

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

553 Ashmoor Avenue

Bowling Green, KY 42101

Office # (270) 843-9595

Fax # (270) 843-7466

www.holytrinity-lc.org

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

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

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



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We continue to celebrate Christmas –
and God's lavish gift of love, Jesus.

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

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 use the attendance insert to provide your **Email, mailing address and phone number** so that we might extend a special welcome.

A NURSERY is available for infants up to children starting Kindergarten.

It is staffed from 7:45 to 11:45 a.m. 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.

NOTE: There is also a “nursing/cry room” just before the hallway to the nursery.

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.

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.

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
December 27, 2020

Jesus, help us continue to celebrate your birth among us.

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 encourage you to 'check in' on Facebook that you are with us today. Thank you.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

Please stand for

THE OPENING HYMN

L.S.B. #385

“From East to West”

Coelius Sedulius

- 1. From east to west, from shore to shore
Let ev’ry heart awake and sing
The holy child whom Mary bore,
The Christ, the everlasting king.**

- 3. For this how wondrously He wrought!
A maiden, in her lowly place,
Became, in ways beyond all thought,
The chosen vessel of His grace.**

- 5. All glory for this blessed morn
To God the Father ever be;
All praise to You, O Virgin-born,
And Holy Ghost eternally.**

THE INVOCATION

Liturgist: In the name of the Father
People: Who gives us life

Liturgist: And of the Son
People: Who is risen

Liturgist: And of the Holy Spirit.
People: Who gives us faith. Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

(from Psalm 51)

Liturgist: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
People: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Liturgist: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
People: Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are proved right when You speak and justified when You judge.

Liturgist: Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
People: Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Liturgist: Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.
People: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

(CONTINUED)

(4)

Liturgist: Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me.

People: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

THE ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Psalm 51:16 & 17 says: "You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; You do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise."

All: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. Amen.

INTROIT/PSALM

Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:1

Liturgist: The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

People: and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Liturgist: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

People: His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

Liturgist: The LORD has made known his salvation;

People: he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

(CONTINUED)

(5)

Liturgist: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
**People: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our
God.**

Liturgist: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
People: break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

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.

Liturgist: The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the
nations,
**People: and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of
our God.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

L.S.B. #367

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”
James Montgomery & Henry T. Smart

**4. Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

(CONTINUED)

**5. All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

THE COLLECT

Liturgist: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

People: **And with your spirit.**

Liturgist: Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3

Reader: The Old Testament Reading is from chapters 61 and 62 of Isaiah.

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.

² The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

THE EPISTLE READING

Galatians 4:4-7

Reader: The Epistle Reading is from the 4th chapter of Galatians.

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Please stand for

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

(CONTINUED)

(9)

²⁹ *“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation
³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”*

³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶ And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷ and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Jonah Kaufmann, D.C.E.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

L.S.B. Page 159

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

THE PRAYERS

Please continue to pray for the people listed on the bulletin insert, as well as for their families and friends.

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.

"What Child Is This"

William C. Dix

1. **What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.**

2. **Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!**

3. **So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!**

THE SERMON

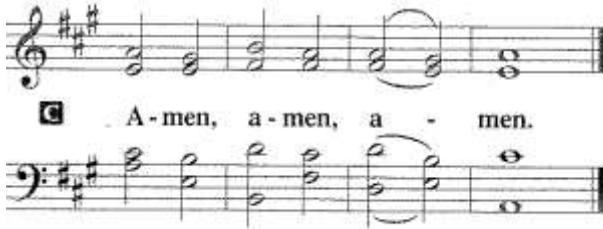
Pastor Press

“When Time Was Full, God Got Busy”

Text: Galatians 4:4-7

THE BENEDICTION

(Amen response is sung by all.)



THE CLOSING HYMN

L.S.B. #937

“Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace”

James Quinn & Henry V. Gerike

- 1. Lord, bid Your servant go in peace,
Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn,
This child so long foretold.**
- 2. This is the Savior of the world,
The Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst,
The joy of Israel.**

(CONTINUED)

(13)

**3. With saints of old, with saints to come,
To You we lift our voice;
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest
Be honor, love and praise.**

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 + +



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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

Transformation Station: (ages 2 – 6th grade)

Each week begins with opening time at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

We are set up “family style” so parents are invited to be with their children.

Visitors and new attendees are welcome any time!

YOUTH CLASSES:

Junior & Senior High (Grades 7 - 12) – EO-201

ADULT CLASSES:

Pastors' Bible Class (S) – SPECIAL CLASS
"What Does St. Nick Teach Us About Christmas?"

SERVING THIS WEEK

	<u>8:00 Service</u>	<u>10:30 Service</u>
Readers:	Bruce Borth	Sheryl Morris
Acolytes:	Gray Unick	Payton Sherry
A/V Assistant:	Mckenzie Eversoll	Johnie Trent
Nursery Attendant all morning:	Tina Hansen	

Acolyte for New Year's Eve Service at 6:30pm: A.J. Zirbel

OUR CHURCH ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

	Advent Worship	73	
The Church at Study	49	The Church at Worship	156

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Dec	27	Mike Case	28	Makayla Ramsey
	29	Jonah Kaufmann		
Jan	1	Dakota Britton	2	Louise Smith

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Dec	27	Dale & Helen Wicklander (50th)
		Andy & Sue Ann Toopes
		Adam & Samantha White
		Aaron & Jill Goodwin
Jan	2	Christopher & Melissa Veith



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

Next week's scripture readings are:

THE OLD TESTAMENT: 1 Kings 3:4-15

THE EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:40-52

SERVING NEXT WEEK

	<u>8:00 Service</u>	<u>10:30 Service</u>
Readers:	David King	Marsha Holm
Acolytes:	Evelyn Ulm	Brennan Rathert
A/V Assistant:	Mckenzie Eversoll	Johnie Trent
Nursery Attendant all morning:	TBA	

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.

RECOVERING IN A REHABILITATION CENTER IS...Wilmer Woods.
We pray the Great Physician will continue to bring him healing and strength.

**RECOVERING AT HOME...Kathleen Parsons, Glenn Schilke,
and Tamara Kahler.**



WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES to the family of **Sarah Hiskey** in the death of her grandmother, Ruby P. Hein. Ruby died on Friday, December 18, at 100 years of age. A private family service will be held on a future date.

**We commend Sarah, Bill, Ellie, and their family
to the comfort and compassion
of our Loving and Living Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Church & School Offices will be **CLOSED** on Friday, January 1, 2021.

If you have a pastoral need on these dates please contact Pastor Toopes at (870) 672-2117 or toopes57@gmail.com

All prayer concerns/praise reports on these dates need to be sent to Marty King at marty.king6@gmail.com



MITTENS & MORE: I truly want to thank everyone who so kindly donated things to the Mittens and More project this past month. Even with the pandemic you were all so generous and I know all these goods will be greatly appreciated by the recipients. I will be dividing the 358 items collected between 5 different charities. These items included hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, socks, thermal underwear, boots, robes, jackets, and a hooded blanket. Again, thank you for allowing God to work thru you to help others around you.

Deanna Boddeker

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

1. **Please continue to pray** for the staff, students, and families of our school as they adapt to the rapidly changing situations of our current days.
2. **Christmas Break** is December 21-January 1. Classes plan to resume on Monday, January 4, 2021.

SMITHS GROVE OUTREACH

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). Bible class is being held **Saturday at 4:00 p.m.**

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.

Planning Committee Meeting on Monday, January 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church in Smiths Grove. We will discuss future plans for worship and for outreach.

YOUTH EVENTS

Junior Confirmation Class - We meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. (EO-110). We will resume class in January 2021.

Meeting on Thursday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m. We will share insights on the youth program and future events. Please attend.

TEACHERS NEEDED: We are looking for new teachers to help teach Transformation Station! It is a "pick & choose" weekly commitment, so you can pick whichever weekend works for you. If you would like to help teach, you can sign up using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4aa9ac2eabfcce9-transformation>
or emailing jkaufmann@htlc-bg.org. Thanks!

LUTHERAN WITNESS MAGAZINE

The *Lutheran Witness* magazine is now available free on the World Wide Web from our LC-MS website. You can access the magazine in at least three ways:

1. Simply Google **Lutheran Witness**
2. Go to the synod webpage: www.lcms.org and **click on Lutheran Witness**
3. Go directly to the magazine at: www.lcms.org/pages/witness/asp

If you would like to receive your personal copy of the magazine by regular mail you may do so. Just provide a check made out to HTLC with “Lutheran Witness” on the memo line in an envelope marked **Lutheran Witness** and put it in the collection plate or mail it to the church office.

The cost for this publication is **\$15.00**.

The deadline to contact the office is Sunday, January 24, 2021.

THE CHURCH WITH THE LOW DOOR

The Church of the Nativity is traditionally considered the site of Christ’s birth. Christian pilgrims who have visited it can tell you that the door into the church is quite low. It is so low that only short people can enter standing up; tall people have to duck their heads and shoulders to enter. The reason? Well, the old church has had to withstand many insults over hundreds of years. For example, invading soldiers carrying swords and spears sometimes rode their horses into the sanctuary.

The original doorway was made lower and smaller to keep the horses out and to remind the soldiers that they were treading on holy ground. The low place of entry prompts one to remember that humility and reverence should be the stance of everyone who is in the presence of the holy.

SERMON NOTES

God sent the Spirit of his Son
into our hearts
Galatians 4:6



Our Ministry This Week

Sunday
December 27

8:00am
9:15am
10:30am

Worship
TS & BC
Worship

11:00am-3:00pm
12:30pm

Zion Pentecostal service (FH/EO-110)
Mara (Burmese) service (S)

Monday
December 28

Tuesday
December 29

Wednesday
December 30

Thursday
December 31

6:30pm

New Year's Eve Service-C (S)

Friday
January 1

Happy New Year!
Offices Closed

Saturday
January 2

10am-1pm

Zion Pentecostal service (S)

4:00pm
5:00pm

Smiths Grove Bible Study
Smiths Grove Service

Sunday
January 3

8:00am
9:15am
10:30am

Worship - C
TS & BC
Worship - C

11:00am-3:00pm
12:30pm

Zion Pentecostal service (FH/EO-110)
Mara service (S)

LWML Mite Box collection at both services
