

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026



**PRELUDE**

*We arrive from many places as music gathers us into one shared moment in the Spirit.*

**WELCOME STATEMENT**

*Everyone is invited into God's story and the life of this community.*

**PROCESSIONAL**

**"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"**

**ELW 815**

*We journey together as a people called into God's story, walking in the way of Jesus.*

**GREETING**

*God names us as beloved and draws us into community.*

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.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*We tell the truth about our lives and hear again that grace comes first.*

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Mighty God, lover of justice, 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.**

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.

**Amen.**

## **CHORAL ANTHEM**

**“Amen”**

**Arr. Russell Robinson**

*Our voices and hearts respond to God's grace, joining creation in song and praise.*

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## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*We ask the Spirit to prepare our hearts for hearing God's word.*

Let us pray.

**Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD**

*God speaks across time and tradition: in promise, struggle, praise, and the life of Jesus.*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 49:1-7*

*Here, the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.*

A reading from Isaiah.

Listen to me, O coastlands;

pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The Lord called me before I was born;

while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

He made my mouth like a sharp sword;

in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow;

in his quiver he hid me away.

And he said to me, "You are my servant,

Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

But I said, "I have labored in vain;

I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;

yet surely my cause is with the Lord

and my reward with my God."

And now the Lord says,

who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him,

and that Israel might be gathered to him,

for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,

and my God has become my strength –

he says,

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob

and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the Lord,

the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,

to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,

the slave of rulers,

"Kings shall see and stand up;

princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,

because of the Lord, who is faithful,

the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Holy wisdom, holy word.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM RESPONSE**

*Psalm 40:1-11*

*We give voice to God's faithfulness, participating in the living story of God's mercy and love by echoing the ancient prayers of God's people.*

I waited patiently upon the Lord,  
who stooped to me and heard my cry.

**The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,  
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;  
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

**Happy are they who trust in the Lord!**

**They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you!  
Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

**Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears:**

**Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

And so I said, "Here I am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

**'I love to do your will, O my God;  
your law is deep within me.'** "

I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, you know.

**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me;

may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

## **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*1 Corinthians 1:1-9*

*Through God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts. Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

A reading from First Corinthians.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Holy Wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

*(The Assembly stands for the gospel.)*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW Setting 8, pg. 188

*We sing in joy, welcoming the promise of God's love revealed in Jesus.*

**GOSPEL READING**

*John 1:29-42*

*John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.*

The gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SERMON**

Rev. Phillip Potaczek

*We hear God's promise proclaimed to us, and the Spirit works in our hearts to make it real.*

*(The Assembly stands.)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Jesus Calls Us: O'er the Tumult"

ELW 696

*We respond to the promises of God in song.*

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

ELW pg 105

*We join the wider church in naming the story that holds us.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*We entrust all into God's care.*

*After each prayer petition, please respond:*   **Merciful God. Receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*We offer signs of Christ's peace, joining God's work of reconciliation.*

May the peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

We have seen the light of Christ!

**Thanks be to God! We offer what we have and who we are, that God's light may be shared with the world.**

## **OFFERING/ OFFERING MUSIC**

**"You Are My All In All"**

**Dennis Jernigan**

*We return our gifts to God, offering ourselves for the life of the world.*

You are my strength  
When I am weak  
You are the treasure  
That I seek  
You are my all in all  
Seeking You as a precious jew'l  
Lord to give up I'd be a fool  
You are my all in all

Taking my sin  
My cross my shame  
Rising again I bless Your name  
You are my all in all  
When I fall down You pick me up  
When I am dry You fill my cup  
You are my all in all  
(Chorus)

### **Chorus**

Jesus Lamb of God  
Worthy is Your name  
Jesus Lamb of God  
Worthy is Your name

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## OFFERING PRAYER

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. Amen



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*We lift our hearts and give thanks for God's life-giving work.*

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.**

## PREFACE

*We remember God's faithfulness and join heaven and earth in praise.*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Setting 1, page 108

*We join the song of heaven and earth, proclaiming God's glory and holiness as we prepare to receive Christ's presence at the table.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*We recall the story of Jesus and ask the Spirit to make us one.*

Holy God, you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star.....we proclaim with all creation the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Modern Version*

*We pray as Jesus taught, trusting God for what we need.*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as our Savior taught us:

**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 HOLY COMMUNION**

*All are welcome to God's table of grace, receiving Christ's presence as nourishment for the journey.*

## **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*All who wish to know the love of God in Jesus Christ are invited to Holy Communion. Inform a communion assistant if you need a gluten-free host. Grape juice is located in the center ring of the tray. If you are not receiving the sacrament today, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest for a blessing.*

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

**"Here I Am, Lord"**

**ELW 574**

*Singing in response to God's gift, we enter more deeply into the presence of Christ.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*We ask for strength to live what we have received.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*We share news and opportunities to live God's love together as a community.*

## **BLESSING**

*God's promise goes with us into whatever comes next.*

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise † bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **RECESSIONAL**

**"We Are Marching in the Light"**

**ELW 866**

*With hearts lifted, we turn toward the world as Christ's people.*

**SENDING**

*We are sent to love, serve, and live the story we have shared.*

Our Eucharist has ended. **Now it must be lived.**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**“I Am Yours”**

**Zschech, Smith, Makken**

*As worship concludes, music strengthens and inspires us for the journey ahead.*

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### \*\*\*Trinity at a Glance\*\*\*

- **Today, Sunday, January 18th immediately after Service** we will hold the **Finance Committee** Informational meeting.
- **We have a couple of 2026 calendars left (\$20). Profits go to the Growing Project.** Please contact the office during regular business hours if you would like one. Marj Nelson 815-973-1286 and Kate Reed 815-830-2061 also have copies available.
- Many people in Jamaica and Haiti have been severely impacted by Hurricane Helene. You can give help by giving to Lutheran Disaster Response. At [give.ELCA.org/hurricanes](https://give.ELCA.org/hurricanes), just type in "Lutheran Disaster Response," select Hurricane Helene, make a contribution. Or send a check to: Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA Gift Processing Center, PO Box 1809, Merrifield VA 22116-8009.
- This year's **Annual Congregational Meeting** is scheduled for after Holy Communion at **11 am on Sunday, February 1st, 2026**. A quorum of 50 congregation members is needed. Please plan to attend. Thank you!
- **The next Blood Drive will be on Wednesday, February 11, 2026.** Contact Carol Wahlstrom if interested in helping or donating.
- **First Communion classes** are scheduled for **9am-9:50am on Sunday, March 15th & March 29th, 2026**. We meet in Fellowship Hall, beneath the Sanctuary. **First Communion Sunday is Sunday, April 12th, 2026**. Individuals who have not yet received the Sacrament of Holy Communion who are aged 7 or older are invited! Please register by emailing Pastor Phil ([pastorphil@trinitylutheranottawa.com](mailto:pastorphil@trinitylutheranottawa.com)). Thank you!
- **TLC Prayer Requests.**
  - . To submit a *public* prayer request to the congregation, please reach out to Diane [diane@trinitylutheranottawa.com](mailto:diane@trinitylutheranottawa.com)
  - . To submit a *private* prayer request, connect with Pastor Phil ([pastorphil@trinitylutheranottawa.com](mailto:pastorphil@trinitylutheranottawa.com)).
  - . When you submit a public prayer request, please include only the information you are comfortable having printed in the bulletin. We will publish the request as written, but may shorten it for clarity and privacy. If you wish to remain anonymous, please specify.
  - . Each request will appear in the bulletin once. We will publish updates as you provide them.
  - . Even when a request is no longer printed, our whole church family is encouraged to add these needs to their personal prayer lists. Thank you for holding these requests before God with such care. - *Pastor Phil*
- There is a **Lost and Found** bin by the coat rack in the Sanctuary. There is also a ring found and held in the office. If items are not claimed, they will be donated to the garage sale. If the ring is yours, please call the office 815-434-0596.

● **CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- Dec Income = 19,284.48 (Income YTD = \$234,353.29)
- Dec Expense = \$18,099.46 (Expense YTD = \$40,134.30)
- Income Less Expense = \$1,185.02 (Income Less Expense YTD = -\$5,781.01)
- Loan Payment = \$2,943.30
- Principal Payment = \$1,000.00
- Left On Loan = \$406.68

● **THIS WEEK @ TRINITY:**

- **Monday (1/19):** *Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*  
 10a Drum Fit (Community Room)  
 10a Staff Meeting (Office)
- **Tuesday (1/20):** 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)  
 7p TRMS Board Meeting (Community Room)
- **Wednesday (1/21)** 1p Bible Study (Community Room)  
 6:30p Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- **Thursday (1/22):** 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)  
 1p Trinity Stitchers (Sewing Room)
- **Friday (1/23):** 7a Sunrise Rotary (Fellowship Hall)
- **Saturday (1/24):** *Belly Laugh Day!* 🤪
- **Sunday (1/25)** 9a Sunday Session  
 9a Affirmation Class  
 10a Holy Communion (SoulShine)

**WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE -**

*Please sign up using the binder at the back of the aisle.*

<p><b><u>Sunday, January 18, 2026</u></b>          Crucifer/Acolyte:          Ushers:          Lector: <i>Beth Schuett</i>          Communion Assistants: <i>Beth Schuett</i>          Altar Guild: <i>Debbie Guenther, Ann Enke</i>          Video Tech: <i>Keith Goetz</i>          Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever &amp; Mary Heider</i>          Altar Flowers:</p>	<p><b><u>Sunday, January 25, 2026</u></b>          Crucifer/Acolyte:          Ushers:          Lector: <i>LouAnn Gayan</i>          Communion Assistants: <i>Anne Lauterjung, Jane Goetz</i>          Altar Guild: <i>Anne Lauterjung, Annette Bruce</i>          Video Tech:          Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever &amp; Mary Heider</i>          Altar Flowers:</p>
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