

The LAST sunday AFTER EPIPHANY

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**tRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** | *Saline, Michigan*

***February 11/14, 2021***

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**Thank you** for joining us in God’s house today! We cordially ask that our Guests with us this morning sign one of the guestbooks located at either the front or back entryways.

**THANK OFFERING:**  Members of Trinity give their offering as an expression of love and thankfulness to the Lord and to help support the Lord’s work in our community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

**Restrooms** are located at the back of the upper level (the annex), and in the basement (down the back stairs of the sanctuary or annex). Handicap access is available, please ask an usher for assistance.

**Young Families / Toddler Bags** – We are **GLAD YOU BROUGHT YOUR CHILDREN** to our worship service. Jesus said: *“Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”* We know that having little children in church can be a challenge, but **DO NOT WORRY** about it. Many of your fellow worshippers have been in your shoes and are just happy you brought your children with you. For your convenience, we have reserved the back rows of seating for parents with small children. These areas provide more flexibility for your family, as well as, easy access to move downstairs if necessary. A closed-circuit TV system allows families to continue participating in the service while downstairs. Pre-school **toddler bags** and **children’s bulletins** are available for their enjoyment. Ask an usher for one to use during the service and please return the toddler bag afterwards.

SERVICE of the word

# Opening hymn #712

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**PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE**

# invocation

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

**PRAYER AND PRAISE**

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**OH, TASTE AND SEE**

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

***The minister says the Prayer of the Day.***

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**The Word**

**the FIRST LESSON 2 Kings 2:1-12a**

**1**When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah was traveling with Elisha from Gilgal. **2**Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As surely as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

**3**The sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord is taking your master away from you?” Then he said, “Yes, I know. Be quiet.”

**4**Then Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here because the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As surely as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho.

**5**Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord is taking your master away from you?” He said, “Yes, I know. Be quiet.”

**6**Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here because the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As surely as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on.

**7**Then fifty men from the sons of the prophets came and stood and watched them from a distance, while the two of them were standing at the Jordan. **8**Elijah took his cloak, folded it together, and struck the water. The water divided to the right and to the left. Then the two of them crossed on dry land.

**9**When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask me for whatever I can do for you before I am taken from you.”

Then Elisha said, “Let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.”

**10**He said, “You have asked for a difficult thing. If you see me being taken from you, it will surely be yours. But if not, then it will not.”

**11**While they were walking and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire came and separated them. So Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. **12**Elisha was watching and crying out, “My father! My father! Israel’s chariot and its charioteers!” Then he did not see him anymore.

**PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 148**

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***Refrain***

Praise the LORD from the heavens,\*

praise him in the heights above.

Praise him, all his angels,\*

praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

Praise him, sun and moon,\*

praise him, all you shining stars.

***Refrain***

Praise the LORD from the earth,\*

lightning and hail, stormy winds that do his bidding,

you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,\*

wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds,

kings of the earth and all rulers on earth,\*

young men and maidens, old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the LORD,\*

for his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\***

**and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

***Refrain***

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**THE SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2**

**12**Therefore, since we have this kind of hope, we act with great boldness. **13**We are not like Moses, who put a veil over his face, so that the Israelites could not continue to look at the end of the radiance, as it was fading away. **14**In spite of this, their minds were hardened. Yes, up to the present day, the same veil remains when the Old Testament is read. It has not been removed because it is taken away only in Christ. **15**Instead, to this day, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts. **16**But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. **17**Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. **18**But all of us who reflect the Lord’s glory with an unveiled face are being transformed into his own image, from one degree of glory to another. This too is from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

**4**Therefore, since we have this ministry as a result of the mercy shown us, we are not discouraged. **2**On the contrary, we have renounced shameful, underhanded methods. We do not operate in a deceitful way, and we do not distort the word of God. Instead, by proclaiming the truth clearly, we commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God.

# Verse of the day

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# *PLEASE Stand, if you are able*

# THE GOSPEL LESSON Mark 9:2-9

M: The Gospel according to Mark 9:2-9

**2**After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him and led them up a high mountain where they were alone by themselves. There he was transfigured in front of them. **3**His clothes became radiant, dazzling white, whiter than anyone on earth could bleach them. **4**And Elijah appeared to them together with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

**5**Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” **6**He did not know what to say because they were terrified.

**7**A cloud appeared and overshadowed them, and a voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him.”

**8**Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus alone.

**9**As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

***After the Gospel, the congregation sings:***

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**SERMON HYMN #95**

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**SERMON Mark 9:2-9**

**“Transfiguration”**

**The Bracket, the Bookend, and the Bridge”**

***PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE***

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

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**HYMN #97 (vv. 1-3)**

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**PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**M:** O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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M:Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

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**CLOSING HYMN #97 (vv. 4-5)**

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# Serving In Worship

**Liturgy** Pastor Natsis

**Preacher** Pastor Natsis

**Organist** Sarah Hanke

**Deacons** (Thursday) Dave Frey and Duane Mason

(Sunday - 8:30) Jim Tice and Ed Wheeler

(Sunday – 11:00) Robert Niethammer and Jeff Neuburger

**Altar Guild** Margaret Hoeft and Brenda Stevenson

**Videographer** Cindy Dresch

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