



Trinity Church
3rd Epiphany
FOLLOW ME

WELCOME

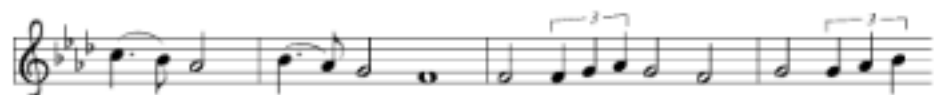
GATHERING HYMN:

Thy Strong Word (ELW 511)

$\text{♩} = 110$



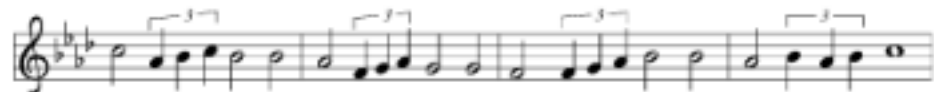
1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run,
va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
throats that shout the hope that fills us,
mouths to speak thy holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
May the light which thou dost send
fill our songs with alleluias,
alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
to thee laud and honor be.
To thee, Light of Light begotten,
praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
glory, glory be to thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
praise the holy Trinity!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who calls us out of darkness and into light,
who says to us again and again, "Follow me."
Amen.

Jesus, Light of the world,
you proclaim good news in places we overlook,
yet we confess that we cling to familiar shores.
We prefer what is safe over what is faithful.

You call us to repent, to turn our lives toward you,
but we resist the turning.
We follow when it is convenient,
and hold back when the cost is real.

You call us away from our nets—
from habits that entangle,
from fears that bind,
from identities that keep us small—
yet we grasp them tightly, afraid to let go.

You invite us into your work of healing and hope,
but we silence your call with excuses,
delay obedience,
and pass by those who long for good news.

Forgive us, O Christ.
Turn us again toward your kingdom.
Loosen our grip on what is passing away,
and strengthen our trust in your promise.
Call us once more, and by your grace, help us follow.

The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light.
That light is Jesus Christ.

In Christ, God meets us on the shore of our lives,
calls us by name,
and frees us from what binds us.

I proclaim to you the forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, ✝
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFSSIONAL HYMN:

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling (ELW 582)

♩ = 120



1 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er dwell-ing in the ho-liest realms of light;
2 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er liv-ing as the church's ver-y life;
3 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er work-ing through the church's min-is-try;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er brood-ing o'er a world of gloom and night;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er striv-ing through us in a cease-less strife;
quick-'ning, strength-'ning, and ab-solv-ing, set-ting cap-tive sin-ners free;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er rais-ing those of earth to thrones on high;
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er form-ing in the church the mind of Christ:
Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er bind-ing age to age and soul to soul



liv-ing, life-im-part-ing Spir-it, you we praise and mag-ni-fy.
you we praise with end-less wor-ship for your gifts and fruits un-priced.
in com-mu-nion nev-er end-ing, you we wor-ship and ex-tol.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**God of light and call,
you sent your Son to dwell with us
and to invite ordinary people into extraordinary grace.**

**Turn us from what keeps us in darkness,
and draw us into your light.
When we are hesitant to follow, give us courage.
When we are tangled in our nets, set us free.
When we doubt our worth, remind us that you have chosen us,
so that we may follow where you lead.**

**Watch over this congregation
and help us to lean into your work of healing and hope.**

**Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-7

¹ But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Great will be his authority,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 27:1, 4-9

- ¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- ⁴ **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;**
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to seek God in the temple.
- ⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary,
and raise me high upon a rock.
- ⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up**
above my enemies who surround me.
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary,
sacrifices of rejoicing;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- ⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.
- ⁸ **My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”**
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.
- ⁹ Hide not your face from me,
turn not away from your servant in anger.
Cast me not away—you have been my helper;
forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:10-19

- ¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters.
- ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?
- ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

- ¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:
- ¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”
- ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”
- ¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.
- ²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Will You Come and Follow Me (ELW 798)

 = 85

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show, Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Loving God,
your light reveals needs
and your salvation offers hope to the bound.
Therefore we pray.

As the reader closes each petition:

God of Light,

The people respond:

hear our prayer.

Hear, O Lord, the cries of your people.
Be gracious to us and answer us,
for you are our salvation;
through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Please place offering in one of the Bulletin Stand offering plates at the end of worship as you leave the church.

OFFERTORY: *Listen, God Is Calling* (ELW 513)



Refrain
Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing.

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All Refrain

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to join in the gift of Holy Communion.

White grape juice is available and all altar bread is gluten-free.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our lord and savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

BLESSING

And may the grace of ✚ Christ who calls us go with you.
May the power of the Holy Spirit who empowers us sustain you.
May the salvation of God who loves us give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (ELW 815)

 = 150



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Serving in Worship

TODAY — Jan 25, 2026

Altar Month: **Cara Keith**

Livestream: **Sally Rafert**

Reader: **Jiwon Han**

Assistant: **Jiwon Han**

Fellowship: **Hannah Young**

NEXT SUNDAY — Feb 1, 2026

Altar Month: **Al & Bobbie Schimek**

Livestream: **Sally Rafert**

Reader: **Martha Leonard**

Assistant: **OPEN**

Fellowship: **Martha Leonard**

Trinity Happenings:

Sun, Jan 25:
 9:00am **Worship Service**
 9:00am **Sunday School in Downstairs Youth Rm**
 10:15am **Fellowship In Gruver Rm**
 10:30am **Does the Bible Say...**
...Satan is God's enemy?

Have you ever wondered what people mean when they say, "The Bible says so"? Scripture doesn't always speak with one clear voice, so how do we faithfully understand what the Bible is—and isn't—saying? Come and think deeply, ask questions, and discover new ways of engaging with God's Word.

Jan 25th
10:30-11:30am
Rohr Hall

Does the Bible say...
...Satan is God's enemy?
Does the Bible say...
...God has a body?

Mon, Jan 26: 9:00am **Becoming in Gruver Rm**
Wed, Jan 28: 10:00am **Women's Study in Gruver Rm**
Sun, Feb 1: 9:00am **Band Worship Service**
 10:15am **Fellowship in Gruver Rm**
 10:30am **Annual Meeting in Gruver Rm**

Annual Meeting Feb 1!
Please join us in the
Gruver Rm after worship.

Mon, Feb 2: 9:00am **Becoming in Gruver Rm**
Tue, Feb 3: 5:30pm **TheologyPUB**
@ Front Street Tavern
Wed, Feb 4: 10:00am **Women's Study in Gruver Rm**
Sun, Feb 8: 9:00am **Worship Service**
 9:00am **Sunday School in Downstairs Youth Rm**
 10:15am **Fellowship in Gruver Rm**
 10:30am **Confirmation Class**

Trinity's Church Council and Pastor Nate have recently voted to place a renewed emphasis on meeting people where they are. While our congregation offers meaningful worship, we recognize that family life, work schedules, travel, and other commitments can sometimes make it difficult to gather on Sunday mornings.

Trinity's mission is to connect all people with the gospel of Jesus Christ, and online worship is one way we live out that calling—reaching both current members and those who are new to our community.

To support this mission, Pastor Nate is launching a new ministry called CrossTalk. This ministry will share short video messages on YouTube and other social media platforms, engaging the ever-changing environment in which we proclaim the hope of Christ.

We invite you to participate in this ministry in any way you feel called and to share these messages within your own community.

CrossTalk

The Altar Guild

We need you!

Set the table for Holy Communion.

Lindsay at (307) 399-4185

QUESTIONS ABOUT GIVING? If you ever have any questions about your financial gifts to Trinity, please contact Trinity's financial secretary, Alison Lebeda, at alebada@uwyo.edu. If you need an up-to-date statement of giving, please contact the church office.

2025 Financial Snapshot
Income - \$243,591.72
Expenses - \$231,160.42



TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Office: (307) 745-4222 ☩ telcoffice manager@gmail.com

- Congregation President **Adam Huck**
- Pastor **Nathan Keith**
- Accompanist **Soyeon Kang**
- Financial Director **Linda Lebeda**
- Financial Secretary **Alison Lebeda**
- Sexton **James Apronti**
- In the Office **Lisa Guarnieri**

