



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

502 Bardshar Road
Sandusky OH 44870
419-626-0204

**Sunday, February 8th, 2026
Fifth Sunday After Epiphany
Service of Word and Prayer**

Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us into a community of prayer.

Prelude

Announcements

Confession

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.

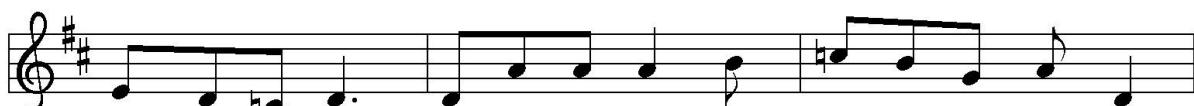
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

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.**

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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.**

The word is near you, **on your lips and in your heart.**

If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord, **and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**

Faith comes from what is heard, **and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.**

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through 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 weary world when eyes begin to
2 Love grows in a weary world when hungry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once for -

see all people's dignity. Light dawns on a
bread and children's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wilderness reborn. Hope blooms in a

weary world: the promised day of justice comes.
weary world: the promised feast of plenty comes.
weary world: the promised green of Eden comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, silence, reflection, and song.

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

¹ Shout out; do not hold back!
 Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
 to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
 and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
 and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
 they want God on their side.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see?
 Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
 and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight
 and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
 will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
 a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
 and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
 a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
 to loose the bonds of injustice,
 to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
 and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
 and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
 and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
 and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you;
 the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a} Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
 you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water whose waters never fail.
¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God's commandments!
² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;**
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.
⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;**
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.
⁶ **For they will never be shaken;**
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink,**
until they see their desire up on their enemies.
⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast
forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.
¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine**
away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him"—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ^[13] And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶ "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"
But we have the mind of Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

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

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

Children's Message

Sermon

Pastor Jen Herrmann

Hymn of the Day: Christ Be Our Light

No. 715



Christ, Be Our Light



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

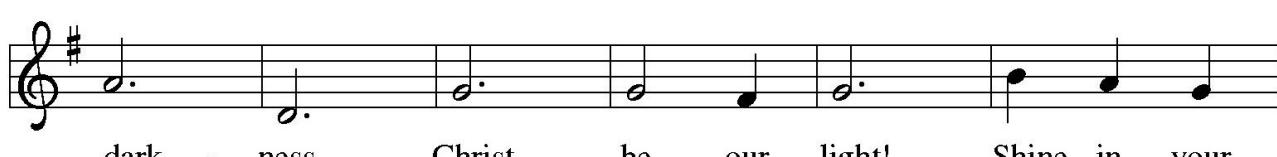


your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

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.

Thanksgiving for the Word:

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **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?

Prayer: The Holy Spirit prays with us and through us.

Living together in trust and hope, we 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 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.**

In Christ Jesus we meet the God who knows our weakness
and bears the wounds of the world.
Therefore, let us be bold as we pray,
trusting that God draws near to those in any kind of need.

Silent Prayer

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.

Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to war zones. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our ordained leaders, staff, lay leaders, and volunteers.

Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love. 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.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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: This Little Light of Mine

No. 677



This Little Light of Mine

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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:	Guy Miller
Usher:	Greg Norman & Brad Stierhoff
Acolyte:	Ryan Wiedenheft

At 10:30...

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

February Altar Care: Linda Gantz & Cindy Norman

PRAYER CONCERNS

To individuals and families affected by ICE protests and unrest; FAITH members, including Laura Allen; the students, faculties, and staff of ELCA universities and seminaries; teachers and administrators of Sandusky area schools.

Pastor Jen can be contacted at 419-822-7630 or 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: 50 + 23 = 73

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GOODNESS:

General Fund -- \$9,394.00

Building Improvements -- \$110.00

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God from Jim Bertsch

THE MEMORIAL FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God from Betty Roeser & family for Deborah Roeser's birthday.

This Week at Trinity

TODAY	Service of Word & Prayer	8:00 am & 10:30 am
	Sunday School	9:15 am
	JAM Session	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	Communion Service		8:00 am & 10:30 am

Sub sandwich pick-up is **TODAY** after each service. Thank you for supporting our youth!



On **February 11th** 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.

Grace Lutheran in Castalia is having a free community dinner on **Wednesday, February 11th 5-6pm**. Menu is hamburger gravy over mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, bread & dessert. Delivery is available for shut-ins; call 419-357-3672.

