

Trinity



LUTHERAN CHURCH

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2025

8:30 am



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.

Order of Worship

= Hymn Number, pp. = Page in front part of "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" (ELW)
or "All Creation Sings" (ACS)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING MEDITATION

"Wayfaring Stranger - Spiritual" arr. Marvin Gaspard
David Singer, organ

(stand) **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

C **Amen.**

P Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. (*Romans 6:3-5*)

P We give you thanks, holy and gracious God,
for you created the waters of the earth:
wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers.
You led your people through the sea and called them to life in covenant with you.
Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us.
You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.
Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism.
Renew us in your promise so that we may serve this world in all its need;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God,
who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit
and forgives us all our sins,
strengthen us in all goodness
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

(stand) **GATHERING HYMN**

“All creatures worship God most high!” ELW #835 v. 1, 2, & 4

(stand) **GREETING**

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.

(stand) **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray...

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.

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.

A Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

(stand) **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. Both staves are in the treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below each staff, with hyphens indicating the syllables are spread across the notes.

Music: Fintan O’Carroll and Christopher Walker
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(stand) **GOSPEL READING** **Luke 6:27-38**

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.**

(sit) **SERMON** **Pastor Scott Sessler**

CHORAL ANTHEM

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” **arr. John Ness Beck**

Chancel Choir

(stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

P God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C **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.**

(stand)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

Silence for reflection.

Each petition will close with the words: "God of grace,"

The response is "hear our prayer."

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

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of our Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(sit)

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Blessed Are They” Richard A. Williamson

David Singer, organ

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Let us pray. God of grace,
- C** **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 and generosity,
now and always.
Amen.**

(stand) **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

G Thanks be to God.

(sit) **COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS**

Communion will be distributed at the altar railing. The usher will indicate when each section of pews should come forward. Whether kneeling or standing, those wishing to receive anointing, cross your arms after reaching the rail. If you are not able or not comfortable coming to the altar, the pastor will bring the bread and wine to you at the pew. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request these from the pastor.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

“Lamb of God” ELW pp112

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

“I Come With Joy” ELW #482

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

G Amen!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

C Amen.

BLESSING

P The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“O Day of Peace”ELW #711

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Live in hope.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Rondo” Fenton Groden

David Singer, organ

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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Associate Pastor *Rev. Katie Christie*
Traditional Choral & Worship Director..... *Kristen Passmore*
Contemporary Worship Leader & Handbell Choir Director *LeRoy Kennedy*
Organist..... *David Singer*
Director of Youth and Family Ministries *John Parson*
Office Coordinator *Kristy Perkins*
Community Schools Director..... *Brenda Moody*
Communications Coordinator..... *Larry Williams*