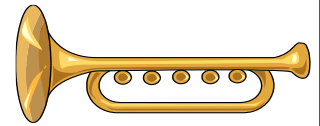




# TRINITY TRUMPET

January 2023



## Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church will take place after worship on Sunday, February 5, 2023. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary and will also be livestreamed on Facebook Live. There will be a potluck lunch following the meeting. In preparation for the meeting, please submit reports for the Annual Report by Monday, January 16, 2023.

## This Epiphany, Look for the Light

The season between Christmas and Lent is known as the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is from the Greek *epipháneia* which means a manifestation or occurrence. It comes from the verb *phainein*, to appear. And that's quite frankly all the Greek etymology any newsletter article needs. The point is, Epiphany is the season in which we look for all the ways and places God is among us in the person of Jesus.

The theme for our worship this Epiphany season is taken from the song we will be singing as our Gospel Acclamation, The Light of Christ Has Come Into the World. At Christmas we heard how Jesus, the light of the world, became flesh and lived among us. Epiphany teaches us to see how the light of the world is still among us, in worship and song, in friendship and service, in the waters of baptism and the bread and wine of communion, and in the fellowship and support of the people of God.

There is a poem by Walter Brueggemann I have printed on the Take Home House Blessing sheets I have passed out most years. It's on there again this year, but it bears including here as well. The poem is called Epiphany.

### *Epiphany* by Walter Brueggemann

*On Epiphany day,  
we are still the people walking.  
We are still people in the dark,  
and the darkness looms large around us,  
beset as we are by fear,  
anxiety,  
brutality,  
violence,  
loss—  
a dozen alienations that we cannot manage.*

*We are—we could be—people of your light.  
So we pray for the light of your glorious presence  
as we wait for your appearing;  
we pray for the light of your wondrous grace*

*as we exhaust our coping capacity;  
we pray for your gift of newness that  
will override our weariness;  
we pray that we may see and know and hear and trust  
in your good rule.*

*That we may have energy, courage, and freedom to  
enact  
your rule through the demands of this day.  
We submit our day to you and to your rule,  
with deep joy and high hope.*

From: *Prayers for a Privileged People* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2008),  
163.

## Blessing for a Home at Epiphany

Matthew writes that when the magi saw the shining star stop overhead, they were filled with joy. "On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother" (Matt. 2:10-11). In the home, Christ is met in family and friends, in visitors and strangers. In the home, faith is shared, nurtured, and put into action. In the home, Christ is welcome.

Epiphany offers an occasion for gathering with friends and family members for a blessing for the home. Following an eastern European tradition, a visual blessing may be inscribed with white chalk above the main door; 20 + CMB + 22. The numbers change with each new year. The three letters stand for either the ancient Latin blessing *Christe mansionem benedicat*, which means "Christ, bless this house," or the legendary names of the magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar).

### Greeting

May peace be to this house and to all who enter here. By wisdom a house is built and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. (*Proverbs 24:3-4*)

### Reading

As we prepare to ask God's blessing on this household, let us listen to the words of scripture.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (*John 1:1-4, 14, 16*)

### Inscription

20 + C M B + 23

The magi of old, known as

C Caspar

M Melchior, and

B Balthasar,

followed the star of God's Son who came to dwell among us

20 two thousand

23 and twenty-three years ago.

+ Christ, bless this house,

+ and remain with us throughout the new year.

### Prayer of Blessing

O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. We pray that you bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# Advent Events

## Oh What Fun Was Had By All

### At the Roadrunner's Christmas dinner to Clara's



On Thursday, December 15, the Trinity Roadrunner's moved their normal lunch meeting to evening, to enjoy the lights of downtown Battle Creek and the festive decorations at Clara's on the River. We missed several of our regulars, especially Wayne who normally gathers this group, but all agreed it was a lovely night and a festive evening. Do you enjoy good food and good company with Trinity friends checking out local restaurants? Roadrunners might be for you. Roadrunners next lunch is Thursday, January 19 at 11:30am at R&R Grill.



### At the Trinity Christmas Party at the Eversons

A big thank you to the Eversons for once again hosting a Christmas Party as we brought Christmas to others. With all the winter viruses running around, we once again opted to not carol at the Oaks and Legacy, and instead made cards to be delivered to our Trinity homebound members and our Tree of Wishes families. As is a Trinity theme, the night was full of good food and good fellowship.



### Filling Advent Bags

A BIG THANK YOU for your generosity in filling the Advent Bags. Our ten colorful bags were delivered to the Franklin Pantry on January 3. The food and the art will be used to help our neighbors in the month ahead.



# Advent Events

## With Tree of Wishes

Thanks to everyone who supported this year's Tree of Wishes. Thanks to your generosity, Trinity was able to provide a basket of food and gifts for four families in need this holiday season.

## At Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Worship

It was a snowy Christmas weekend, but that did not stop the Trinity faithful from gathering both in the sanctuary and online to celebrate the birth of the Word Made Flesh. Thank you to everyone who made the service meaningful. However you were with us, in the sanctuary, on Facebook Live, or on Facebook Live on tape delay (for those with connectivity issues), coming together to celebrate Christ's birth is how we see Jesus in our midst. If you missed the pageant (which is still available on the Facebook page) here is a picture of Joseph conversing with the Unicorn of Christmas Future, teaching us all about how Jesus is born among us each and every day. And another picture of the Unicorn, with our faithful musicians, Will and Tish, in the background.







**Roadrunners On the Road to R&R Grill  
11:30am, Thursday, January 19  
1089 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49014**

The Roadrunners are on the road again in 2023, and are headed to the R&R Grill. What are the Roadrunners? The Roadrunners are a group of Trinity members and friends who meet once a month to explore local restaurant, eat good food, and enjoy good conversation. If you enjoy good food, good friends, and support local establishments, you might be a Roadrunner. The full year schedule is below, so you can make sure you don't miss your favorite.

Jan 19- R&R

Feb 16-Asian Buffet

Mar 16-Lux Café

Apr 20-Finley's

May 18-Griffin

June 15-J B Whiskey's

July 20-Cracker Barrel

Aug 17-Bob Evans

Sept 21-Trinity

Oct 19-Turkeyville

Nov 16-Territorial Brewing

Dec 21-Clara's

— Wayne Walentowski

**Free Learning Opportunity through the Synod**

Beginning in winter 2023, our Synod (the North/West Lower Michigan Synod) of the ELCA will offer a series of six-week Zoom courses lead by seminary professors. These courses are open to everyone and are free of charge. The first class has, in Pastor Kjersten's opinion, a very seminary professor title, "Corinthian Correspondence: Conflict, Case Studies, Contemporary Congregations, and Christ," taught by the Rev. Dr. Walther F. Taylor, Jr., the Ernest W. and Edith S. Ogram Professor Emeritus of New Testament Studies, Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University. Don't let the title scare you, the class looks excellent! The goal of the study is to learn from Paul and his house churches in the ancient Greek city of Corinth—both how they fell into conflict and how Paul sought to move them to reconciliation and ministry. The class sessions will also focus on problems facing believers today, such as how to deal with divisions, how to live together positive ways, how to live as physical bodies, how to live in intimate relationships, who should lead congregations, including the roles of women and men, how believers can look beyond themselves, and what really is the resurrection and how does it affect life today?

Each session will be self-contained so even if you have to miss a week, you can still take part in later sessions. The class will meet on six consecutive Tuesday evenings: January 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7, 14, 2023 from 7:00 – 8:15pm ET.

For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.mittensynod.org/events/adult-theological-education/>

# WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

## Worship Assistants

January 1— Jeff Andert  
January 8—Scott Schindehette  
January 15—Tresa Tulley / Teresa Momenee-Young  
January 22—Doug Martens  
January 29—Laurie Swanson

## Sound Volunteers

January 1—Ellis Cutler  
January 8—Don Boulton  
January 15—Ellis Cutler  
January 22—Don Boulton  
January 29—Ellis Cutler

## Streaming Volunteers

January 1—Travis Sullivan  
January 8—Chase Lehman  
January 15—Travis Sullivan  
January 22—Chase Lehman  
January 29—Travis Sullivan

## Altar Guild Volunteers Needed

Altar Guild volunteers set up for communion and clean up after. Benefits include a fun-filled lesson from Pastor Kjersten on what all the things are called and getting to take part in the sacramental ministry of the congregation. See Wayne Walentowski or Diane Andert to learn more.

## Readings for January

### Sunday, January 1

Isaiah 52:7-10  
Psalm 98  
Hebrews 1:1-12  
John 1:1-14

### Sunday, January 8

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 29  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matthew 3:13-17

### Sunday, January 15

Isaiah 49:1-7  
Psalm 40:1-11  
1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42

### Sunday, January 22

Isaiah 9:1-4  
Psalm 27:1, 4-9  
1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
Matthew 4:12-23

### Sunday, January 29

Micah 6:1-8  
Psalm 15  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

## January Birthdays

1/16 – Millie Sullivan  
1/19 – Maxine Hammond  
1/19 – Kathleen Millard  
1/29 - Travis Sullivan  
1/30 - Dick Everson  
1/31 - Linda Hermann



## January Anniversaries

1/8 – Bill & Millie Sullivan  
1/11 - Pam Geleff

## OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT WITH TRINITY

### FACEBOOK

Trinity's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/trinity.church.581>

"Like" the Trinity Facebook page to follow events and activities.

### WEBSITE

Trinity website: <http://www.tlcbattlecreek.org>

Check out the **What's New** tab to see the latest events going on at Trinity. You can also find transcripts of Pastor Kjersten's sermons under the **Worship** tab.

### TRUMPET

To update your newsletter email/mail preferences, contact Pastor Kjersten at [pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org](mailto:pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org) or 963-5356. Let us know if you would like to be added our quarterly mailing list to receive a color brochure of what's new at Trinity.

### ONLINE GIVING

Trinity now has online giving. Simply go to Trinity's website, <http://www.tlcbattlecreek.org> and click on the yellow button that says "Donate" on the bottom left corner of the page. Or go to Trinity's Facebook page and click on the blue button that says "Donate" on the right side of the page.

### CHURCH STAFF

**Kjersten Sullivan, Pastor**  
[pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org](mailto:pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org)  
(805) 458-6074

**Will Canfield, Organist/Choir Director**  
[wilcanfield@gmail.com](mailto:wilcanfield@gmail.com)

### CHURCH COUNCIL

Jeff Andert, President	968-3712	Kathy Chapman	660-8548
Laurie Swanson, Vice President	729-5464	Tish Gancer	832-4719
Connie Everson, Secretary	963-6608	Teresa Momenee-Young	753-2411
		Wayne Walentowski	830-5094

### COMMUNITY

Sharon Cutler  
Pam Ellison-Krings  
Maxine Hammond  
Linda Hermann  
Rose Walentowski  
Tish Gancer

### IN OUR HEARTS/ON OUR MINDS

Family and friends of Michael  
Wallace  
Family and Friends of Mary  
(Tish's friend)  
Lanny Johnston, Jr. (Sharon's son)  
Jim Himes (Maxine's nephew)  
Margo (Tish's sister)  
Family and friends of Gary Hubbard  
(Maxine's grandson)



# JANUARY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 10:30 am Favorite Hymn Worship	<b>2</b> 8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-op Monday Mixer	<b>3</b> 1 pm Facebook Live Bible Chat	<b>4</b> 10:30 am and 5:30 pm Bible Chat in the lounge	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 1pm Audit Committee	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10:30 am Worship	<b>9</b> 8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-op Monday Mixer	<b>10</b> 10:30 am Worship and Music Mtg. 1 pm Facebook Live Bible Chat	<b>11</b> 10:30 am Bible Chat in the lounge NO 5:30 pm Bible Chat 7pm Choir Practice	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 10:30 am Worship	<b>16</b> 8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-op Monday Mixer	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:30 am and 5:30 pm Bible Chat in the lounge 7pm Choir Practice	<b>19</b> 11:30am Roadrunners @ R&R Grill	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 10:30 am Worship	<b>23</b> 8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-op Monday Mixer	<b>24</b> 7 pm Council Meeting	<b>25</b> 10:30 am and 5:30 pm Bible Chat in the lounge 7pm Choir Practice	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10:30 am Worship	<b>30</b> 8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-op Monday Mixer Trumpet articles due	<b>31</b>				