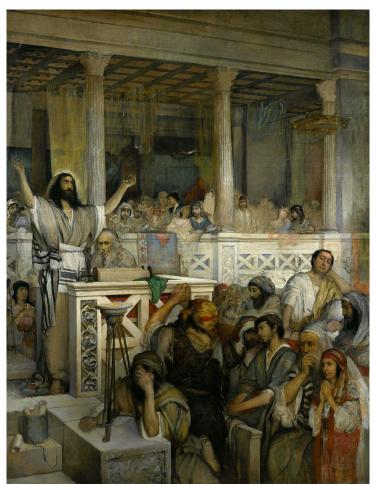


# Welcome to TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday after Epiphany January 26, 2025



Christ Teaching at Capernaum (1879) Maurycy Gottlieb (1856-1879)

Jesus preaches in the synagogue, dressed as a pious Jew. At his feet, a crowd of people listen to Him--some in ecstasy, others in ponderous thought. Notably, only one person looks bored--the man dressed conspicuously in a Greco-Roman toga, who instead of looking at Jesus looks out at the viewer. Gottlieb, himself a Polish Jew, wants us to see Jesus' Hebraic history while also asking us to pick a side: are we with the bored, reclining man, or with those in rapt attention?

# Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church Founded in 1751

The Rev. Hans E.

Becklin

Senior Pastor

Deaconess Deborah

Matern Graf

Deacon for

Formation

AND Service

Dr. Cameron Lee Wentz Cantor

Matthew Mellen
DIRECTOR OF
TECHNOLOGY AND
COMMUNICATION

John McKeon Property Manager

> Pam Wasmuth BOOKEEPER

Peter Graf Financial Administrator

Rachel Gambone
Congregational Life
Coordinator

Dave Troche Sexton



The Rev. Fred S.

Opalinski
PASTOR EMERITUS

Karen S.
Eddinger
Minister of Music
Emerita



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY as we worship God through word and sacrament in this landmark building, home to our congregation since 1791. Our liturgy is rooted in tradition; all are welcome to participate as they feel comfortable.

TRINITY IS A VIBRANT CONGREGATION with members from around Berks County and beyond. If you are interested in learning more about membership, speak with a member of our staff.



DURING WORSHIP, we pray, sing, listen, chant, read, and move our bodies. Please silence your cell phone so as not to disturb this rich experience for yourself or others.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR WORSHIP is receiving the Eucharist, the true Body and Blood of Christ. All who trust that Jesus is present in this holy meal are invited to receive Him with us today. Detailed instructions for communion can be found on page 19 of the bulletin.



CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME in our worship! A changing table can be found in the all-gender restroom on the first floor. Our Meditation Room has space for nursing or a sensory break. Restrooms can be found on the first floor and are accessible by elevator. Our AED is mounted on the wall in the stairway next to the baptismal font.



WE WELCOME ALL LGBTQ+ people as full participants in our common life. We're proud to proclaim this publicly in our city and wider church as a Reconciling in Christ congregation.



Our worship is an act of offering. By being here, we present ourselves and our time to God.

WE ALSO PRESENT our tithes and monetary offerings to God. During the offertory procession, they are brought forward along with the bread and wine used for the Eucharist.

WE NO LONGER pass an offering plate in the pew. However, an offering plate for cash or checks is available in the narthex. You can also share your offering electronically using this QR code.

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM

Congregational words are in bold print.

Stand in body or spirit and face the processional cross.

## Introit

Spirit of the Living God

Daniel Iverson, arr. Donald Hinkle

The Mixed Ensemble

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit

that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake
God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister
of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Continue to face the processional cross, turning when it passes you.

## GATHERING HYMN

O, Zion Haste

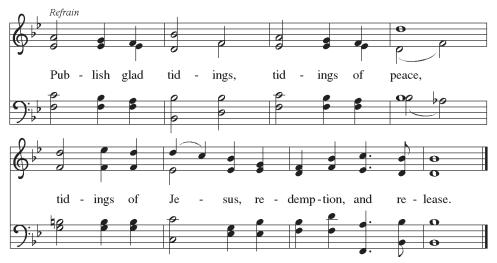
ELW 668



Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834 - 1923

Music: ANGELIC SONGS James Welch, 1837 - 1901

Continues on the next page...



## Apostolic 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



We praise God using this ancient prayer from Setting One in Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

Continues on the next page...

# Hymn of Praise



This prayer relates
to the readings
appointed for the day
and asks for God's
help in applying them
to our lives.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

Please be seated.

## FIRST READING

All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand, and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people, and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered,

e

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

"Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord, and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 19

The choir introduces the refrain.

The congregation repeats the refrain and sings the refrain where indicated with the symbol **R**.

The choir and congregation sing alternating verses.

The teach-ing of the LORD re - vives the soul.



The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God, and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.

One day tells its tale | to another,

and one night imparts knowledge | to another.

Although they have no | words or language,

and their voices | are not heard,

their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world, where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.

It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;

it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of | it again;

nothing is hidden from its | burning heat. R

The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom | to the simple.

The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;

the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.  $\tilde{\mathbb{R}}$ 

By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened, and in keeping them there is | great reward.

Who can detect one's | own offenses?

Cleanse me from my | secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight, O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.  $\tilde{\mathbb{R}}$ 

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body

that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect, whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work powerful deeds? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

TEACHING TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Please stand in body or spirit.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news | to the poor and to proclaim release | to the captives.

GOSPEL Luke 4:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the
captives

and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

Please be seated.

SERMON

Deaconess Deborah Matern Graf

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

Let Streams of Living Justice

ELW 710



dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.

your

life—the Cru - ci - fied.

truth—the heart of strang - er;

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934

Music: THAXTED Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

> Text © 1989 William Whitla

## 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.

After a brief silence each petition concludes:

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

After the final petition:

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

# IN OUR PRAYERS

## IN IMMEDIATE NEED

- Peg Coleman
- Barbara Lykens
- Rachel Gambone

# Ongoing Needs

- Harry Feinauer
- Darryl Jeffries
- Linda Motley
- the Sawyer family
  - Walter Schur
- Nancy Souders-Negri and Fred Negri
- David Unruh (brother of Ralph Unruh)
- Christine Wells (friend of Jan Opalinski)

# TRINITY HOUSEHOLDS

- Jeff, Virginia, Neil
  - & Libby Rush
  - David Ruth
- Sherri, Tony, Ali & Meg Sacco
- Mark Sauder
- Daniel Sauder & Marlene Sauder-Raymond

Please greet one another and then be seated.

#### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Announcements

OFFERTORY

The offering, bread, and wine are brought forward and the altar is set.

We Are Marching in the Light

South African Traditional

The Mixed Ensemble Lisa Speece, flute, Sandra Sittler, piano, David Himes, djembe

Please stand in body or spirit.

# **OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW181



# OFFERING PRAYER

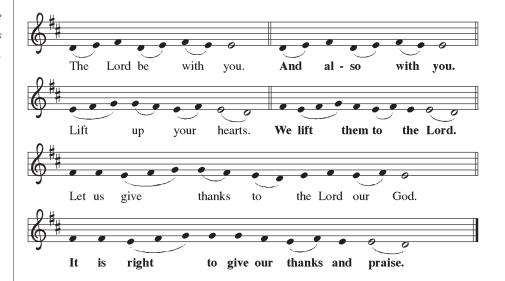
Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presider greets the assembly and invites all to give thanks.

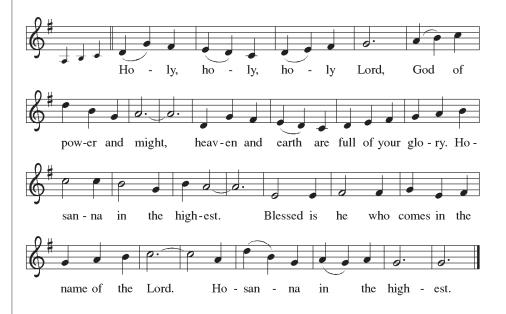


# PROPER PREFACE

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:

# SANCTUS



During the Words of Institution, the bread and wine are elevated for the congregation to revere and adore Christ's presence in our midst.

# THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy... we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion...

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

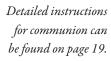
Silence is kept as the bread is broken.

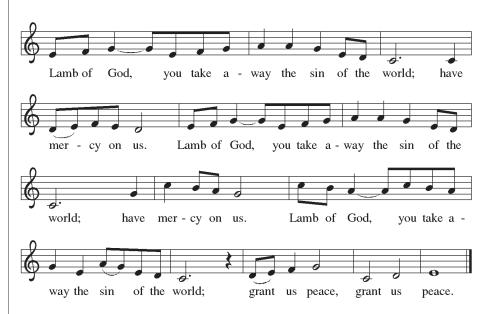
#### Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD





This hymn can be found in the red hymnal.

## Hymn during Distribution

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

ELW 475

## TABLE BLESSING

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

As a sign of God's blessing, you may make the sign of the cross.

#### BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

In a centuries-old Lutheran tradition, we conclude our worship by joining in Simeon's song of gratitude to God.

Face the processional cross, turning as it passes you.



Sung by the Mixed Ensemble and Congregation



You may remain in the sanctuary for prayer and contemplation during the postlude. If you depart, please do so quietly.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

# Postlude

In Thee Is Gladness, Setting I

Paul Manz

## Communion Instructions



All who trust that Jesus Christ is present in this holy meal are invited to receive communion.

Please follow the direction of the usher; if your pew is located on one of the side aisles, walk to the rear of the sanctuary. Two lines will form in the center aisle. The left line will commune at the left side of the altar rail; the right line will commune on the right side.



When you reach the front of the sanctuary, there are serving trays located on the tables. Please choose either an empty glass to receive wine, or, if you prefer, a prefilled glass in the center ring containing grape juice. After taking your cup, proceed to the rail. Fill in around the rail from the center to the ends. You may stand or kneel as is your preference.

The pastor will give you a piece of bread; eat it when you receive it. If you prefer a gluten free alternative, please inform the pastor.



Then, an assistant will come to offer wine from a pouring chalice. Please extend your glass to be filled with wine or indicate that you have grape juice. After drinking the wine or juice, you are welcome to remain in place for a moment of meditation.

After you finish your time of reflection, please return to your pew, depositing your empty glass in the trays located on the tables at the head of the side aisles.

WORSHIP PLANNER

## LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding Minister	Pr. Hans E. Becklin
Assisting Minister	Dcs. Deborah Matern Graf
Cantor	Dr. Cameron Lee Wentz
Lector	Martha Good
Communion Assistant	Linda Motley
ACOLYTE	Veronika Shick
Greeter	Allison Kalbach

Ushers	Jennifer Mazur, Donna Osborne,
	Amy Reinsel
Media Team	Abbie, Danielle, and Jennifer Smith,
	Jorge Tomas
Altar Guild	Bernadette Ilgen; Jacinda, Josh, and
	Linda Motley; Charlene Norton,
	Robin Oberholtzer, Beth Welz

Today's flowers are sponsored by Dan and Ellen Huyett in memory of Mary Jane Huyett and Daniel H. Huyett, III

Attendance Sunday, January 19: 63 Attendance, Wednesday, January 15: 10

Donna Osborne

#### Sources and Permissions

# Sunday, January 26

#### 9:00 AM

SUNDAY FORUM - All Saints Room SUNDAY TIME- Meet in Chapel

#### 10:00 AM

WORSHIP - Nave

#### 11:15 AM

COFFEE & CONVERSATION - Hintz Room
FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE - Welcome Center
OUTREACH & SERVICE COMMITTEE
Bard House

#### 2:00 рм

COMMON GROUND WORSHIP AND MEAL

## Monday, January 27

#### 1:00 PM

PROGRAM STAFF MEETING

# Tuesday, January 28

#### 9:30 AM

STAFE MEETING

#### 2:00 PM

WOMEN OF TLC BIBLE STUDY - The Highlands

# Wednesday, January 29

#### 12:05 PM

MID-WEEK CHAPEL WORSHIP

#### 6:30 PM

TRINITY RINGERS - Bell Room

#### 7:30 PM

TRINITY CHOIR - Hintz Room

# SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

#### 9:00 AM

SUNDAY FORUM - All Saints Room SUNDAY TIME- Meet in Chapel

#### 10:00 AM

WORSHIP - Nave

#### 11:15 AM

RECEPTION FOR DR. WENTZ - Hintz Room

#### 2:00 рм

COMMON GROUND WORSHIP AND MEAL

### STEEPLE NOTES

Steeple Notes is our bi-monthly news publication which includes news about our church community, updates on ministries and outreach programs, and articles that foster spiritual growth and connection.

Print editions are usually available in the Narthex. You may also read our digital edition by scanning this QR code.





# Trinity to install Dr. Cameron Wentz as Cantor on February 2nd, 2025!

Join us in worship on Sunday, February 2nd as we install Dr. Cameron Lee Wentz as Trinity's Cantor. Following worship, we'll have a special reception to celebrate the beginning of his ministry among us.