

Sunday, February 1, 2026
The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Trinity Lutheran Church
10:30am: Downtown
401 Fifth Street N



 WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

 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.

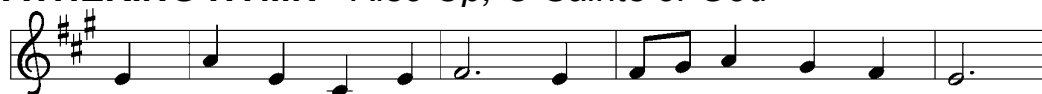
Mighty God, lover of justice,
**you call us to life in community,
but we serve our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and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

ELW 669



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulfs earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king-dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress



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.



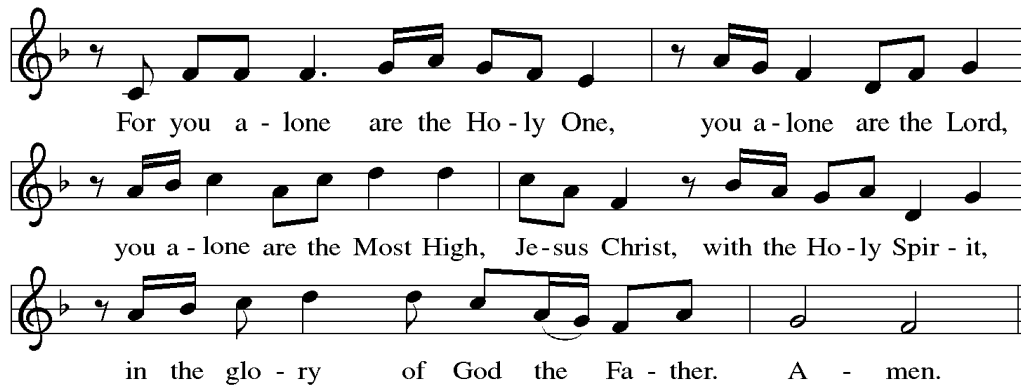
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



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



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and a perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



INTRODUCTION TO READINGS



FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.

¹ Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

³ "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

⁶ "With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 15

The accompanist will play the refrain once as introduction and then all will join in singing; and will repeat the sung refrain when indicated by "R"



LORD, who may a - bide up - on your ho - ly hill?

¹ Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill? **R**

² Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor. **R**

⁴ In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown. **R**



SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand and sing:



Choir: Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

Congregation repeats "Alleluia"



GOSPEL: Matthew 4:23—5:12

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

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. ²⁴ So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, people possessed by demons or having epilepsy or afflicted with paralysis, and he cured them. ²⁵ And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan. ¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
 2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
 3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
 poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
 all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
 peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,
 right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
 love ex - pressed,
 church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
 Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

 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 *When the Poor Ones*

ELW 725

1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;
 2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-f'ring con-so-la-tion;
 4 When the good-ness poured from heav-en fills our dwell-ings;

when the thirst-y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;
 when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
 when the na-tions work to change war in-to peace;

when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing;
 when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us;
 when the strang-er is ac-cept-ed as our neigh-bor;

We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;

we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

Text: José Antonio Olivar, b. 1939; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951
 Music: EL CAMINO, Miguel Manzano, b. 1934



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

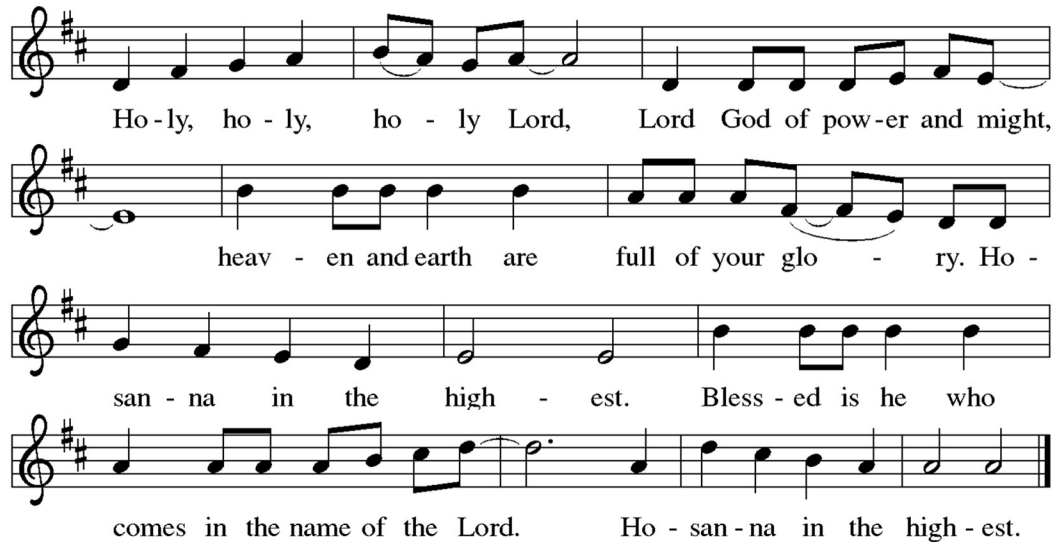
The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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.**

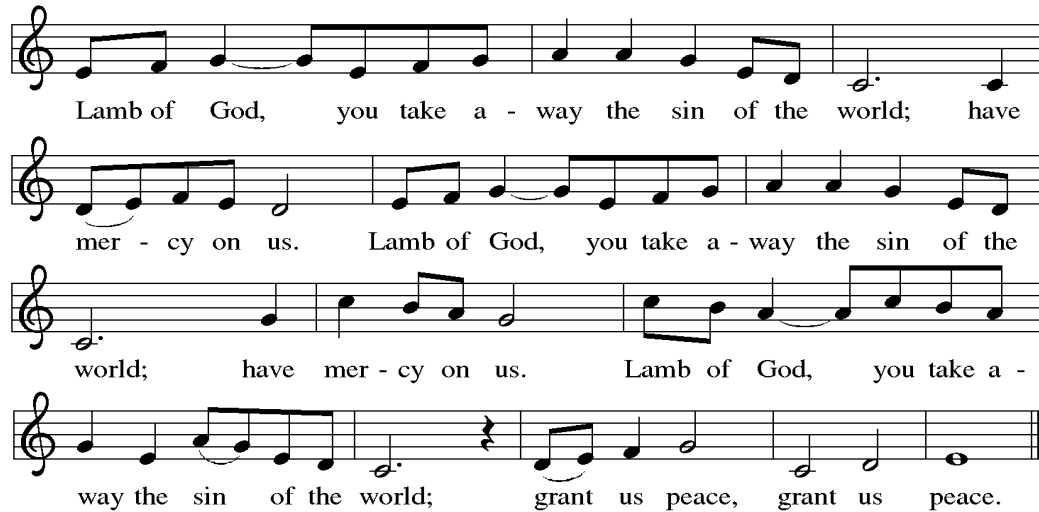


INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 *Build a Longer Table*

ACS 1062



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,
feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.
Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.
Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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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 *The Spirit Sends Us Forth*

ELW 551



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

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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

Date	Loc	Time	Lector	Communion Assistant(s)	Flower Sponsor	Dedication
02/01/26	DT	10:30a	Margarita Rodriguez	Phil Rearick, Marty Snapp	F. Guido	For the glory of God
02/08/26	DT	10:30a	Paul Erickson	Ruth Kinsey, Gary Bartelt		
02/15/26	ML	10:30a	Aimée Fox	Violet Prepost, Margarita Rodriguez		
02/18/26	DT	12:00p			No Flowers	Ash Wednesday
02/18/26	ML	5:30p			No Flowers	Ash Wednesday
02/22/26	ML	10:30a	Violet Prepost	Suzanne Bohning, Linda Gascon	F. Guido	For the glory of God

Birthdays this week:

02/05 - Marty Snapp

Anniversaries this week:

- None -

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today (02/01)

(no scheduled activities)

Monday (02/02)

10am - Bert's Breakfast Buddies (Kopper Kitchen)
5:30pm - Jerry Guidice Umpire Trng (CommUNITY Rm)

Tuesday (02/03)

(no scheduled activities)

Wednesday (02/04)

11:30am - Community Meal (DT 3rd Floor)
6:00pm - Bible Study (CommUNITY Room)

Thursday (02/05)

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

Friday (02/06)

9:30am - TLC Pantry (DT 1st Floor)
9:30am - Dolores Food Pantry (CommUNITY Room)
6:00pm - First Friday Dinner (CommUNITY Room)

Saturday (02/07)

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: Sessions will begin this month. Copies of the book "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 next Sunday (Feb 8th). There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at both campuses.

First Friday Dinner this month will be a pancake supper. Breakfast for dinner... Yea!!

Annual Congregation Meeting will be NEXT SUNDAY after worship! Voting members should plan on staying.

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

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:

02/01/26

Name and Address

Email

Phone

Home church, city, and state

Questions, Comments, Prayer Requests:

- ☐ 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:

