Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

January 19, 2025 - 9:30 a.m.



Second Sunday after Epiphany

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

Service of Word and Sacrament

In the bulletin: The asterisk (*) invites you to stand as you are able. Boldface type indicates the congregation's responses. At the sign of the cross (\pm) , you are invited to make that same sign upon yourself in remembrance of your baptism.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Shine Jesus Shine Peggy Fletcher

Handbell Choir directed by David Lines

*Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand if you are able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

We have wounded one another

and sinned against you.

We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit

dwelling in each of us.

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us,

that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

live anew as beloved children of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Canticle of Praise

Glory Be to God



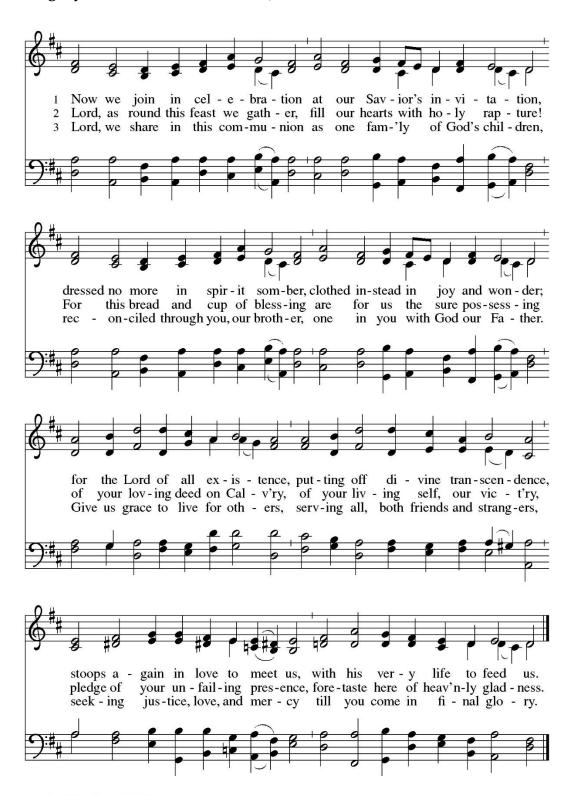
*Greeting

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.

*Gathering Hymn No. 462

Now We Join in Celebration



Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990 Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662 Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Prayer of the Day

Please be seated.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Living God,

you have given us the gift of a new day.

Show us what you would have us do,

where you would have us go,

what you would have us say,

and how you would have us serve.

We pray in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Choral Anthem

How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place

Robert J. Powell

Chancel Choir directed by Will Bowers

₩ WORD ₩

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

A reading from Isaiah.

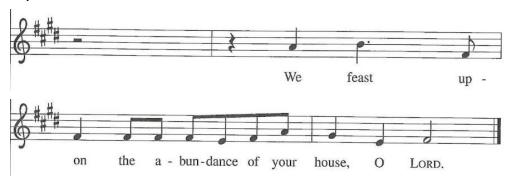
¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until its vindication shines out like the dawn, and its salvation like a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the rulers your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as one rejoices in marrying one's beloved, so shall your God rejoice over you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 36:5-10

Refrain



Cantor ⁵ Your love, O Lord, reaches ¹ to the heavens, and your faithfulness ¹ to the clouds.

People ⁶ Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like ¹ the great deep; you save humankind and ani- ¹ mals, O Lord. R

Cantor ⁷ How priceless is your ¹ love, O God!
All people take refuge under the shadow ¹ of your wings.

People 8 They feast upon the abundance 1 of your house; you give them drink from the river of 1 your delights.

Cantor ⁹ For with you is the ¹ well of life, and in your light ¹ we see light.

People ¹⁰ Continue your lovingkindness to ¹ those who know you, and your favor to those who are ¹ true of heart. R

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Please stand if you are able.



*Gospel: John 2:1-11

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

The Holy Gospel according to John the 2nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁶He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁶When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹o and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer for Understanding

Please be seated.

Living God,

send your Spirit upon us that we may not only hear your word, but live it and share it, to the glory of your name.

Amen.

Sermon

Pastor Becki Verbridge

Installation of Council

The following people have been elected to positions of leadership: *Mike Ameling, Liz Anacki (Secretary), Diane Chambers (President), Frederica Cohen, John Guran (Treasurer), Deborah Ickes, Amy Indorf,* and *Alexa Sandmann (Vice President)*. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Cor.12:4-7)

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this congregation bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your siblings in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

I now declare you installed as officers and council members of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

An Invitation to Serve

Linda Vowles will present "An Invitation to Serve". During the special music, you are asked to fill out the pamphlet. You may return it in the offering plate or the basket on the table below the lectern.

Special Music

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Mark Sedio

*Apostles' Creed

Please stand if you are able.

With the whole church let us 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 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Please be seated.

Giving thanks for God's great gifts, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

You enliven your church. Inspire your people to rejoice in and make good use of the various gifts you have given them for ministry. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You are the fountain that brings forth life. Guide us to be good stewards of all plant and animal life entrusted to our care. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You are light for all people. Shine on the path for all nations to seek peace, justice, and the well-being of all your children. We remember and celebrate the life and work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You are a refuge to those in peril. Grant help, healing, and wholeness to all who need your care. We pray for all those on our prayer list, especially...Cindy, John, Leslie, Teresa, Connie, Ian, Joanie, Carmen, and Kris. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Bless the leaders of this congregation. Help them to use their gifts in this community to the glory of your holy name. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the faithful departed. May their lives inspire us to trust always in your promise of eternal life. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

₩ MEAL **₩**

*Sharing of the Peace

Please stand if you are able.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with one another and then we are seated.

Offertory Hymn No. 677

This Little Light of Mine



Text: African American spiritual Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935 Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Offering Prayer

Please remain seated.

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.

Invitation to the Table

Christ comes to us in, with and under the bread and wine to nourish our faith.

The uncontainable presence, grace, love, forgiveness and

mercy of Christ come to us in this simple meal that spans all time and space.

All of God's children – regardless of denominational background –

are welcome and invited to share it with us.

*The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand if you are able.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,

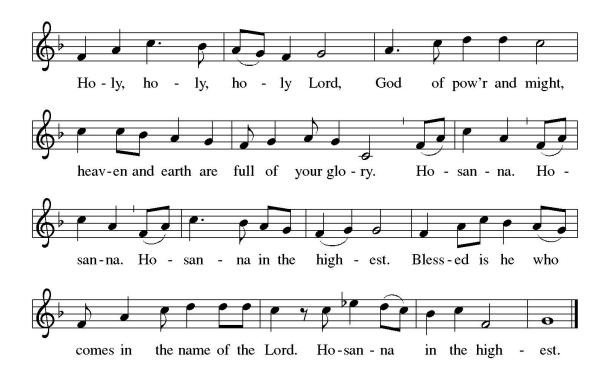
always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;

in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with the all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*Prayer at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out
to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross,
opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying; Take and eat;
This is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,

he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us

the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.



*The Lord's Prayer

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

Amen.

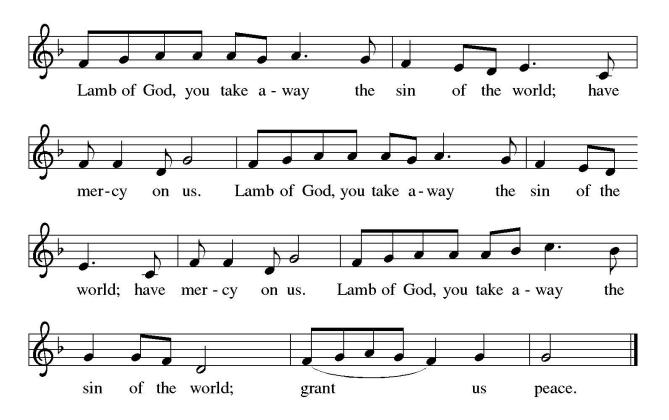
Please be seated.

The Communion

Come to the table. There is a place for you.

Communion Hymn

Lamb of God



Those celebrating with us from your homes: please share the bread and wine or grape juice with one another using these words: The Body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. An **Amen** or **Thanks be to God** is spoken in response to these gifts.

Those celebrating with us in person: Please come forward by the center aisle to receive a wafer (gluten free wafers are also available) and an individual cup of wine or white grape juice from those serving. Please return to your seat by the side aisle.



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919 Music: NOW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

★ SENDING **★**

Prayer after Communion

Please remain seated.

We give you thanks, gracious God, for feeding us at your table.

Send us from this place to extend your love and grace to all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*Blessing

Please stand if you are able.

The Spirit of the triune God

→ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.

*Sending Hymn No. 576

We All Are One in Mission



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955 Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

*Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.

We go to connect people with Jesus through love and the Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude St. Gertrude Gordon Young

As the last act of worship, you are invited to remain for the Postlude. If you do not wish to stay, please be respectful of those who are listening.

+ + +

Your tithes and offerings are important to our ministry. On-line donation options are available at holytrinityakron.org/donate or by contacting Financial Secretary Jim Minisall at jminisall@holytrinityakron.org. Or simply mail your offerings to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 50 N. Prospect Street, Akron, Ohio 44304. Thank you for your generous and regular support.

The Love Offering for January will support Hearts for Music trip to the Vatican in April. Hearts for Music provides under-represented individuals with disabilities and special needs different opportunities for ensemble music performance. Their unique special needs orchestra features individuals ages 5 to 70, and the widest range of disabilities ever showcased on stage. From Autism and Down Syndrome to amputees, the blind and the deaf, and many others, Hearts for Music demonstrates that music combined with love can truly transform disabilities into abilities. Hearts for Music received a once in a lifetime invitation from the Vatican to perform in Rome on April 29, 2025, the Feast of St. Catherine of Sienna. They will perform with other Roman Italians with disabilities creating for the first time a multinational, multi-ethnic, multi-disability music ensemble group. Donations towards this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity are humbly asked for and gratefully received!

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Postlude: St. Gertrude, Gordon Young, Copyright: 1970 Theodore Presser Co.

This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, 1/19	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:45 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
Monday, 1/20		Church Office Closed - Holiday
Tuesday, 1/21	6:30 p.m.	Derbytown Chorus - Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting - Zoom
Wednesday, 1/22	9:00 a.m.	Morning Devotions - Facebook
Thursday, 1/23	6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir - Sanctuary
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir - Room 202
Friday, 1/24	9:00 a.m.	Faith 5 Check-In - Zoom
Saturday, 1/25	9:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting with John Stefanik Church Office
Sunday, 1/26	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Annual Congregational Meeting

January 19, 2025 Worship Stewards

Reader: Jacquie Wert Assisting Minister: Linda Vowles Communion Assistant: Jennifer Keller

In Our Prayers...

<u>January 19:</u> Cindy White (nephew of Stephen White), John Shea (Stephen White's husband), Leslie Kissel (neighbor of Stephen White), Teresa McGee (friend of Stephen White), Connie Archbold (member), Ian Richenbacher (grandson of the Richbachers), Joanie Baumgardner (sister-in-law of Tom Baumgardner), Carmen Herring (friend of Frederica Cohen), and Kris Dietrich (relative of Frederica Cohen).

<u>January 12:</u> Family of Jennifer Naader (member), Sue Mullins (friend of the Kimbles), and the family of Mary Lee Fidler (mother of Pastor Doug Fidler).

<u>January 5:</u> Rachel Cheuk (daughter of the Kimbles), Gene Thrall (member), Sally Richenbacher (member), Jo Ameling (member), and Tanesha (friend of the Asentes).

December 29: Sandy Plummer (member).

The names of those making the request will be printed next to the name of the person being prayed for. We kindly ask those making the request to keep our prayer list coordinators updated as to the status of the person they are requesting prayer for. We would be glad to continue praying for individuals (adding them for another four weeks) upon request. If you have updates or additions to the prayer list, please contact Sally Richenbacher, Rachel Núñez, or Pastor Becki Verbridge.

...Ministry Team Leaders...

Ministry Team	Team Leader(s)	Phone
Congregation Care & Connection	Amanda Archbold	(330) 322-6554
Finance	John Guran	(330) 606-3915
Invite-Welcome-Connect	Sandy DeLuca	(330) 703-4870
Meditation Memorial Garden	Sonya Nagle	(330) 410-4160
Outreach & Social Concerns	Gregg Loesch	(330) 733-4081
Personnel	John Stefanik	(330) 666-3579
Property	Kevin Heckel	(330) 283-2866
Worship & Music	Frederica Cohen	(330) 535-3037

...Our Staff...

Interim Pastor Director of Cong.	Becki Verbridge Rachel Nunez	bverbridge@holytrinityakron.org rnunez@holytrinityakron.org
Care & Connection		
Dir. of Music Ministry	David Lines	dlines@holytrinityakron.org
Financial Secretary	Jim Minisall	jminisall@holytrinityakron.org
Communications Coord.	Sandy DeLuca	sdeluca@holytrinityakron.org
Parish Secretary	Annmarie Demko	ademko@holytrinityakron.org
Maintenance Coord.	Bruce Mansour	mansour@holytrinityakron.org
Sexton	Vince Simmons	

...Activity Coordinators...

Activity	Coordinator	Phone
Altar Guild	Deborah Ickes	(678) 353-7444
Assisting Ministers	Rachel Núñez	(330) 634-6597
Communion Assistants	Deborah Ickes	(678) 353-7444
Council President	John Guran	(330) 606-3915
Men's Bible Study	Jack Harig	(330) 644-9862
Well's bible Study	Tom Baumgardner	(330) 603-3691
Prayer Chain	Sally Richenbacher	(330) 650-1175
Readers	Nancy Riemenschneider	(330) 239-1086
Stewardship	Jack Harig	(330) 644-9862
Ushers	Gregg Loesch	(330) 733-4081
Women's Bible Study	Rachel Núñez	(330) 634-6597

50 N. Prospect Street Akron, OH 44304 (330) 376-5154

