



Trinity Lutheran Church
Sunday, January 25, 2026
3rd Week After Epiphany-RIC
Nicodemus

*Indicates please stand as you are able

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Air"

GF Handel

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CALL TO WORSHIP

- P: We, of many backgrounds and identities, personalities, and ideas, gather collectively in shared pursuit of the Sacred.
- C: Together, we make up the body of Christ.**
- P: Wherever one of us is in pain,
- C: our whole body aches.**
- P: Whenever one of us is cut off,
- C: the whole body is wounded.**
- P: Whoever is kept away by discriminatory policies or practices or prejudices,
- C: Our collective soul suffers the loss of their presence.**
- P: We need one another in order to be whole,
- C: God make us the body of Christ as you envisioned.**
- P: May we become your presence enfleshed, in service to the world and one another.

Written by M Jade Kaiser, Enfleshed

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, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.
- C: Amen.**
- P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P: Mighty God, lover of justice,
- C: you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Earth and All Stars"

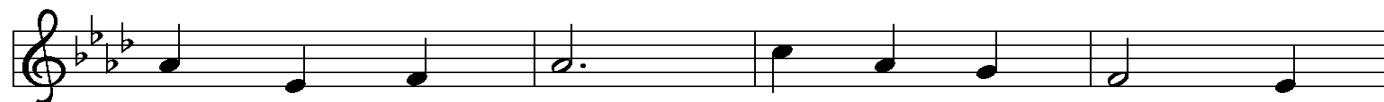
vs. 1, 2 & 5

ELW #731

Herbert F. Brokering &

David N. Johnson

©1968 Augsburg Pub OL#87045



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!

5 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord a new song!

Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!

Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!

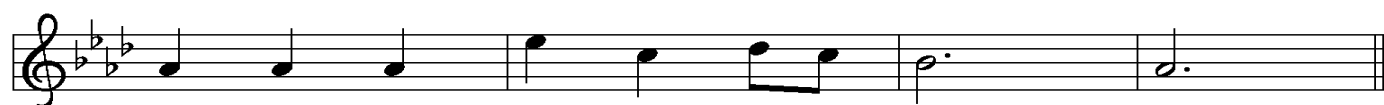


Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord a new song!

Sing to the Lord a new song!



Refrain
God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

INVOCATION

P: May the grace of Jesus Christ, the love, mercy, and justice of God, and wisdom of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

ELW pgs. 175-176



Lord, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Lord, have . . .



mer - cy. *Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie -*



dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.



Christ, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Christ, have . .



mer - cy. *Cris - to, Cris - to, ten pie -*



dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.



Lord, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Lord, have . . .



mer - cy. *Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie -*



dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.

SONG OF PRAISE

ELW pgs. 176-177



Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!



And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.



Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra_a-que-llos que_a-ma_el Se - ñor.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of Beauty, you gather your beloved children into your care, each one a unique image of you. You claim us as your own and call us to follow in the ways of mercy, justice, and joy. Strengthen our changing hearts and minds to continue the work of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON & OFFERING

Pastor Rick

MUSICAL OFFERING

"See Amid the Winters Snow"

arr. Brian Childers

Bells of Trinity

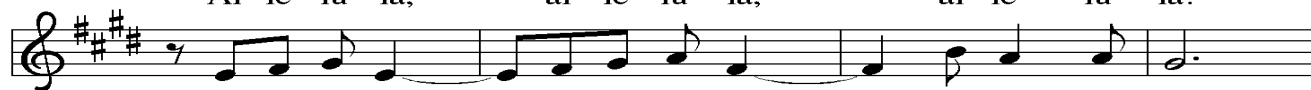
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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 179



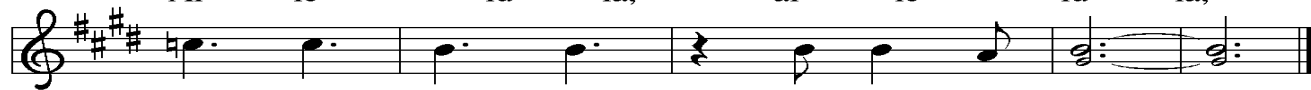
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya!

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 3:1-21

L: The good news according to John 3

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." ³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹ But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

L: The gospel of God.

C: **Praise be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Rick



1 Cuan-do el po-bre na-da tie-ne y aún re-par-te,
1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;
2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-f'ring con-so-la-tion;
3 When our spir-its, like a chal-ice, brim with glad-ness;
4 When the good-ness poured from heav-en fills our dwell-ings;



cuan-do al - guien pa-sa sed y a-gua nos da,
when the thirst - y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;
when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
when our voic-es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
when the na-tions work to change war in-to peace;



cuan-do el dé-bil a su her-ma-no for-ta-le-ce:
when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing:
when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us:
when our long-ings, free from en-vy, seek the hum-ble:
when the strang-er is ac-cept-ed as our neigh-bor:

Refrain / Estribillo



Va Dios mis - mo en nues-tro mis - mo ca-mi - nar;
We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;



va Dios mis - mo en nues-tro mis - mo ca-mi - nar.
we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

IMMIGRANT'S CREED

**I believe in Almighty God,
who guided the people in exile and in exodus,
the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,
the God of foreigners and immigrants.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
a displaced Galilean,
who was born away from his people and his home,
who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger,
and returning to his own country suffered the oppression
of the tyrant Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power,
who then was persecuted, beaten, and finally tortured,
accused and condemned to death unjustly.
But on the third day, this scorned Jesus rose from the dead,
not as a foreigner but to offer us citizenship in heaven.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,
who speaks all languages, lives in all countries,
and reunites all races.**

**I believe that the church is the secure home
for the foreigner and for all believers who constitute it,
who speak the same language and have the same purpose.
I believe that the communion of the saints begins
when we accept the diversity of the saints.**

**I believe in the forgiveness of sin, which makes us all equal,
and in reconciliation, which identifies us more
than does race, language, or nationality.**

**I believe that in the resurrection
God will unite us as one people
in which all are distinct
and all are alike at the same time.**

**Beyond this world, I believe in life eternal
in which no one will be an immigrant
but all will be citizens of God's kingdom,
which will never end. Amen.**

PRAYERS

P: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING

*If you have a monetary offering, please place in the plate as you leave worship today,
or use this code to give electronically.*



OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Holy One be with you

C: **And also with you**

P: Open your hearts to the One who is Love

C: **We open our hearts to you, O God**

P: Let us give thanks to God who sets us free

C: **It is our joy to give you thanks!**

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW pg.181

Musical notation for the hymn 'HOLY, HOLY, HOLY'. It consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,'. The second staff contains the melody for 'God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.'.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,

God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to es el Se - ñor,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to es el Se - ñor.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on

earth. . . . Blest is he who comes in the

name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na en el

cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -

di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

It is our joy, O God, to express our gratitude for your work in us. You offer to us life abundant, free from needing to conform to the pressures of our world. You wove us together with all of creation that we might be, like you, creators. You set us in the garden to plant, to grow, to help life to flourish. You set a path before us to co-create with you a world where beauty and truth and goodness might thrive.

But we have betrayed our calling. Instead of allowing life to flourish in its many forms, too often, O God, we turn away from those who don't conform to our expectations. At times, we even become violent towards anyone who is different. Your creative hand in the formation of our queer and trans siblings is punished by both church and world. Since the beginning, we have struggled to overcome our fear of difference.

But in your love for all of us, you took on the very flesh the world despises. The flesh of one on the borders. The flesh of one who broke rules. The flesh of one who hung out with the outcasts, the weirdos, the sinners. In Christ, we are awakened to the Holiness of difference.

When the Sacredness of those on the margins is affirmed, the powers that depend on the status quo are threatened. And so, the religious and political leaders set out to end the life of Jesus.

On the night of his arrest, he gathered around table with his companions.

He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said,

“This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

He did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,

“This cup that is poured out is the new covenant.”

And so in remembrance of the One who refused to conform to values and practices that harm, we pray that the Spirit would make us one in our vision for the Kindom, where all are free to flourish in our created forms. Pour out your Spirit on this bread and this cup, that we might be the body of the queer Christ, relentless pursuer of love in all its surprising, confronting, and varied manifestations.

Amen.

Written by M Jade Kaiser, Enfleshed

THE LORD’S PRAYER

ELW pg. 112

Our Father in heaven, holy be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

“Lamb of God”

ELW pg. 182-183

O Lamb of . . . God, you . . . take a-way the sin of the world; . . .
have . . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . . mer-cy up - on us.
Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.



COMMUNION

"Air on a G String"

JS Bach
Public Domain

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, we give you thanks for this meal that nourishes us, body and soul. May it sustain us as we confront evil that keeps us or others from living freely as our true selves. Where any social norm or power imbalance limits our possibilities for thriving, may we be a witness to Christ, pursuer of justice for all your people. Amen.

Written by M Jade Kaiser, Enfleshed

SENDING HYMN

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"
Trinity Chancel Choir

Peter Lutkin
Public Domain

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Prelude in G Minor"

JS Bach
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Prayer List

Members

Pastor Paul Schairer
Mary Ann Armstrong
Marilyn Hartig
Polly Sersen
Tim Anderson
Eric Biedermann
Jean Purath
Mary Ann Miller
Barb Klamann
Shirley Garvin
Madysen Hopkins

Friends & Family

Sue Silver, friend of the Jurgenson family
Tae, family of Clinton Ellerbe
Amy Oduor, daughter of Clinton Ellerbe
Joe Burt, brother-in-law of Clinton Ellerbe
Deborah Stinnett, friend of Dan Merz
Steve Eulberg, friend of Jim & Margaret Frye
Ramona Haeder, sister of Rebecca Roland
Jules Webb, daughter of Martha Webb
Marilu Ritzman, friend of Rob & Aida Schmidt
Douglas Hardie, friend of Rob & Aida Schmidt
Susie Kragmeier, daughter of Kate Stieben
Beth Barnett, daughter of Carolyn & Eric Biedermann
Erin Slocum, daughter of Patty & Don Heyse

To all who gather: We are Reconciling in Christ, which means we strive to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and to work for racial equity and to commit to anti-racist work.

We welcome believers, seekers, and the curious, regardless of religious background. God makes no distinction based on race; ethnicity; immigration status; economic status; physical, mental, or developmental circumstances; or other life circumstances. God loves and welcomes all people. Therefore, we welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

From Pastor Rick: This community affirms its welcome by accepting me in this place. Diagnosed with Huntington's (HD), my progressing symptoms and neurodiversity are displayed publicly. The uncontrolled movements (chorea) may limit my functionality, or appear in other ways; yet, it is an opportunity to learn and love alongside one another. HD is part of me, but I am not defined by the diagnosis. As for all of us, I am defined as child of God.

Guests and Visitors: All are invited to receive the gluten free bread and wine of Holy Communion (juice is also available). Your offering is your presence in worship. Please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate as you leave. Don't forget your 'Sweet Treat' plate from the welcome desk!

Worship Note: The red hymnal *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) page numbers are found in the front while song numbers are in the back. If you have any questions about worship or Trinity, our clergy or welcome table hosts are happy to help.

Parents and Caregivers: God's children of all ages are welcome in worship. If helpful, please use the Family Break Room outside the worship space or a "Worship Activity Bag" - available near the welcome table. On Sunday, if needed, we offer a fully trained Nursery; staffed by Tiffany K. and Zoe K.

Special needs: Hearing-assistance devices are available during our services. Holy Communion can also be brought to the seats of those who are unable to come forward. Our Welcome Table Hosts can help with any of these special needs.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

Monday (January 26)

12 pm Sermon Discussion-Fireside

6:30 pm (5) NoCo Male Spirituality

Tuesday (January 27)

5:30 pm JET Eco Justice-Room 2

Wednesday (January 28)

5:15 pm Bells of Trinity-Room 1

6:30 pm Chancel Choir-Choir Room

Thursday (January 29)

9:30 pm Bible Study-Room Room 2

3-5 pm Spanish Class-Room 2

6 pm Chapter 2 Readers-Fireside

Friday (January 30)

10 am Quilting-Room 2

Saturday (January 31)

5 pm Worship

Sunday (February 1)

9 am Adult Forum-Room 2

9 am Confirmation-Room 8

9 am Sunday School-Room 3

9 am Youth Group-Room 6

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

In Ministry Today

Worship Assistant: Joey Prows

Welcome Table Host: Bonnie & Rod McKenrick

Fellowship Host: Linda Cavazos

Bread Baker: Dan Merz

Prayer Writer: Ronda Simmons

Communion Team: Gerry Olsen

Flower Arrangement: Volunteers of St Paul's Episcopal

Trinity's Clergy Leader:

Pastor Rick Reiten & Pastor Kaari Nieuwlandt

Trinity's Staff:

Carrie Hansen	Music Coord. & Organist
Tessa Espinosa	Chancel Choir Director
Clinton Ellerbe	Saturday Worship Leader
Austin Naylor	Bells of Trinity Director
Brenda Harju	TLC Preschool Director
Brenda Moore	Financial Manager
Deana Andrist	Office Administrator
Amanda Backsen	Director of Communications/ Volunteer Coord.
Claire Pickerel	AV Technician
Jennifer Reeve	Shared Children's Minister
Tiffany Klijewski	Nursery Coord.
Zoe Klamann	Nursery Attendant

Staff Emails are available on our website

Coming Up:

Sunday, February 15

301 Faith Partner Shared Service

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday @ 12pm

Trinity is a welcoming faith community living together in God's love to share the joy of Jesus Christ.



Trinity Lutheran Church

301 E. Stuart St., Fort Collins, CO 80525 (970) 482-1226

Website: www.trinitylutheranfc.org email: office@trinitylutheranfc.org

TLC Preschool - 221-9852



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