

THOSE
WHO
DREAM



Jeremiah 29:11

¹¹ For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Dear Beloved of Trinity,

WHAT IS GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU?

Once a group of little 3 and 4 year olds were learning "Praise Ye the Lord, Hallelujah". They sang and sang their little hearts out. After a practice one day, the director heard a small voice singing the new song she had learned....only she was singing "**crazy** the Lord, Hallelujah, **crazy** the Lord, Hallelujah.

Haven't we all secretly sang this song when we wondered what in the world the Lord was doing? What we need to be reminded of is that it's not so important for us to be certain of what or how the Lord will perform His will but just to be certain He will. It's sometimes hard to understand what His will is for our lives when everything seems turned upside down. We may feel discouraged and alone wondering, "where are you, God?" But be assured the Lord is not crazy nor does he have a crazy will for our lives. There have been times in my life when I needed to hear those words.

In Jeremiah we hear that he has a plan for us for good and not for disaster, to give us a future and a hope. Praise the Lord he does not see disaster in our future because sometimes that is our only focus.

Human weakness is a given and we need the Holy Spirit's intercession. We can be assured of God's loving purpose for us. We can share in the resurrection life of Christ. What a promise given to us!

The next time you feel uncertainty in your life, when you feel overwhelmed with craziness, you may want to hum a few bars of "Crazy the Lord, Hallelujah!"

Prayer –Open our hearts to know your plan for us. Thank you for guiding us and loving us beyond our wildest belief.

Deacon Christie Meier

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday—12-13 In-Person 8am & 10:30am Worship, 9:30am In-Person and On-Line Sunday school, On-Line worship at 10:30am

Tuesday—8:30am Preschool,

Wednesday—8:30am Preschool, 6:30pm Worship, 7:15pm KFC 5th Grade in person, Sr. High.

Thursday— 8:30am Preschool, 1:30pm WELCA Bible Study, 4pm COVID Food Giveaway, 5:30pm TOPS

Sunday—12-20 In-Person 8am & 10:30am Worship, On-Line worship at 10:30am, 11:45am Drive Through Communion, 2pm On-Line Sunday School Christmas Program

Sunday School Reminders:

- December 13 – 3rd grade is In-Person and Live streams for other grades at 9:30 a.m. – Fellowship Hall
- December 20 - Virtual Christmas Program Live streamed at 2pm
- January 10 - Sunday School will resume with 2nd grade In-Person and also Live streamed at 9:30 a.m.

Giving Tree

Please have your unwrapped Giving Tree gifts at the church by noon on Tuesday, December 15th. Please attach your tag from the tree to your gift or if you signed up online, write the number and letter of the child on a note. Thank you for your generosity!

COVID FOOD GIVEAWAY

Thursday, December 17, we will host another Covid Food Giveaway from 4:00 – 6:00 at the south doors of Trinity. Please use the sign up link

To register for a food box, please use the confidential Google doc link below.

<https://forms.gle/zQnfA5bh3RJ2ZYma6>

Thank you's

We would like to express our heartfelt thank you to all the people who thought of our family during the difficult time of illness that resulted in Glenn Van Ningen being called to his heavenly home. As stated in Galatians 6:2, "By helping each other with your troubles, you truly obey the law of Christ". The prayers, cards, memorials and food have been a treasured blessing during this difficult time of sorrow and sadness.

The family of Glenn VanNingen

Thank you for all the prayers, kind words and cards upon the death of my brother LeRoy. A special thanks to Pastor Tom for keeping us in his prayers.

God Bless, Myron and Diane Roth

Weekly Update

Friday, December 11 2020
Trinity Lutheran Church Tea, SD

Needed: New and gently used winter gear

Trinity is currently collecting coats, jackets, snowpants, hats, gloves, and boots that will be made available to our neighbors in the community. Used items are accepted, but please make sure to launder them before you drop them off.. Simply drop off the items in the marked basket in The Gathering Space at church. Thank you.

Offering Envelopes for 2021

I will be mailing the new 2021 offering envelope books next week. Due to the pandemic, you will not pick up envelopes at the church. I am not mailing envelopes to families who mainly give online. If you would like envelopes and did not receive them by the end of the year, please call the church office and I will mail some out to you. Thank you—Melody Rohrer, Office Manager—498-2343.

Christmas Eve with Trinity Lutheran Church

Trinity will be offering three in-person candlelight worship services with Holy Communion at 3:30, 5:00, and 6:30 on Thursday, December 24. The 3:30 worship service will be streamed via Facebook Live on the Tea Trinity Facebook page.

There will be a preregistration for each worship service to ensure that we are able to maintain social distancing. You can preregister on-line (this link will be available next week), call the church office, or sign up in person in the gathering space at church. A reminder to please wear a mask as Trinity is a supporter of the #MaskUpSoDak campaign. If you do not have a mask, masks will be available at each of the entrances.

If you would like to take part in Holy Communion and the Candlelight service at home, you can pick up a bag at church that will have candles for you and your family, the elements for Holy Communion, and instructions for how to celebrate Holy Communion in your home during this time of pandemic.

Drive Through Communion

Sunday, Dec. 20th from 11:45 to 12:30 Pastor Tom and Deacon Christie will be serving Holy Communion in a “drive-through” setting. If you would like to receive Holy Communion, simply drive to the south entrance of Trinity and we will be set up to serve you in your vehicle. Both be wearing masks and will sanitize our hands between each car.

ATTENDANCE

Date	8:00	10:30	Wed 6:30
Dec 6	38	83	91

CHURCH FINANCES

Week of Dec 6

\$10,000	Weekly Total Operating Expenses
\$ 8,767	Actual Weekly Total Giving
\$ 1,233	

This one number represents all expenses including staff costs, benevolences, supplies, outreach, and our mortgage payment. If you have questions regarding the budget, please contact Tommy Pol-
lema. **Ways to Give:** Online Giving: <https://teatrinity.breezechms.com/give/online>
Text Giving: (605) 777-7223 Envelopes: In-person or mail to the church

Our Globe Offering for December is Lutheran Social Services

8am & 10:30am Worship

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Trinity Lutheran Church, Tea, SD

Teatrinity.org – 605-498-2343

3rd Sunday in Advent “Those Who Dream”

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship “JOY”

L: Today we have joy on our minds

All: Open our eyes to the joy you place in our lives.

L: We gather in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Song Video “Joy to the World” by The Mormon Tabernacle Choir

Candle Lighting Liturgy

A: I dream of dance parties in the kitchen.

B: I dream of laughter that is contagious.

A: I dream of birthday candles and another beautiful year.

B: I dream of family game nights and dinner parties with friends.

A: I dream of homemade Halloween costumes and homemade family recipes.

B: I dream of pillow forts, fireflies, and front porch swings.

A: I dream of every little thing that brings joy; and I know it comes from God.

B: God’s dream for this world involves a joy that overflows and is contagious.

A: So may this fire burn bright, and as it does, may we sing.

B: May we dance.

A: May we laugh.

B: May we hold onto the people we love.

A: May we sow joy in a hurting world.

All: So today we light the candle of joy as a reminder that God’s dream for this world involves pure joy.

Light candle.

B: May this light be an invitation to keep awake.

All: May this light be our invitation to be Advent people—people who dream of joy. Amen.

Confession

L: Lord of All,

All: With a sky full of stars and a world full of flowers, there should be no end to my joy. And yet, instead of decorating my very being with joy, I let it slip away like loose change. Instead of singing like Mary, or dancing like David, I pass by remarkable beauty unfazed. Forgive me. Teach me the ways of children, who laugh and dance and sing as if joy is the very thing that keeps them alive. Maybe they have joy figured out. Gratefully we pray, amen.

L: Our holy Lord God knows we are weak, frail creatures. Yet God loves us and refuses to give up on us. Because of God's persistence we are made new again and again. Receive today the entire forgiveness of all your sins. Walk with God in hope, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

C: O Great Writer,

With a sky full of stars and a world full of flowers, there should be no end to my joy. And yet, instead of decorating my very being with joy, I let it slip away like loose change. Instead of singing like Mary, or dancing like David,

I pass by remarkable beauty and love most days, unfazed. Forgive me.

Teach me the ways of children, who laugh and dance and sing

as if joy is the very thing that keeps them alive. Maybe they have joy figured out. Gratefully we pray, amen.

WORD

First Reading – Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalm 126

L: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,* we were like those who dream.

C: Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, 'The LORD has done great things for them.'

L: The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

C: Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

L: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

C: Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Second Reading – I Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel Reading – John 1:6-8, 19-28

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Deacon Christie Meier

Sermon Song

Affirmation of Faith

L: We believe in God.

All: We believe that God has dreams for humanity.

L: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

All: We believe that the Holy Spirit comforts us when our dreams turn to nightmares.

L: We believe in Jesus.

All: We believe that Jesus walked this world to wake us up, inviting us to be the church in the world.

L: We believe in dreams.

All: We believe in the power that dreams have to show us a new way.

L: So in this Advent season,

All: We are those who dream and those who wake up. May it be so. Amen.

Offertory

We pray for members and friends of our congregation: Ron Seim, Steve Jelen's dad – Gene and brother – Jamie, Sarah Hilmoe's uncle Fred Tidemann. Jerry & Dianne Werness's son in law – Doug Madetzke, Jami Atkin's dad – Kevin Roth, Tara Johanneson's brother-in-law, Jesse, Jessica Boone's mom – Sue Meyer. Rosalie Gerdes's sister JoAnn Breitbach, Clifford Mechels, Joy Schuurs and Gale Dannen's mother, Marjo; Troy Smith and Ellie Cordie while in active duty. Sympathy to Deb Barber on the death of her brother, Robin Burke.

Prayers of the People

MEAL

Holy Communion

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Distribution

Communion Blessing

Blessing

SENDING

Sending

L: God is good.

C: All the time.

L: All the time.

C: God is good.

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude