

# Trinity Lutheran Church

January 29,  
2023

Fourth Sunday  
of Epiphany

217 Brackenridge  
Southwest  
Sleepy Eye, MN

Website  
[www.trinity  
sleepyeye.org](http://www.trinitysleepyeye.org)

Phone:  
(507) 794-5051

Office Hours  
Mon-Thurs  
9am –3pm

**Pastor**  
Tim Mason  
808 383-9481  
[pastor@trinity  
sleepyeye.org](mailto:pastor@trinitysleepyeye.org)

**Parish Secretary**  
Darlene  
Brummund  
507 276-8013  
[secretary@trinity  
sleepyeye.org](mailto:secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org)

**Financial  
Secretary**  
Pat Stevermer  
794-7112  
[finance@trinity  
sleepyeye.org](mailto:finance@trinitysleepyeye.org)

**Music Director**  
Mary Mulry  
507 227-9880  
[music@trinity  
sleepyeye.org](mailto:music@trinitysleepyeye.org)

**Christian Education  
Director**  
Brittney Scharpe  
507 227-2627  
[education@trinity  
sleepyeye.org](mailto:education@trinitysleepyeye.org)

**Custodian**  
Patrick Lowther



*Do justice...*

*love kindness...*

*walk humbly*

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY SERVICE OF THE WORD

**9:00 AM JANUARY 29, 2023**



**THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WELCOMES ALL!** *We are gathered in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who beckons us to come to Him in faith and repentance. May the gospel of the Lord inspire and fill you with the Spirit! Fellowship & refreshments are available in the Library immediately following our Annual Meeting.*

### GATHERING

**WE PREPARE:** Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

### PRELUDE/ PARISH NOTICES/ RINGING OF THE BELL

### CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## GATHERING SONG

### *What a Fellowship*

ELW#774

Musical notation for the first part of the hymn 'What a Fellowship'. The music consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (indicated by a 'C'). The melody is simple, featuring mostly quarter notes and eighth-note pairs.

1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;  
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;  
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms?

Musical notation for the second part of the hymn 'What a Fellowship'. The music continues on the same staves and key signature. The melody includes some eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns.

Musical notation for the third part of the hymn 'What a Fellowship'. The music continues on the same staves and key signature. The melody includes some eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns.

what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.  
 oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.  
 I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

Musical notation for the fourth part of the hymn 'What a Fellowship'. The music continues on the same staves and key signature. The melody includes some eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns.

*Refrain*

Musical notation for the Refrain of the hymn 'What a Fellowship'. The music consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (indicated by a 'C'). The melody is simple, featuring mostly quarter notes and eighth-note pairs.

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a - larms;

Musical notation for the Refrain continuation of the hymn 'What a Fellowship'. The music continues on the same staves and key signature. The melody includes some eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns.

Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Musical notation for the final part of the Refrain of the hymn 'What a Fellowship'. The music consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (indicated by a 'C'). The melody is simple, featuring mostly quarter notes and eighth-note pairs.

lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last-ing arms.

Musical notation for the final part of the Refrain of the hymn 'What a Fellowship'. The music continues on the same staves and key signature. The melody includes some eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns.

lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion 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.**

## NOISY OFFERING



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# WORD

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**FIRST READING**

Micah 6:1-8

The first reading is in Micah chapter 6, verses 1-8.

*Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.*

*Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.*

*"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!*

*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.*

*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."*

*"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?*

*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?"*

*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?*

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

**SECOND READING**

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The second reading is in 1 Corinthians chapter 1, verses 18-31.

*For 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. For it is written,*

*"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."*

*Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not  
God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not  
know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save  
those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ  
crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the  
called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's  
foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.  
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. 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; God chose  
what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are,  
so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus,  
who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in  
order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."*

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
 of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry  
 to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Matthew 5:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:*

*Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.*

*Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.*

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
 for they will be filled.*

*Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.*

*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

*Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,  
 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all  
 kinds of evil against you falsely on my account 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.**

SERMON

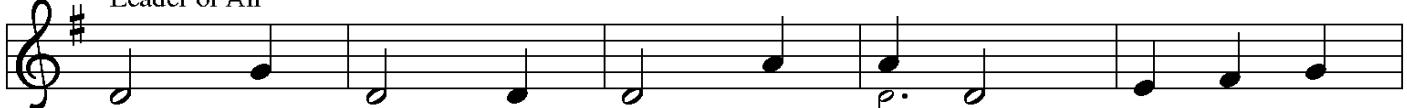
**Pastor Tim Mason**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Blest Are They*

## ELW 728

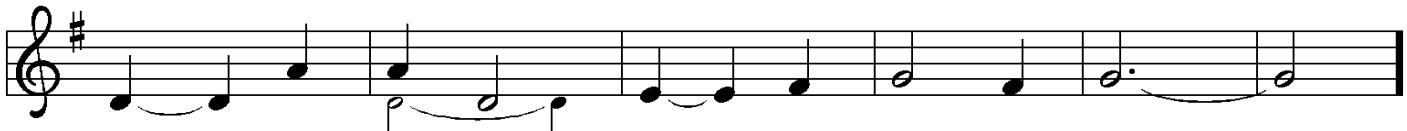
Leader or All



1 Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the  
 2 Blest are they, the lowly ones; . . . they shall in -  
 3 Blest are they . . . who show mercy; mer - cy  
 4 Blest are they . . . who seek peace; . . . they are the  
 5 Blest are you who suffer hate, . . . all . . . be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they, who  
 her - it the earth. Blest are they, who  
 shall . . . be theirs. Blest are they, who  
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they, who  
 cause . . . of me. Re - joice, be glad,



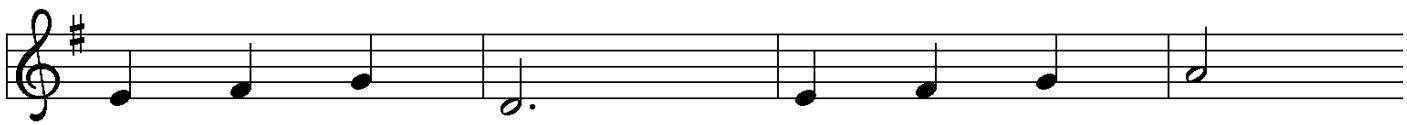
full of sor - row; they shall be con - soled.  
 hun - ger and thirst; they shall have their fill.  
 pure of heart; they . . . shall see God.  
 suf - fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs.  
 yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.

Refrain

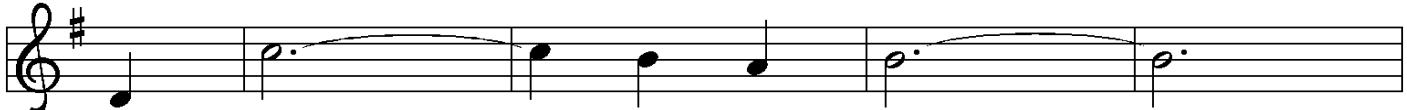
All



Re - joice and be glad!



Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!



Re - joice and be glad!



Yours is the king - dom of God!

## 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 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.

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 THE CHURCH

... *Lord, send forth your light, And let your mercy shine upon us.*

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.     **And also with you.** (Due to illness, vocal only)

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## THANKSGIVING

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### OFFERING

### BLESSED BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

ELW #656

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

(THE USHERS BRING UP THE OFFERING)

## LORD'S PRAYER

Together, let us pray with confidence the words our Savior gave 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.**

**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**What you think matters!**  
**Get a copy of the Annual Report from our Ushers.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.      **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

*Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

ELW#545

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,

let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.  
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - obey.

Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der-ness.  
 Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.  
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.    **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE THE BODY OF CHRIST**

**SUNDAY 9:00am Worship**

Accompanist	Cindy Anderson
Acolyte	Kaden Klein
Readers	Cheryl Neidt
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen
Greeters	Brian & Carol Polesky
Ushers	Keith Lendlt & Ed Ecker
Altar Guild	Mary Renberg and Sarah Lendlt



# Parish Nurse

Blood pressure, Pulse and Oximetry provided by our Faith Community Nurse, Cindy Steffl after 2/5/23 Service. We will be set up in the Fellowship Room after church service. Spare the coffee until after getting the B/P checked!

In April we are planning a Health Education hour, discussing "Health Care Directives". Blank copies will be provided along with guidance, following Minnesota Statutes and Federal Law. April 16 is National Health Care Decisions Day!

The Evangelism Board will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> at 5pm. We are looking for 2-3 people to join our board. Please join us!

**CALLING ALL TRINITY YOUTH!** Please consider going to Bible Camp this summer...all kids 1st grade through 12th grade are invited to attend Green Lake or Shores of St. Andrew June 18-22nd! Information will be handed out today. Remember that Trinity offers **FULL SCHOLARSHIPS** for a week full of faith-growing and fun! **EARLY REGISTRATION AT A LOWER COST ENDS ON FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>!** See Brittany if you have any questions.



**gather grow go SUMMER 2023**

## JOIN US THIS SUMMER!

"Plant your roots in Christ and let God be the foundation for your life. Be strong in your faith, just as you were taught. And be grateful." —Colossians 2:7

**SUMMER CAMP**

**Activities**

- ✓ Rock Wall
- ✓ Outdoor Games
- ✓ Crafts
- ✓ Swimming & Water Olympics
- ✓ Trails & More

**RETREATS**

**FAMILY CAMP**

**GREEN LAKE LUTHERAN ministries**

For more information and to register, visit [GLLM.org](http://GLLM.org) or call 320-796-2181.

JANUARY 29, 2023

# Jesus teaches us about the ways of God.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.  
We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	The sermon on the mount
Monday	Isaiah 57:14-19	God will revive the lowly
Tuesday	Isaiah 51:12-16	Our God of comfort
Wednesday	Jeremiah 22:1-5,15-16	Do what is just and right
Thursday	Matthew 9:10-13	Jesus speaks of mercy
Friday	James 3:13-18	Sowing in peace
Saturday	Psalm 15	Living on God's holy hill
Sunday	Matthew 5:13-20	Salt and light



*Fourth Sunday After  
EPIPHANY*

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

**“The Lord has told you what he wants from you: to do what is right to other people, love being kind to others, and live humbly, obeying your God.”**

Micah 6:8

## **SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:**

A Prayer for the Week:

God, help us to live in peace with one another, and to bring peace where there is trouble. Amen. (Matthew 5:9)

Mealtime Prayer:

God, you have blessed us with daily bread. Bless us also with gratitude, generosity and compassion for others. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a thirst for what is pure, right and good. May the Lord make your life a great blessing to others. Amen.

## **CARING CONVERSATION**

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Name a teacher whom you admire or respect. What have you learned from them?
  - One day, Jesus taught his followers up on a mountain (Matthew 5:1-11).
- He said that God blesses those who are humble, those who stand up for what is good and right, those who are forgiving, and those who work for peace. Share some real life examples of these behaviors with one another.
- Which of Jesus' teachings do you find the hardest to follow?

## **DEVOTIONS**

Read and discuss Matthew 5:3-11. Write the key words from Jesus' sermon onto cards (e.g. humility, goodness, mercy, purity, peace-loving, etc.) and attach these to blocks, small containers or boxes. Then, build a “mountain” to display these in a prominent place. In your home devotion times this week, talk about what it means to show those godly qualities in your lives. Pray for God's help to obey Jesus' teachings.

## **SERVICE**

The prophet Micah told God's people that God wanted them to worship not only with their words but with their actions—to show kindness and mercy to others and to treat them in good and right ways. Decide on a “Micah” challenge you can take on as a household to bless your community this month.

## **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**

Matthew 5:3-11 speaks of blessings. A wonderful ritual to practice regularly in your home is that of blessing one another. When we bless another person, we are calling forth the goodness of God that is within them as well as demonstrating our own caring and concern. There are three basic elements to a personal blessing—God's name, words and touch (e.g. a hand on a shoulder, or making the sign of the cross on their forehead or palm). Good times for using blessings in the home are mealtimes, bedtimes and at daily farewells (e.g. when children leave for school or parents leave for work). Duplicate this week's “Blessing to Give” for each member of your household and experiment with the practice throughout the week.

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**Please take your bulletin home for weekly devotions**



## Trinity's Mission Statement

***We are a community where Jesus is Lord: our mission is to invite, welcome, nurture, and equip all people to be disciples in His name.***

**TRINITY'S PRAYER CHAIN** Send an email to [secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org](mailto:secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org) or call the office at 507 794-5051. Leave a message.

**TRINITY'S WEBPAGE** Send an email to the church office at [secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org](mailto:secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org) and let Darlene know you want your newsletter via email!

**TRINITY IS NOW ON FACEBOOK  
CHECK IT OUT!!**

**"Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) Sleepy Eye MN"**

The Trinity Tidings newsletter is now also posted on [www.sleepyeyeonline.com](http://www.sleepyeyeonline.com)  
watch this site for community news and events.



If you haven't already, please consider **Simply Giving**, an automated giving program for your offering. You determine the frequency of your offering which is deposited into Trinity's account the same day it is withdrawn from your account. It's a "hassle-free" way to give.

Talk to Pat or Darlene if you are interested. Thank You.

### **Last week at Trinity**

Weekly Worship Attendance:	62
Weekly Giving: (5846.00 Needed)	\$4004.92
January Giving:	\$17,635.36
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$17,635.36

## **This Week's Prayer Concerns**

**Pray for the Church**...that the Holy Spirit would empower us to live in the image of God so that we would speak and act in every way bringing glory to God before all the nations and peoples with what we have been given...

**Pray for our World**...that pain of this Covid-19 pandemic, which has penetrated so many lives that your light Lord would help us to see your presence and that the Spirit would lead us to seek the truth and practice grace for all who are hurting...

**Pray for all who are ill, afflicted, or recovering**...that the Holy Spirit would give comfort and daily strength to Sherry, Audrey, Kali, Micah, Beth, Harold, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Milo, Ed, Carlos, Jameson, Bill, Dorothy, Story, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Julia Ann, Tammy, John, Tony, Ted, Connor, Kimora, and Mary Jo.

**Pray for the beloved**... who now rest from their labors in God's mercy and for all who mourn the personal loss of loved ones ....that God would fill each one with the hope of our Lord's promise to bring us to a new heaven and earth where suffering, crying, pain and death will be no more....

**Pray for all families**... that the Holy Spirit would bring joy and spiritual growth to all who are separated from one another and each would be blessed with their safe return to us...

**Pray for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces and those far from home**...for Brady Augustin and his wife ...and for all of our military Veterans that the Holy Spirit would guard them in safety and keep their hearts stayed in Christ...

**Pray for the missionaries of our church (ELCA)**...that they proclaim their witness of the Gospel throughout the world.

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# The KINGDOM OF HEA Beatitudes

The Beatitudes

CHILDREN OF GOD  
POOR IN SPIRIT  
SATISFIED  
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN  
MOURN  
HUNGER AND THIRST  
COMFORTED  
RIGHTEOUSNESS  
PERSECUTED  
PEACEMAKERS  
INHERIT THE EARTH  
MERCY  
OBTAI  
PURE OF HEART  
PEACE