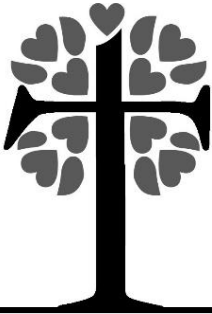


Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church



February 16, 2025 ~ Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

Leader in regular type, **congregation in bold type**

↑ means stand as you are able

Restrooms are by the kitchen and by the Wiggle Room

Wiggle Room is available for anyone needing a brief break from worship, at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary

WiFi is available: Look for TOL-GUEST; password is OdessaTOL1

We Gather as God's People

PRELUDE

You can use this time for quiet reflection, prayer and preparation for worship.

↑ CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Trusting in the light of Christ that has been revealed to us, let us now come before God and one-another, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God: **We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. You came to the world bringing grace and truth, but our words bring judgment and lies. You came to the world bringing kindness and love, but our thoughts bring sin and malice. You came to the world bringing light and life, but our deeds bring darkness and death. Have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may walk in your light and follow your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the Good News and rejoice: Jesus Christ was born, lived, died and rose again to take your sins away. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

"I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light"

RED HYMNAL #815


↑ APOSTOLIC GREETING

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


↑ THIS IS THE FEAST

RED HYMNAL pg. 169

Refrain




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

A reading from Jeremiah:

⁵Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. ⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. ⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse – who can understand it? ¹⁰! the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 1

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

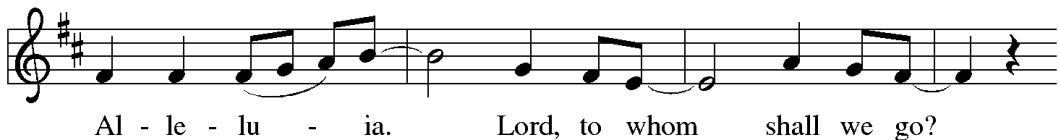
²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

RED HYMNAL pg. 171



↑ GOSPEL: Luke 6:17-26

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with [the Twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²²Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

↑ **HYMN**

“For The Beauty Of The Earth”

RED HYMNAL #879

↑ **APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator 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;
and descended into hell.**

**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.**

↑ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered in the light of Christ, let us offer our prayers for the Church, the world, and all people according to their need:

Blessed is your Church, almighty Father. Give faith to your people in all times and places, that our trust may rest in you alone. Strengthen your Church with your living water, and give a steadfast heart to all missionaries and all who are persecuted for the faith. God of grace... **Receive our prayer.**

Blessed is your creation. Bring new life to the waters of the earth, new growth to the trees of the forest, and new vitality to all that you have made. Make us wise and worthy stewards of your handiwork. God of grace... **Receive our prayer.**

Blessed are the nations. Lead all mortal rulers to be humble disciples, seeking to follow your ways of freedom, justice and peace. Guide and protect our nation and all who serve it. God of grace... **Receive our prayer.**

Blessed are the poor, the hungry, the sick, the grieving and all in any need. Sustain and comfort us with your love. We especially pray for Amanda, Annalise, Bill, Cecelia, Chris, Danielle, Edwin, Elizabeth, Erica, Gail, Kimberly, Marilyn, Noretta, Patrick, Paul, Sarah, William and those we name with our lips or in our hearts...
(Time for personal petitions) God of grace... **Receive our prayer.**

Blessed is Tree of Life. Help us listen to your Word amidst competing voices, and rejoice in your salvation amidst the false treasures of the world. Bless our bishops, Elizabeth and William; our pastor, Robbie; Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church and its pastor, Zach; and Unity Church and its pastors, Melissa and Brian. God of grace... **Receive our prayer.**

Blessed are the saints who now rest in your peace. Receive our praise for your Son's resurrection, which gives purpose for this life and hope for the life to come. Keep us firm in our resurrection hope, until that day when we are all gathered in your eternal blessedness. God of grace... **Receive our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we lift up all for whom we pray, trusting in your grace made known to all through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

↑ PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

We Share God's Holy Meal

OFFERING

↑ OFFERTORY

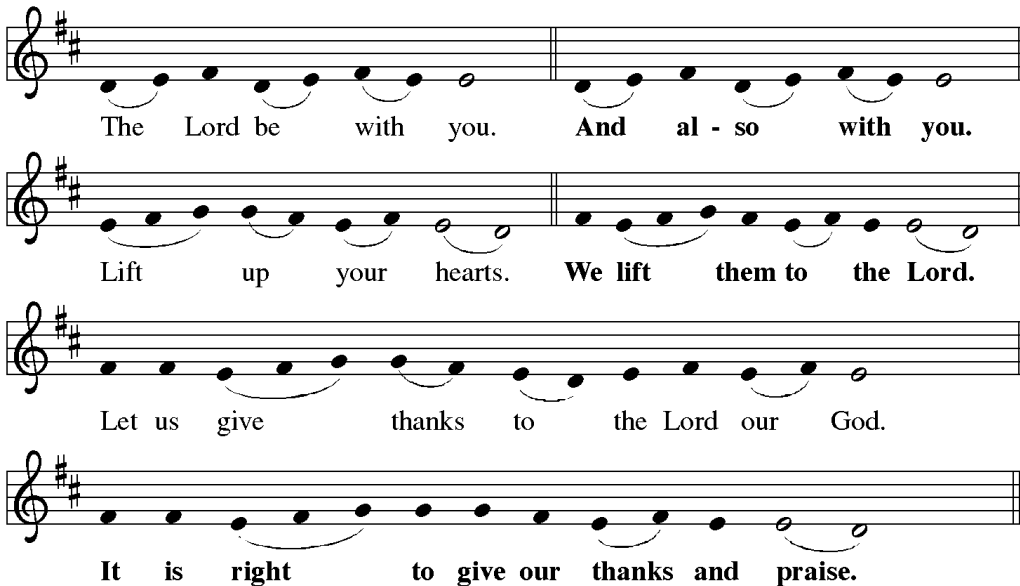
RED HYMNAL #884

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye Heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: **God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

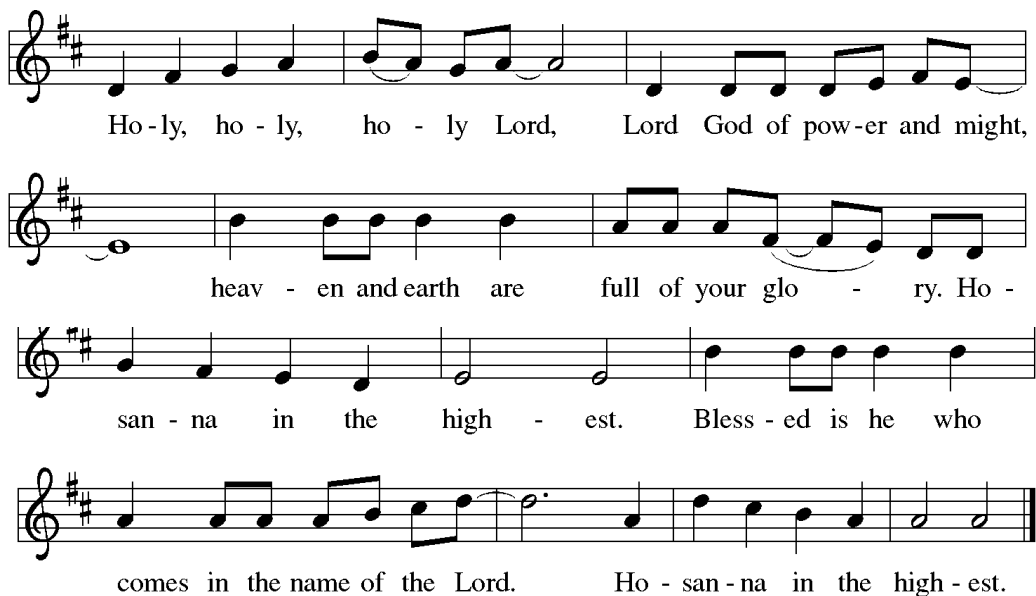
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:

↑ SANCTUS

RED HYMNAL pg. 173



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

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

↑ LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

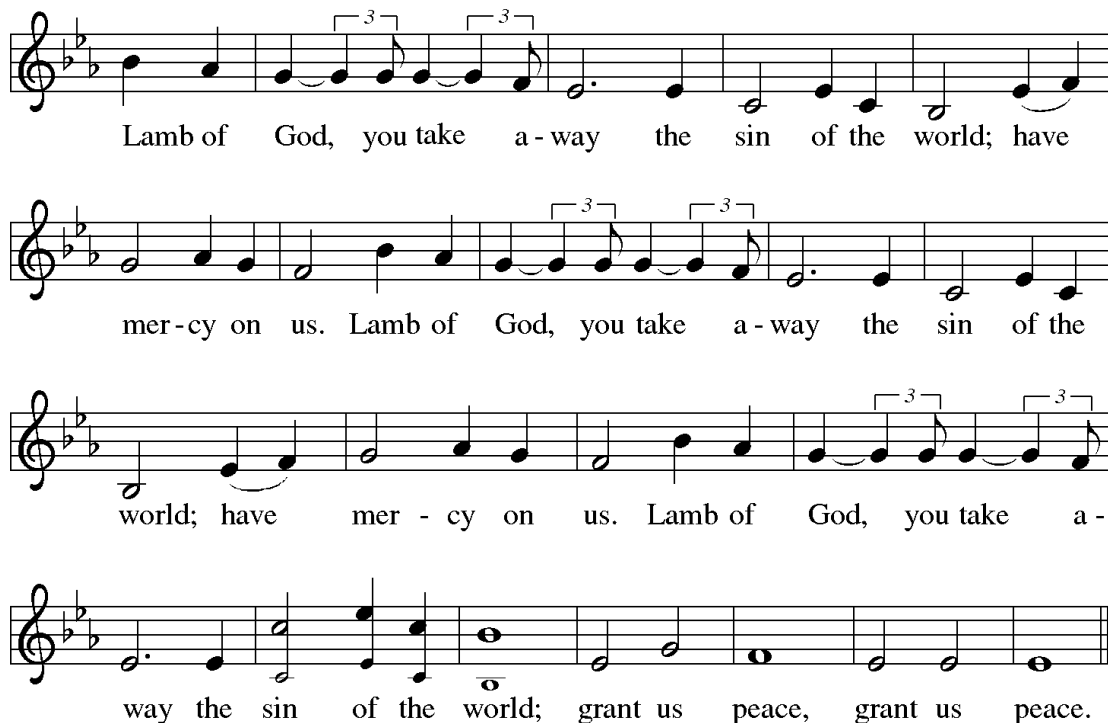
↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Thanks be to God.**

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION

RED HYMNAL pg. 174



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.

HYMNS

**“Change My Heart O God”
“Spirit Song”**

**BLACK BINDER #4
BLACK BINDER #6**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God Sends Us in Mission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

"Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer"

RED HYMNAL #618

↑ MISSION STATEMENT

What is our Mission? **To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.**

↑ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

You may listen to the music or depart to do God's work.

Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.

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SAVE THE DATE!

FAT TUESDAY



Pancake Supper

MARCH 4 ~ 5 P.M.