

Sunday, January 25, 2026  
The Third Sunday after Epiphany

Trinity Lutheran Church  
10:30am: Meadowlawn  
1801 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue N



 **WELCOME & BLESSING OF THE QUILTS**

 **PRELUDE**

 **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind that stirs the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in trust to the God who knows us completely.

*We take time to reflect on our actions and choices.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,  
but we serve our own interests  
at the expense of our neighbors.  
We say the right words,  
but our hearts are far from you.  
Turn us to seek your face.  
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and God now declares new things:  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**



## GATHERING HYMN *Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling*

ELW 582



1 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er dwell-ing in the ho-liest realms of light;  
2 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er liv-ing as the church's ver-y life;  
3 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er work-ing through the church's min-is-try;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er brood-ing o'er a world of gloom and night;  
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er striv-ing through us in a cease-less strife;  
quick-'ning, strength-'ning, and ab-solv-ing, set-ting cap-tive sin-ners free;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er rais-ing those of earth to thrones on high;  
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er form-ing in the church the mind of Christ:  
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er bind-ing age to age and soul to soul



liv-ing, life-im-part-ing Spir-it, you we praise and mag-ni-fy.  
you we praise with end-less wor-ship for your gifts and fruits un-priced.  
in com-mu-nion nev-er end-ing, you we wor-ship and ex-tol.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1874–1939, alt.

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710



## 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.**



## HYMN OF PRAISE



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther,



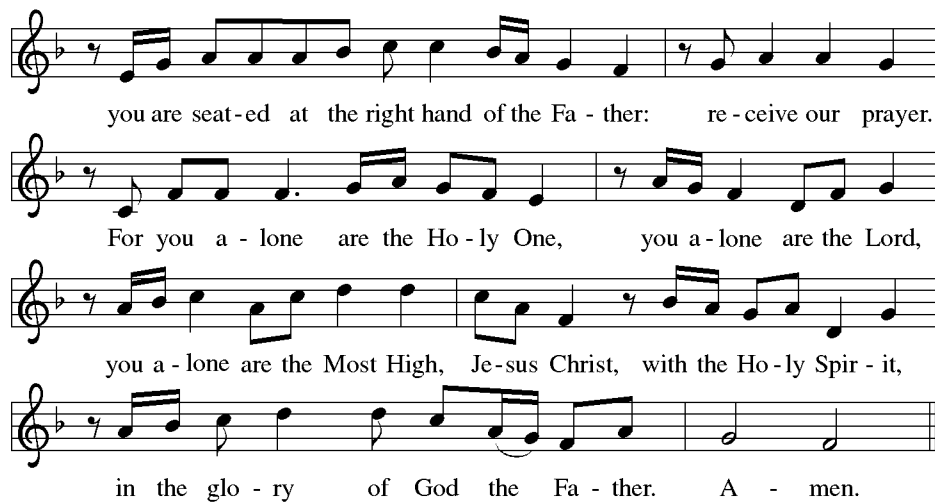
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, your love goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



## INTRODUCTION TO READINGS



### FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

*The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.*

<sup>1</sup> There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time the Lord brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

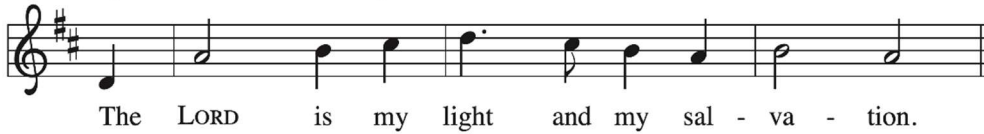
Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**



## PSALM: Psalm 40:1-11

*The choir will sing the refrain once as introduction and the congregation will repeat it; then all will sing it when indicated by "R"*



<sup>1</sup> *The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?*

*The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*

<sup>4</sup> *One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek;*

*that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;*

*to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the temple. R*

<sup>5</sup> *For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,*

*hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.*

<sup>6</sup> *Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.*

*Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;*

*I will sing and make music to the Lord. R*

<sup>7</sup> *Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.*

<sup>8</sup> *My heart speaks your message—"Seek my face." Your face, O Lord, I will seek.*

<sup>9</sup> *Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.*

*Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation. R*



## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

*Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel.*

*Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.*

<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose.

<sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please stand and sing:*



*Choir:* Jesus preached the good news of the kingdom and cured every sickness among the people.

*Congregation repeats "Alleluia"*



## GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

*Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.*

The good news of God's love according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee.

<sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup> "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—<sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." <sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

<sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.

<sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**



## SERMON

*A brief period for silent meditation will follow at the conclusion of the sermon.*



- 1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
- 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - 'ry's roots a - live
- 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:  
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,  
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.  
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.  
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

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## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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 to the dead. 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

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*After each petition:*

**Merciful God, receive our prayer.**

*At the conclusion of the prayers:*

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**



## THE SHARING OF PEACE

Instead of putting a donation in the offering plate during the next hymn, you can use the QR code to make a contribution on the church website; or you can mail an offering to the church.



## OFFERTORY HYMN *Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing*

ELW 841

1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,  
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,  
ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.  
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,  
thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,  
let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;  
sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;  
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;  
fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,  
shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,  
let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.  
true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938

Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954



## OFFERING PRAYER

God of glory,

**no eye has seen what you have prepared for those who love you,  
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.**

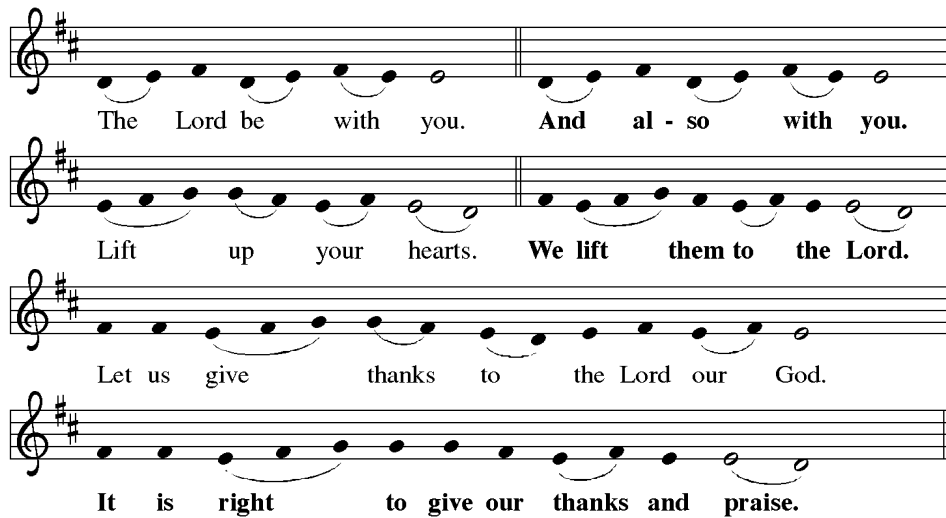
**Use what we have gathered**

**to feed us with the reign of God come near,**

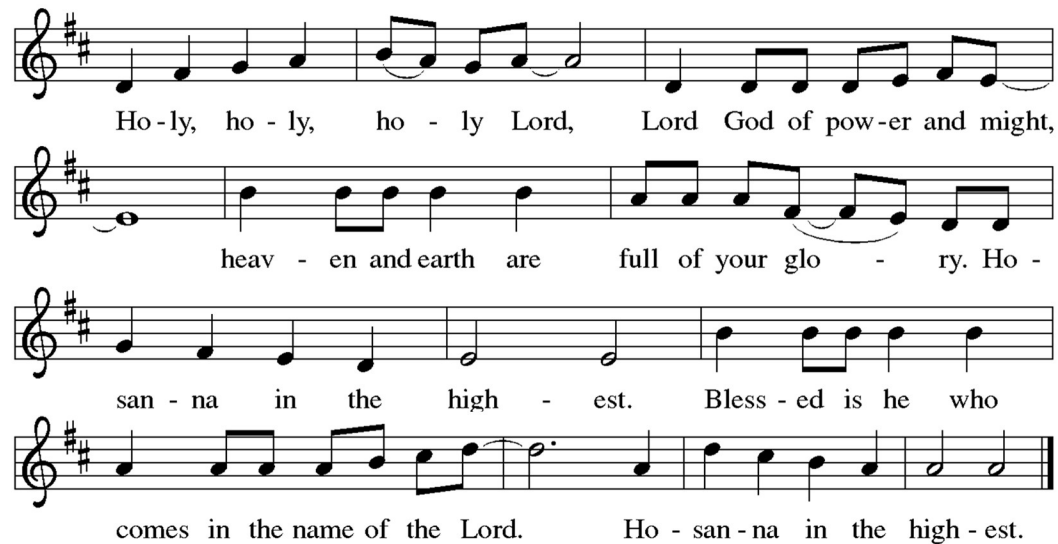
**Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.





## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
 now and forever. Amen.

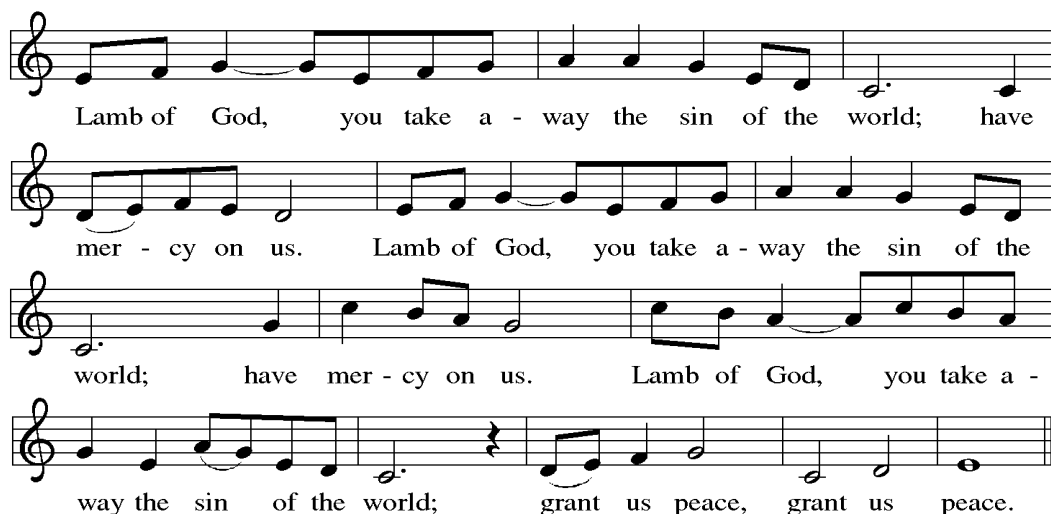


## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
 Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.



## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
 way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



## COMMUNION HYMN *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom* ACS 971



1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when  
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the  
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who  
 earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,  
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,  
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,  
 for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the  
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes -  
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -  
 path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.  
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.  
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. God of light and truth,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



## BLESSING

May almighty God, glorious Mystery,  
Word made flesh, abiding Comforter, ✠  
bless you with grace, peace, and joy  
today and always. **Amen.**



## SENDING HYMN *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

ELW 674



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

*Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTeAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice; love mercy.  
**Thanks be to God. We will!**



## POSTLUDE

[Livestream ends]



After the service, please stay for a time of refreshments and conversation

**Thank you to those serving this month:** (ML) = Meadowlawn Campus (DT) = Downtown Campus

Service		Lectors	Communion Assistants	Altar Flower Sponsors
01/04	10:30 (DT)	Ruth Kinsey	Gary Bartelt, Violet Prepost	
01/11	10:30 (DT)	Lou Carter	Ruth Kinsey, Margarita Rodriguez	
01/18	10:30 (ML)	Gary Bartelt	Phil Rearick, Linda Gascon	
01/25	10:30 (ML)	Suzanne Bohning	Frances Guido, Aimée Fox	<i>For the glory of God</i>

**Birthdays this week:**

01/25 - Marjorie Smetana  
01/26 - Ryan Pekrul-Carter

**Anniversaries this week:**

None

## **This Week's Calendar of Events:**

**Today (01/25)**

*(no scheduled activities)*

**Monday (01/26)**

5:30pm - Jerry Guidice Umpire Training

**Tuesday (01/27)**

7:00pm - Meadowlawn Association (CommUNITY Rm)

**Wednesday (01/28)**

10:00am - Women's Bible Study  
11:30am - Community Meal (DT 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)  
6:00pm - Bible Study (CommUNITY Room)

**Thursday (01/29)**

6:00pm - Grace Family Bible Study (CommUNITY Room)  
6:30pm - Choir Practice (ML Sanctuary)

**Friday (01/30)**

9:30am - TLC Pantry (DT 1st Floor)  
9:30am - Dolores Food Pantry (CommUNITY Room)

**Saturday (01/31)**

9:00am - Hope Chest (Thrift Store)

## **Further Info & Items of Interest:**

**Wednesday Evening Bible Study:** We continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew.

**The Quilting Group** is asking for donations of clean flat (not fitted) sheets--all sizes.

**Sunday Morning Education Hour:** Coming soon! Pastor Paul is looking forward to expanding our Sunday morning activities to include an "All-Ages Education Hour" after worship and fellowship. Stay tuned for more information!

**Grief Support Gatherings:** Another opportunity for sharing and supporting one another, we are planning a series of mid-week Grief Support Gatherings. Copies of a book called "ABCs of Healthy Grieving: A Companion for Everyday Coping" are available for purchase in the church office(s) for \$10. When we gather, we will talk about what we've read and how it impacted us.

**Small Groups:** Another way for us to get to know each other better! If you would like to be a small group host, let Pr. Paul know!

**The Women of Hope** are meeting on Wed Feb 11, 2026 @ 12 noon. The location is Cracker Barrel 2151 54th Avenue N. St Petersburg. We need to have a count of those that plan to attend by Sun Feb 8th. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at both campuses.

## **Prayer List:**

### **For those ministering in our congregations:**

Pastor Paul Gibson  
Deacon Lynne Tallon  
Music Director Ross Kimura  
Music Director Brenden Hall

### **For those suffering from cancer:**

Jim Tallon  
Whitney & Greg Corrigan  
Rick Jackson  
Frank Durilla  
Rev. Ernest Knoche  
Ron Oughton  
Barbara

### **For those homebound:**

Lorna Holder  
Shirley Taylor  
Betty Aker  
Marion Cheslock  
Judy Milanese  
Petra Young

Note: These prayer requests are active for 3 months unless a shorter timeframe is requested.

### **For those needing strength or healing:**

Joan Barnes	Cecil Miles
Bob Stross	Linda Miles
Frances Guido	Bill Quinn
Jill Boos Martin	Doug Pryor
Pr. Felice Johnson	Corinne, Bob, & Irma Kay
Sally Evans	Leonard
Mary Alice Boller	Robert & Brenda Meredith
Paula Smith	Brian Schutzbach
Vickie Clark	Shakira and family
Luke Mendenhall	Janet Crim
Guy Smith	Pr. Tom Snapp
Joyce Dare	Will Diefel

### **For those grieving the loss of a loved one:**

Family & Friends of Pollyann Knox  
Family & Friends of Terri Jones

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**Welcome, visitors! Please tell us something about yourself.**

*Fill out the form below or scan the provided QR Code to contact us digitally.*



TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

Today's Date:

**01/25/26**

Name and Address

Email

Phone

Home church, city, and state

**Questions, Comments, Prayer Requests:**

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- ☐ I'm visiting: ☐ First time ☐ Repeat  
☐ I just moved here  
☐ Please add me to your email list(s)  
☐ Pastor's weekly announcements, etc.  
☐ Office's Monthly Newsletter, etc.

Digital Contact Card:

