will go to the Salvation Army

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE SERMON HYMN

L.S.B. #333

"Once He Came in Blessing"

THE SERMON

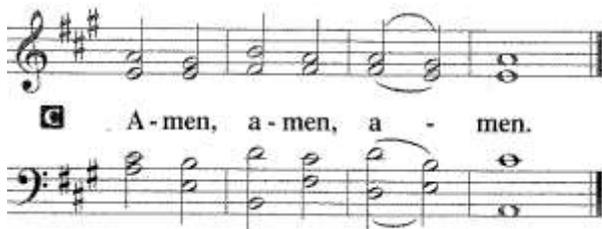
Pastor Press

"The ADVENT of JOY"

Text: Matthew 13:44

THE BENEDICTION

(Amen response is sung by all.)



□ A - men, a - men, a - men.

THE CLOSING HYMN

L.S.B. #349

"Hark the Glad Sound"

THE CLOSING WORDS

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Liturgy (or the appropriate portion thereof) from the Lutheran Service Book
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+ + OUR WORSHIP CONTINUES IN OUR DAILY SERVICE + +

STAFF

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Secretaries: Dionne Milam (church) Jennifer Whittamore (school)	dmilam@htlc-bg.org school.admin@htlc-bg.org

PARISH NOTES

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to our worship service today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please submit announcements to the Church Office by Wednesdays by e-mailing, calling, or dropping a note in the offering plate on Sundays.

LWML NEWS

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY: Be sure to mark Saturday, December 7 at 11:30 a.m. on your calendar! That is the time and date of our Christmas party. We will be meeting at the Split Tree Bar-B-Q Restaurant (115 Wilson Rd. - near corner of Scottsville Rd.) in Alvaton.

ALL LADIES of our congregation are welcome to attend. Feel free to bring along a guest or two with you, if you like, and join us as we celebrate this special season of the Savior's birth.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

Sunday, December 8
at 11:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The topics to be voted on are:

1. Board of Directors members
2. Director of Christian Education (DCE) intern
3. Proposed revision to synodical constitution

Contact a member of the Board of Directors if you have any questions.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

1. **Special Envelopes** - Our students have decorated envelopes and placed them in the pews for you to use if you would be willing to give a year-end donation to the School. You can place them in the offering plate or drop them off in the church or school offices. Extra envelopes are available in the School Office. Thank you for continuing to allow us to work toward our mission of sharing Christ with children and families.
2. **Restaurant Fundraiser Event** – Enjoy a meal and help out HTLS at the same time! Contact Jennifer Merkle at pto@htlc-bg.org for additional information.
Panda Express (Scottsville Rd) – Saturday, December 7
There is a flyer in the bulletin that will be needed for purchases to count for this event.

O.W.L.s NEWS: CHRISTMAS HYMNFEST on Thursday, December 12
at 11:30 a.m.

Time once again to travel to the Neff residence (70 Pine Valley Rd/Cave City, KY) for our Christmas Pot-luck and Hymnfest. We will provide Taco Soup, Potato Soup, and a Pork Roast - bring your favorite vegetables, salads, breads, desserts, etc. They will be a welcomed contribution. Judy Owens at the piano and Janice Webb with the accordion as well as Keven will accompany the music.

If you would like to carpool, meet in the church parking lot at 10:30 a.m. Parking at the Neff's is limited so carpooling would be helpful.

Please sign the attendance sheet in the Narthex by Sunday, December 8. Maps will be available near the sign-up sheet. Bring your singing voice or just listen to the music! If you have questions call Myrna at (270) 773-5192.

COMPASSIONATE CARE GROUP – a new group at Holy Trinity. The next meeting is Wednesday, December 18 at 10:30 a.m.

The purpose of the group is to be available for visits to those in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual uplifting. The emphasis of the group is to provide loving Christian support to those in need.

Perhaps you are recovering from surgery. Maybe you struggle with a chronic disease. We are here for you and have members who have (or have had) similar needs. If you or a family member is hospitalized or convalescing, or in need of comfort, and would benefit from a visit from a brother or sister in Christ, please let us know.

Perhaps your needs are less physical. Are you grieving the passing of a loved one? Or are you facing the very real demands of being a caregiver? Do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Contact the church office at 270-843-9595 and let us know if you would benefit from a visit! Finally, let us know if you would like to be a part of this ministry.

YOUTH EVENTS

Junior Confirmation Class - We meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room as part of FAITH Night. We will NOT meet during Advent. Youth and their families are encouraged to attend the Advent & Christmas services. Contact Pastor Toopes if you have any questions.

CHOIR CONCERT: at First Baptist Church (downtown) on Sunday, December 8 at 6:00 p.m. Several people in the HTLC choir and the O.W.L.s have mentioned going to this concert and we thought that others at HTLC might be interested. We will not be gathering as a group.

DECEMBER NEWSLETTERS: The newsletter has been distributed via e-mail and the narthex boxes. If we have an e-mail address for you then hopefully you have already received it. If we don't have an e-mail, a printed copy is in the narthex mailboxes for you.

If you would like to receive newsletters by e-mail please contact the church office at 843-9595. Printed copies are also available in the bottom row of the narthex boxes.

The **DEADLINE** for articles for the January newsletter is Sunday, December 15.

CHURCH DIRECTORY: The latest update has been printed and is available in the Narthex. We make a few bulk printings of the directory throughout the year, but there are consistent changes to the directory.

So whenever you would like an updated copy please contact the Church Office. We can provide it via e-mail or printed copy.

Also, please remember to contact the office whenever you have a change in your contact information.

BOWLING GREEN NORTH/EAST OUTREACH GROUP:

You are invited to attend worship services of Holy Trinity's Smiths Grove site every **Saturday at 5:00 p.m.** at the First Christian Church in Smiths Grove (427 College St, corner of 5th).

Our prayer is that this new worship site will enable the Word to have impact on more people in the surrounding community. Your prayers and your support are vital to this outreach ministry.

The van will leave the parking lot at Holy Trinity each week at 4:00 p.m. for anyone who would like a ride.

POSTPONED

1. The **GULPS Christmas Potluck** scheduled for Sunday, December 8 has been postponed. Watch for further updates.
2. The **Koinonia Group** that meets the third Saturday of the month **will NOT** meet again until January 2020, depending on interest. Thanksgiving and Christmas are busy times and everyone either has company, is company, or is getting ready for company. Plus, Santa Tim is almost booked solid for November and December.
3. The Lutheran World Relief Quilters are taking a break and **will NOT** be quilting until Tuesday, January 21, 2020. For more information on this group please contact Helen Wicklander at 270-996-9402.

FAITH NIGHT

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

FAITH Night will resume in January 2020.



Advent Schedule

Saturday, December 7

**LWML Christmas Party
at Split Tree BBQ**
at 11:30 a.m.

Worship at Smiths Grove
at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 8

Worship Services
at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

General Assembly Meeting
at 11:45 a.m.

Wednesday, December 11

Advent Meal at 5:30 p.m.

Advent Service at 6:30 p.m.
Offering: H.O.T.E.L., I.N.C.

Thursday, December 12

**O.W.L.s Christmas Hymnfest
& Potluck at the Neff Home**
at 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 14

Worship at Smiths Grove
at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 15

Worship Services
at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

**Transformation Station
Christmas Singing**
at 10:30 a.m. service

Tuesday, December 17

**HTLS Preschool
Christmas Program**
at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18

Advent Meal at 5:30 p.m.
By HTLS

HTLS Christmas Program
at 6:30 p.m.
Offering: HTLS

(OVER)

Saturday, December 21
Worship at Smiths Grove
at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 22
Worship Services
at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Youth Christmas Party
at 9:15 a.m.

Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve Worship
at Smiths Grove
at 3:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Worship
(Geared toward
children....of all ages)
5:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Worship**
7:00 p.m.

Zion Pentecostal Church
10:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 25
Christmas Day Worship - C
at 10:00 a.m.

Zion Pentecostal Church
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 28
Worship at Smiths Grove
at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 29
Worship Services
at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

(NO TS Classes)

Family Bible Class
at 9:15 a.m.

Tuesday, December 31
New Year's Eve Service - C
6:30 p.m.

Zion Pentecostal Church
10:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.