

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

January 28, 2024

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Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 2

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

C Amen.

P God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

C Amen.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Everlasting God,

C you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

P Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

ELW 413

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty!
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of

God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 18:15-20

Moses said: ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 111

Sung responsively



¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with | my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.

²**Great are your | works, O LORD,
pondered by all who de- | light in them.**

³Majesty and splendor | mark your deeds,
and your righteousness en- | dures forever.

⁴**You cause your wonders to | be remembered;
you are gracious and full | of compassion.**

⁵You give food to | those who fear you,
remembering forev- | er your covenant.

⁶**You have shown your people the power | of your works
in giving them the lands | of the nations.**

⁷The works of your hands are faithful- | ness and justice;
all of your pre- | cepts are sure.

⁸**They stand fast forev- | er and ever,
because they are done in | truth and equity.**

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- | nant forever;
holy and awesome | is your name.

¹⁰**The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en- |
dures forever.**

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him. ⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. ⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P The Holy Gospel, according to Mark, the first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: MARK 1:21-28

²¹Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

PR. BARBARA JONES

HYMN OF THE DAY

Cast Out, O Christ

ACS 1016

Please stand for the final verse of the hymn.

1 Cast out, O Christ, cast far a - way the
 2 Our rag - ing griefs, our jeal - ous fears are
 3 Once long a - go, from Gal - i - lee, you
 4 Your word breathes life and health and hope that
 5 So come, O Christ, and cast a - way the

de - mons that de - stroy: the haunt - ing dreads that
 Le - gion in their name. Our shack - led hearts im -
 sailed to storm - tossed shores. And still, in pow'r, you
 break through e - vil's thrall. You send us, strength - ened,
 de - mons that de - stroy. Trans - form our lives to

choke our souls, the hates that sti - fle joy.
 plore your grace to loose our bind - ing shame.
 brave new paths to breach our bolt - ed doors.
 home in peace to live your gos - pel call.
 sense your love and spread a - broad your joy.

P Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C **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. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A *brief silence.*

A Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A God of strength, protect those living in areas of war, Bring safety and peace to the German Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Ukraine, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Urals, Siberia and the Far East, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land as they face times of conflict. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer, especially Peggy Buchholz, Naomi Walker, Linda Longren, David McGinnis, and Martha Nemeth. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Loving God, today we pray for Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Hoisington and Iglesia Luterana Sagrado Corazon de Jesus in Garden City, Kansas, Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Camdenton and St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cole Camp, Missouri. God of Grace,

C receive our prayer.

A God of life, bless these for whom we offer our special prayers today. We pray for Collin Horton as he celebrates his birthday and for Mary Heald and Jeff Longren as they remember their baptisms. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the church and in our lives. We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Let us greet one another with God's peace.

Please be seated.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the

seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the

prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,

and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

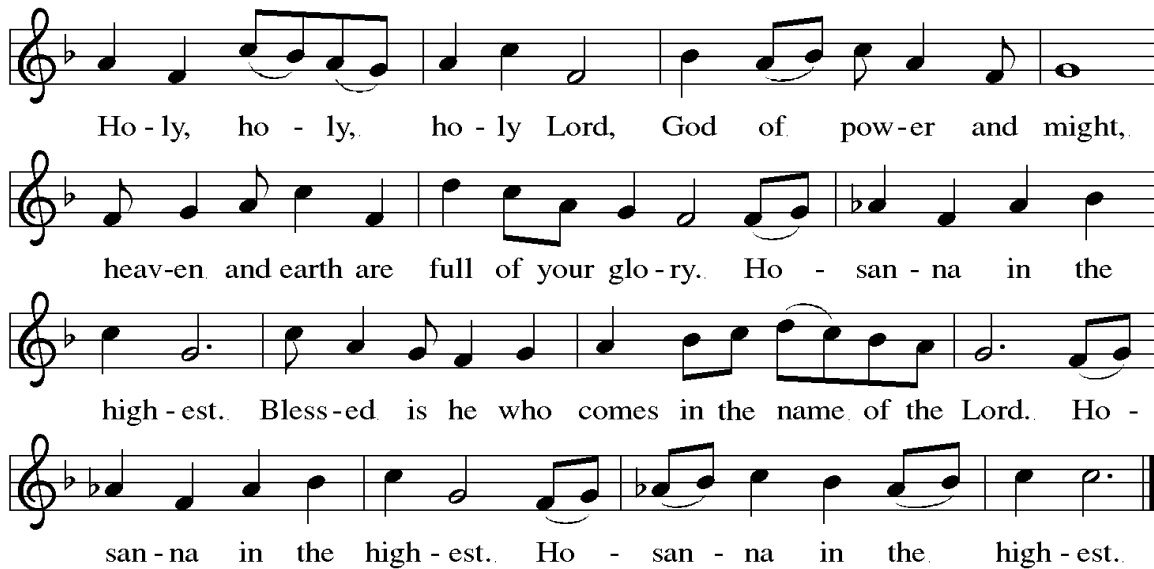
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

P 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:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

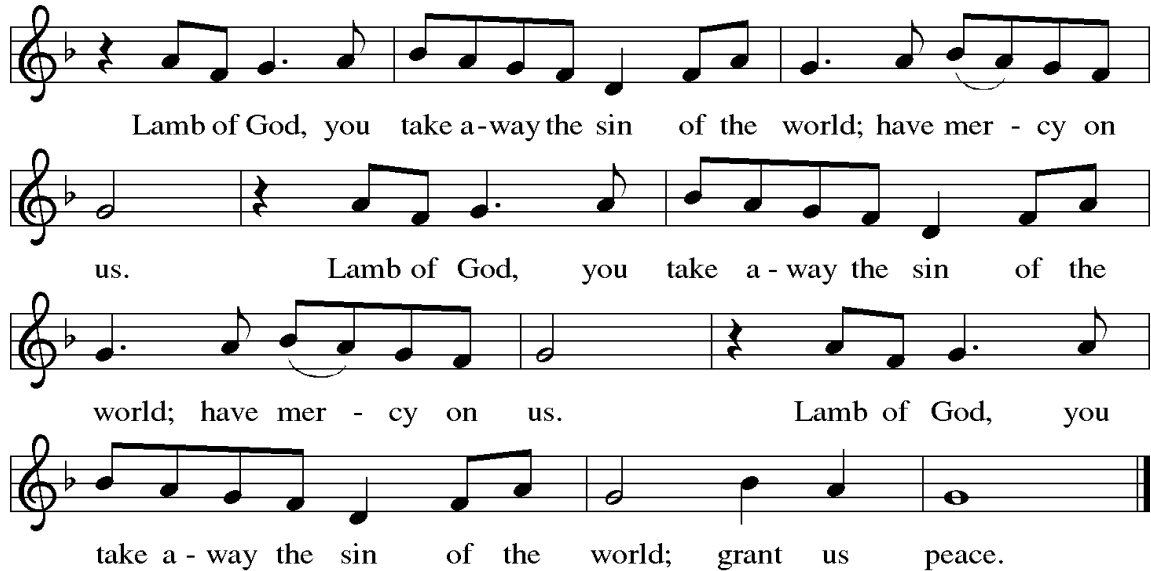
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

All are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available as an alternative to wine. Everyone is invited forward to receive communion or a blessing. Hands cupped open indicate an openness to receive communion; hands closed reflect a desire to receive a blessing. We have gluten-free communion wafers available. If gluten-free is your preference, please let the pastor know when you are at the communion rail.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

Healer of Our Every Ill

ELW 612

Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain



peace and glad-ness; Spir-it of all com-fort, fill our hearts.
still un-fold-ing, give us all your vi-sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth-er; Spir-it of all kind-ness, be our guide.
way of heal-ing; Spir-it of com-pas-sion, fill each heart.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING PRAYER FOR COMMUNION KITS

P Gracious God, loving all your family with a parent's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we are sent forth. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence.

C **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW 671

Refrain

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;
blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -
dark-ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain

Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*Welcome to worship at Trinity!
Thank you for joining us for worship. We
hope that you found the Spirit of God in our
midst. If you are interested in becoming a
member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,
or have other questions, please contact the church
office at 785.233.0767.*

Worship Assistants								
Date	Acolytes	Ushers	Musician	Lector	Altar Guild	Asst. Minister	Presiding Minister	Coffee Hosts
Jan. 28	Cindy McGinnis	Howard Reece,	Laurie Jackson	Bob Horton	Diane Bottorff & Team 1	Marcy Carlson	Pr. Barbara Jones	Bob & Janeen Horton
Feb. 4	Brayden Winsor	Marcy Carlson, Dean McGinnis	Laurie Jackson	LaVell Winsor	Janeen Horton & Team 2	Bob Horton	Pr. Barbara Jones	
Feb. 11	Parker Jackson	Duane Pomeroy, Howard Reece	Mitchell Bean	Loni Reece	Janeen Horton & Team 2	Ted Murphy	Pr. Barbara Jones	Janelle Meredith & Charlotte O'Brien



Be sure to join us at 10:15 February 4th for your chance to sing some of your favorite hymns.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Jan. 28..... Children’s Sunday School 9:45 AM
 Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM
 Tues., Jan. 30..... Quilters 9:30 AM
 Sun., Feb. 4 Hymn Sing Along..... 10:15 AM
 Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM
 Congregational Life meeting..... noon

Transition Process 1st Meeting

The first meeting of the congregation with Pr. Merle Brockhoff, our Transition Consultant will be February 11th. On that day, Pr. Merle will lead worship then during coffee hour, he will lead the conversation around the topic, “History and Story”. You’ll have a chance to talk about high points and challenges that Trinity has experienced in the past as well as what the future may hold. The participation of each of us in this process is valued. This is the first in a series of four monthly conversations to be held on the second Sunday of the month.

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS						
Date	General	Other	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/ Communion
Dec. 31	\$1,572.00	\$230.00	\$1,802.00	-\$1,653.85	\$148.15	29/26
Jan. 7	\$6,702.47	\$0.00	\$6,702.47	-\$1,653.85	\$5,048.62	26/23
Jan. 14	snow day	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,653.85	-\$1,653.85	0/0
Jan. 21	\$2,149.00	\$0.00	\$2,149.00	-\$1,653.85	\$495.15	39/39
				Expense		
		Dec. 2023	\$8,776.72	-\$7,601.01	\$1,175.71	
		Jan. - Dec.	\$149,340.23	-\$149,169.30	\$170.93	



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Phone: 785-233-0767 • Email: office@topekatlc.org
Website: trinitylutherantopeka.org

OFFICE HOURS

10:00AM-3:30PM, Monday through Thursday

Together in Community

Living with Christ

Caring for Neighbors

Together in Community

We are a faith community brought together to worship God and to be of service to the needs of the world as the Great Commandment is our guide in our lives (*Matthew 22:36-39, Mark 12:29-31, and Luke 10:26-27*). We are a congregation that seeks to reach all those in our county with members spread throughout Topeka area, while being rooted in Historic Old Town. In our faith, we hope to be a symbol of Christ's love in the world (*John 15:12*), to be a community of support and care (*Galatians 6:2*), and to proclaim the good news that Jesus Christ came to be a Savior for all people (*Colossians 1:13-14*).

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President Duane Pomeroy

Vice-President Curt Lewis (Maintenance)

Secretary Diane Bottorff (Community Relations)

Shelley Andrews (Administration)

Pam Kobbeman (Administration)

Carol Marker (Spiritual Care)

Dean McGinnis (Congregational Life)

Treasurer Bob Kobbeman