



Sunday, January 7, 2024

Epiphany of Our Lord

Theme of the Day:

Good News of Great Joy: For All People

Congregation sings or speaks the bolded text

372 As with Gladness Men of Old

CW 372

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt. Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand.

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

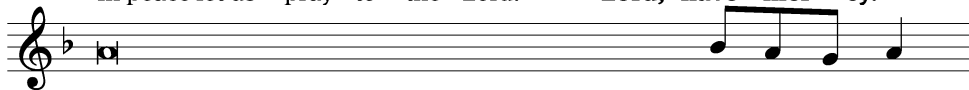
P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy



In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



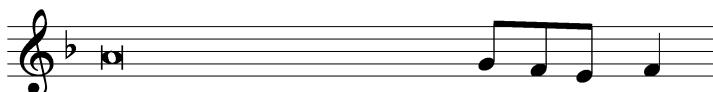
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



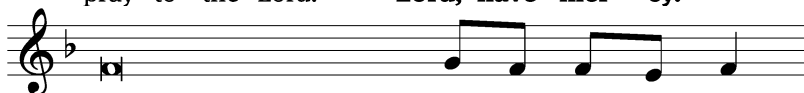
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



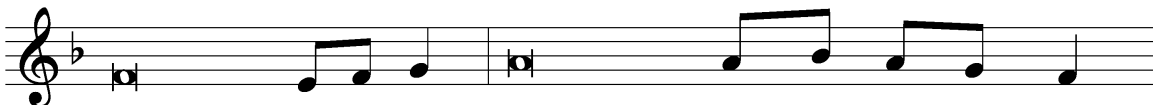
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



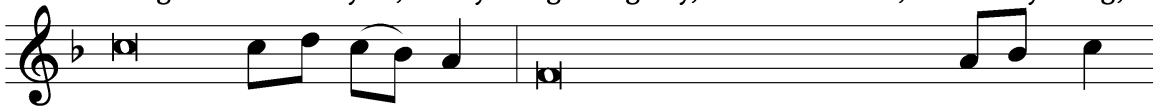
Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



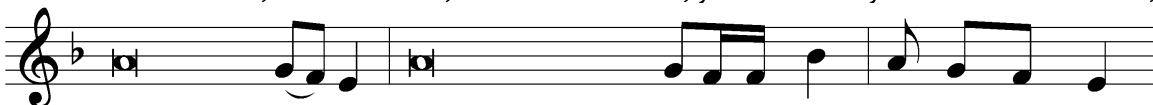
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



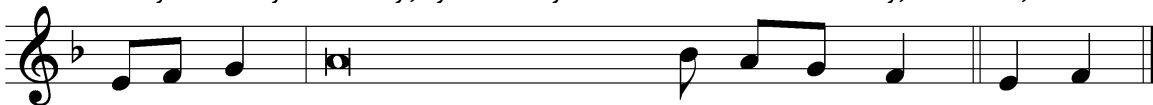
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

Numbers 24:15–17a

God compels the heathen magician Balaam to prophecy that out of the nation of Israel would come one who would shine like a star for all peoples to see.

¹⁵Then he spoke his message: “The prophecy of Balaam son of Beor, the prophecy of one whose eye sees clearly,¹⁶the prophecy of one who hears the words of God, who has knowledge from the Most High, who sees a vision from the Almighty, who falls prostrate, and whose eyes are opened: ¹⁷“I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

72B A King on High Is Reigning

Psalm 72B



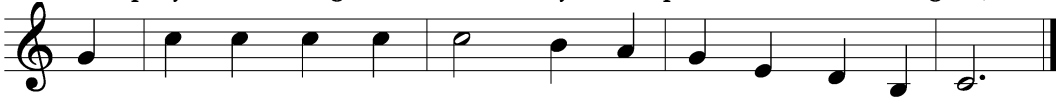
1 A King on high is reign - ing whom end - less a - ges bless,
2 As rains that gent - ly nour - ish and bring the seed to birth,
3 The poor are in his keep - ing, he hears their bit - ter cry,
4 His name en - dures for ev - er who formed the fer - tile land;



from sea to sea sus - tain - ing his rule of right - eous - ness.
his right - eous - ness shall flour - ish, his peace pos - sess the earth;
his watch - ful - ness un - sleep - ing to an - swer ev - 'ry sigh;
the fruits of our en - deav - or shall pros - per in his hand.



Be - neath his strong de - fend - ing his peo - ple stand se - cure,
her scep - tered kings ac - claim him, be - fore his feet they fall,
the lone - ly and ne - glect - ed, the out - cast and in need,
With prayer and song and sto - ry his prais - es sound a - gain,



whose jus - tice knows no end - ing while sun and moon en - dure.
the na - tions kneel to name him the sov - reign Lord of all.
for - sak - en and re - ject - ed, to him are dear in - deed.
in all the earth his glo - ry; so be it, Lord! A - men!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith Tune: Henry T. Smart Text: © 1999 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016 Tune: Public domain

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2–12

Paul celebrates the mystery that God has made known not just to the Jews, but also to the Gentiles.

²Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

⁶This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. ⁷I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 2:2

Alleluia. Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

Magi from the east are miraculously led to their Savior, and they worship him.

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: ⁶" 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." ⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

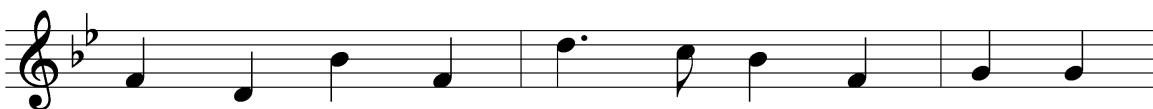
P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

347 Angels from the Realms of Glory

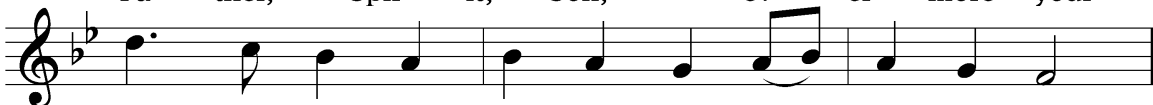
CW 347



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing
3 Ma - gi, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing
5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the



flight o'er all the earth; once you sang cre -
o'er your flocks by night, God with us is
vi - sions beam a - far; seek the great de -
long in hope and fear, sud - den - ly the
Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your



a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
now re - sid - ing; yon - der shines the in - fant light.
sire of na - tions, you have seen the Sav - ior's star.
Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear.
voic - es rais - ing to th' e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship,



wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text (sts. 1–3): James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.; (st. 4): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, alt. Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: Ephesians 3:2-12

Sermon Theme: Make Known the Mystery

- 1) Accomplished by Christ**
- 2) Revealed in the Gospel**
- 3) Broadcast by the Church**

Please stand.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

**He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Friendship Registration

Guests: Please fill out name, address, and phone number.

Members: Please fill out name and any new information.

Please, return the booklet to its original location. Thank you!

The Sacrament

Please stand.

Preface

CW 165



The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.




It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 167



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \dagger body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my \dagger blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men." The word "Amen" is written with a long horizontal line underneath it, indicating a sustained note.

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

Please be seated.

Personal prayer for before communion

Lord Jesus, you have invited me to come and receive your holy Sacrament. I believe that in the bread and wine you give me your true body and blood to eat and drink. Forgive my sins and nourish my faith through this precious meal. I long for the comfort that comes with your promises; I yearn for the assurance of your faithful love. Bless me now as I receive you by faith.

Distribution

370 How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

CW 370

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, abr., adapt Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608 Text and tune: Public domain

713 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

CW 713

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Tune: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016

Personal prayer for after communion

Thank you, dear Savior, for nourishing my faith with the Sacrament of your body and blood. Lift my heart with your forgiveness, renew my confidence in your grace, empower my love for others, and lead me to long for the eternal banquet of heaven.

Please stand.

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

P: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

374 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here- vs 1,2,5

CW 374

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent., abr. Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain. **Acknowledgments:** Setting One from Christian Worship Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

Announcements

COMMON CUP COMMUNION: This Sunday we will begin to offer the Common Cup during Holy Communion, as we have in the past. Along with the pre-packaged cups and individual cups, it is another way to receive the sacramental wine. If you would like to use the common cup, you don't need to pick up an individual or prepackaged cup. As the pastor comes by, he will see that you have no cup in your hand and offer the Common Cup. You may grab the bottom of the chalice to assist in receiving the sacramental wine. We are glad that we are able to offer the Common Cup. Please be mindful of those who celebrate communion with you.

PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME: Do your kids need a place to get some energy out? Join us for a FREE open gym for all preschool aged children (infants, toddlers, and preschoolers) in the school gym on Monday, January 8 from 10:00-11:00 AM. We will have balls to play with, ride-on toys, mats to crawl/roll around on, mini-trampolines, infant toys, large building blocks, and lots of space to run around and play. Grab a snack for your ride home.

BUGS, WORMS, AND LITTLE THINGS: Join us for Mornings with Mommy on Monday, January 15 (at 9:30 or 11:00) or Tuesday, January 16 at 9:30. Bring your little ones to play with all sorts of little critters—butterflies, caterpillars, worms, spiders, ladybugs, and flies. Make a rainbow butterfly, go on a “sticky walk”, swat flies, and sort bugs. Register online at tlcjenera.org or call 262-391-7994.

PASTOR-TEACHER CONFERENCE: On January 15th and 16th we will be serving the meals for the attendees of the Pastor-Teacher Conference here at Trinity. We will be serving approximately 50 people for 2 continental breakfasts, 2 lunches, and a supper. We are in need of people to help, any time on Monday or Tuesday morning. If you can help or donate food please sign up on the list on the table by the stairs. Please contact Nicki von Stein with any questions. Thank You

TRINITY VISION STATEMENT: At our Annual Meeting on January 31, the Voters' of Trinity Lutheran Church will be looking to adopt a Vision Statement that will serve as a foundational document for long-term planning. The Vision document is available at the back of the church by the deacon's table. It will be discussed at Bible Study on January 7th. Please take a look at it. If you have any questions, please talk, call or email Pastor Nowak.

AMAZON WISH-LIST: Are you an Amazon Shopaholic? TLS has a wish-list established on Amazon to help with the cost of some of our basic items, such as copy paper. Your generous donation will help keep our costs down. Please go to <https://a.co/0tGLM8s> to check out our list.

LIMA FOOD BANK: Women's Ministry is volunteering at the West Ohio Food Bank in Lima on Wednesday, January 31 from 1:00-3:00 PM. We will be packing “senior boxes” or “emergency boxes” for the Food Bank to distribute to those in need. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you are able to join us. We will meet in the church parking lot at 12:20 if you want to drive together. The address is 1380 Kibby St. Lima, OH 45802. Questions? Contact Jenny Boehm 262-391-7994.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the south entrance area. If you have any questions, please contact Clark Inniger at 419.306.0127 or email cdinniger@roadrunner.com

MONTHLY FLOWERS Please sign up for monthly flowers for church for 2024. The list is on the bulletin board by the east door in the basement. You can sign up for a whole month, or by the week. Please consider helping to beautify our church next year!

OPEN GYM: The school's gym will be available for those wanting to play basketball indoors on Sunday afternoons in January. The gym will be open on Sundays from 2:00 - 4:00 PM. All children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Please change into dry, non-marking athletic shoes before entering the gym to help keep our gym floor in good condition.

WARM WINTER WALKING: This winter the school gym is open for walking during the week from 7:00-8:00 PM. Please bring a pair of shoes that you haven't worn outside to wear while walking. You may walk at your own pace and walk as long or short as you want. Bring a friend!

Dear Members,

Thank you for your support of the Alpha Pregnancy Help Center's unique ministry. Because of your incredible generosity, Alpha was able to give hundreds of children a wrapped Christmas present, in some cases the first one they've ever received. Throughout the year, we will be offering prayers, encouragement, diapers, wipes, toys, Bibles, books, clothes, free pregnancy tests, and referrals with people who have come to Central Ohio from around the globe. If you would like to find out more about Alpha volunteer opportunities, please contact Cindy@justasking.org. God's blessings on all you do!

LENTEN MEALS Lent begins on February 14th with Ash Wednesday at 7:00pm and will be on Wednesdays at 7:00pm through March 20th. The 6th & 7th Graders will be hosting the Lenten Meal on February 14th, but hosts are needed for all other meals. Please sign up at the table by the South church doors if you are willing or contact Pastor Nowak or the office.

DAILY LECTIONARY

1.7: Ez 1:1-14, 22-28, *Hab 1:1-3:19*, Rom 1:1-17

1.8: Ez 2:1-3:11, Ro 1:18-32

1.9: Ez 3:12-27, *Ez 4:1-11:25*, Rom 2:1-16

1.10: Ez 18:1-4, 19-32, *Ez 19:1-24:27*, Rom 2:17-29

1.11: Ez 33:1-20, Rom 3:1-18

1.12: Ez 34:1-24, Rom 3:19-31

1.13: Ez 36:13-28, Rom 4:1-25

1.14: Ez 36:33-37:14, Rom 5:1-21

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Matt Nowak
Office: 419-326-4402
Cell: 419-302-5271
pastormattn@gmail.com

Principal Jeff Falck
Cell: 920-809-4263
jfalck@tlcjenera.org
Office: 419-326-4685

Church/School Secretary
Office: 419-326-4685
tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org
website: tlcjenera.org

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of December 24th & 31st)

Week of 12/24: Total Worship Attendance: 856, Christmas Eve Service (Fri): 181, Christmas Eve Morning: 191, Children's Christmas Eve: 339, Christmas Day: 145.

Week of 12/31: Total Worship Attendance: 235, New Year's Eve Morning: 182, New Year's Eve: 53.
YouTube Views for December 24th Morn.: 63,

MONEY COUNTERS for this morning through January 13th are the members of Ron Bower's Undershepherd group. Beginning Sunday, January 14th, will be the members of Brad Inniger's Undershepherd group.

GREETERS today are: Jim & Jane Smith – early
Gary & Rebecca Mitchell – late

Next Sunday: Joe & Jean Spaeth – early
Richard & Ruth Johnson – late

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (January 7th through January 14th)

TODAY Worship 8:00 & 10:30; Communion; Adult Bible Class, Sunday School, Teen Bible Class 9:20

Mon Preschool Playtime in school gym 10:00; Worship Committee Meeting 1:00

Tue Church Council 7:00

Wed Choir 7:00

Thu Elders 7:00

SUN **Worship 8:00 & 10:30;** Children's Lesson; Adult Bible Class, Sunday School, Teen Bible Class 9:20; Outreach 12:00; Christmas de-decorating 1:00.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Mon Faculty Meeting 3:30

Wed Chapel 8:20

Sat Basketball @ HCA 3:00 & 5:00

Vanco
Mobile
App



OUR MISSION STATEMENT: *Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to glorify our Triune God as we train, strengthen and nurture ourselves and others through His Word and Sacraments, so that we are enabled by His love to live lives of faith and to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people.*