

# Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, January 21, 2024 — Third Sunday after Epiphany

## This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

### Sunday, January 21

*Clean Start Appeal continues*

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.

Rejoice Worship (Beyond Belief band), 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.

Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.

All Congregation Potluck & Annual Meeting, noon

MS & HS Game Day at Trinity, 3 p.m.

### Monday, January 22

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.

Adult Education Forum with Pastor Dennis, 10:30 a.m.

Rejoice Band Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

Adult Education Forum with Pastor Dennis, 6:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, January 23

Council on Aging, 8 a.m.

LWR Quilters, 10:30 a.m.

Care & Share, 10:30 a.m.

Odyssey of the Mind, 6 p.m.

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, January 24

Fitness Class, 10 a.m.

### Thursday, January 25

Scholarship Fund Committee Meeting, 10 a.m.

Resound Bell Rehearsal 6 p.m.

Choosing Peace and Serenity AFG, 7 p.m.

Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

### Saturday, January 27

COM Rehearsal, 10 a.m.

Bunco Night, 5:30 p.m.

### Sunday, January 28

*Clean Start Appeal continues*

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.

Kids Coalition Against Hunger Meal Packing

Set Up, 8 a.m.

Rejoice Worship (Rejoice band), 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.

Kids Coalition Against Hunger Meal

Packing, 10:15 a.m.

Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Celebration of Music Concert: Voices of Extraordinary

Youth, 3 p.m.

Please join us for the all-congregation potluck and Annual Meeting of the Congregation beginning at noon **January 21**. We will enjoy a shared meal together and then convene to receive reports, elect leaders, and adopt an operating budget for 2024.



## Assisting in Worship This Morning

### 8 a.m.

Cantor: Marcia Schaner

Sacristans: Carrie Wygmans

Lector: Julie Westra

Communion Assistants: Nancy Morrison,  
Elaine Rongey

Ushers: Erick Kind, Chad & Jenna Mencarelli

Acolytes: Ethan Schaefer

### 9:15 a.m.

Beyond Belief band leading worship

Sacristan: Steve Stephan

Lector: Kris Baker

Communion Assistants: Kim Brock, Steve Heacock

Ushers: Mike Bishop, Dan & Carol Butler, John Hall,  
Kathy Noble, Jim Willman

Acolytes: Layla and Lily Lothschutz

### 10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Steve Feutz

Sacristan: Jim & Sue Coates

Lector: Chris Becker

Communion Assistants: John & Elizabeth Derbin

Ushers: Steve Cairns, Paul Getzin,  
Joe & Marybeth Iaria, Tom Mannisto,  
Lois McCardell, Jim Vanderwall

Acolytes: TBD

**Bread Baker:** Dawn Brackmann and Kris Fox

## Trinity Members in Our Prayers

We pray for **Trinity members in times of illness,**

**hospitalization, rehabilitation and recovery:** Sue Bailey, Dale Barkema, Lisa Barkema, Don Barsema, David Benkert, Krysta Billock, Bev Block, Ken Block, Sue Boyse, Pat Bruin, Dan Butler, Mike Danielski, Kim Danielski, Gordy Engstrom, Diane Field, Kris Fox, Richard Gehl, Elena Griewahn, Elwyn Griewahn, Bob Heine, Callan Hughes, Carol Huttenga, Mary Johnson, Patricia Johnson, Grace Lanning, John Leese, Marilyn Leese, Bob Leese, Jane Legault, Judy Mallen, Tom Mannisto, Rebecca Mattison, Stephanie McLeod, Laura Norton, Julia Pfeiffle, Jesse Platt, Jacqueline Riegling, Denny Rosen, Marian Schaible, Chris Schomberg, Lee Schomberg, Bob Sielaff, Dave Smoes, John Walls, Robert Williams, Rick Wolner, Michelle Wolner, David Young, Kathy Young, Kay Zeaman, and Kathryn Zielinski.

We also lift up **Trinity families mourning the loss of loved**

**ones:** Albert Asfour, Maria Ashimine, Greg and Rachele Battreall, Carrie and David Boer, Beverly and John Bosserman, Liz and Jason Coles, Jack Danielson, Scott and Corina Dulecki, Julie Earhart, David and Pastor Kari Fast, Jon Ferguson, Diane Field, John and Kris Fox, Mary Frick, Josh and Katie Gardner, Susan and Terry Knoll, Joni and Steve Korb, Beth Krueger, Kristen Lamprich, Kent and Kristin Linkfield, Wendy and Jim Mielock, Dave and Julie Murray, Patrick and Jacquie Murray, Debbie and John Potter, Kathy Sommers, Jonathan and Jennifer Sommers, Sylvia and Bill Stouten, Linda Taffs, Wollen/Billings families and Natalie Yeager.

We also lift up in prayer this week Pastor Christin Fawcett and the people of Grace Lutheran Church in Lansing, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

## Readings & Hymns for January 21

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

#587 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (red book)

#991 Go to the World (purple book)

#966 Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken  
(purple book)

JANUARY 21, 2024  
THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY



*Repentance turns us to the power of God's mercy.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 1:14-20	Jesus calls the first disciples
Monday	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Jonah goes to Nineveh
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	Live without anxiety
Wednesday	Isaiah 55:6-13	God's ways are not our ways
Thursday	Psalms 51:1-12	A prayer for forgiveness
Friday	2 Corinthians 12:1-10	Paul's visions
Saturday	Psalms 62:5-12	God is powerful and kind
Sunday	Mark 1:21-28	Jesus teaches in the synagogue

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.* Psalm 62:8 (NRSV)

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

God of steadfast love and mercy, help us to be open to the depth and breadth of your power of love that reaches others through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, just as you feed us with the life-giving power of this food, feed us with your love to care for others in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the steadfast love of God give you peace.



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JANUARY 21, 2024

### HYMN OF THE WEEK

*O God of Mercy,  
God of Light*



### WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Do you find it hard to love certain people? Explain.
- What do you think about God showing love and mercy to people who upset you?

### DEVOTIONS



*Read:* Jonah 3:1-5, 10 and 4:1-4.

It is easy to get caught up in debates about whether or not Jonah was swallowed by a whale. We can miss the point—and the real miracle—of the whole book. Jonah ran away from God because God directed Jonah to preach repentance to the city of Nineveh. The great miracle in the book of Jonah is that Nineveh repented! The city was known as a corrupt, violent, and ungodly place. Jonah's harsh warning that the city would be overthrown in forty days brought the people—including the king—to repentance. Jonah was displeased about this outcome. He knew the steadfast love and mercy of God and did not want it to be given to Nineveh. Jonah didn't want God to love the people that Jonah didn't love at all. The message in the book of Jonah for us is to stop despising the people God loves. God's steadfast love is great. Even though we feel some do not deserve God's love and mercy, they may receive it anyway. Our call to repentance is the same kind of turning away from a world as we want it and be open to the power of God's kingdom to make all things new.

*Discuss:* When have you been surprised to see the power of God's love in the lives of those you felt were undeserving?

*Pray:* God of abundant grace, help us to trust that your ways are not our ways and that your ways are filled with a love and mercy for all through your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what can you do to extend God's love to someone you dislike?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



We read about Jesus calling the first disciples in Mark 1:16-20. They were fishermen. The fish is an important Christian symbol. Each letter in the Greek spelling of the word "fish" (ΙΧΘΥΣ) begins a Greek word that stands for "Jesus Christ Son of God Savior." During the early church, it was dangerous to be a Christian in some parts of the Roman Empire. Believers developed a code to reveal their faith to others who were Christian. One person would draw on the ground the upper half of a fish symbol. If the other person was a Christian, they would recognize this and add a second curve line to complete the drawing of a fish. Draw a simple fish design. Place it in a visible place in your home as a reminder of your faith in Jesus.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)