

This Week at St. Timothy

December 17, 2023

Sunday 12/17	Worship Service Sunday School	8:30AM & 11:00AM 10:00AM
Monday 12/18	Office Closed Young Adult Bible Study	7:00PM
Tuesday 12/19	Staff Meeting Quilting Group Praise Team	9:30AM 1:00PM 6:30PM
Wednesday 12/20	Centering Prayer Confirmation Class Co-op Bible Study Mission Board	12:00PM 5:30PM 7:00PM 6:45PM
Thursday 12/21	Men In Mission Bible Study Sarah's Tent Advent Worship Bell Choir Sanctuary Choir	7:00AM 10:30AM 11:00AM & 7:00PM 4:30PM 5:30PM
Friday 12/22	Office Closed Al-Anon	8:00PM
Saturday 12/23	Worship Service	5:00PM
Sunday 12/24	Worship Service Christmas Eve Worship	10:00AM 7:00 PM & 11PM
Monday 12/25	<i>Merry Christmas</i> Worship Service Community Christmas Lunch	10:30AM 12:00PM

St. Timothy Lutheran Church
812 E. Tarpon Ave. Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689-6005
(727) 937-3503
Pastor Curt Snare



December 16-17, 2023
Third Sunday
of Advent

OUR MISSION
***A caring church sharing
Jesus Christ with the
world by offering help,
hope and home.***

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

The Disciples of St. Timothy Lutheran Church extend a special welcome to our guests and invite you to share with us in our ministry, our mission, our fellowship and our growth! If you are a visitor, please notice the Welcome cards in the pews. Please fill out the back of the card and place in the offering plate or give to an usher.

FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Please speak with the ushers if you have any special needs. Specialized hearing devices are available upon request. Holy Communion will be shared in the pew upon request with an usher, if you are unable to go to the altar area.

NURSERY & RESTROOMS

If you are in need of nursery facilities, please ask an usher (parental supervision required). All restrooms are located in the atrium area.

HOLY COMMUNION

You may come forward during this time to receive Holy Communion (at direction of the ushers) if you are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, our Savior, is truly present in the bread and wine you are about to receive. You may receive Communion by receiving the wafer (gluten free upon request) in your hand and receiving an individual cup of wine (or grape juice). If someone in your family has not yet received communion and would like to, please contact the pastor. If you only want a blessing, come forward with your arms across your chest. May God bless us with forgiveness, strength and love as we share in this precious moment with our Lord!

PRELUDE **I Have the Joy, Joy, Joy**

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who opens the heavens and draws near to us with
salvation. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to
repentance. Trusting this promise of grace,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.



Poinsettias may be purchased in memory of, in honor of, as a Thanksgiving or to the Glory of God. They may be taken home after the late service on Christmas Eve. Order deadline is this weekend.

Plants are \$10.00 and envelopes are in the Narthex.



We are looking for volunteers to help prepare, serve and clean up for the Community Dinner we prepare on Christmas Day for those in need. If interested, please come at to St. Timothy at 9:30 am, serving will start at 12:00 pm.

ADVENT

Young Adult Bible Study

Preparing our hearts for Christmas
amidst a chaotic world.
Mondays 7-8:30 PM
@ St. Timothy on 12/18
Meet new people, explore your faith and
rediscover the true meaning
of the season.
Text ADVENT to 727-741-2365



*The altar flowers, are given
by Carl and Yvonne Bey
in memory of Matthew Bey*

*The communion wine and eternal light
are given by Nancy Judge
in memory of Joe Judge*



December 21 Advent Worship 11:00am & 7:00pm
December 23 5:00pm Worship
December 24 10:00am Traditional Worship
December 24 7pm & 11pm Christmas Eve Worship
December 25 10:30am Worship
December 25 Noon Community Dinner @
St. Timothy



*To the family Helen Locke who passed from death
to life. Helen would have been 96 on
December 15th.*

Everlasting God,
you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.
We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.
We are complicit in systems of exploitation.
We choose comfort over courage.
We are careless with creation's bounty.
Look upon us with mercy.
Turn our hearts again to you.
Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your
ways for the sake of our waiting world. **Amen.**

KYRIE

(on screen)

Hear these words of assurance:
God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.
In the tender compassion of **†** Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all. **Amen.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's
way for the kingdom of heaven is near. Bless us as we
light the candles on this wreath. Baptize us with the fire
of your spirit, that we might be a light shining in the
darkness welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us,
for he is our light and our salvation.
Blessed be God forever. **Amen.**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs 1,2,3) ELW 257 3

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

PSALM Psalm 126

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (on screen)

GOSPEL John 1:6-8,19-28

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn ELW 242

SERMON

NICENE CREED (on screen)

THE PRAYERS

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.



A prayer chain is a group of God's people praying for one another for healing, peace, strength and/or for discernment. Also, information about illnesses, hospitalizations, deaths or celebrations are shared on the prayer chain. All you need to do is **PRAY!** If you would like to become a St Timothy Prayer Angel, send Gaye an email at: gayePollinoFernandes@gmail.com

Centering Prayer Group

Wednesdays on Zoom @ Noon

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85880536085>
[pwd=QUZCanJCVmdsejBhVXM4SXFhendBdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85880536085?pwd=QUZCanJCVmdsejBhVXM4SXFhendBdz09)

Feel free to invite others!

Contact Sister Mary with any questions.



PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER
James 5:16

If you want to pray for someone pick up a request.
If you want to be prayed for leave a request.
A table is set up in the Narthex.

LUTHERAN
MEN'S MISSION™
Building men for Christ

*Sonrise Group - Men's Bible Study
Meets Thursday's at the Garden Grille
in Palm Harbor at 7:00 a.m.
All men are welcome!*

Mon	Psalm 42 Isaiah 29:17-24 Acts 5:12-16	Thurs	Psalm 80:1-7,17-19 2 Samuel 7:1-17 Galatians 3:23-29
Tue	Psalm 42 Ezekiel 47:1-12 Jude 17-25	Fri	Psalm 80:1-7,17-19 2 Samuel 7:18-22 Galatians 4:1-7
Wed	Psalm 42 Zechariah 8:1-17 Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34	Sat	Psalm 80:1-7,17-19 2 Samuel 7:23-29 John 3:31-36



Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Family of Liam
 Family of Helen Locke
 Family of Kim Zacarias
 Family of Lou Tancredi
 A Mom
 Barbara Lear
 Brian Moore
 Creation
 Derek

Karen Wilcox
 Kerrie Haskins
 Linda Jenkins
 Lynn Heitman
 Maria
 Peg McAleer
 Rileigh Sechrist
 Sara Rooney
 Tom Hill



Thank you all so much for your generous contributions to fill the Christmas gift bags and those who participated in filling them!

Fill our mouths with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy as we bear witness to the great things you have done. Give your church a spirit of gladness as we gather and as we are sent. Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Let the trees of the field sing your praise. Protect forests, orchards, rainforests, and all wooded areas from disease and deforestation. Keep us grateful for their gifts of oxygen, food, shade, and shelter. Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

You love justice and promise your favor to those who are oppressed, brokenhearted, and incarcerated. Grant wisdom and compassion to those who work for public safety and all who work within prisons, jails, and courts, that mercy may increase and violence wither away. Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Give us strength to pray for our world without ceasing and provoke us toward love and good deeds for all who are in need (*especially*). Provide for all without adequate housing, food, employment, or access to health care. Empower us as helpers and advocates. Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Open our hearts to those who serve as truth-tellers in our church and in our society. Bless leaders in church and society in their task of proclamation. Amplify voices of peacemakers, advocates, and especially those whose voices are ignored or marginalized. Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With gratitude we rejoice in the saints (especially) who witnessed to your life in all circumstances, in whom your Spirit was not quenched, even in death. Through them, teach us always to hold fast to what is good. Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. **Amen.**

