

Trinity Lutheran Church

February 23,
2025

Seventh Sunday
After Epiphany

217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN

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Mon-Thurs
9am - 3pm

Ministers
Every member

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Custodian
Pat Lowther



Do to others
as you would have them do to you.

Luke 6:31

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY HOLY COMMUNION

FEBRUARY 23RD, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M.



THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WELCOMES ALL WHO ENTER THIS HOUSE OF WORSHIP! The risen Christ calls all to faith and invites you to come and partake of the Lord's real presence and free grace given and shed for you through the bread and cup of salvation today. May you be filled with new life to love and serve God and neighbor as a child of God! Following the Sunday morning worship you are invited to join in fellowship and refreshments served in the Library.

GATHERING

WE PREPARE: *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.*

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.
Amen.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

Rejoice in this good news: In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **Amen.**



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,

na-ture sings, and round me rings the mu-sic of the spheres.
 morn-ing light, the lil-y white, de-clare their mak-er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul-er yet.

This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The

rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won-ders wrought.
 rus-tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
 Lord is king, let heav-en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

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

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.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

The first reading is in Genesis chapter 45, verses 3-11, and 15. 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.

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.

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. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. 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. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 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. 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. 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.

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.' " 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.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

The second reading is in 1 Corinthians chapter 15, verses 35-38, and 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.

But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. 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. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will

also bear the image of the man of heaven.

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 ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

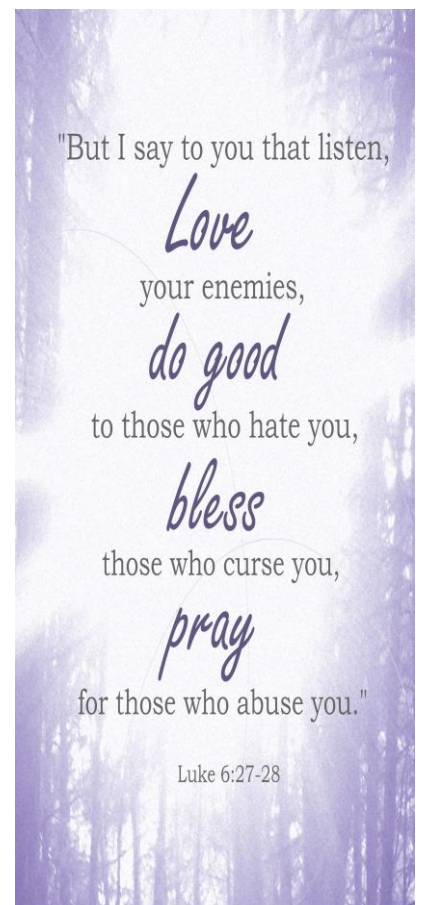
Luke 6:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 6th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. 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. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 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. 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. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; 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.**

SERMON

Pastor Dave Nissen

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

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

THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: respond after Lord, God of grace,



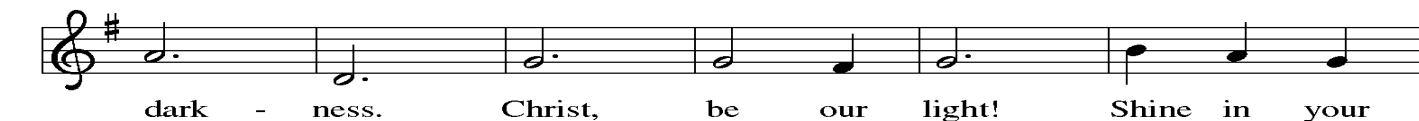
SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY

Christ Be Our Light

ELW 715



(The Ushers bring up the offering)

SENDING

BLESSING

God the Creator who delights in you, Jesus the Savior who is born for you, and the lifegiving Spirit who shines on you, † bless you and keep you in hope and peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

We Are Marching in the Light of God

ELW #866



Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...
We are praying ...
We are singing ...

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Be the light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE THE BODY OF CHRIST

SUNDAY 9:00am Worship	
Accompanist	Mary Mulry
Acolyte	Callie Evers
Readers	Alisa Mangen
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen
Greeters	Brian & Carol Polesky
Ushers	Dale & Diane Eckstein
Altar Guild	Judy Johnson & Sara Sellner

The Board of Lay Ministry is putting together a new pictorial directory. We are doing the pictures ourselves. The pictures will be taken on Sundays February 16, 23, March 2, 9 and 15 and Wednesdays March 5 and 12. If you have a family photo you would like to use that is fine also. The deadline is March 15. You may submit photos to wahlborg@sleepyeyetel.net



CAN YOU HELP? We are asking for drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels. 1-2 people are needed per week from March 3 through March 31. This is a half of an hour to 1 hour daily commitment to help feed people in our community. Contact Lee Johnson to sign up or if you have any questions. Call 507-276-3515. Thanks! Trinity has committed to aiding our community with this program for many years. **Let's not stop now!**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Altar Guild is seeking additional members. Duties include light cleaning, setting up & cleaning up following communion services, handling floral arrangements, refilling candles, changing colors and other similar weekly tasks. For more information, please contact Joleen Dittbenner or leave your name and number in church office. Thank you.



The lakeside service is being planned for July 27. Camping at the lake is available, but sites fill up fast. If you are interested, you can make your reservations now for that weekend with the City of Sleepy Eye.

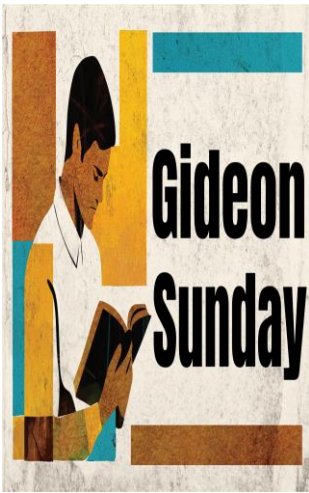
The Living Lutheran Magazine is again being published quarterly. Please sign up in the office if you would like your family to receive a quarterly copy. It will be sent free of charge to members who wish to subscribe through the Church. Thank you.



Join us March 15th from 9-11:30 AM in the church basement as we use God's Work Our Hands to tie quilts or fleece blankets to help others in need around our nation and the world! There will fellowship, coffee, and treats for all. We can make a difference when we work together!

All ages and people are Welcome!





Trinity will have a Gideons Sunday on March 9th, with a Gideon speaker to share about the work of the Gideon Ministry. Gideon's goal is very simple, "Winning Men and Women and Boys and Girls to the Lord Jesus Christ". You will have that opportunity on Sunday to give a gift of money to buy Bibles and place in their hand. The 115th State Gideon Convention is for "ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD" 1 Corinthians 10; 31, donations from Gideons and Auxiliary and Church presentations like yours. We can make difference with a gift by placing God's word in their hand.

In His Service, Gideon, Russell Sorensen Trinity Church



The Boards of Trinity cordially invite you to join us for supper each week before the evening service at 7:00 and Church School at 6:00.

We are raising funds to support Summer Church Camp with the help of Thrivent Action Teams

**Meals are served from 5:30 pm – 6:15 pm each Wednesday
Cost for the meal is a Free Will Offering**

March 5th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Welca

March 12th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Youth

March 19th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Social Ministries

March 26th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Property

April 2nd: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Evangelism and Stewardship

April 9th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Lay Ministry & Fellowship

February 23rd, 2025

Show love to those who are unkind to you.

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	Luke 6:27-38	Love for Enemies
Monday	1 Corinthians 11:2-16	Maintain the traditions
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 11:17-33	Abuses at the Lord's Supper
Wednesday	Luke 17:1-4	Sayings of Jesus
Thursday	Romans 5:12-6:2	Adam and Christ
Friday	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	The Coming of the Lord
Saturday	John 16:1-4a	Keep from Stumbling
Sunday	Luke 9:28-43a	The Transfiguration



Seventh Sunday After
EPYPHANY

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

**“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies,
do good to those who hate you.”**

Luke 6:27

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Jesus, thank you that your love for us never fails. Help us to show love to others today, even when they hurt us. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Gracious Father, thank you for your loving care. Be with us as this meal we share. May your love be known everywhere. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Spirit of God live in you. May the Spirit fill you with God's love and God's wisdom. Amen. (1 Corinthians 3:16-20)

CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- When do you find it easy to show love? When is it hard to show love?
- Jesus tells us that we should not only love those who love us, but love those who treat us badly and pray for them.
How can we show love for our “enemies?”
- How does Jesus show love for those who don't love him?

DEVOTIONS

In our world today, there are many people who actively oppose the Christian faith, sometimes with violence and acts of terror. Jesus commands us not to repay evil with evil, but to love our enemies and pray for them. In your home devotion times this week, pray for opponents of the Christian faith. Ask God to bless them with good things and to give them a new heart and new spirit. Ask God to help you see them through his eyes, and to teach you how to love them.

SERVICE

In Leviticus 19:9-10, God asked the Israelites to be generous to poor people and to the foreigners who were living among them. When they harvested their crops, they were to leave behind some of the produce for these people to collect. Discuss how your household might better share God's blessings with the poor in your community. For example, could you purchase an extra food item or two when grocery shopping to donate to a local charity that helps the poor?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Intentional quality time together is a very important building block for a healthy household. Regular household outings are one way of providing time, space and the means for household members to maintain and develop their relationships with one another. With foresight and planning, household outings can also have spiritual elements that help foster your relationships with God. For a household outing this week, search out old buildings in your community. Look for foundation stones that indicate when they were constructed. As you go, talk about what it means to have Jesus Christ as the foundation for your lives (1 Corinthians 3:11).

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Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

Please take your bulletin home for weekly devotions



February Giving: (\$28,650.00 .Needed) \$12,130.54
 Yearly Contributions to Date \$34,209.16

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 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 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 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:	66
Website	64
Bible Studies Attendance:	3+6+8=17
Confirmation & Church School	59
Weekly Giving: (5730.00 Needed)	\$2362.63

This Week's Prayer Concerns

Pray for Trinity...that the Holy Spirit would keep our Trinity family united as we continue in worship and in helping others as we are able ...

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 **Jane, Nicole, Krista, Trisha, Mark, Diane, Sherry, Kali, Isak, Pam, Pat, Trish, Beth, Harold, Isaac, Sarah, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Darell, Milo, Ed, Carlo, Dorothy, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Linette, 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 compassion and mercy to all who are separated from one another and each would give way to mercy, love and reconciliation...

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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Thrivent members are reminded to direct their Choice Dollars each year any time after April 1st of the year!