

4th Sunday in Advent
The Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish
December 22, 2024

We welcome visitors into our community! May you be blessed as you join us in Worship!

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** OPENING PRAYER**

*** HYMN** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 1-4)* **#257**

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 alive in the world,
 reviving creation,
 arriving soon.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
 and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: God of mercy,

All: we confess that we have sinned.

**We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

Pastor: God of might,

All: we confess that we have sinned.

**We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.**

Pastor: God in our midst,

All: we confess that we have sinned.

**We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

Pastor: A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
receive the grace and forgiveness of God
through † Christ Jesus,
whose day draws near.

All: Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM (8:30 only, see green sheet)

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

All: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

*** GOSPEL** Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[⁴⁶And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”]

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

*** HYMN OF THE DAY O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 5-8) #257**

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Pastor: ... Lord, in your mercy ...

Congregation: **Hear our prayer.**

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

OFFERING

(As a spiritual discipline, ask the Holy Spirit to nudge you in offering yourself and a portion of God's many blessings God has given you for God's use in the church and world. A collection box is available at the back of the sanctuary. To support the ministries and as a response to God's love for you, consider using electronic giving at www.trchurch.org/electronic-giving.)

BLESSING

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

Worship Service at Peace 8:30 am
Sunday School at Peace 9:00 am
Sunday School at Nelsonville 9:30 am
Worship Service at Nelsonville 10:15 am

Livestream every Sunday at 10:15 am at trchurch.org, *click on Live Stream*

THURSDAYS

Evening Candlelight Prayer Service at Nelsonville 7:00 pm

Thursday Services are online at trchurch.org, *click on Candlelight Services*

CHRISTMAS EVE

Worship Service at Peace 5:00 pm
Worship Service at Nelsonville 10:00 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

Worship Service at Nelsonville 9:00 am

WE WELCOME OUR VISITORS!

Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish

Peace Lutheran Church, 293 S. Main Street in Amherst
Nelsonville Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3061 Oak Street in Nelsonville

Contact us at (715) 824-5615 or email trchurch@gmail.com

For more information, go to trchurch.org

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*