

*The voice of one crying in the wilderness:*

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight."*



*SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT*

**"IN MEDIAS RES"**

REV. JAMES L. MAYLAND

7:30AM & 9AM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023 IN THE SANCTUARY

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

**"IN MEDIAS RES"**

REV. JAMES L. MAYLAND

7:30AM & 9AM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

**AS WE GATHER** Advent is the season of waiting! As we await Christ's coming again in power and glory, we know that the time we are given before that great Day is due to the Lord's patience. "The Lord . . . is patient toward you," says Peter (2 Peter 3:9). Why? More time before Christ's return as King and Judge means more opportunities for us to share the life-giving Gospel with all the world. As people hear the message of Christ, repenting of their sin and turning to Him in faith, more souls will be brought into God's eternal kingdom. And because He is working His wonders of salvation, we rejoice in Him and receive from Him all He seeks to give!

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

**"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"**

*Manz*

**"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"**

*Bohm*

**Partita on "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"**

*Haan/Burkhardt/Cherwien*

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"**

*LSB 347*



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus  
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each  
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert  
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing  
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no  
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the  
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,  
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her  
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys  
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."  
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

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## INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

- P** I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!  
**C** **Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!**  
**P** I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
**C** **and in His word I hope.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Based on Psalm 130*

- P** With hope in the Lord's promises of renewal by His Word and Spirit, let us together confess our sins to Him.  
**C** **Out of the depths I cry to You, Lord!**

**P** Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to my pleas for mercy!

**C** **If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, I would have no hope.**

**P** But with You there is forgiveness, therefore we place our trust in You.

**C** **Restore us, Lord God, and set us free from our sins.**

**P** Renew us in Your hope, that we may wait for Your salvation.

**C** **Because of Your steadfast love for us in Christ, redeem us from all our iniquities. Amen.**

**P** As we wait for Jesus' final coming, we place our hope and our confidence in the promises of His Word and find our home in the presence of His Spirit. Confessing our sins and turning away from them through lives of repentance, we are assured again this day of the Lord's steadfast love and plentiful redemption for us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## **SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. 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; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

### **OLD TESTAMENT**

*Isaiah 40:1-11*

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup>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!" <sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup>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.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*2 Peter 3:8-14*

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. <sup>11</sup>Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! <sup>13</sup>But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

*Adele Bluhm*

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Mark 1:1-8*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup>As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, <sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” <sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

LSB 344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
 Δ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
 way for God with - in, And let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

“In Medias Res”

Rev. James L. Mayland

## APOSTLES' CREED

**C** 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.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(After each petition, the following is said...)*

**P** Lord in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

## GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**MISSION STATEMENT** *To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.*

**VISION STATEMENT** *To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

## MUSICAL OFFERING

7:30am—

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

Manz

9am—

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”

Stewart/Briggs

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might be found by Him without spot or blemish and at peace when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS HYMN

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al -  
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al -

might - y! Day and night we join to praise Your  
might - y! We re - joice to join the hymns Of

love and maj - es - ty. You a - lone are  
earth and sky and sea. Gen - er - a - tions

ho - ly, wor - thy, and righ - teous.  
praise You, with saints and an - gels.

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
Ho - ly and bless'd through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

### AGNUS DEI HYMN



O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins a-way—

Our faith in - crease. Have mer - cy on us all,

Strength - en us when we fall, An - swer our

fer - vent call And grant us peace.

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## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION *(Gluten Free Wafers are available upon request.)*

*Christ invites all repentant sinners to partake His feast of forgiveness – the Lord's Supper. LCMS communicant members are invited to examine their faith and receive the Savior's body and blood. Visitors wishing to commune should see a Pastor or an Elder before service. We ask this because we love you.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** “Arise, O Christian People” *LSB 354*

**“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”** *LSB 621*

LSB 621

**"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" Wesley/Gernon/Prichard**

## CLOSING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in steadfast love sent Your only-begotten Son into this world of sin, we thank You that for His sake You look upon us “without spot or blemish, and at peace.” We praise You for Your patience and rejoice in Your redemption! We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

### Numbers 6:24-26

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## POSTLUDE

## “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

*Johnson/Warner*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4.

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PRESIDING MINISTER: *Rev. James L. Mayland, Senior Pastor*

ORGANIST: *Adele Bluhm*

MUSICIANS: *9am—Praise Team, Brett Schwantes, lead*

ELDERS: *7:30am—Bob Zimmerman, Todd Hauer; 9am—Raun Egner, Doug Beisner*

ACOLYTES: *9am—Parker Frey, Brock Baars*

TECH: *9am—Marcella Mader*

## WELCOME TO TRINITY!

Your presence is very special to us. May your faith be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship to God!

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### TRADITIONAL/BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY—

7:30am & 9am Sunday

### CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY—

5pm Saturday

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- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday in the Sanctuary. We invite those who have been instructed in the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Others are asked to speak with a pastor before receiving the Sacrament. *Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*
- **LARGE PRINT**—large print copies of the bulletin are available on the table in the Narthex or you may ask the usher for one.
- **CHILDREN'S BULLETINS**—for ages 3-6 & 7-12 years, are available on the table in the Narthex.
- **NURSERY**—for children ages 3 & under. The upper level nursery is located near the Church Lounge on Sundays. *Please Note: The upper level nursery will be unstaffed unless volunteers are available.*
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 10:15am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 10:15am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8th grade School and our Childcare (infant through 13 years).
- **ELEVATOR**—is located next to the nursery on the upper level. On the lower level the elevator is located across from Classroom #101, which is past the offices. Use as needed.
- **RESTROOMS**—Narthex level across from the Library, lower level next to the elevator.
- **JOINING TRINITY**—We invite you to become part of this Christian community! If interested in membership, please speak with an elder or pastor, and we will contact you.

### MISSION STATEMENT:

*To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.*

### VISION STATEMENT:

*To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*