

Welcome to Trinity

#10 Art. IV “Justification” of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession.

In devising a distinction however between *merito congrui** and *merito condigni*,† they are playing with and contending about words only, in order that they may not appear openly as Pelagians. For if God must of necessity confer his grace as a reward for *congruity*, then it is not really *congruity*, but an actual duty, it is *justice* or *condignity*. They themselves do not know, however, what they say; for **they invent and dream, that when the “*habitus*” of the love of God (of which mention is made above) is present, a man merit the grace of God *de congruo*; and yet they admit that no one can be certain of the presence of this *habitus*.**

Pray, how then, or when, do they know, to what extent they earn the Lord’s grace; whether by *congruity* or by *condignity*, in part or in whole? But, alas, merciful God! These are all the cold thoughts and dreams of idle, wicked, and inexperienced men, who do not often make use of the Bible; **who do not know nor experience, what a sinner feels, what the attacks of death and the devil are;** who do not know at all, how entirely we forget all our merit and works, when the heart feels the wrath of God, or when the conscience is filled with terror. Secure, inexperienced men constantly pass on in the delusion, that they merit grace by their works *de congruo*.

For it is implanted in us by nature, highly to esteem ourselves and our works. **But when the heart truly feels its sins and wretchedness,** then all levity and frivolous thoughts give way to real and great seriousness; then the heart and conscience will not be quieted or satisfied, but will seek works upon works, and desires to have certainty, a foundation on which to stand and rest firmly. But these alarmed consciences deeply feel, that they can merit nothing either *de condigno* or *de congruo*, and soon sink into hopelessness and despair, unless a doctrine different from the law be preached to them; namely, **the Gospel of Christ, proclaiming that he was given for us.**

Thus it is related of the Barefoot monks, that they, after vainly praising, for a long time, their order and good works to St several pious persons in the hour of death, were at last obliged to be silent

about their order and. Franciscus, and to say, “*Dear friend, Christ hath died for thee.*” This afforded relief in trouble; this alone bought peace and consolation. (Henkel Translation, p. 160-161).

*Congruity, in *school divinity*.—The good actions which are supposed to render it meet and equitable that God should confer grace on those who perform them. The merit of congruity is a sort of imperfect qualification for the gift and reception of God’s grace.—MILNER.

†Condignity, in *school divinity*.—The merit of human actions which claims reward, on the score of justice.—MILNER.

The Lord’s Supper

The Lord's Supper is being celebrated today. Please note that our practice of closed communion with those who are in fellowship with us—members of congregations of the

ELDoNA—is not meant to offend, but is the historic practice of the Church. It is prompted by love, both for God's Word and for God's people. It does not deny that members of other denominations may be Christians. Rather, it bows the knee to the Bible's deep concern for doctrinal truth (Rom. 16:17) and the Bible's witness that doctrinal unity (Acts 2:42) is the central issue to the common reception of the Sacrament of the Altar. Therefore, we ask GUESTS desiring to commune to speak with the pastor before the service so that he may know that you are a member of a congregation in fellowship with Trinity Lutheran Church.

Weekly Calendar

TODAY -Adult and Child Bible Studies, 9:00 AM
-Divine Service-Lord’s Supper, 10:15 AM
-Undecorating the Church, 6:00 PM

TUESDAY -The Epiphany of Our Lord, 7 PM
-Cookies/hot chocolate after the burning of the tree

WEDNESDAY -Learn-by-Heart, 6:30 PM
-Catechesis Service, 7:00 PM

NEXT SUNDAY -THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
-Adult and Child Bible Studies, 9:00 AM
-Divine Service-Lord’s Supper, 10:15 AM

Divine Service

Augustana Service Book & Hymnal

Hymn	ASBH #72
+ Invocation.....	p.7
+ Confession/Absolution	p.8-9
+ Introit.....	(insert)
[Pastor, then congregation]	
+ Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis...	p.10-13
+ Salutation.....	p.13
+ Collect of the Day...	(insert)
Old Testament Reading	
Epistle	
+ Gradual.....	(insert)
+ Holy Gospel.....	p.16
Nicene Creed.....	p.17
ASBH #8 “The Newborn Child this early morn”	
Sermon	
+ Offertory: "Create in Me..."	p.18
The Offerings are gathered.	
+ General Prayer.....	p.19-20
Hymn.....	LW #243
+ Exhortation	p.21

Lutheran Worship Hymnal

+ Preface, etc.	p.144-151
Communion Psalm (by cantor)	
Distribution & Hymns	
“Thine Honor Rescue, Righteous Lord!” ASBH printed	
“It Is A Time of Joy Today” ASBH printed	
#391	
+ “Lord, now you let ...”	p.152
+ Post-Communion Collects	p.153
+ Benedicamus, Benediction...	p.154-5
+ Hymn.....	#81
Announcements	

Trinity News

Council Meeting.—will be Sunday, January 25.

2026 Pecan Fundraiser.—We have some extra bags of pecans downstairs to sell. There are plain pecans (extra-large halves) at \$12.00 and cinnamon, chocolate covered, and glazed, all at \$10.00/bag. Make checks out to “Trinity LWMS.”

Assistants

Elder – Stephen Phillips (303-0769)

Organist – LeeAnn Byrne

Altar Guild – Kim Miller & Claire Stretch

Church Cleaning – Jan 4/11 Brieschke, Jan 18/25 Baker

General Prayer p.18-19

Special Prayers

- Pastoral Office:** Bishop, James Heiser, Pastor Michael D. Henson, Deacon Gary K. Harroun
- Eldona Congregations:** St. Michael & All Angels Lutheran Mission (Martinez, GA), Pr. Jerald Dulas
- Armed forces:** Jason Melvin, Blake Darnstaedt.
- Police officers:** Daniel Byrne, Alex Byrne.
- Shut-ins:** Carolyn Westerman; Patty Rametta, Violet Kemp, Tom Smith, Chuck & Joyce Mann
- Students:** Tom Weber (Florida State University), Luke Phillips (John A. Logan), Colton Weber (John A. Logan), and Jessica Gordon (SIU-C, Oletha's granddaughter)
- Pregnant.**— Zane & Begum Kutay Baker, Risdon & Clara Melvin (May 25), Eric & Allison Henson (July)
- Birth.**—Leland Mark Geidel born to Matthew & Adrienne Geidel (Karin's niece), born Dec 26th 4 lb. 9 oz (he was due Jan 20th).
- Herrin Hospital:** Anita Prochaska (hip)
- Various Needs:** Sarah Melvin (back), Heidi Bunselmeyer (cancer, Todd Darnstaedt's sister), Belinda Poe (cancer treatment, Shirley's cousin), David Henson (rehab)

The Second Sunday after Christmas



Illustrated German Bible of 1483 (I:25, Genesis 18)
The Three Men Visit Abraham

Trinity Lutheran Church

1000 North Park Avenue, Herrin, IL 62948, (618) 942-3401

www.trinityh.org

Pastor Michael D. Henson • Deacon Gary K. Harroun

Pr. Henson and Dcn. Harroun are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (Eldona.org)

Isaiah 42:1-9

1“Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles. 2He will not cry out, nor raise His voice, Nor cause His voice to be heard in the street. 3A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth. 4He will not fail nor be discouraged, Till He has established justice in the earth; And the coastlands shall wait for His law.” 5Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it: 6“I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles, 7To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the prison, Those who sit in darkness from the prison house. 8I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images. 9Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them.”

1 Peter 4:12-19

12Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; 13but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. 14If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. 15But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people’s matters. 16Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter. 17For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18Now “If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?”

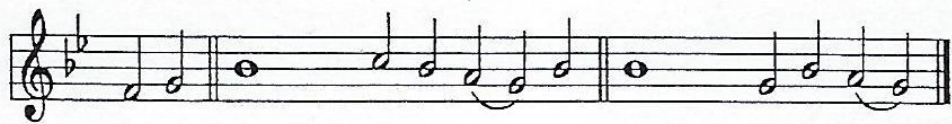
19Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

Matthew 2:13-23

13Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.” 14When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, 15and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.” 16Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. 17Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: 18“A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more.” 19But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child’s life are dead.” 21Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. 23And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

Communion Psalm: *Ant.* Our LORD our governor, how excellent is thy Name in all the world. (Ps. 8).
Psalm 8

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS (WHITE)



Introit.

Ant. THY TES- || timonies | are | ver- | y | sure:
holiness becometh Thine house, O LORD, | for- | ev- | er.

|| Thy throne is estab- | lish- | ed | of | old:
Thou art from ev- | er- | last- | ing.

Psalm. || The LORD reigneth, He is clothed | with | maj- | es- | ty:
The LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith He hath gird- | ed | Him- | self.

GLO- RY || be to the Father | and | to | the | Son:
and to the | Ho- | ly | Ghost.

AS IT || was in the beginning, is now, and | ev- | er | shall | be:
world without | end. | A- | men. (*Ant. repeated.*)

Collect.

Almighty and Everlasting God, direct our actions according to Thy good pleasure, that in the Name of Thy beloved Son, we may be made to abound in good works; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end. *Amen.*

Epistle. 1 Peter 4:12–19.

Gospel. Matthew 2:13–23.

Gradual.

|| Thou art fairer than the | child- | ren | of | men:
grace is poured in- | to | Thy | lips.

|| My heart is inditing a good matter, I speak of the things which I have made | touch- | ing | the | King:
my tongue is the pen of a read- | y | writ- | er.

|| Hallelujah. Hallelujah. The LORD reigneth, He is clothed | with | ma- | jes- | ty:
the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith He hath gird- ed Himself. Hal- | le- | lu- | jah.

2nd Sunday after Christmas

8. The Newborn Child This Early Morn

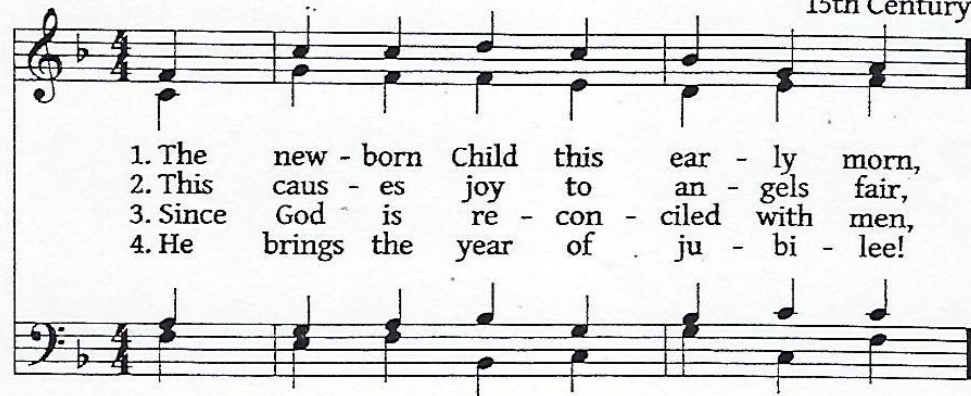
Cyriacus Schneegass, † 1597

Christum wir sollen loben shoen

E. Cronenwett, Tr. a

L. M.

15th Century



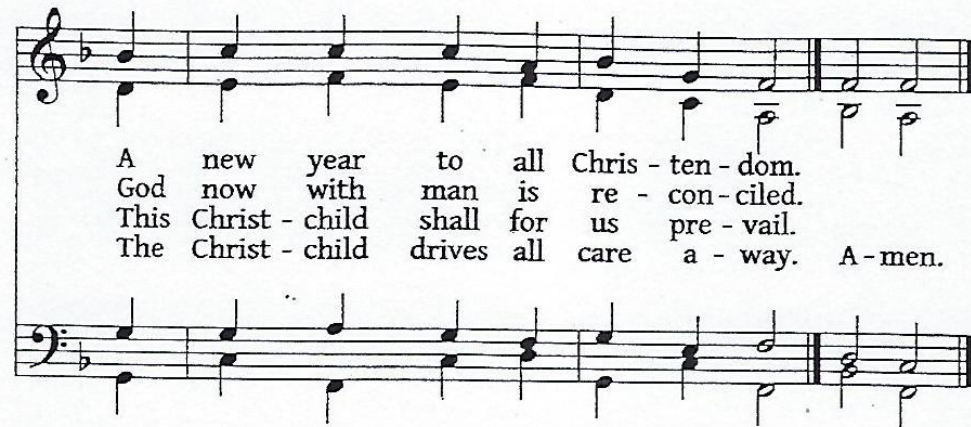
1. The new - born Child this ear - ly morn,
2. This caus - es joy to an - gels fair,
3. Since God is re - con - ciled with men,
4. He brings the year of ju - bi - lee!



The dear Christ - child of vir - gin born,
Who love to keep us in their care;
What harm can Sa - tan do us then?
Why doubt we yet des - pon - dent - ly?



A - gain brings from His heav'n - ly home
They sing that in this won - drous Child
O'er Sa - tan and the gates of hell
Re - joice! This is a hap - py day.



A new year to all Chris - ten - dom.
God now with man is re - con - ciled.
This Christ - child shall for us pre - vail.
The Christ - child drives all care a - way. A - men.

Season

##. Thine Honor Rescue, Righteous Lord!

Rett, o Herr Jesu, rett dein' Ehr'

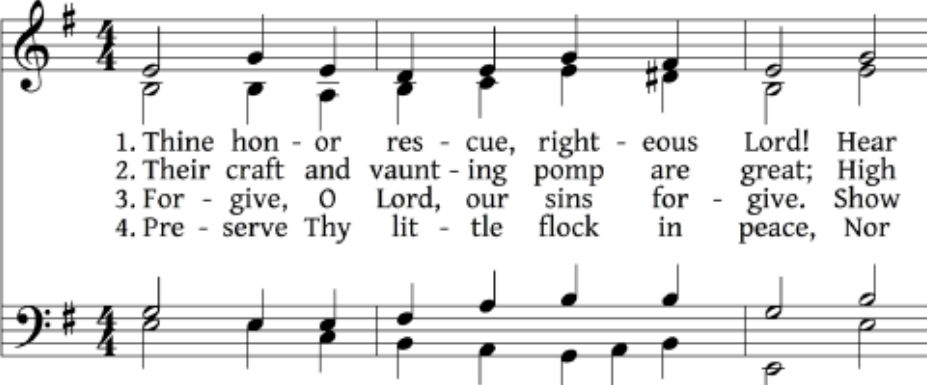
Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort

Johann Heermann, 1630

"Geistliche Lieder"

Tr., Matthias Loy, 1880

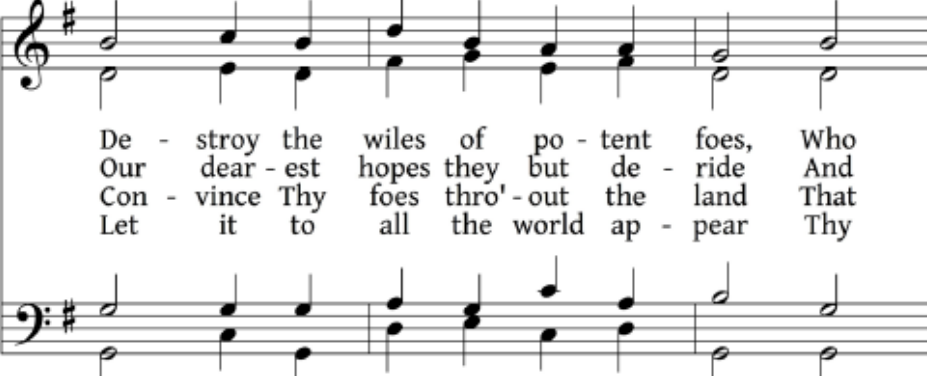
Wittenburg, 1543



1. Thine hon - or res - cue, right - eous Lord! Hear
 2. Their craft and vaunt - ing pomp are great; High
 3. For - give, O Lord, our sins for - give. Show
 4. Pre - serve Thy lit - tle flock in peace, Nor



Zi - on's sighs and help af - ford;
 beat their hearts, with pow'r e - late;
 us Thy face and let us live.
 let Thy bound - less mer - cy cease;



De - stroy the wiles of po - tent foes, Who
 Our dear - est hopes they but de - ride And
 Con - vince Thy foes thro' - out the land That
 Let it to all the world ap - pear Thy



now Thy Word and truth op - pose.
 deem us noth - ing in their pride.
 god - less coun - sels shall not stand.
 ho - ly Church in - deed is here. A - men.

5. That Thou art with us, loud proclaim
 Who puts each enemy to shame;
 Dost all their haughtiness suppress,
 And help Thine own in their distress.

Season

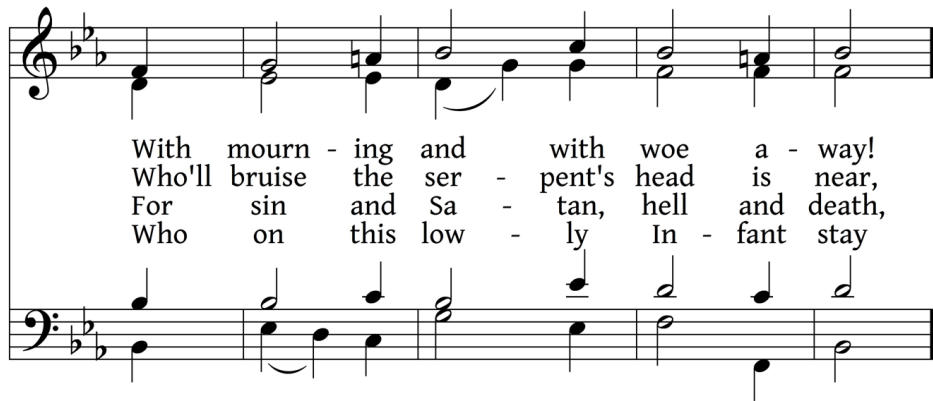
##. It Is A Time of Joy Today

Paul Gerhardt, 1667
Tr., John Kelly, 1867

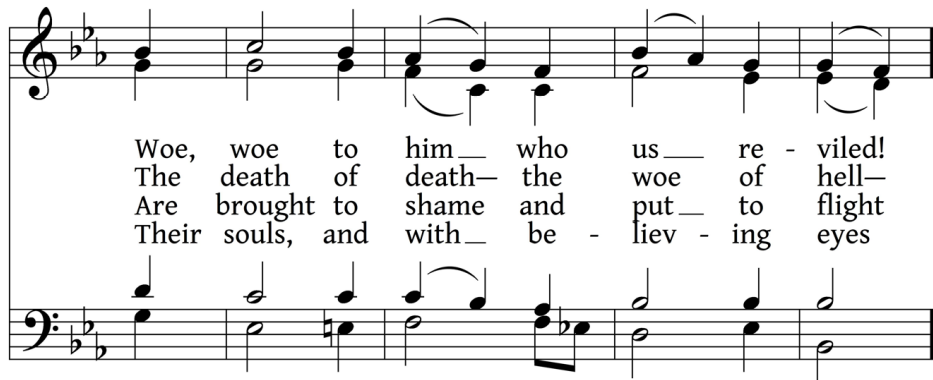
Gerhardt
From "Best's Eighty Chorales"



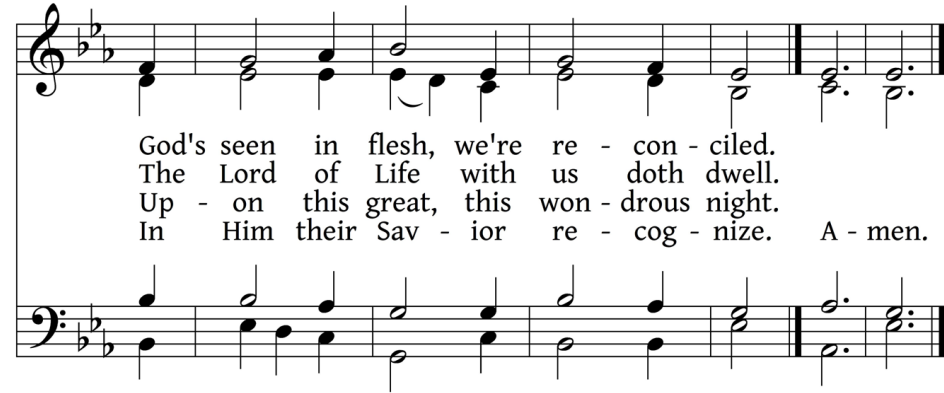
1. It is a time of joy — to - day,
2. The Lord who bears our sin — is here,
3. All foes are put our feet — be - neath,
4. O! hap - py world, thrice hap - py they,



With mourn - ing and with woe a - way!
Who'll bruise the ser - pent's head is near,
For sin and Sa - tan, hell and death,
Who on this low - ly In - fant stay



Woe, woe to him — who us — re - viled!
The death of death — the woe of hell —
Are brought to shame and put — to flight
Their souls, and with — be - liev - ing eyes



God's seen in flesh, we're re - con - ciled.
The Lord of Life with us doth dwell.
Up - on this great, this won - drous night.
In Him their Sav - ior re - cog - nize. A - men.

5. Now praise the Lord, whoe'er can praise—
Who, from their low estate to raise
His enemies, from His high throne
Sent down His loved, His only Son.

6. Up! join the angel host and cry,
Now glory be to God most high;
Let peace prevail the world around,
Good-will to men and joy abound.