



Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Collect for the Day

*Trinity Lutheran Church
220 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois
Lutheran Church ~ Missouri Synod 217-522-8151*

*Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Radtke
Head Pastor*

*Rev. Donald Garvue
Visitation Pastor*

SATURDAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

5:30 p.m. Page 285

HYMNS:

347, 343, 344

SUNDAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE:

8:00 a.m...Page 184

10:30 a.m. Page 219

HYMNS:

8:00 a.m.

344, 343, 357; 347; 341

Junior Choir

10:30 a.m.

344, 343, 341

Adult Choir

Trinity Choir

SCRIPTURES FOR TODAY: Isaiah 40:1-11

P. 599

Psalm 85

P. 493

II Peter 3:8-14

P.1019

Mark 1:1-8

P. 836

THE PRAYERS

Preparing for our coming Savior. Birth of Cooper James Hartman, Isaiah Vargas on 12/3/08.
Jean Penick, Clarence Campbell, hospitalized. Kyle Haynes, ill.

CHURCH AND SCHOOL CALENDAR

Today:	<u>9:30-10:30 a.m.</u>	Church Library is Open
	<u>6:00 p.m.</u>	Men's Basketball - School
Mon:	<u>6:30 p.m.</u>	Board of Directors - School
Wed:	<u>8:15 a.m.</u>	Chapel - School
	<u>12:10 p.m.</u>	Service - Church
	<u>1:00 p.m.</u>	Ladies Aid Board - School
	<u>6:30 p.m.</u>	Advent Service - School
Thurs:	<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	Quilters - School
Sat:	<u>5:30 p.m.</u>	Communion Service - School
Sun:	Third Sunday in Advent – December 14, 2008	
	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	Morning Prayer
	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>	Holy Communion

PRE-SCHOOL DIRECTOR POSITION AVAILABLE – The Learning Center is looking for a qualified pre-school director. Please call the school office at 787-2323.

	Sat:	Sun:	Wed:	Total:
At Worship Last Week:	<u>168</u>	<u>120</u> , <u>222</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>517</u>
Adult Bible Classes:	<u>99</u>		Sunday School:	<u>33</u>
Our offerings for the Lord's Kingdom Work:				<u>\$10,027.55</u>

FLOWERS are placed on the altar today by David and Sue Rohe with gratitude to God for all His blessings and in loving memory of their mothers, Martha Rohe and Frances Dryross.

As we observe this Second Sunday in Advent, Sunday School students studied the story “An Angel Visits Mary.” In the womb of Mary, Jesus, the Son of God, became a man so that we sinful people might become adopted children of God and share in the inheritance of heaven. *Parents might ask, “How does God make us His children? What do we inherit as God’s children?”*

FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL UPDATE

	<u>October</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Receipts	80,370.59	376,299.98
Expenses	<u>89,239.09</u>	<u>441,614.85</u>
Over (Short)	(8,868.50)	(65,314.87)

The children of Trinity School are engaged in a special service project to send care packages to members of our armed forces, and they need your help. If you would like to help defray the cost of mailing packages, please send a donation to the school office. You may also help the children by bringing care package items to the school. For information about care package items please check the website www.lcmsworldmission.org/armedforces. If you know of anyone in the armed forces that would like to receive a care package, please call the school office (787-2323).

Stewardship Corner

Again we come to the time of year when we mark the great miracle of Christ becoming one of us. The Apostle John wrote, *“The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us”* (John 1:14). Jesus came to Earth; He bore humiliation and ridicule; He died that we might live; He was raised that we, too, might rise again and live forever with Him. *“From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another”* (John 1:16). How can we thank Him but to give ourselves and our lives in service to Him!

THERE IS STILL TIME!! For a number of years, Trinity has been participating in the Giving Plus Program. This is a tremendous program which increases gifts given by Trinity members who participate in this program. Thrivent Financial will donate 50 cents for each dollar that Thrivent members donate up to a set limit per year. While a number of members participate on a regular basis, the number is rather small considering the number of Thrivent members that we have in Trinity. So far this year, Thrivent has provided us with over \$4,700 in matching funds from these member gifts. We estimate that we should receive an additional \$3,000 by the end of 2008. I would encourage all Thrivent members to consider participating in this program. See details in December newsletter. Questions please call Bill Firth at 753-1272.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS ... EARTH STEWARDSHIP THAT IS! Trinity's Green Team has started up again this fall. As an ongoing effort to avoid throwing away anything that can be reused or recycled we are collecting juice pouches such as Capri Sun or Kool Aid. For the month of November we collected over 250 pouches. These pouches will not go to a landfill but will be sent to a company to be reused to make other items. If you have any empty juice pouches, please cut off the top, rinse out the pouch, and bring the dry pouch to the school. **We are also starting to collect rigid lids.** These include caps that twist on with a threaded neck such as caps on shampoo, water, soda, milk and other beverage bottles, flip top cans on tubes and food product bottles (such as ketchup and mayonnaise), laundry detergents and some jar lids such as peanut butter. Excluded from collection are pharmaceutical lids and non-rigid lids such as yogurt lids, tub lids (margarine, cottage cheese) and screw on lids that are not rigid. If you can bend or break the lid with your bare hands, than it does not meet the rigid plastic definition. Please do not include any metal lids or plastic pumps or sprayers. Unfortunately, too much of the wrong types of materials can contaminate the recycling process. We appreciate your efforts to keep it clean! ***God has given us this beautiful planet – let's do our best to help keep it the way He intended!***

WANT TO CHRISTMAS SHOP BUT DON'T HAVE A SITTER? The High School Youth Group is offering babysitting to those who would like to run errands or Christmas shop without the kids for an afternoon. Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 14, from 1:30-4:30 in the Trinity School Gym and Youth Room. Please drop kids off and sign them in at the Gym Door Entrance. We will watch kids 4 years old through 8th grade. If you have questions, please call Katie Gilman at 787-8142.

TRINITY LADIES AID will meet Wednesday, December 10, 2008 in the Parish Hall. This will be a catered luncheon, cost of \$6.50. Bring 3 dozen cookies and come at 11:15 a.m. to help pack cookies for the shut-ins. Program/Devotions will be "TRINITY CHOIR" GRADES 5-8 and Laura Fliege. Mission service project for December is "CHRISTMAS GIFTS" for Bethesda. Gift suitable for either man or woman. Wrap gift in Christmas paper and designate for man or woman, list contents on gift tag.

Gifts suitable for men or women are as follow: Jewelry – watches, necklaces, bracelets; Word Search Books, Word Game Books, Stationery; Large Print Books, especially Bible stories; Slippers; Manicure & Pedicure Sets. Also Hats, Gloves; Lotion, Bubble Bath; After Shave; Colored Pencils, Pens, Markers; Writing and/or Drawing Pads, Greeting Cards; Games (Bingo, Sorry, Trouble, Connect Four); Card Games (Go Fish, Old Maid, Crazy Eights); Room Decorations of appropriate pictures and/or knick knacks, Calendars, Decorative Pillows.

MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION are invited to join Ladies Aid in purchasing Poinsettias for the altar at Christmas. The cost will be \$11.00 per plant. You may place your order with Wanda Miller (546-1745) or Paula Boehme (626-2179) by December 15, 2008. Poinsettias may be picked up following the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service on December 28, or on Monday, December 29.

THE 2009 FLOWER CHART is now posted in the narthex. The price per Sunday is \$43.13 and must be PRE-PAID. Please sign up early to reserve your date.

BOX TOPS ... Trinity Lutheran School just finished their Fall Box Top Collection. We will be receiving a check for \$479 for the school. To date this fantastic program has generated over \$4,200 for our school since we began participating in 2002! This money is used towards projects for our school such as Fall Wiener Roast, Annual Sock Hop Dance, Teacher Lunch Program, Grandparents Day activities, Teacher Recognition, and much more.

If you purchase any products such as Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Green Giant, Hamburger Helper, Yoplait, Juicy Juice, Kleenex and so many more. Look for the small pink square logo that says **Box Tops for Education**...please save the little logos for our school. Please drop off any Box Tops you collect at the school by February 19 for our next collection. Trinity Lutheran PTL appreciated your efforts.

MINI WORKDAY – Saturday, December 12, 8:00 am.-noon. Pastor Schnelle, our new Associate Pastor, will be joining us sometime in January. He and his young family will be temporarily living in Trinity's "Green House" at 520 South Douglas. The purpose of the work day will be to clean and prepare the house, set up office space at the school, and set up office space at the church, all in preparation for our new pastor. Everyone is welcome.

ADVENT SERVICE SCHEDULE

December 10	6:30 p.m.	Grades K-4 at Parish Hall
December 17	6:30 p.m.	Grades 5-8 at Parish Hall

CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

December 24	12:10 p.m.	Wednesday Church Service
December 24	7:00 & 11:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Services at Church
December 25	10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Service at Church
December 31	6:30 p.m.	Divine Service with Holy Communion at Church

CALENDAR YEAR 2009 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE

In an effort to save substantial mailing costs, the Board of Christian Stewardship asks you to please pick up your 2009 contribution envelope packet. All envelope packets are now available, in the Parish Center, on tables located near or against the north windowed wall, and arranged in alphabetical order (reading from the bottom of the table to the top, left to right). The Parish Center is conveniently located and accessible to all. No having to go up and down stairs. Also, if you need assistance in getting your envelope packet, fellow worshipers will be around before and after Saturday evening service as well as before and after the Sunday School hour (after first service and before second service on Sunday). Just ask them for help.

Please note that Renewing Our Past – Seizing Our Future envelopes will be in the 2009 packets. Please use them for your Capital Campaign offerings.

To make things easier for all concerned, the envelope packets for 2009 have been renumbered to match the alphabetical listing of family names. This greatly eases the administration, preparation and distribution of envelopes. Please be assured that all records of past giving (as well as pledges) recorded under (an) old envelope number(s) will be transferred completely to your new envelope number.

Please pick up your envelope packet as soon as you can on or after November 8th. Remaining packets will be prepared for mailing on Saturday, December 13th.

Finally, please do not use your new envelopes until after January 1, 2009. Also, after New Year's Day, throw out any unused 2008 envelopes. Please note your new number. The contribution counters ask that you write it on the memo line of your contribution checks in 2009. Thanks!

NOW AVAILABLE: Cynda Strong's book "Where Do Angels Sleep?", published by Concordia Publishing House, is available at Barnes & Noble. If you would like an autographed copy, please call the Lutheran High School office. The price, including tax is \$16.00. "Chicken Soup Teens Talk Middle School" with a poem by Cynda Strong is also available for \$16.00.

SERMONS ON OUR WEBSITE! Check out our website at www.trinity-lutheran.com! The sermons for each week are available in audio or text. Tell your family and friends about this wonderful resource. We thank Stace Cameron, our webmaster, for making these available. We thank our Lord and Savior for His Word proclaimed in its truth and purity through Pastor Radtke here at Trinity Lutheran Church.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASSES

9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Growing as Stewards – Location: Parish Hall. Leader: Dave Rohe

Spirituality of the Cross: The Way of the First Evangelicals. A discussion-based Bible study on Dr. Gene Edward Veith's excellent book. Christianity is not about a general vague force called God, but about "God in the flesh and God on the cross" and why this matters in everyday life. Materials provided. Location: Science Room. Leader: Eric Garvue

High School Bible Class – "What About?" Location: Youth Room. Leader: Katie Gilman

WEEK DAY BIBLE CLASSES

TUESDAYS:

LADIES MORNING STUDY meets in December at the home of Debbie Rodenburg, 400 Tecumseh Trail. For information, call 787-5796. December 16 will be our last meeting for 2008 and we will resume after the Christmas holidays on Tuesday, January 6, 2009.

SENIOR CITIZENS BIBLE CLASS – Refreshments at 9:30 a.m., class at 10:00 a.m. Studying Psalms. Parish Hall. Leader: Pastor Garvue

LADIES AFTERNOON STUDY meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Loretta Rodenburg, 12 Turnberry.

WEDNESDAYS:

BIBLE AND BREAKFAST meets at 6:30 a.m. in the Church Library. Studying I Kings. Leader: Pastor Radtke

ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER ... We believe that the Lord's table must be approached with sincere faith and full understanding. We believe that approaching the Lord's table is a declaration of unity of faith with this congregation. Thus, we ask anyone who has not made that declaration of faith or is not a confirmed member in good standing of a Missouri Synod congregation to please refrain from communing until you can be brought into full doctrinal fellowship with us.

“GOD IS SPEAKING IN A VOICE FOR YOU TO HEAR”

Isaiah 40:1-11

Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Radtke

[1] Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. [2] Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD’S hand double for all her sins. [3] A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. [4] Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. [5] And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." [6] A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. [7] The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. [8] The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. [9] Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" [10] Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. [11] He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

- I. It is found in His word.
 - A. Which brings comfort.
 - 1. In forgiveness of sins (v. 2).
 - 2. God has prepared the way (v. 3).
 - B. Which stands sure.
 - 1. Because God has spoken (v. 5).
 - 2. Unlike the things that fade away (v. 7).
- II. It announces His coming to you.
 - A. In the appearing of Jesus.
 - 1. Who John the Baptist promised (Mark 1:7-8).
 - 2. Who comes to bring peace (v. 1).
 - B. By the fulfillment of God's promises.
 - 1. You are cared for (v. 11).
 - 2. His word to you is everlasting (v. 8).