



You can watch this program on Sunday morning at 10:30 AM on Direct TV Channel 377

January 2, 2022 – Second Sunday after Christmas *The Epiphany of Our Lord Observed
Psalm 96:1-8; Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

January 9, 2022 – First Sunday after the Epiphany *The Baptism of Our Lord Observed
Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Luke 3:15-22

January 16, 2022 – Second Sunday after Epiphany
Psalm 128; Isaiah 62:1-5; John 2:1-11

January 23, 2022 – Third Sunday after Epiphany
Psalm 19:7-14; Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Luke 4:16-30

January 30, 2022 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Psalm 71:1-12; 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13; Luke 4:38-41

175TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: This year we celebrate 175 years of God’s grace at Trinity Darmstadt. Please come to our kickoff meeting after worship on January 23 to hear about the plans for this festival year. Each household will receive a new pictorial directory, a congregational history of our last 25 years, and an opportunity to view and purchase commemorative items.

During the month of December, the following people were in the hospital, had surgery, recovering at home or our shut-ins – **JOHN BROCK, MARGE DAVID, RAY & SUE LAUGHBAUM, DANA MEYER, KATHY RAMSEY, DAVE COOMER, MICKIE ISAACS, CLYDE BRODERHAUSEN, HELEN MARIE WORTMANN and WANDA KAHRE.**

<u>CHURCH ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>BIBLE CLASS</u>
Saturday, December 4.....11	
Sunday, December 5.....57	14
Saturday, December 11.....12	
Sunday, December 12.....54	16
Saturday, December 18.....11	
Sunday, December 19.....57	25
Christmas Eve.....70	
Christmas Day.....32	
Sunday, December 26.....67	32

WHAT'S COMING UP

NEWSLETTER ITEMS: If you have an item for the monthly newsletter it must be in no later than the 20th of every month! Nothing will be accepted after business hours on the 20th. You can also submit items by emailing them to: trisha@tldarm.org

PASTOR TEMME’S BIBLE CLASS: In January we continue our study of the Gospel of Luke. In our three-year lectionary, Luke is the primary source this year for our weekly Gospel reading in worship.

LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY: Starting in October, the Lutheran Food Pantry will be open on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 9:15 AM to 10:45 AM.

ALL BOARDS MEETING: All officers and board members are asked to attend the annual All Boards Meeting on Saturday, January 8, beginning at 9:30 AM in the parish hall.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: All church officers and board members will be installed for the coming year during the Sunday morning service on January 9.

FOR SARAH'S AND ALL SARAH-ELIGIBLE LADIES: (that's, all of you LADIES) a RARE OPPORTUNITY – How often have you had made available an opportunity to study First & Second Chronicles? That is the next portion of Scripture planned for Sarah Bible Class sessions. Keep an eye on the bulletin for the exact start time. Class begins in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 AM on Thursdays. Coffee, Treats and Fellowship available at 9:00 AM.

MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Last year some of us resolved to read through select chapters of the Old Testament, a chapter a day, as part of our daily meditation on God's Word. For all of you who kept that resolution, congratulations! Please contact Pastor Temme to claim your reward of either *The Lutheran Study Bible* (large or small print), a personal edition of the *Lutheran Service Book*, a *Reader's Edition of the Book of Concord*, or a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant. You may also substitute a gift of equal value at the pastor's discretion.

If you would like to make a new resolution this year, let's resolve to read through the entire New Testament and meditate upon it. Every Sunday, there will be a bulletin insert with a reading for each day of the week, a hymn, and four questions to contemplate (with the answers on the back). Saturday and Sunday will be a chapter from one of the Epistles. Weekdays will be a half chapter of a narrative from one of the Gospels, Acts, or Revelation. The monthly newsletter calendar will also show the reading for each day. For those of you who prefer to work digitally, I will send out a weekly email to our congregation with the daily lectionary which has links to the readings and hymns. It will also be posted on our website. Let's start off the year in a right way by resolving to read the Word of God daily and keep it.

FLOWER CHART: The Flower Chart has been posted in the Narthex of the church. This is where you may sign up to put flowers by the altar during certain times of the year. The first person signing up for a particular date, selects the color and type of flowers. The cost is **\$35.00**, and the Altar Circle will take care of the ordering of the flowers and announcement in the bulletin of the significance of the flowers. When your month approaches that you selected, the member of the Altar Circle for that month will contact you for your information. Questions?? See **LINDA RAE KORFF** or call at (812) 477-4078 or cell (812)459-4078.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021: Now that 2021 is over, if any board would like to submit a report for the Annual Report please have them into the office by February 6th. Thanks, Trisha



“CHEERS & TEARS”

Cheers to the **ALTAR CIRCLE** for another great job on the church during the Christmas season!

Cheers to **ALL THE MEMBERS** who displayed their nativities during this Christmas Season.

Cheers to the **CHOIR, HANDBELLS & INSTRUMENTALISTS** who sang and played during the Advent & Christmas Season!

Cheers to the **BOARD OF PARISH FELLOWSHIP** who hosted the Pancake Breakfast.

Cheers to **EVERYONE** who donated to make this year's Cheer Baskets special for the shut-ins.

Cheers to the following people who celebrated milestone birthdays in December:

BILL GANN – 93rd December 1st

CHARLES FELLWOCK – 92nd December 4th

Cheers to the following couples who celebrated anniversaries in December

JIM & JANICE STONE – 54th December 9th

RICHARD & MARY DENNIS – 52nd December 21st



Tears to the family and friends of **MARTY KOCH**, who died on December 3rd.

Tears to the family and friends of **DORIS TURPIN**, who died on December 19th.

THANK YOU

We thank **HAZEL ENGLISH** for displaying the nativity scenes, **TRISHA LETTERMAN** for providing the cheer baskets for our shut-ins, the altar guild for decorating our sanctuary, and the **CHOIR, HANDBELLS & INSTRUMENTALISTS** for providing special music during our holiday season.

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers and get well wishes that were bestowed on me during my recent stay in the hospital. My family and I greatly appreciated them.

LeAnn Finch and Pat Askins

UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Sunday, Jan. 30, noon – Planning meeting with toasted ham & cheese sandwiches for lunch, followed by volleyball and then a devotion.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITY OPTIONS:

June 19 to July 2, 2022 2-week theology camp at CTS in Fort Wayne: Christ Academy for high school gentlemen, Phoebe Academy for high school ladies. \$650 is all-inclusive: tuition, housing, meals, and all off-campus activities. More info at <https://www.ctsfw.edu/ctsfw-events/christ-academy/phoebe-school/>

July 9-13, 2022 Houston, TX, LCMS National Youth Gathering – “In Him All Things” is a reminder from Col. 1:15-20 that the Christian story encompasses all things. Registration is \$395 till March 1. Hotel is \$180 + tax. Travel and meals are not included. <https://lcmmsgathering.com/>

July 26-29, 2022 Valparaiso University, IN, Higher Things conference - “F O R Y O U” 6 letters to explain the point of everything. . . to make crystal clear the entire Christian faith. Registration is \$435 till Jan. 31 for dorm room, meals, and travel with the **TEMMEs**. <https://higherthings.org/conferences>

JESSE KNEA’S FIRST BIRTHDAY: Everyone is invited to celebrate Jesse’s first birthday Sunday, January 9th at noon in the fellowship hall. please come for lunch and fun!

PRESCHOOL

The preschool is in need of a couple assistant teachers. If you know anyone looking to work in childcare, please let them know we have flexible openings.

Our Little Ceasars Pizza Fundraiser will be back in January.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

DARMSTADT

NEWSLETTER

Rev. Stan Temme

pastor@tldarm.org

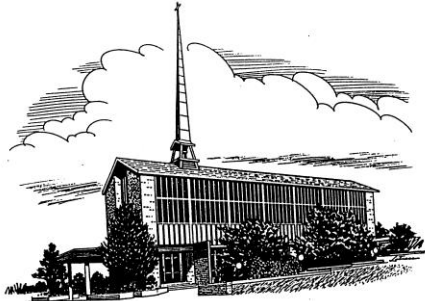
Cell Phone: 470-5007

Rev. Keith Knea

pastorknea@gmail.com

Church Phone: 867-5279

www.trinitydarmstadt.org



VOLUME 35

JANUARY 2022

NO. 1

THE STATE OF HUMILIATION

In the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed, we confess the *two natures* of Christ, Divine and human. We confess his work in his *three offices* of Prophet, Priest, and King. But we also confess the *two states* in which Christ carries out his work for us. We call these states his state of *humiliation* and his state of *exaltation*.

When we think of the states of matter, we often think of water, which can occur in the three states of solid (ice), liquid (water), and gas (vapor). In all three states, water maintains its chemical composition of H₂O, two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom. It's always the same stuff. However, water looks differently and functions differently depending on whether it is in the state of solid, liquid, or gas. In the same way, Christ in his state of humiliation and state of exaltation is still the same Christ with two natures, divine and human. However, Christ looks differently and works and acts differently depending on whether he is in his state of humiliation or state of exaltation. Understanding these states helps us better understand Christ and his work for us.

The portion of the Second Article which reflects Christ's state of humiliation are the words:

“Conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified,
Died,
And was buried.”

Notice the steps downward. Philippians, chapter 2, describes this state of humiliation. “Christ Jesus, who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!”

Now Christ's humiliation was not that he laid his divinity aside and became man. Christ remains both true God and true man in both his states of humiliation and exaltation. Christ's humiliation is that as man he laid aside the full use of his divine powers from the time of his conception until his death. While Christ at times certainly used his divine powers to calm storms, read peoples' minds, or heal the sick, he only did these things to show that he was God, to fulfill prophecy, or to minister to others. Jesus didn't use his divine powers to turn stones into bread for himself. Instead, he went hungry. Jesus didn't use his divine powers to fly or teleport himself from place to place. He walked. Jesus didn't zap comfortable accommodations into existence. He had no place to lay his head. In his humiliation, Jesus acted like a man and refrained from the full use of his divine powers.

Christ's state of humiliation helps us understand some of his words and actions. For example, when his disciples asked him when the end of the world would come, Jesus answered them, “No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, *nor the Son*, but only the Father.” If Jesus is God, why wouldn't he know when the Last Day would come like his Father? This is an example of when Jesus laid aside his divine omniscience. He chose not to know, perhaps to keep people from pestering him. Another time Jesus said, “I and the Father are one,” a reference to his divinity and the unity of the Trinity. But later he said, “The Father is greater than I.” How could the Son of God be less than God the Father? Aren't they equal? Yes, but not in Christ's state of humiliation where he laid aside his divine power. As we confess in the Athanasian Creed, Christ is “equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.”

In his state of humiliation, Christ looked differently than in his state of exaltation. Christ looked like a normal man. At his Transfiguration on the mountain, the disciples received a glimpse of Christ in his full glory as God. But normally Jesus didn't walk around like a light bulb with people pointing and saying, “Look! There goes God!” In his humiliation, Jesus normally looked and acted like a mere man.

In the Garden of Gethsemane, we again see Jesus laying aside the full use of his divine power. The detachment of soldiers approached Jesus with torches and weapons. Jesus asked them who they were looking for, and they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” When Jesus said, “I am he,” the soldiers all drew back and fell to the ground. They couldn't stand before God and the power of his word. But in his humiliation, Jesus doesn't strike his aggressors with a bolt of lightning. He allows himself to be arrested and bound. All through his trial before the Sanhedrin and before Pilate, Jesus doesn't use his divine power to overcome his enemies. He lays it aside and becomes obedient to death, even death on a cross. Crucified upon the cross, Jesus doesn't look or act like God. He looks and acts like only a weak man. In response to his hecklers, Jesus doesn't come down from the cross and save himself. He remains in his state of humiliation. As true God and true man, he suffers and dies and saves us all. In his state of humiliation, Jesus accomplishes his work of redemption and atonement of our sins.

Pastor Temme