



Trinity Update

December 10, 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church | Tea, SD
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Dear beloved of Trinity,

Our daughter when she was 3 sang “The First Noel” but she changed the words. What she heard was, “the first Noel, the angels bare feet....” I’m not sure how that happened. Another funny word mix up I heard was, “O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and tri-elephant.”

Sometimes a small word change can mean a big change in meaning. Such was the case for the song, “Hark the Herald, Angles Sing”.

Charles Westley, one of England’s premier Christian poets and songwriters, wrote many familiar hymns, (like Jesus Christ is Risen Today) in fact, he wrote more than 3,000 hymns. A familiar Christmas hymn he wrote was, Hark the Herald, Angles Sing. In it, he wrote, “Hark! How all the welkin rings, glory to the King of Kings.” *Welkin* is an old word meaning, “the vault of heaven makes a long noise”. The image is one of power and majesty. The song became popular among congregations in the new Methodist movement.

However, Westley’s old college friend, George Whitefield was the one who published the song and he changed a word.

Whitefield was a bartender turned preacher and did not align all the time with Westley’s theological ideas. Whitefield was not as educated as Westley so his Biblical interpretations were more liberal and not very literal. So when Whitefield read the word, “welkin” he decided it would sound better to say, “Hark! The herald angels sing.”

Westley was enraged! No where in scripture does it say that the angles *sang*....

*Luke 2:13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying.....*The angels spoke, not sang.

I cannot sing that song without picturing the heavens exploding in joyous song...by the angels.

Words may get changed but there is one thing that never changes and that is the great love God has for his people. His love was so great that he sent his son, Jesus, to earth to dwell among us. Jesus, the savior of the world entered as a humble baby. His birth is one of the biggest celebrations in Christendom.

May you hear the joyous songs of Christmas and remember the underlying truth, that God loves you, always has, always will.

Thank you to everyone who sang or played an instrument for our Trinity Christmas Concert. It was such fun to prepare for it and present it. I am grateful for all the musicians. I give God thanks for you.

In faith,

Deacon Christie

Attendance: Wednesday (12/1) 6:30pm—127; Sunday (12/5) 8am—71 & 10:30am—193

CHURCH FINANCES

Week of December 5

\$10,625

Total Operating Expenses

\$17,362

Actual Total Giving

\$ 6,737

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 Pollema at 321-3057. **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 December Globe offering goes to Lutheran Social Services

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, Dec 12—Worship 8am & 10:30am; 10:30am Online worship, Sunday School Christmas Program; 9:15am Adult Bible Study, Sunday School

Monday, Dec 13—8:30am Preschool, 6:30pm Youth & Family Meeting

Tuesday, Dec 14—6:30am Men's Breakfast, 7pm Board Meetings; 8pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, Dec 15—8:30am Preschool; 5:45pm Band Rehearsal; 6:30pm Worship, 7:15pm KFC-5th Grade, Confirmation, High School Youth

Thursday, Dec 16—1:30 pm WELCA Bible Study; 4-6pm Community Food Distribution; 5:30pm TOPS

Friday, Dec 17—8:30am Preschool

Sunday, Dec 18—Worship 8am & 10:30am; 10:30am Online worship; 9:15am Adult Bible Study & Sunday School





WELCA BIBLE STUDY

Join us for WELCA Bible Study on Thursday, Dec. 16. at 1:30 pm. We will be covering advent. You may bring Christmas treat donations.

FAREWAY
MEAT & GROCERY

HyVee
EMPLOYEE OWNED

FAREWAY & HY-VEE GROCERY SCRIP CARDS

Everyone needs groceries! Why not use your weekly, bi-weekly or monthly trip to Hy-Vee or Fareway to help fund your camp account. How it works: 5% of your purchase will go into your camp account. For example, you purchase \$100 gift card, you will receive a \$100 gift card and \$5 will go in your camp account. Scrip cards are available upon request or during business hours Monday - Friday in the church office. Grandparents/Family members/Friends? YOU can still help. Just buy your grocery gift cards from the church and assign your profits to your favorite family or youth's account.

Christmas Eve Services

DECEMBER 24

3:00 PM

5:00 PM

6:30 PM

Prayer requests for members and friends of our congregation:

- Marie Karnof
- Steve Jelen's dad – Gene
- Sarah Hilmoe's uncle Fred Tidemann
- Jami Atkin's dad – Kevin Roth
- Melissa Jelen's dad – Greg Myrmoe
- Doug DeYoung
- Jeff Olinger's grandmother – Diane Spear
- Shirley Oltmann's sister—Linda Goulet
- Judy Junke's son-in-law—Laverle Stratman and daughter—Tara Davis
- Delores Wells friend – Joletta Harms
- Sympathy extended to the Spracklin's in the death Tim's mother, Irene Spracklin