



Be merciful,
just as your Father is
merciful.

Luke 6:36

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 22-23, 2025



Trinity Lutheran Church

213 North Pennsylvania Ave. | Mason City, Iowa 50401 | 641-423-0536 | trinity-mc.org

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 22, 2025 - 5:00 p.m.

February 23, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

Livestream Worship Service/KCMR 97.9

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.

Welcome to Trinity! We are glad you're here. If you are new to Trinity Lutheran, please complete an informational card which can be found in the pews.

We love having small children in worship! Those needing a space to change or feed little ones are welcome to use the **Child Care Room** located next to the nursery. A **unstaffed nursery** is available during the **9:00 and 10:30 services**, located on the 2nd floor just outside the north sanctuary door (door under the stained glass window door).

Toddler Sunday School:

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday from 9:15-10:15am parents are invited to join their 0-2 year old for a time of free play, activities, and Bible stories in the nursery.

Seating for People with Limited Mobility is reserved in the pew located in front of the Technical booth.

Large print bulletins and listening devices are available from the ushers.

Activity Bags are available for children during worship. They are located in the narthex and at the front of the church. Please return them at the end of services.

Serving in Worship This Weekend

Pastor Pastor Dan Gerrietts
Pastor Daniel Hanson
Pastor Beverly Butler

Organist Mark McClellan

Cantor Melissa Shallberg

Greeters Ray and Betty Gogel

Coffee Fellowship

Lisa Lorenzen
Roger and Susan Schlitter

Scripture Readers

5:00 p.m. Sally Becker
9:00 a.m. Danny Miller

Acolytes

Raina Rattay, Ranger Rattay

Technical Support

9:00 a.m. Sophia Fitzgerald, Colton Hesley

Worship Transportation

9:00 a.m. Travis Hesley, Vivian Heller

Ushers

5:00 p.m. Penny Bennett
Bob VerBrugge

9:00 a.m. Dan Clarke, Randy Dedor,
Brian Koob, Ethan Miller

Building Host

David Stine

GATHERING

Prelude

Great is Thy Faithfulness

arr. Dan Miller

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

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,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C Amen.

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful God,

**C you speak blessing
and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

Amen.

P God proclaims these words of assurance:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.”
In ✠ Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.

C Amen.

*Gathering Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

ELW 656

*Thanks Be To You

Marty Haugen

Congregation:

1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of
life with us. 3. Praise to you, O
God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for
ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

***Prayer of the Day**

P 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.

Children's Sermon(9:00 a.m.)

Pastor Dan Gerrietts

Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

L ³Joseph 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.
⁴Then 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. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For 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. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So 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. ⁹Hurry 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. ¹⁰You 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. ¹¹I 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." ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (Read responsively)

- L ¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- C ² For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**
- L ³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
- C ⁴ Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**
- L ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.
- C ⁶ The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**
- L 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.
- C ⁸ Refrain from anger, leverage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**
- L ⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.
- C ¹⁰ In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**
- L ¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- C ³⁹ But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**
- L 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.

*Gospel Acclamation

Marty Haugen

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the sixth chapter.

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

*Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

P [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 any one 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.**

Hymn of the Day

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

ELW 608

Blessing and Installation of Trinity Leadership

***Prayers of Intercession**

P God of grace.

C **Hear our prayer.**

***Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

During this cold and flu season please greet one another in the name of the Lord with a wave and a smile.

THANKSGIVING

Announcements

Offering

Text to Give is available at Trinity!

Simply text the amount you wish to give to 833-412-0093.

Or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

Please note where your gifts should be directed towards.



Offertory Music

Liturgical verse on the "Christe"

Alexandre Boely

***Offertory**

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

praise God above, ye heav'nly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Offering Prayer**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

***Lord's Prayer**

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.

SENDING

***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** *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* ELW 843

***Sending**

P Go in peace. Live in hope.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Rigaudon

Andre Campra

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **altar flowers and colored bulletins** are in honor of **Ron and Karen Knudtson's 64th Wedding Anniversary** and **Ron's 85th Birthday**, which both are on the same day, February 25th.

Sunday School kids Age 3 - Grade 4 will sing at the beginning of the 10:30 AM service on Sunday, February 23

Sunday School News

Sunday School kids Age 3 - Grade 4 will sing on Sunday, March 2 -- at the 9:00 AM service. Join us for this special service that will feature the children singing. Please note: there is NO Sunday School class March 9 & 16. Have a very happy Spring Break! Class will resume on March 23.

Team Spirit Results

Thank you to all you participated in last weekends Team Spirit challenge. All proceeds will go towards Camp Scholarships. *Commercials-* \$389.55 *Chiefs-*\$377.83 *Eagles-*\$255.00 **A total of \$1022.38**

Carseat Challenge Successful

We are pleased to report that we exceeded our goal to purchase car seats for the Micronesian Community through Cerro Gordo Public Health! \$1165 was raised, which will purchase about 13 car seats. Thank you!

Camp Scholarship Drive

Trinity's camp scholarship provides funds to offset the cost of attending bible camp. To ensure this can continue, we are launching a special drive to raise \$15,000 for camp scholarships by Easter Sunday 2025. Added to current funds, this should provide enough to cover the next three years of scholarships. **To make a gift, simply write "Camp Scholarships" on your check or envelope or go to our online giving page.** Thanks for helping camps continue to be sacred spaces for God's holy work!

John Adams Backpack Winter Food Drive

The John Adams Middle School (JAMS) backpack food drive **ends this weekend**. There are two drop sites, one by the office and one by the stairway to the sanctuary. Lists of foods that are needed will be located in the front of the box.

If you would prefer, you can make out a check, put JAMS in the memo line, and drop it off at the office or in the collection plate. Thanks in advance to all those who donate to this wonderful program.

Triinity Scholarship Applications

Attention High School seniors and current college students: Scholarship applications and re-applications for the 2024-2025 school year are available to pick up outside the church office. Forms are available on Trinity's website. Applications must be turned in to the church office by **March 1, 2025**.

Wednesday Night **ALIVE**

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 26

Meal / 6:00 PM

Menu: Spaghetti Casserole, Bread Sticks, Salad & Dessert
(free will offering)

Programming / 6:30 PM

- **Around the World in Eight Weeks** will be held in the Gathering Space. Explore the world through the lens and stories of Trinity members and friends. Each Wednesday world travelers will share their adventures to faraway lands. Photos of their trips will be highlighted in the Rotating Art Gallery.

February 26th—Wales—Susan Bangert

- **Trinity Strategic Initiatives**—Feb. 26—Presented by Pastor Dan with group discussion.
- **KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 6** Students will come to the 2nd floor and learn new things from talented Trinity adults with new activities each week.
- **CHOIR**—in the Choir Room—let's lift our voices!
- **CONFIRMATION GRADES 7-8**
Confirmation students will gather 6:30–7:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall and experience small group and large group learning as they study for their Confirmation.
- **Flame: Grades 9-12**
High School Youth Group meets 6:30 - 7:45 PM in the Youth Room.
- **NURSERY** The Nursery is **UNSTAFFED** but open to pre-schoolers and their parents.

Pizza & Bibles

Wednesday, February 26 | 5:15-6:20 PM | Rm. 208

Pastor Daniel would like to meet with all 3rd graders and a parent together to explore the Bible and how to read it. Please RSVP at <https://www.trinity-mc.org/pizza-and-bibles>.

Bonhoeffer (2024) Watch Party

Thursday, February 27th at 6PM / Youth Room

Join Pastor Dan Gerrietts for a viewing of the 2024 Bonhoeffer film - "Bonhoeffer - Pastor, Spy, Assassin" (Rated PG-13) in the HS Youth Room, located near the kitchen. Short discussion to follow. Popcorn and water/soda will be provided.

GRADES 5 - 8

Middle School Lock-In | Friday, Feb. 28 | 6:00 - 10:00 PM

All 5-8th graders and their friends are welcome for a Trinity Lock-In! We will have new things planned, so please encourage your tween/teen to come out and connect with their awesome Trinity family at this free, active event! We will have supper, play games, run around the church, have devotions in small groups with the high schoolers, play more and eat more! Parents, YOU are welcome from 6:00 - 7:00 PM in the Gathering Space to have adult time with appetizers. Carol will supply the apps. Just come and hang out.

Your friends are welcome, too. RSVP to carol.dettmer@trinity-mc.org.

The Rotating Art Gallery at Trinity is in need of black frames of assorted sizes- 5X7, 8X10 and 11X14. They must be able to be hung on the wall. If you have some lying around in good shape that you no longer need, we would appreciate them. You can drop them off at the church office. Thank you!

LENT 2025

This year, we're letting the Gospel of Luke guide us through Lent. Beginning with Jesus setting his face toward Jerusalem (Luke 9:51), this series flows through several familiar stories—the Good Samaritan, Mary and Martha, the fruitless fig tree, the Lost Sheep, Zacchaeus, and more. In each narrative, Jesus intentionally highlights the cultural and political polarities of his time to emphasize the radical and inclusive love of God. Many of these stories mirror the divides we see in our families, churches and communities today. This series is an invitation to approach these polarities with more faith, intention, and openness to others. Each weekly theme will explore two supposed binaries, like “rest & growth” or “grief & hope.” But life is often more nuanced and complex. God is present [in] between.

Ash Wednesday Worship

March 5, 2025

Worship at 1:30 PM and 6:30 PM

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion



Journey with Jesus: Reading Luke through Lent

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and light to my path.” Psalm 119:105

The season of Lent is a great time to commit to spending time with God and tending our spiritual life. This Lenten season we are inviting everyone at Trinity to read Scripture together as a spiritual discipline.

Using the devotional, Journey with Jesus, we will together read the Gospel of Luke, a chapter a day, along with other readings from the Bible that connect to Luke. Journal questions are provided to dig deeper and to reflect on the daily readings.

For those interested, there will be a ***gathering at noon on Mondays during Lent in the Fellowship Hall, to discuss and process the Scripture for the past week in community.*** People are encouraged to bring a lunch and to stay for whatever time their schedule affords. In journeying with Jesus' sacred story, may we be fed and grounded in God's word.

Lenten Offering Folder

This past week Lenten folders were mailed for a special offering during this season of “alms.” This offering benefits Trinity's ongoing ministry in our community. If you're unable to fill it with \$40, please give the amount that feels right for you. To complete online, go to trinity-mc.org/give



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, February 24

- 9:00 a.m. Quilt Workshop (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00 a.m. Lectio Divina (Rm. 322)
- 1:00 p.m. Kitchen Gadgets Galore (Kitchen)
- 6:00 p.m. Trinity Bronze Bell Choir
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, February 25

- 8-9:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (Gathering Space)
- 9:30 a.m. Caregivers Support Group (Rm. 300)
- Noon Staff Meeting
- 4:15 p.m. NordKor Rehearsal (Choir Rm.)
- 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting (Rm. 300)

Wednesday, February 26

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
- 4:00 p.m. Trinity Serving at Community Kitchen
- 5:15 p.m. Pizza and Bibles (Rm. 208)
- 6:00 p.m. WNA Meal
- 6:30 p.m. WNA Programming

Thursday, February 27

- 8:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (Gathering Space)
- 10:30 a.m. Clappers & Coffee Bell Choir
- 7:00 p.m. Una Vocis Rehearsal

Friday, February 28

- 6-7:00 p.m. Parent Get Together (Gathering Space)
- 6-10:00 p.m. Middle School Lock In (Grades 5-8th)

HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATED AT ALL SERVICES

Saturday, March 1

5:00 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday, March 2

- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service**
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service**



Lutheran Day on the Hill

Join Lutheran Services in Iowa and the three Iowa ELCA bishops for the annual Lutheran Day on the Hill **Tuesday, March 11, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Des Moines.**

This event is open to anyone who wants to advocate and help spread the word about the work that Lutheran Services in Iowa does. Participants will gather downtown at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church to learn about LSI advocacy and critical issues facing Iowa children, adults and families, then have lunch and travel to the Iowa State Capitol to advocate directly with legislators. Pastor Daniel is organizing a charter bus or car pool (depending on group size) to leave from Trinity. Please sign up on office board by March 3.

Trinity's Pastoral Care Staff makes regular visits to Mercy One North Iowa hospital. But not everyone who is hospitalized appears on the clergy list. If you are hospitalized and wish to be visited, please contact the church office.

The 2025 Flower Calendar and

Bulletin Calendar If you'd like to honor a loved one, remember a birthday and/or an anniversary while enhancing Trinity's sanctuary for the celebration of worship, please consider donating altar flowers or colored bulletins for a