



## Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

502 Bardshar Road  
Sandusky OH 44870  
419-626-0204

**Sunday, February 1st, 2026**  
**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,**  
**but we have served our own interests**  
**at the expense of our neighbors.**  
**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**  
**We say the right words,**  
**but our hearts are far from you.**  
**Turn us to seek your face.**  
**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**  
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in ✙ Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

## Brightest and Best of the Stars



1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn-ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra-dle the dew-drops are shin-ing;  
 3 What shall we give him, in cost-ly de-vo-tion?  
 4 Vain-ly we of-fer each am-ple ob-la-tion,  
 5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn-ing,



dawn on our dark-ness and lend us your aid.  
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
 Shall we bring in-cense and of-f'rings di-vine,  
 vain-ly with gifts would his fa-vor se-cure;  
 dawn on our dark-ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho-ri-zon a-dorn-ing,  
 an-gels a-dore him in slum-ber re-clin-ing,  
 gems of the moun-tain and pearls of the o-cean,  
 rich-er by far is the heart's ad-o-ra-tion,  
 Star of the east, the ho-ri-zon a-dorn-ing,



guide where our in-fant re-deem-er is laid.  
 mak-er and mon-arch and sav-ior of all.  
 myrrh from the for-est or gold from the mine?  
 dear-er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 guide where our in-fant re-deem-er is laid.

## Greeting

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds, and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## Hymn of the Month: Light Dawns on a Weary World

No. 726

### Light Dawns on a Weary World

1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

*Refrain*

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;  
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!  
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,  
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

## First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup> Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the LORD has a case against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup> “O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

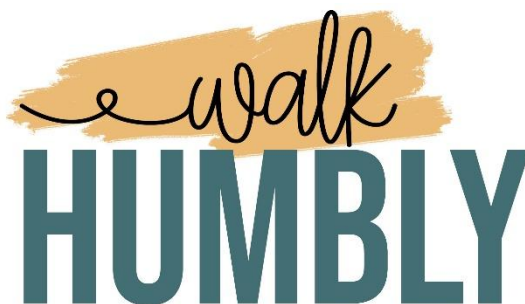
<sup>5</sup> O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup> “With what shall I come before the LORD  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

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



## Psalm: Psalm 15

<sup>1</sup> LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup> **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup> they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit up on a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup> **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the  
LORD.**

**They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

<sup>5</sup> They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against  
the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of  
this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the  
wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided,  
through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For  
Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we proclaim Christ crucified,  
a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are the  
called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

<sup>25</sup> For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is  
stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by  
human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But  
God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is  
weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in  
the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one might  
boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus,  
who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and  
redemption, <sup>31</sup> in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the  
Lord.”

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

## Gospel Acclamation



## Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew,  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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

## Children’s Message

**Sermon**

**Pastor Jen Herrmann**

**Hymn of the Day: Build a Longer Table**

**No. 1062**

## Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

## 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 was 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 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.

God our wisdom, renew the church in the power of the Spirit, that it may do justice, love kindness, live humbly, and boldly proclaim Christ crucified. We pray for social justice and humanitarian aid ministries. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God our source, we honor you by caring wisely for your creation. We pray for the health of old growth forests, ice caps, and ocean currents. Preserve the diversity of life on earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God our righteousness, raise up visionary leaders who serve with integrity and respect human rights. Increase freedom in every nation. Protect educators, journalists, artists, and religious activists who are reviled for speaking truth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God our advocate, you give hope to all who suffer because of persecution, poverty, or war. Reunite separated families and bring orphaned children to safety. Comfort any who grieve or suffer in any way. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God our blessing, we pray for the children and youth of this congregation, and for parents, grandparents, mentors, teachers, and youth ministers who model love for their neighbor and care for others. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God our joy, we give thanks for the lives of those before us who journeyed humbly with you. 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.**

**Offertory** (Usher please bring the offering to the altar)

**Offertory Song: My Life Flows on in Endless Song**

**No. 763**





## My Life Flows On in Endless Song



- 1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
- 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
- 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

### *Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

## Offertory Prayer

God of majesty,  
no eye has seen, no ear has heard  
what you have prepared for those who love you,  
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.  
Use what we have gathered  
to feed us with the reign of God come near,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

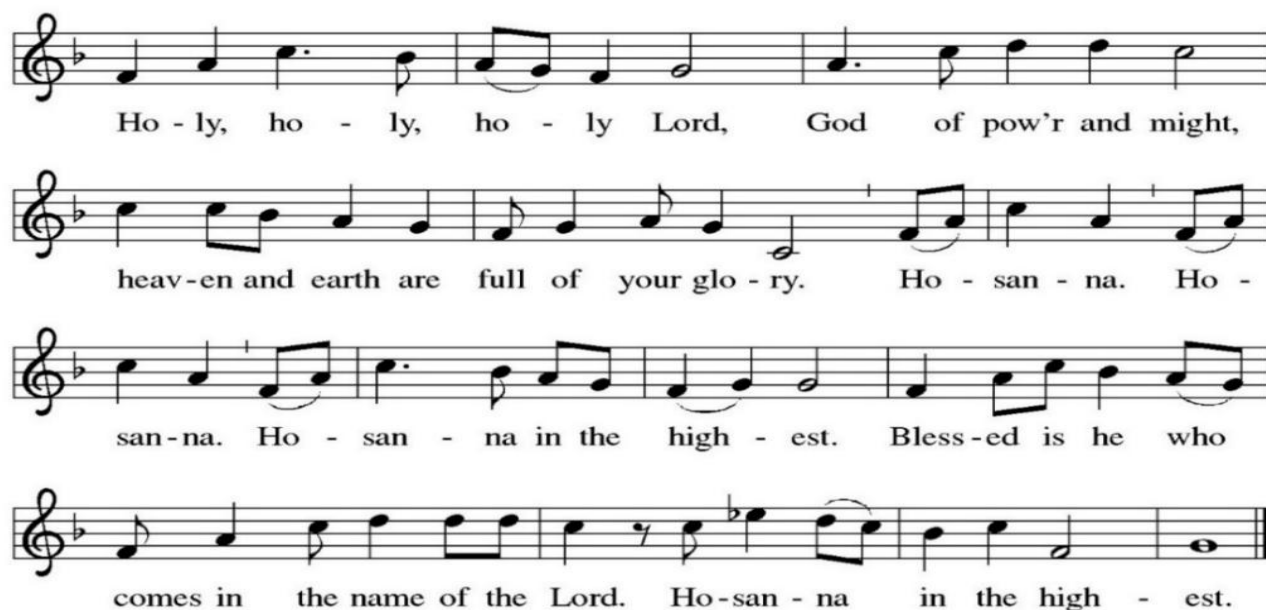
## The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

## Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy



Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;  
within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:  
through the water; by night and day;  
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

### **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.**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

### **Lamb of God**



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.

## Communion Hymn: As We Gather at Your Table

No. 522

### As We Gather at Your Table

- 1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
- 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
- 3 Gra-cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um-phantly Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

## Table Blessing

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

Radiant God,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table with delight,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## Blessing

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn: Rise Up O Saints of God

No. 669

### Rise Up, O Saints of God!



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king-dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

## Dismissal.

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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## AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

At 8:00...

Pastor:	Pastor Jen Herrmann
Lectors:	Carrie Wiedenheft
Usher:	Greg Norman & Brad Stierhoff
Communion Assistant:	Sally Warner
Acolyte:	Emma Killingsworth

At 10:30...

Pastor:	Pastor Jen Herrmann
Lectors:	Gayle Thompson
Usher:	Denny Sessler & Barb Sessler
Communion Assistant:	Gayle Thompson
Acolyte:	Natalie Thompson

February Altar Care:	Linda Gantz & Cindy Norman
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## PRAYER CONCERNS

To individuals and families affected by ICE protests and unrest; FAITH members, including Ruby Stierhoff; Care & Share of Erie County in providing food & assistance; the people of St. John, Bellevue and their pastor, Beth Wesphal.

**Pastor Jen can be contacted at 419-822-7630 or [jen.herrmann@gmail.com](mailto:jen.herrmann@gmail.com)**

**OFFERING PLATES** are in both entryways by the bulletins. If you forgot to put your offering as you came in, an usher or pastor can help you find the plates after service.

**ATTENDANCE:** January 25<sup>th</sup>: 21 (early service)

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God by  
Dean & Rhonda Matus



## This Week at Trinity

TODAY	Communion Service Sunday School	8:00 am & 10:30 am 9:15 am
MONDAY	V1 @ Castalia    Norwalk @ V2	7:30 pm
TUESDAY	Bible Study	10:00 am
WEDNESDAY	AA/NA Women Only "We All Belong" (Narcotics Anon.)	9:00 am 7:00 pm
SATURDAY	"We All Belong" (Narcotics Anon.)	11:00 am
SUNDAY	Service of Word & Prayer	8:00 am & 10:30 am

**COME AND ENJOY** cookies and fellowship after service today. Thank you to Carrie Wiedenheft for providing!



On **February 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am**, Young At Heart will be decorating Valentine cookies for our shut-ins and community service groups. You're invited to join us. It has been a lot of fun in the past. Please bring something to share for lunch and, of course, cookie donations are welcome. If you think you might join us, please sign up on the sheet in the hall to give us an estimate.



Pre Order Now  
Pick Up February 8  
After each service

Super Bowl  
Sub Sandwich  
Sale



\$7 Meal Includes:  
Sub (Ham or Turkey)  
Chips & Pickle  
Cookie (PB, M&M, or 2xChocolate)