

Sunday, February 8, 2026
The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \ddagger 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 \ddagger Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.



GATHERING HYMN *Gather Us In*

ELW 532

1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,

van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a-way— here in this place the new light is shin-ing,

brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.

Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-gether,

we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358.



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

Pastor

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

All

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.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



INTRODUCTION TO READINGS



FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-12

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

¹ Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ² Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. ³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. ⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”
If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. ¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

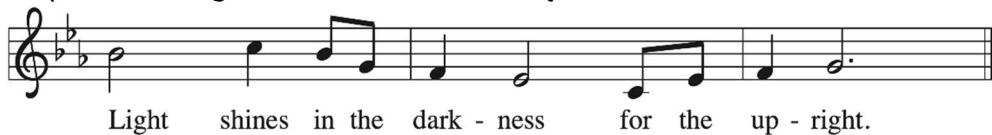
Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 112:1-10

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"



Light shines in the dark - ness for the up - right.

¹ *Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord and have great delight in God's commandments!*

² *Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.*

³ *Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.*

⁴ *Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion. R*

⁵ *It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.*

⁶ *For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.*

⁷ *They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.*

⁸ *Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies. R*

⁹ *They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.*

¹⁰ *The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish. R*



SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand and sing:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Choir: "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will have the light of life." (John 8:12)
Congregation repeats "Alleluia"*



GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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.



HYMN OF THE DAY *This Little Light of Mine*

ELW 677

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual



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 anthem, you can use the QR code to make a contribution on the church website; or you can mail an offering to the church.

CHOIR ANTHEM "My Life is in You, Lord"

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 also with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-
 san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.



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.**

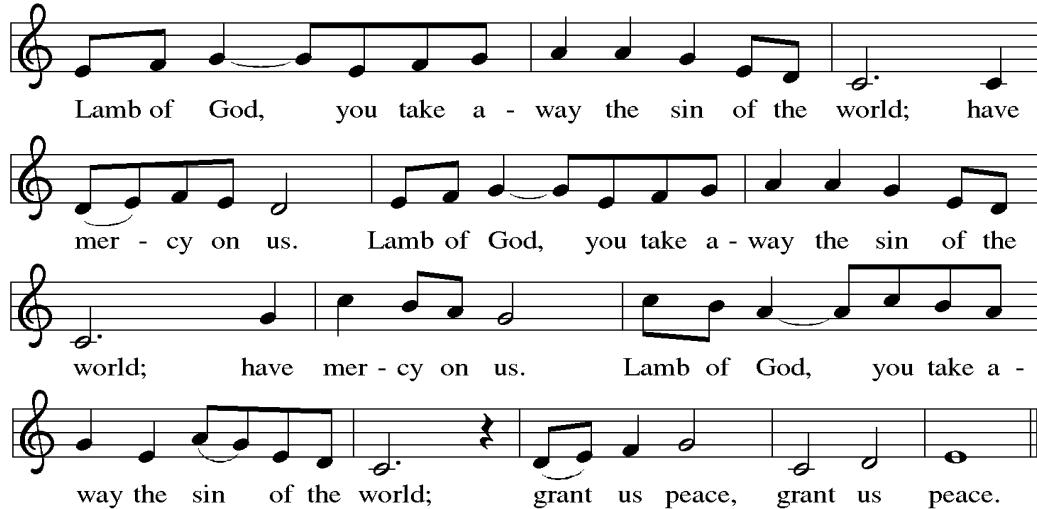
**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.**



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 *Lord. Whose Love in Humble Service*

ELW 712



1 Lord, whose love in hum - ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

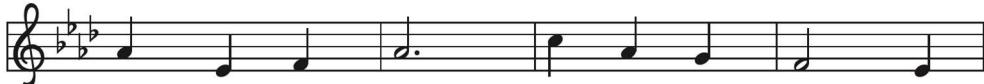
God of light and truth, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior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

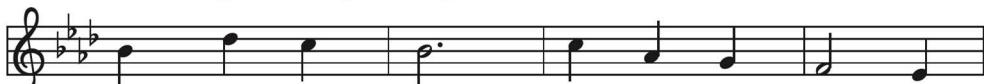
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1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice; love mercy.

Thanks be to God. We will!



POSTLUDE

[Livestream ends]



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation begins immediately after worship.

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	<i>No Lector</i>		<i>No Flowers</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
02/18/26	ML	5:30p	<i>No Lector</i>		<i>No Flowers</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
02/22/26	ML	10:30a	Violet Prepost	Suzanne Bohning, Linda Gascon	F. Guido	For the glory of God

Birthdays this week:

- None -

Anniversaries this week:

- None -

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today (02/08)

Annual Congregational Meeting
Deadline to RSVP for Women's Luncheon
SOUPer Bowl lunch

Monday (02/09)

(no scheduled activities)

Tuesday (02/10)

(no scheduled activities)

Wednesday (02/11)

11:30am - Community Meal (DT 3rd Floor)
12:00pm - Women's Luncheon (Cracker Barrel)
6:00pm - Bible Study (CommUNITY Room)

Thursday (02/12)

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

Friday (02/13)

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

Saturday (02/14) - Valentine's Day

9:00am - Hope Chest (Thrift Store)
10:00am - Congregational breakfast (Spring Garden)

Further Info & Items of Interest:

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

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 this Wed Feb 11, 2026 @ 12 noon. The location is Cracker Barrel 2151 54th Avenue N. St Petersburg. We need to have our count of those that plan to attend by today. If you didn't sign up on the sheet, get with Terri Craig!

First Friday Dinner will be on the 13th (2nd Friday) this month and will be a pancake supper. Breakfast for dinner... Yea!!

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

Welcome, visitors! Please tell us something about yourself.

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



Today's Date:

02/08/26

Name and Address

Questions, Comments, Prayer Requests:

Email

Phone

Home church, city, and state

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:

