Trinity Lutheran Church



February 23, 2025 7th Epiphany

PRELUDE: Your Grace is Enough (M. Maher)

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: All Are Welcome (ELW 641)



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Jesus promised us that God is kind even to the ungrateful and the sinner, even to us. Trusting in God's kindness and love,

let us confess our sin.

We pray together.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace. These things we pray through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Children of the Most High God, through + Jesus Christ our Lord we have received grace in good measure spilling out and running over. Thanks be to God.

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.

KYRIE



CANTICLE OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray together.

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 God, 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. Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

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.

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

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

- ¹Do 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.

⁷Be 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, 42-49

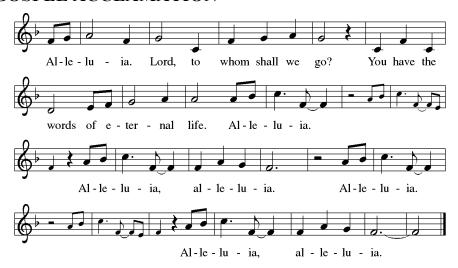
³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body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

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the sixth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[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."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Where Charity and Love Prevail (ELW 359)



- 1 Where char i ty and love pre - vail, there God is
- ly fear, God's char i ty we our midst dwells Christ, God's ho ly 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly we learn;
- 3 Let re - call that in un - known; let 4 Let strife a - mong us be all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let for - give each oth - er's faults our own con-fess.



brought here to - geth-er with heart and mem-bers of each as Be God's the glo - ry that we may love each

by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound. mind and soul now love God in bod - y ioined, in him we are made one. that we seek; be his our on - ly peace. oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.

THANKSGIVING FOR NEW MEMBERS

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation.

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

The presiding minister addresses those being welcomed.

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with in Holy Baptism:

To live among God's faithful people, to hear his word and share in his supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

If so, please say, "I will."

Those being welcomed respond: I will.

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

Those being welcomed respond: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God,

do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us. Welcome!

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these, individuals, couples, and families your own. You forgave them and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and increase in them your gifts of grace. We thank you God for these new members. By your life-giving power, bind us to each other in you, strengthen us for service, support us all our days, and bring us at length to that day where all your children will be one and you will be All-in-all.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Good and gracious God, you have placed your word of love in the heart of your church. You call us to love our enemies, to show kindness in the face of cruelty, and to be merciful, just as you are merciful. Let our actions be a shining witness of your grace for all people.

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. Where discord seems relentless, bring harmony. Where peace seems far off, bring it near.

We pray that you challenge and encourage your people to value the vocation to which each is called. Move us to treat all people with dignity and guide our conversations with one another. In all our diverse callings, teach us to love our neighbor as you have called us.

Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation. Set people in their path who can provide the care they need. Wipe away every tear from their eyes. We offer our prayers trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Please place offering in one of the Bulletin Stand offering plates at the end of worship as you leave the church.

OFFERTORY:

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (S. Temple)



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude, now and always. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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

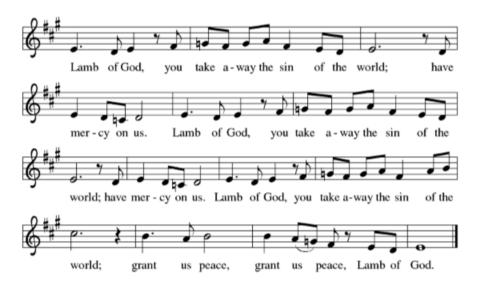
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Lord's Prayer: English, King James (T. Bartholome)

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

All are welcome to join in the gift of Holy Communion. White grape juice is available, and altar bread is gluten-free. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen.

DISTRIBUTION:

We Are His Hands (M. Gersmehl) Sanctuary (J. Thompson/R. Scruggs)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.
Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Now send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

BLESSING

Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. For God is kind to all and full of mercy. Filled with life-giving spirit of our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, we bear the image of the risen one and take delight in the abundance of what we have already received.

Now may the Lord who sent Joseph to Egypt and gave him tears of joy at reunion with his family, surround your days with strong visions, worthy work, reconciliations, and the strength to persevere, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One God, Mother of us all.

Amen.

SENDING SONG:

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises (ELW 535)





Repeat stanza, then sing refrain



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: Send Us Out (D. Road)

Serving in Worship

TODAY — Feb 23, 2025

Altar: Al & Bobbie Schimek
Reader: Martin Greller
Communion Assistant:

Thom Edgar

Fellowship: Molly & Wendy Bredehoft

NEXT SUNDAY — Mar 2, 2025

Altar: James Apronti Reader: Lisa Guarnieri Communion Assistant:

Stuart Guarnieri **Fellowship:** OPEN

Trinity Happenings:

Sun, Feb 23: 9:00am New Member Worship w/ the Band

9:00am Sunday School behind Gruver Rm

10:15am Fellowship in Gruver Rm

Mon. Feb 24: 9:00am **Becoming in Gruver Rm**

Wed. Feb 26: 10:00am Women's Study in Gruver Rm

Thu. Feb 27: 11:45am **MUGG Campus Meeting**

@ Rendezvous Café

Collegiate Day of Prayer 12:00pm

@ St. Matthew's Cathedral

Sun, Mar 2: 9:00am Transfiguration of our Lord Worship

> 10:15am Fellowship in Gruver Rm

Mon, Mar 3: 9:00am **Becoming in Gruver Rm**

Tue, Mar 4: 5:30pm TheologyPUB

@ Coal Creek Downtown

Wed. Mar 6: 10:00am Women's Study in Gruver Rm

> 12:10pm **Ecumenical Ash Wednesday**

> > @ St. Paul's Newman Center

6:30pm Trinity Ash Wednesday Worship

"2nd Chance to Live"

Thu. Mar 7: 11:45am MUGG Campus Meetina

@ Rendezvous Café

Sat. Mar 8: 3:00pm **Apronti Baby Shower**



Spring Forward

Set your clock forward one hour

SUNDAY MARCH 9TH!

Sun. Mar 9: 9:00am Lenten Worship w/ the Band

"2nd Chance to Love"

9:00am Sunday School behind Gruver Rm

10:15am Fellowship in Gruver Rm

LENT 2025: THE GOD OF SECOND CHANCES

As we journey through the Bible, we witness God continually offering humanity a second chance to start afresh. The story of the flood, though tragic, represents God's attempt to give humanity a second chance. In the Valley of Dry Bones, God renews the Israelites' hope and life after their exile in Babylon.

Jesus shares the parable of the Prodigal Son, the son who left his father and squandered his wealth. When he returns home, his father, instead of reprimanding him, embraces him with open arms and joyfully offers him a second chance.

Another profound example is the story of Peter, one of Jesus' disciples. Though Peter denies Jesus three times, Jesus later gives him the opportunity to reaffirm his love and commitment, restoring him to a position of trust.

God's act of ultimate grace was sending Jesus to live among us, to teach us, and to bring us back into a relationship with Him. Through His life, Jesus' healing stories went beyond physical restoration. His healing reintegrated people back into their communities and families. Lepers who were once isolated were given a second chance to live as God intended.

This grace culminates in the cross, where Jesus' sacrifice embraces all humanity, offering the world the second chance it cannot achieve on its own.

During Lent we will explore the theme of second chances, connecting them to the Bible's narrative.





PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE UPCOMING ARRIVAL OF

BABY APRONTI

MARCH 8TH, 3 PM
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
107 S 7TH ST, LARAMIE WY







GIFT REGISTRY HERE

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT NICOLE SORENSON
612-703-0377

Lent FOOD DRIVE

Stock our Cabinet with 2nd Chances!

Donation Baskets at Sanctuary Entrances





TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

If you would like or need a visit from Pastor Nate please email or Call!