

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

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Third Sunday After Epiphany

January 25, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

Live streaming on Facebook and YouTube (Trinity LutheranSparta)

Our worship service will also be recorded

and will be available on our website www.tlcsparta.org



**Flowers on the Altar in Loving Memory of
Lee, Ara, L.A. Pugh Jr.
From Sherry McClain**

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Ring of the bell

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, [☩] one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

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.

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.

Amen.

Opening Hymn: *Listen, God Is Calling

ELW 513

***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.

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

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

Amen

Children's Sermon

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

A reading from Isaiah.

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

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

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

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

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 27:1, 4-9

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴ **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;**
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to
gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
 hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.
⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
 have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ **My heart speaks your message—“Seek my face.”**
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.
 Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.**

***Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
 on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
 have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
 light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ 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.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

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.

Holy One, you entrust the message of the cross and the mission of the gospel to the church in every land. Guide the newly baptized and deepen the faith of all who follow Christ. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Holy Creator, you lavish creation with splendor, and we praise you for the gift of life. Teach us to live as wise stewards, sharing the earth's resources with all inhabitants of this garden planet. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Holy Judge, your power is love, and you judge the nations by the measure of Christ. Free any who are unjustly accused or wrongly condemned. We pray for those in authority. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Holy Lover, you care for vulnerable young children, frail elders, and any who are sick. We pray for all who are affected by natural disasters. Provide for their needs and relieve their suffering. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Giver, you gather, forgive, and shape us as disciples of Christ. Nurture in us a spirit of patience and respect, that we may love one another as you love us.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Savior, you free us from the power of death. Lead and guide us until we come at last into the communion of all your saints in light. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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

Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

L: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you

Offering – “*When they were filled, He said to His disciples, ‘Gather up the leftover fragments so that nothing will be lost.’*” (John 6:12)

***Offertory: We Are an Offering**

***Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Amen.

***The Lord's Prayer**

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.

***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.**

Sending Hymn: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW 815

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the poor.

Thanks be to God

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1/25	9:00 am	Worship
	Following Worship	Fellowship – Council
	10:00 am	4G – Youth Room
	10:00 am	Sunday School
		ANNUAL MEETING

This Week at Trinity...

1/26	6:30 pm	Troop 67 - FH
	7:00 pm	CODA - HR
1/27	5:00 pm	Food Pantry
1/28	10:00 am	Food Pantry Volunteers
	5:45 pm	Bell Choir
	7:00 pm	Alleluia Choir
1/29	6:30 pm	CODA - HR
2/1	9:00 am	Worship – w/communion,
	Following Worship	Fellowship – Larry & Nila Larson
	10:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Pastor's Bible Study
	10:00 am	4G – Youth Room
	6:00 pm	Pack/Den Meeting

Attendance for Sunday, January 18- 93

<u>January 25, 2026</u>	<u>February 1, 2026</u>
Greeters: Joel & Tammy Oppiecht	Greeters: Gary & Sharon Nelson
Reader: Jan Jenkins	Reader: Jim Moorhead
No Communion:	Communion: Les & Althea Stanley, Gary Peterson
Music: Wyatt Tripp	Music: Adell Morton
Coffee Fellowship: Council	Coffee Fellowship: Larry & Nila Larson
Flower Pick Up – Month of Jan.: Gary & Carol Haskins	Flower Pick Up – Month of Feb.: Bonnie Amundson
Pew Restocking – Month of Jan: Bonnie Amundson	Pew Restocking – Month of Jan: Heather Brandau
Money Counting – January 26: Carol Thorsen, Carol Glaman, Brenda Zwiefel	Money Counting – Feb 2: – Jo Ellen Siver, Alice Olson, Pete Perkins
Altar Team – Jan. 25: Diane Dammen	Altar Team – Feb 1:: Pauline Haug, Renee Gavilan
Food Pantry: Jan. 27: Brittany Michalski, Anita Jensen Jan. 28: Rita Bernette, Audrey Zebell	Food Pantry: Feb. 4: Dennis & Carol Glaman
Nursing Home Bulletin Delivery Jan 23.: Morrow Home: Lana & Larry Zwiefel Rolling Hills: Deb & Wayne Hagen	Nursing Home Bulletin Delivery Jan. 30: Morrow Home: Sharon Nelson Rolling Hills: Gary Nelson