### **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH** Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 9, 2025

The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.

### PRELUDE

WELCOME

# **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.** 

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. Amen.

#### **\*GATHERING HYMN**

### **ACS 979**



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclank*, 1626; arr. Adrian Engels, 1906–2003 Text © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Arr. © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands, admin. OCP, 5536 N. Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

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### **\*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**

Let us pray.

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

Through a vision in the temple, the eighth-century prophet Isaiah is called by God to announce judgment against Israel. Aware of his sinfulness and shortcomings, Isaiah is initially hesitant. But when God calls, Isaiah responds, "Here am I; send me!"

A reading from Isaiah:

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;

the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup> The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

A Word for God's people. **Thanks be to God.** 

# PSALM: Psalm 138

<sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup> I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;

for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

<sup>3</sup> When I called, you answered me;

you increased my strength within me.

<sup>4</sup> All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

<sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;

you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

<sup>8</sup> You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Paul delivers in a nutshell the story of the gospel that was given to him. In the lineage of the Christian faith, we have received the good news of God's love from generations of believers before us, and we continue to tell this story to the world.

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup> and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

A Word for God's people. **Thanks be to God.** 

# Light Shone in Darkness

**v.** 1



Music: LUX IN TENEBRIS, Mark Sedio, b. 1954

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### \*GOSPEL – Luke 5:1-11

Jesus' teaching of God's word has begun to draw great crowds. For Simon, James, and John, Jesus' teaching inspires hospitality, then obedience, and then risk. After Jesus' creative power is revealed, fear and amazement leads these three fishermen to leave everything behind to become apostles.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

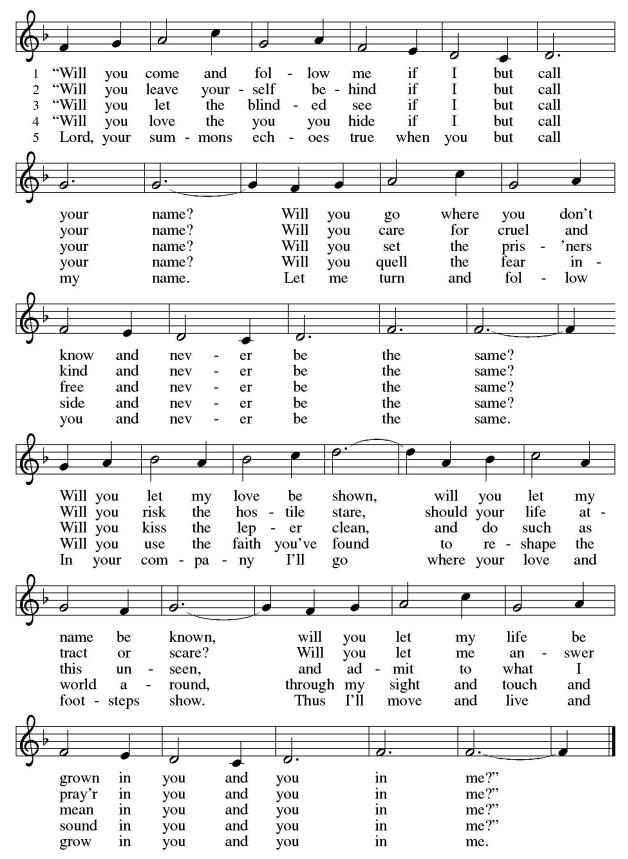
<sup>1</sup> Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." <sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup> and so also were James

and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

**CHILDREN'S SERMON** 

**SERMON** 

# AY v. 1, 2, 4, 5 Will You Come and Follow Me *The Summons*



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### **PRAYER REQUESTS**



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Each prayer will close, God of grace. And you are invited to respond, **Receive our prayer**.

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your unwavering love and grace. We ask for your guidance and strength to deal with the challenges we will face today. Fill our hearts with your peace and wisdom in all our decisions. We lift up those who are suffering and pray for your healing touch upon them. May we reflect your love to all we meet and shine your light through us today. God of grace,

### receive our prayer.

Lord our God, hear us when we turn to you with all we have on our hearts. May we hope and trust in your strength. May our life with all its concerns remain in your hands until the day when you will act in might and the whole world will know the forgiveness of sins and will praise and thank you ever more. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

God, let us continue to remember the great cloud of witnesses who have run faithfully as proof that you supply what we need to finish strong. May we run with endurance just as those who come after us. We seek to live in ways that truly honor you. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

Call our faith communities to do marvelous things. Bless the labor and efforts of this and all congregations, that we may be a sign of your presence in the world. Today we pray especially the people of Peace Lutheran Church in Charlotte, and their pastor, Rev. Neil Brady. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

### PASTORAL PRAYER

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.** 

PRAYER REFRAIN

v. 4 after

ELW 314

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

# OFFERING

### **OFFERTORY**

v. 1, 3 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.

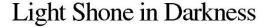
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### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray: 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.

\* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
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 indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





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Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your Holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**.

### \*LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed 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**

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

### **\*COMMUNION**

This is God's table. All are welcome. Please take a small cup as you come forward and find a space around the altar rail. Non-alcoholic grape juice is in the prefilled glasses and there is gluten-free bread available. If you do not wish to commune, you are still invited forward for a blessing. If it is easier to remain in your seat for communion, please let the usher know and we will bring communion to you.

### **\*TABLE BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

### **\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

### **\*BLESSING**

The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. Amen.

#### **\*SENDING HYMN**

Here I Am, Lord



Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946 Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte Text and music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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**DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.** 

### POSTLUDE

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### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 2055 E. Columbia Avenue Battle Creek, MI 49014 269-963-5356

**Welcome!** We believe God created all of humanity in God's image. Since every person is made in the image of God, every person is part of God's family. Whatever your gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, race, income, mental or physical ability, age, religious background, nationality, or political ideology, you are welcome here. Diversity of skills, gifts, talents, opinions, and experiences are what strengthen the body of Christ. "For all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28b).

**Our thanks** to all those who give of their time, talent, and prayers for our church and God's work in the world. Assisting with worship today:

Pastor Assisting Minister Musician/Choir Director Sound Board Streaming Prayers Rev. Kjersten Sullivan Kendra Witkowski-Lehman Ronald Cung Staff Doug Martens Linda Hermann

### THIS WEEK AT TRINITY February 9-16, 2025

TODAY: 10:30am Worship | 11:30am Coffee Hour | 3:30pm Swahili Worship Service MONDAY: TUESDAY: 1:00pm Facebook Live Bible Chat WEDNESDAY: 10:30am Bible Chat | 5:30pm Bible Chat | 6:45pm Choir Practice THURSDAY: FRIDAY: SATURDAY: NEXT SUNDAY: 10:30am Worship | 11:30am Coffee Hour | 3:30pm Swahili Worship Service

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

# **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Prayer requests are gathered from the spoken prayer requests during worship and can also be added by calling or emailing Pastor Kjersten. Prayer requests will stay on the list for three weeks and can be renewed.

February 2: Janelle – Thanksgiving for healing and continued prayers for continued healing for Rod Tungate and Joann Hickey, Chelsea and Ally as they prepare for new babies; Eileen – family of Gary Sharpstein (Eileen's cousin).

January 26: Janelle – Rod Tungate, Joann Hickey, Emily, Robert Gayle; Connie – healing prayers for Rob; Doug – Gary Sharpstein (cousin).

January 19: Janelle – Rod Tungate, Joann Hickey, Linda Stacy, Bobby Gayle; Connie – healing for Don Richards; Jeff – continued healing for Diane; Eileen – Happy Birthday Kathy Millard, healing for Mary, health of Felina and for starting a new job; Wayne – healing for Don.

# SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

Today in worship we hold in prayer our brothers and sisters at Peace Lutheran Church in Charlotte and their pastor, Rev. Neil Brady. Learn more about their ministry at: https://www.peacelutherancharlottemi.org/.

Our prayer partner for next week is St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cheboygan and their pastor, Rev. David Hueter. Learn more about their ministry at: https://www.stthomas-elca.org/.