



*Nurturing a Living Faith
with Open Hearts
and Serving Hands*

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Introduction to the Day

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.

**7th Sunday after Epiphany
Feb. 23, 2025
8:30 a.m.**



PRELUDE

CENTERING HYMN

“All Are Welcome”
Verse 1

ELW #641

WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW pg. 94

GATHERING SONG

“Blessed Be the Tie that Binds”

ELW #656

GREETING

ELW pg. 138

KYRIE

ELW pg. 138

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

ELW pg. 139

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY BAPTISM

Jameson David Meyer
Child of Kelsey & Skyler Meyer

APOSTLES' CREED

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

WELCOME OF NEWLY BAPTIZED

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

BAPTISM SONG

“Jesus Loves Me”
Verse 1

ELW #595

***Welcome to
Worship at Trinity
Lutheran***

Whether this is your first time worshipping with us, or if you regularly attend, we are very glad that you are with us! Today, we gather to worship God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The church is not a building – it is you, the people. So “church,” thanks for showing up today. If you look around what you will see are imperfect people. Some with smiles, some with broken hearts, some with secrets they are ashamed to share... and yet all of us together are the “church.”

We are thankful you are here. Through God's Holy Spirit we pray you hear a word of grace and hope today.

FIRST READING: GENESIS 45:3-11, 15

Sandy McMerty, reader

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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40

(Please read responsively).

¹ Do 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.**

⁷ Be 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, 42-50

In the Apostles’ Creed, we speak of the “resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.” Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ’s perfect life into eternity.

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.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: LUKE 6:27-38

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.

The holy gospel according to Luke, chapter 6, beginning with verse 27. **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.**

CHILDREN’S TIME

Matthew Nygard
Financial Specialist for the Western ND Synod

SERMON

Pastor Mark Narum

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Build a Longer Table”

ACS #1062

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

“O God, We Call”

ACS #1075

Please pray for James, Terry, Dick, Wendy, Amy, Barb, Lois, Blair, Ruth, Dennis, Rod & Gary.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

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 and generosity, now and always. Amen.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

“Blessed Assurance”

ELW #638

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in Hope. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025

RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM is in memory of Maxine Yri & Edward Tollefson, given by Vern & Kami Yri.

HOLY BAPTISM - We welcome Jameson David Meyer, child of Kelsey & Skyler Meyer to the family of God, who is baptized today at the 8:30 service. Sponsors are Anna & Levi Flemmer.

WELCOME - We welcome Matthew Nygard, Financial Specialist for the Western ND Synod, who is here to share about our sister synod, C.A.R. (Central African Republic).

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED – Trinity Youth will be holding a silent auction with the cook-off on March 12th. We are looking for donations of nice handmade items, artwork, NEW items, gift baskets, or gift certificates for our auction. Please bring donations to the church office by March 10th. If you have connections with a business, please consider asking them for a donation on our behalf. A sign-up sheet for the cook-off will come in later February. Thank you for your support of our youth!

CHILI COOK-OFF & BREAD - Sign-up in the narthex or with Gracia to bring a chili for our cook-off or bring some corn bread, regular bread, etc. for us to enjoy alongside the chili. All are welcome to come eat & vote!

ONLINE GIVING - Giving has never been easier! Open your camera on your phone and scan the QR code. It will take you right to Trinity's online giving site. You can choose to give via credit card or bank account. Try it out today!



AMAZING PUZZLE RACES
Spectators Welcome
FUN for all ages!

\$20 TEAM ENTRY FEE
Board Games & Other Activities

POTLUCK - Bring your favorite appetizer

When: Sunday, March 23rd
Where: Fellowship Hall
Time: 11:30 a.m.

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX

trinitylutheran
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

- Check out all the Youth Happenings!**
- Club 316 for kids & youth: February 23rd @ 2:30p
 - Grades K-5 Camp Fun Day: March 1st @ 10-2p
 - Youth Bash @ Camp of Cross for Grades 4-12: March 28th-30th
 - VBS for Age 4-Grade 5: June 8th-11th

TRINITY LUTHERAN
2024
ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE CONGREGATION
Sunday, February 23
@ 11:30 a.m.

Join us in the Sanctuary or on Zoom!

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THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sunday 2-23
8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
9:35 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall
9:35 AM - Church School
10:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
11:30 AM - Annual Meeting in Sanctuary

Tuesday 2-25
9 AM - Quilters in Quilters' Room
4 PM - Property Committee in Conference Room

Wednesday 2-26
4:30 PM - Trust Fund Committee in Conference Room
5:15 PM - Dinner served in Fellowship Hall
6 PM - Worship in Sanctuary
6:40 PM - Book Study in Conference Room
6:40 PM - Church School, Confirmation, Youth Group

Saturday 3-1
10 AM - Camp Bash at Trinity
10 AM - Grief Support Group in Conference Room

Sunday 3-2
8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
9:35 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall
9:35 AM - Church School
10:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
5 PM - Jamestown Choir Concert in Sanctuary