

Third Sunday of Advent
The Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish
December 14, 2025

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

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** OPENING PRAYER**

*** HYMN**

Hark, the Glad Sound!

#239

*** 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,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

All: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Long-expected God,

**All: we confess that we look to ourselves
for the peace and security only you can provide.**

**We reach for swords and spears,
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.**

**We become impatient while waiting
and weary of keeping awake.**

**Free us from self-reliance,
and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.**

**Increase our trust in God's timing,
and awaken us to your advent among us,
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.**

Amen.

Pastor: God judges us not as we deserve,
but according to God's own righteousness.
✚ You are freed and forgiven,
saved by grace,
and ready to welcome the Savior.

All: Amen.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM (10:15 only)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: *Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

WORD

*** GOSPEL**

Matthew 11:2-11

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

*** HYMN OF THE DAY *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* #242**

***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.

BLESSING

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

Worship Service at Peace 8:30 am
Sunday School at Peace 9:15 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 *Livestream*

THURSDAYS

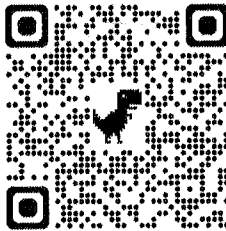
Evening Candlelight Prayer Service at Nelsonville 7:00 pm
Candlelight Videos are posted online at trchurch.org, click on *Candlelight Services*

WE WELCOME OUR VISITORS!

Contact us at (715) 824-5615 or email trchurch@gmail.com
For more information, go to trchurch.org

Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish, PO Box 309, Amherst, WI 54406
Peace Lutheran Church, 293 S. Main Street, Amherst
Nelsonville Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3061 Oak Street, Nelsonville

For those who wish to give with a credit or debit card or via EFT from your bank account, please use this QR code.



Thank you for your faith filled support for the ministries of the church.