

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

10:00 AM Facebook Online Worship Service

February 7, 2021

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany



In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

Thank you for joining us online as a new way of connecting to God's word as we transition during this time of social distancing to protect ourselves and others.

Please feel free to contact Pastor Tina if you need help in any way during this time. Her phone number is listed below. Just know that she is only a phone call away.



The Reverend Tina Melusky, Pastor

Pastor Melusky's office hours:

Monday: 9 - 2; Tuesday: 9 -10:30, 11:30 - 12:15

Wednesday 9:30 - 12; Thursday 9 - 12

(Times are sometimes flexible with monthly meetings,
but feel free to call for an appointment or drop in)

William C. Solomon, Interim Organist

Congregation of Trinity Lutheran, Ministers of the Word

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607

Church office: (757) 245-7861; Pastor's cell: (734) 239-4013

www.trinitylutheran-nn.com

Trinity Lutheran is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center.

Cover image by JoAnne Rawls

Carillon Call to Worship

Prelude

Announcements

Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

you search us and know us.

You are acquainted with all our ways.

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow
your outward way of love.**

We distrust those who are not like us.

**We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.**

**Forgive us, gracious God,
for all we have done and left undone.**

**Even before the words are on our tongues,
you know them;**

receive them in your divine mercy.

Amen.

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of + Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen.**



1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
 sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
 the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
 O fallen human race!
 Look and be saved through faith alone,
 be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
 be now and ever giv'n
 by saints below and saints above,
 the church in earth and heav'n.

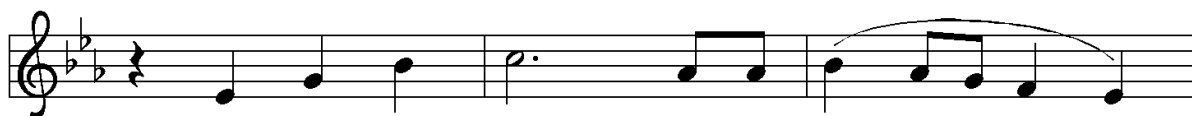
Greeting

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

ELW Page 99




Glo - ry to God in the high -




est, 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.



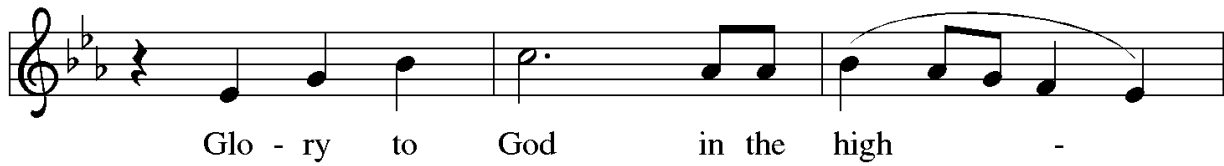
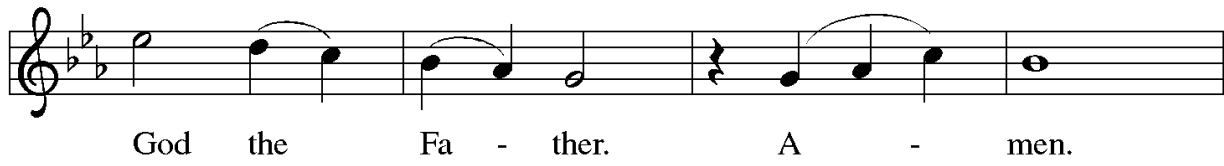
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



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



Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c (read responsively)

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!
**The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem,
and gathers the exiles of Israel.**
The Lord heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.
**The Lord counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.**

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

**The Lord lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,

**who covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.**

God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.

**God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord,
in those who await God's steadfast love. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

Children's Chat

Pastor Tina

Sermon

Pastor Tina



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Apostle's 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

Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Thanksgiving for the Word

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to

whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

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

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace. **Amen.**



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR . . .

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: The next Bible Study will be on **Tuesday, February 9, at 10:30 a.m.** A Zoom invitation will be emailed on Monday, Feb. 1.

Tapestry Conversations: The next group meetings will be on **Monday, February 15, at 6:30 p.m.** and **Sunday, February 21, at 1:00 p.m.** We will be discussing the film “Black Panther.” A discussion guide has been sent out via Constant Contact.

Church and School Offices CLOSED: On Monday, **February 15**, the school and church offices will be closed for the **President’s Day holiday**. Both the church and school will reopen on Tuesday, February 16.

Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021: You've probably been wondering how in the world we are going to observe Ash Wednesday as a church family in this time of social distancing and minimal contact living. Well, the answer is...we're going to have a lot of options for you.

Option 1: Worship via Facebook Live at 6:30 with virtual distribution of ashes

Beginning on Sunday, February 14, there will be small packets of ashes for you to pick up in the church lobby that will contain instructions for how to appropriately prepare your ashes for distribution at home during worship. You can place your ashes personally on your own forehead, or distribute them as a family. We will take intentional time during worship that evening for ash distribution, so if you choose to pick up a packet, be sure to save them and have them prepped for worship that evening.

Option 2: Drive-Up Ashes 9:15-10:00 & 12:15-1:00

We will have two 45 minute slots of time on Ash Wednesday where you are welcome to come to church to receive your ashes and participate in a brief carside liturgy with Pastor Tina, much like we do for drive-thru communion. You will remain in your car, fully masked, and Pastor Tina will administer ashes in full PPE from as safe a distance as possible using a non-contact method. (I know you're wondering how that's possible. The answer? Qtips!!!)

In order for us to determine timing for the drive up options we would ask that you **RSVP by February 11, to the church office, if you plan to attend either of the time slots listed above.**

Lenten Wednesdays: Created for Community: Even if we can't gather together for a meal and conversation in person, doesn't mean we can't still gather together on the Wednesday evenings of Lent. Every Wednesday evening throughout the Lenten season we will gather via **Zoom at 6:30 p.m.** for worship and conversation. Each week we will focus on a different form of community that we participate in. There will be time for prayer, scripture, small group conversation, and time to reflect as a community together. It will be a chance for us to see

each other during worship and talk and share time and faith reflections, so that even as we have to be apart we can walk our Lenten journey together.

Schedule

2/24: In community with creation

3/3: In community with all the saints

3/10: In community with our neighbor

3/17: In community with those on the margins

3/24: In community with Christ

A Zoom link for worship will be sent out every Wednesday morning. If you need help installing Zoom on your device, please contact the church office or Pastor Tina and we will help you get set up.

VANCO Online giving:

The procedure to use the online offering system, VANCO, is very user-friendly. Just go to Trinity's website, <http://www.trinitylutheran-nn.com> (see below), and click on the green "online giving" link on the homepage.

Being able to send your offering donations electronically is especially important during the current pandemic, and we hope that this will be an opportunity for members, friends and visitors to support the ongoing work of the church easily and from the comfort of home.

If you have questions about the donation site or how to make your donation, please don't hesitate to contact the church office, 245-7861.

Procedure for online giving:

Go to <http://trinitylutheran-nn.com/>

Press the green "online giving" link.

PRAYER LIST

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: Pending surgery: Dave Roselius (Hip replacement—Tuesday, Feb. 9); **Nursing Homes:** Jeanette Cantrell (The Chesapeake, 955 Harpersville Road, AL302, Newport News, VA, 23601); Millie Christensen (Morningside: Rm. 131; Charles Kessler (The Chesapeake - Assisted Living, Rm.207); Lucille Lebold (Williamsburg Landing, Memory Care Unit); Barbara Olson, (The Chesapeake, Rm. 3013); **Shut-in at Home:** Janet Edwards, Gerda Hudgens, Joan Johnston and Doris Moeser.

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS: The Ahlen Family, Anne Brady (mother of Marc Ahlen), Paige Ahlen and Maria Goldsby, requested by Kathy Stevens; **Bill Nuckols**

(father), Carolyn Patterson, Shirley Skinner, and Oxana Sidor (and the friends and family of Mr. Kim Lassiter (special friend), requested by Patricia Fielding; Hannelore Voss (Karoline's mother), requested by the Ardis family; Jack and Sharon (Sherry) Johnston and Pam Little (Donna's sisters), requested by Grant and Donna Owens; Bonnie Carlson, requested by Dave Carlson; Molly Chartrand (Jacob's co-worker), requested by Patricia Wessler; George Kingston, requested by Sandy and John Lunsford; Michael May, requested by Jon May; Millie Christensen (COVID); Charles Kessler (COVID exposure); Michelle Carpenter; Dee Klapperich; Gary Golden (Don Golden's brother and Mary Lucia Spake (daughter), requested by Bill Solomon; June Geyer (grandmother) and Charles Geyer, Jr. (father), requested by Patricia Wessler; the friends and family of Charles Geyer, Sr. (Patricia Wessler's grandfather); the friends and family of Shirley Hopkins, requested by Laura Davis; the friends and family of Jim Gribble and the family, friends and entire VA Beach Police Department for a VA Beach police officer who committed suicide last night (1/24/21), requested by Todd Recuperero.

Those Who Serve, Military and Civilian Duty: James Fielding, Marine Corps; Georgia; Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Washington, D. C.; Eric Lindfors, Deputy Commander US Naval Forces - Korea; Tyler Obara, Air Force National Guard, LAFB and Ashby Owens, Operation Smile.

Flowers were donated by former members, Spindler and Shirley Krause, in memory of Elizabeth Adams Krause.