TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

504 S. Westnedge at Cedar Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 269-344-6181 www.tlckzoo.com

WORSHIP at 8:30 and 11:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:45AM

All are welcome at Trinity for this Sabbath time of prayer and praise!

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2025

As the prelude begins, please observe a period of silence and contemplation in preparation for worship.

PRELUDE: Variations on "Hyfrydol" - arr. Price

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

The * indicates when the congregation stands, if able. Congregational responses are in **bold**.

*WELCOME

P. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

*ENTRANCE HYMN Lord of Glory, You have Bought Us ELW #707

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

C: And also with you

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.



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*SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. 5 And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. 11 I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' "15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

- ² For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.
- ³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
- ⁴ Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart's desire.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God will do.
- ⁶ The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

 Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- ⁸ Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.
- ⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.
- ¹⁰ In a little while the wicked shall be no more; even if you search out their place, they will not be there.
- ¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.
- ³⁹ But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.
- ⁴⁰ You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it

is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

(please stand)

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

*GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY Praise and Thanks and Adoration ELW #783

SERMON

Pastor Jake Lehman

*CREED Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into Hell.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Amen.

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us (*especially Polycarp*, *Bishop of Smyrna*). May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

*SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

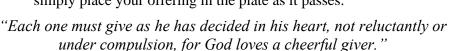
Please take a moment to sign and pass the navy fellowship folders located in each pew at this time.

OFFERTORY

During this time, we worship God with our offerings.

There are a variety of gifts and a variety of ways to give!

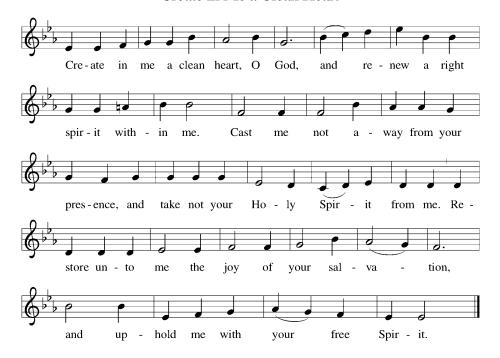
- If you give electronically, thank you.
- If you would like to give electronically, please scan the QR code.
- If you are led to give through cash or check, simply place your offering in the plate as it passes.



Please stand as we begin singing the "Create in Me" and the elements are brought forward

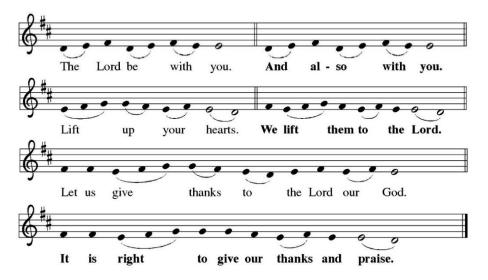


Create in Me a Clean Heart

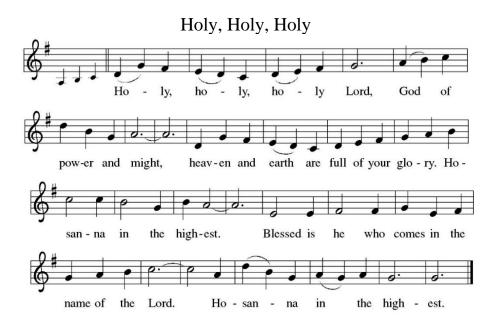


OFFERTORY PRAYER

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

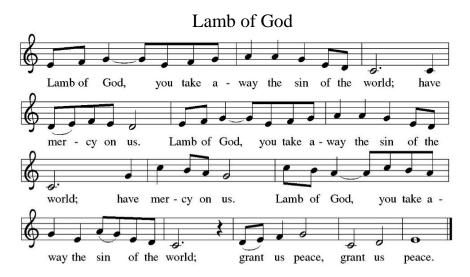


*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

(Please be seated)



HOLY COMMUNION by Intinction (dipping the bread into the wine)

Please come from both sides up the center aisle and return to your

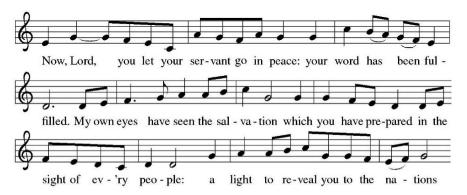
seat by the side aisles.

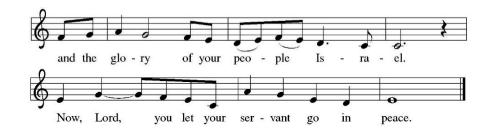
8:30am Holy Communion by Intinction Please kneel, if you are able, at the rail.

11:00am Holy Communion by Intinction Those desiring to kneel or pause for prayer at the rail after communing are invited to do so.

(please stand)

*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE





P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less *HYMN **ELW #597**

*BLESSING The Three-fold Amen

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Trumpet Tune on "Hyfrydol" - arr. Helman **POSTLUDE:**

All are welcome at Trinity for this Sabbath time of prayer and praise!

Our Nursery is available for children 5 years and younger at each service. The nursery is located near the south side entrance.

OUR STAFF AT TRINITY:

Rev. Ken Johnson Pastor

Rev. Jake Lehman **Outreach Pastor**

Nathan Mattson Organist/Director of Music Office Administrator

Katie Grubaugh

Dir. of Family & Youth Ministry Heidi Albertson

Terri Schmidt Bookkeeper Margaret Stevenson Hospitality Host

Custodian **Bob Koenes**

Dr. William Musselman Organist/Director Emeritus

ALTAR GUILD: Joyce Magerlein, Holly Wohlfert

WELCOME TEAM: 8:30 Dave & Jeannie Grubaugh

11:00 Mark & Erin Sutherland

LECTORS: 8:30

11:00 Keith Peterson

ACOLYTES: 8:30 Nolan & Avery Fowler

11:00 Frederick Thurn, Clare Lehman

Organist Today: William Musselman

PRAYER CONCERNS: Linda Ward, David Mason, Ruth Krueger, Bertha Boettcher, Jeannie Grubaugh, Beth Latshaw, Sandy Eschelbach, Diane Reau, Kendall.

		Calendar of Upcoming Events
Sun	Feb 23	Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30 & 11:00
		All Sunday school classes 9:45-10:45
		Parent small group 10
		Church Council 12:15
Tue	Feb 25	Loaves and Fishes 11-1
		C.F.T. 11-12:30
Wed	Feb 26	Rebecca Circle 10am
Thu	Feb 27	Quilters 9am
		Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30
Sat	Mar 1	Middle School service project 9:30
		Violin Choir 4-6
Sun	Mar 2	Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30 & 11:00
		Choir 9:25
		Pancake Breakfast 9:30 – 10:30
		Sunday School 9:45
		VASA 2-5

Weekly Announcements

Pancake Breakfast! To celebrate the final Sunday before the beginning of Lent, the Youth will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast for the congregation! We'll be serving up pancakes and sausage between services on Sunday March 2nd. This has become a great annual event for our church and it will also be a fundraiser to benefit the youth fund for all of our activities!

If you have access to Thrivent Grants, please consider using one to help purchase needed items and supplies for church outreach and events! Contact the church office if you are looking to find out more.

Scripture and Sandwiches Online Bible study is Back! Pr. Jake is bringing back Scripture and Sandwiches for an eight week walk through the Sermon on the Mount! We'll meet each Thursday from 12-12:30 through March 13 for a bit of bible study and conversation over lunch. The meetings happen via Zoom so you can join in from wherever you are! Use the Zoom info below or follow the link provided in the weekly emails to join! Meeting ID: 821 5743 3849 Passcode: Lunchtime

Refugee Families in Need! Trinity is working with our local refugee services to help provide for new refugee families in Kalamazoo. We currently have 7 families that have a list of practical needs and as a congregation we would like to be able to fulfill those needs! Some of those basic needs include:

- Towels (kitchen and bath)
- Blankets
- Cleaning supplies
- · Laundry baskets and detergent
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Personal Hygiene products (soap, lotion, razors, shaving cream, feminine hygiene, deodorant)



If you are interested in helping with this project you can drop items off to church labeled "Refugees" any time the church is open; or if you wish to contribute financially to our Kalamazoo Refugees, scan the QR code to make a donation. And if you would like to volunteer time to help our refugee families, please contact Bess Fitzgerald (bess.fitzgerald@gmail.com) or the church office.

March 5 is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of Lent. Starting March 5 and through the season of Lent, Wednesday Evening worship services will be in-person at 6:30pm every Wednesday. For those unable to join in person, the service will be live-streamed and be available to view on our YouTube channel.

Bring Your Ugly Mug to Church! Okay, it doesn't have to be ugly, but bring your mug to church! In an effort to produce less waste and give a little more of a personal touch the coffee we sip on Sunday mornings we've added a "Mug Wall" to the fellowship hall. There are detailed instructions next to the wall, but the basic idea is you bring in a mug from home, you use the mug when you're here, we wash the mug during the week! Simple, right!? So we'll say it again, Bring your ugly (or not ugly) mug to church!

Christ Clothes Closet: The Closet needs donations of men's and women's socks and winter coats for all as they continue to give away cold weather gear throughout this season; and they are in need of personal hygiene products such as toilet paper, razors, shaving cream, lotion and feminine hygiene.

Bike repair workshop for El Sol Elementary School! - Rescheduled for March 8! Trinity is once again repairing bicycles to be donated to students and families at El Sol Elementary School! We have an abundance of donated bikes and we're partnering with Open Roads to make sure that the bikes are in top notch condition before passing them on to the students. The repair day at Open Roads will be March 8th from 11-3ish and we're looking for 8-10 volunteers who are willing do the repairs. No experience is necessary as the staff of Open Roads will be there to teach and guide us along the way! Space is limited, so sign up in the Fellowship Hall by March 2nd to be a part of the crew!

Euchre Tournament, Saturday March 8! We will gather at 6pm with card play to start at 6:30pm. A suggested donation of \$10/person at registration (split 50/50 between Good Samaritan Fund and prizes) and \$1.00/person for each time if "Euchred" during play (given to last person winning w/a "lone hand"). For the Euchre tournament, you don't need a partner but bring your choice of beverage and a snack to share! If you have any requests for other games to be offered, let Holly Wohlfert know via text 269-808-3889. Put a "save-the-date" on your calendar and watch for more updates in the upcoming weeks.

Please sign up for Fellowship Time and Altar Flowers! Sign up in the Fellowship Hall and help share God's love for our community! Individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to provide flowers or host fellowship time for the coming months. This is a great way to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special events. (And if you enjoy baking, we're always happy for help to stock our freezer for Sundays that might not have a fellowship host!) *Altar flowers are \$ 20 per bouquet and should be ordered one week in advance. Call or email the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you wish to put altar flowers on for a Sunday.

Green Team Meeting with Special Guest! You are invited to join the Green Team on Tuesday March 11th from 2-3pm as we welcome special guest Molly Mechtenberg! Molly is the Executive director of Hope for Creation, a faith-based organization focused on environmental stewardship and sustainability. She will share about the efforts that are happening in our community and how we as a team at Trinity can continue our work to care for the good world God made!

Basket Weaving at Trinity! A basket weaving class is being offered on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>April 19</u> just in time for Easter. Please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship hall if you're interested. The interest in the type of basket and time will be used to determine the final details of the class. Questions? Contact Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino gougeonis@gmail.com

Good Samaritan Fund Need Trinity's Good Samaritan fund is the fund that enables us to meet the needs of those in our community during some of their most difficult moments. This fund is generated entirely through the generosity of our congregation. These funds go toward electric bills, rent, and other essentials when our neighbors are facing utility shut-offs, eviction notices, or seeking to get into housing. Due to a sustained time of high demand this fund balance is running low. If you find yourself in a position to be able to give, any gift is greatly appreciated. Simply designate the gift to the "Good Samaritan Fund" on the memo line of your check or give online under the "giving" tab on our website www.tlckzoo.com.

Wartburg Singers and Orchestra to Visit Kalamazoo Our friends at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church are hosting a concert by the Wartburg College Castle Singers and Kammerstreicher Chamber Orchestra on Tuesday, March 4, at 7:30 PM. Musical selections will range from classical to contemporary and will surely make for an enjoyable evening! Wartburg College is an ELCA affiliated school located in Waverly, lowa and freewill donations will be accepted to help fund scholarships and provide for future tours.

Please sign up to help with Lenten Soup/Salad Suppers starting March 12.

Lenten Wednesday Evening Services start on Ash Wednesday, March 5 at
6:30pm. Every following Wednesday in Lent, a Soup/Salad Supper will begin at
5:45 before the Lenten Service. We ask for our congregants to sign up to help
provide food for these suppers by signing up on the list posted on the Youth
Board opposite the kitchen in the downstairs hallway!

Greece & Turkey Trip – "Walk in the Footstep of Paul and John" - Summer 2027 Trinity is exploring the option of taking a Youth and Congregational trip to Greece and Turkey the summer of 2027. If you would be interested in joining us or would like more information, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or the Youth Board, or fill out the interest form online in our weekly emails. We will have an informational meeting sometime in the spring, so look for more details soon! If you are in middle school, a parent/guardian would have to attend the trip. If you are in high school, Heidi Albertson would act as your guardian if a parent/guardian is not going on the trip.