

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



**January 25, 2026
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany**

Good Morning and welcome! We invite you to worship with us often, and ask if you need any assistance! If you are visiting us today, please sign the Guest Register in the Narthex, please include your address and phone number. Please place your offering envelope in the plate in the Narthex. Thank You! **There will be a Congregational Meeting with a Potluck Luncheon following worship this morning. All members please make plans to attend.**

Remember in your prayers:

Lynn Wolfgang, Oscar & Angie Smith, Erika Zaiser, Brandon Stauffer, Betty Moore, Barbara Stewart, Kathy Gamler, Bill Brensinger, Richard Eck, Becky Yescavage, BillyRay Pearce, Sr., Kathy Sell, Dennis Brooke, Donna Day, Linda Allmendinger, Elaine Dotterer, Jeff Reitnauer, Ralph Rothenberger, Anna Spencer, RuthAnn Goode, Pete Schmoyer, John Logan, Carole Mest, Bob McElwee, Tammy Strunk, Mary Snyder, Wendy Bowers, Linda Bewley, Tammy Kemp, Mike Wyda, Marcia Auge, Millie Merkel, Jenn McCarron and Greg Mest.

Friends & Family:

Michelle Hiriak, Linda Stark, Martha Van Parys, Joyce Kemp, Linda Gilbert, Dennis Weller, Scott McCarron, Bill Kelsch, Jake Breyer, Dave Freed and Fay Bauman.

Families Of:

Billy Freed & Jerry Jacobs.

Also members, relatives and friends in the community who are serving in the military including:

Christopher Heffner, BillyRay Pearce, Jr., Noah Heydt, Ben Rhode, Steven Herbst, David Crews, Jeff Lydic, Seth Kurtz, Clinton Bowen, Eli Abner and Johnne Knepp.

Our sister congregation, the Marienkirche in Borna, Germany.
(Website: Kirche-bornaer-land.de)

Please note: Names of friends and family will be kept on the bulletin prayer list for one month. If still in need of prayers, these names will then appear in the newsletter prayer list. Names on the friends and family list will normally be kept on the newsletter prayer list for one year. If you wish for names to remain longer, please speak to Pastor Gene, Linda Ritter, or contact the Church Office. Thank you for helping us keep the prayer list current!

Today's Worship Assistants:

Ushers: Randy Kehl* & Linda Brunner

Lector: Sharon Renninger

Acolyte: Uta Hahn

January 25, 2026
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Today we will be receiving a Free Will Offering for the Boyertown Salvation Army.

The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Mr. Jere Miller, in Memory of his Wife Susan and his Mother & Father-In-Law Verna & John Stengel and also by Mrs. Ruth Reinhard, in Honor of her Great-Granddaughter Memzie Lucy Faison.

The Bulletins are presented to the Glory of God by Mr. Jere Miller, in Memory of his Wife Susan and his Mother & Father-In-Law Verna & John Stengel.

The Eternal Flame Candle is presented to the glory of God by LaRue C. Sheetz, in Honor of the Cantata Choir.

• (those who are able may stand)

Announcements and Concerns

- **Confession and Forgiveness**

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

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

- **Processional Hymn** WOV# 652
"Arise, Your Light Has Come"

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.

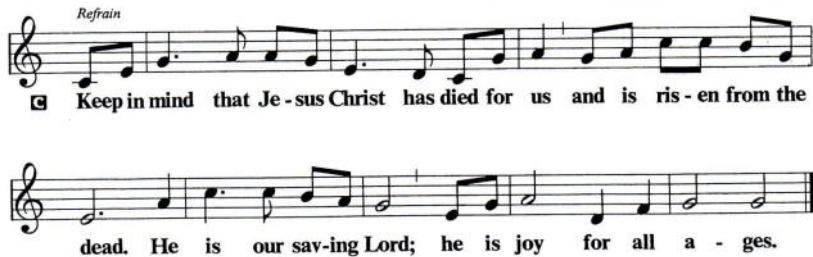
• **Kyrie**

Keep in Mind that Jesus Christ Has Died for Us

CANTICLES

13

Refrain



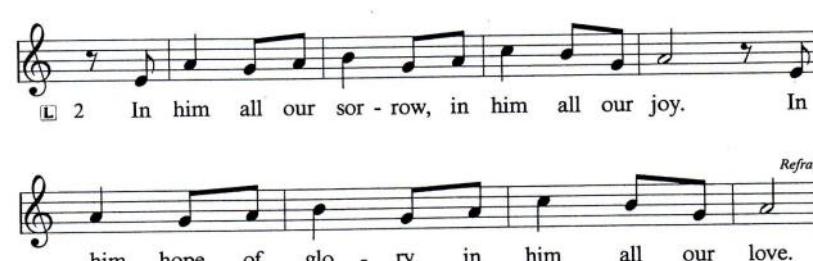
Keep in mind that Je-sus Christ has died for us and is ris-en from the dead. He is our sav-ing Lord; he is joy for all a-ges.

Refrain



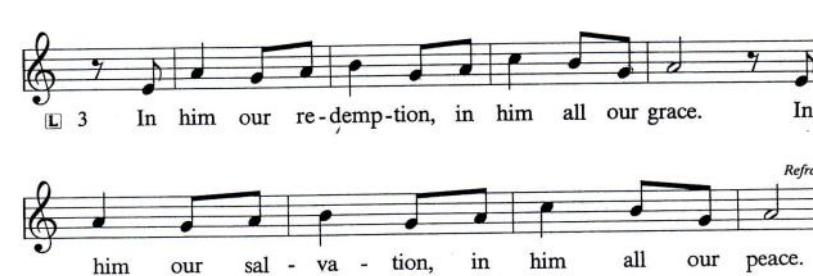
If we die with the Lord, we shall live with the Lord.

Refrain



If we en-dure with the Lord, we shall live with the Lord.

Refrain



In him all our sor-row, in him all our joy. In him hope of glo-ry, in him all our love.

Refrain

In him our re-demp-tion, in him all our grace. In him our sal-va-tion, in him all our peace.

• **Hymn of Praise**

14

Listen! You Nations



Lis-ten! you na-tions of the world: lis-ten to the Word of the Lord. An-



nounce it from coast to coast; de-clare it to dis-tant is-lands.



1 The Lord who scat-tered Is-ra-el will gath-er his peo-ple a-gain; and



he will keep watch o-ver them as a shep-herd watch-es his flock.



2 With shouts of joy they will come, their fac-es ra-diant-ly hap-py, for the



Lord is so gen'-rous to them; he show-ers his peo-ple with gifts.



3 Young wom-en will dance for joy, and men young and old will make



mer-ry. Like a gar-den re-freshed by the rain, they will nev-er be in want a -

gain. Break in - to shouts of great joy: Ja - cob is free a - gain! Teach
na - tions to sing the song: "The Lord has saved his peo - ple!"

© Text: John W. Arthur, b. 1922

© Tune: J. Bert Carlson, b. 1937

• **Prayer of the Day**

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

• P Let us Pray ..

C Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

¹ There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the Lord] 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.

PSALM: Psalm 27:1, 4-9

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then ¹ shall I fear?
 The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I ¹ be afraid?

⁴ **One thing I ask of the LORD; one ¹ 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 ¹ in
 the temple.**

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will ¹ give me shelter,
 hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- ¹ on a
 rock.

⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies ¹ who
 surround me.**
**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of
 rejoicing; I will sing and make music ¹ to the LORD.**

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, ¹ when I call;
 have mercy on me and ¹ answer me.

⁸ **My heart speaks your message— ¹ “Seek my face.”
 Your face, O LORD, ¹ I will seek.**

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- ¹ vant in anger.
 Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of
 my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

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 ¹¹ you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. 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.

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

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

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter



Presentation of the Gospel by Heart

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:

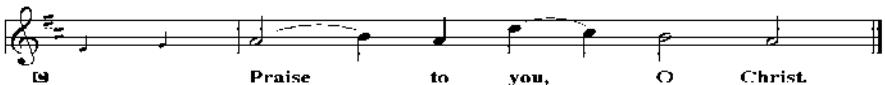
¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.

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.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Senior Choir Anthem**"Put Peace Into Each Other's Hand"****J. Althouse****Sermon**

- **Hymn of the Day** WOV# 649
"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

- **Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy
Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at
the right hand of the Father. He will come
again 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 Prayer of the Church**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God, in
Christ Jesus, and for all people according to
their needs.

A brief silence.

After each portion of prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy.

C hear our prayer

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

- **The 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.

- **Our Mission Statement**

P People of Trinity, what is our mission?

C We shall, as individuals and as a congregation, strive through word, worship, and witness to further the kingdom of God by knowing and sharing Christ's Love in our hearts, in our homes, in His church, in the community, and in the world.

- **Benediction**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and
be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon
you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

- **Recessional Hymn** WOV# 755
"We All Are One in Mission"

Postlude

"Fugato"
C. Van Meert

Reprinted from Sundays & Seasons 2026

All active members please make plans to attend a congregational meeting today, immediately following the service in the Parish Hall. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the 2025 annual report. There will be a pot-luck luncheon. The Annual Report is on the table in the Narthex, please take a copy and review it before the meeting.

The 2025 Financial Statement sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Please sign up if you would like to receive a Financial Statement, the statements will be distributed at the Congregational Meeting.

Please mark your calendars for our annual Talent Show/Cook Off on Sunday, February 15th at 4PM. Sign up sheets and more details to come....

Lent is quickly approaching. **Ash Wednesday service will be on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 7pm.** There will be the imposition of ashes and communion as we mark the start of our lenten journey together. Prior to the service on Wednesday, we cordially invite you to our annual fastnacht social beginning at 6:15 pm.

First Communion Classes will begin on Wednesday, February 25th at 6:15 and will continue each Wednesday evening during Lent. Any young person 10 years of age or older who has not yet received their first communion is eligible to participate in these classes. Please let Pastor Gene know if you are interested.

Soup Supper will be held at 6:00PM each Wednesday during lent prior to the 7PM Worship Service. A Sign Up Sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.

We will be collecting non-perishable items for the Boyertown Area Multiservice during lent. A list of needed items will be in the bulletin during Lent. Thank you for your generosity to help.

From the Property Committee Hi, I have a request. We have a bee nest at the front of the church. I have seen them flying where the roof meets the bell tower. Do any of you know of an exterminator who would be able to help us? Yes, I already Googled this. There are lots of exterminators listed. But we need one who will work up high. The listings don't say if they will work up high. I can just start calling a bunch of them at random. I thought I would ask you first if you had any suggestions. We are finding them in the sanctuary. We want to get this taken care of before anybody gets stung.

Dennis L. Schaeffer
Property Committee Chairman

You may sponsor Altar Flowers, the cost is \$32.00 for one vase and \$64.00 for 2 vases, please contact Mary Snyder. If you wish to sponsor flowers and that date is not available, you can always sponsor an extra bouquet of flowers for \$40.00. When sponsoring flowers, please use a flower envelope found in the rack in the narthex or clearly mark the envelope "Flowers". If you sponsored flowers in the past but no longer wish to, please let Mary Snyder 610-473-8885 or the church office know. You may also sponsor the bulletins for \$15.00 to offset the cost of printing them.

Trinity's Gift Card Program - Gift card orders are accepted before and after the church service the first Sunday of each month and distributed the second Sunday. Order forms for Redners, Giant and Raise Right (for other retail gift cards) are available in the narthex. The Raise Right order form is also available for download on Trinity's website. Payment must be submitted with your order. **Please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church and include your phone number on your order form.** If you have any questions regarding this fund raising program please see Sharon Kemp, Kathy Kuser or Kurt Yescavage.

WAWA Hoagie Coupons Available 1st Sunday of the month at the Scrip Table. Coupons are also available in the church office Monday—Thursday, 9:00AM-2:00PM. Tickets are \$5.00. This project benefits the Social Ministry.

Scout Troop 511 Hoagie Sales: Orders are due by Tuesday, February 3rd and Pick up will be Wednesday, February 11th. 8" hoagies are made from Dan's Deli, **Cost is \$7.00.** There are ham w/onion, ham no onion, turkey w/onion, turkey no onion, Italian w/onion, Italian no onion, cheese hoagie w/onion, cheese hoagie no onion, mayo, Italian dressing, no tomatoes, no lettuce, no cheese. There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Coffee Hour - Volunteers are needed to host Coffee Hour for February. Please sign up for this time of Fellowship. The sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Winter Weather In the event of inclement winter weather, news of cancellations or postponements of church activities will be posted on the following: 1) Channel 69 2) Online at WFMZ.com, or log on to the Trinity's website: www.trinitybech.com

Bibles are available in the rack in the Narthex for you to reference during worship. You may also take home to reference, please return when you are finished.

Please fill out the Communion Cards for 2026 and place in the offering plate. Thank You.

Please pick up your 2026 General Fund Envelopes, they are on the table in the Parish Hall.

HOSPITAL INPATIENT STAY: Please contact Pastor Gene if you are admitted to the hospital and would like a visit, due to privacy laws, the hospital no longer contacts the church.

Need a ride? We have volunteers in the congregation who are willing to provide transportation to medical appointments, etc., for those who can't find a ride. Please contact Pastor Gene 610-322-0901 if you need a ride or would like to volunteer as a driver.

Trinity's events for the upcoming week:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Sunday, January 25th- | 9:15 Sunday School |
| | 10:30 Worship Service |
| | Congregational Mtg. |
| | Potluck Luncheon |
| Monday, January 26th- | 6:30 Scouts |
| Tuesday, January 27th- | 6:30 Scouts |
| Wednesday, January 28th- | 6:30 TLC Stitchers |
| Thursday, January 29th- | 6:30 Sr. Choir Practice |
| Sunday, February 1st- | 8:00 Cont. Worship Serv. w/Communion |
| | 9:15 Sunday School |
| | 10:30 Worship Service w/Communion |

Next Week's Worship Assistants:

Sunday, February 1st:

Assisting Minister: Vicki Mest
Server: Sheila Eddinger
Ushers: Dennis Schaeffer* & Bob McElwee
Lector:
Acolyte: Jenn McCarron

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS: 01/18/2026

Services cancelled due to Inclement Weather

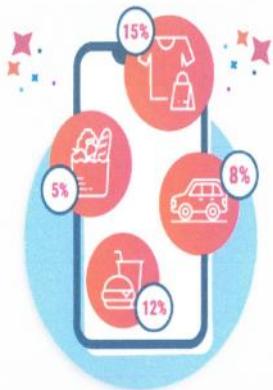
January Update on Church Financial Status From The Finance Committee:

The latest monthly report from the Treasurers shows:

- The General Fund has a Positive Balance
- During December 2025, the General Fund increased \$9364 from -\$1583 to +\$7781.

Please see the report and additional details including suggested action items from the Finance Committee in the Newsletter which is available by mail or on the church website.

Questions or input? Kindly reach out to a Finance Committee member as listed in the monthly newsletter, or chairperson Kurt Yescavage.



Turn everyday shopping
into fundraising dollars



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graduation gifts, dinner out and
dinner in!

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If you need a birthday present, Valentine's Day gift, date night dinner and a movie, or groceries for dinner at home, gift cards are always a great choice - whether you shop using gift cards or give them as gifts. It's even more thoughtful because you're giving back to Trinity.

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Walmart

CARRABBA'S
ITALIAN GRILL

SEPHORA



Wawa

VISA

GIANT

R REDNER'S

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Monthly Free-will Offerings 2026

A free-will offering is scheduled for the third Sunday of each month. They are as follows:

January 18 – Boyertown Salvation Army

February 15 – Beacon of Hope

March 15 – Boyertown Area Multi-Service

April 19 – Lutheran Disaster Relief

May 17 – geraniums for Pentecost

June 21 – Save the Children

July 19 – Samaritan's Purse Shoe Boxes

August 16 – American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

September 20 – Boyertown Area Multi-Service

October 18 – Eastern Berks Fire Dept.

November 15 – Elf Bags (Multi-Service)

December – No free-will offering. Thank you for supporting the various Christmas giving opportunities.

Thank you for your contributions to these special causes!

The Community Clothing Rack Schedule

1st Wednesday
Donations Accepted

2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesdays
Shoppers Welcome

2nd Thursday
Shoppers Welcome
6:00PM-8:00PM

5th Wednesday
CLOSED

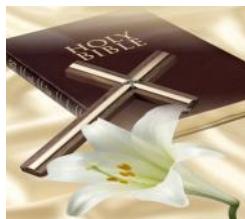
Hours
1:00PM-4:00PM

Summer Hours Only
June-August
9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed on all major holidays.
In the case of inclement weather,
Refer to Boyertown Area School district closure.
CCR is a ministry of St. Luke Lutheran Church
Our mission is to serve Jesus Christ by providing
necessary clothing to the underserved.

www.StLukeGilbertsville.org

Readings for Personal Devotion



| | |
|----|-----------------------------|
| M | Judges 6:11-24 |
| T | Judges 7:12-22 |
| W | Luke 1:67-79 |
| Th | Genesis 49:1-2, 8-13, 21-26 |
| F | Philippians 2:12-18 |
| Sa | Psalm 27:7-14 |

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Eugene C. Zaiser, DMin.,
Pastor

Ms. LaRue Sheetz, Director of Music

Mrs. Karen J. Smith, Parish Secretary

Mrs. Catherine M. Yoder, Sexton

The Members of this Congregation are its
Ministers

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(Or by Appointment)

1749 South Main Street, Bechtelsville, PA
19505
610-369-1281

Church Office E-Mail:
trinitybech@outlook.com

Pastor Zaiser's E-Mail:
pastorzaiser@outlook.com

Website: www.trinitybech.com

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
 Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893
 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG

Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936
 Music: Henry J. Gauntlett,
 Text © 1977 by Hope Publishing Co.

Alleluia, !

1 Al - le - l
 2 Al - le - l
 3 Al - le - l
 4 In our hy

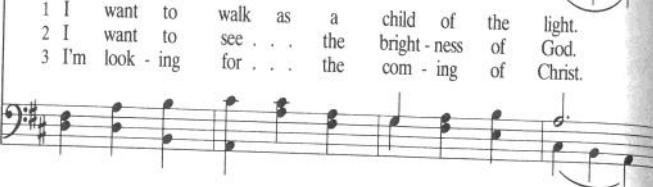
Jesus on the Mountain Peak

Text: Latin hymn, 11th
 Music: John Goss, 180



Refrain

In him



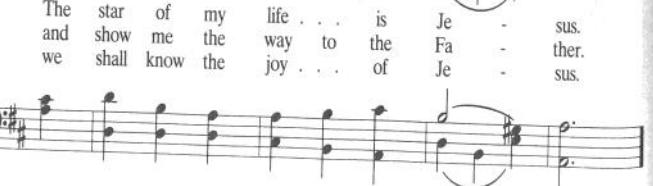
The nig



The Lan



Shine in



ght

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.



s Employ

We All Are One in Mission

755



shout of joy:
sets the tone,
world of doubt,



seen and heard:
deed ex-press,
ev-'ry-where!



id: leaves a-bound!



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
2 We all are called to ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min - is - tries are dif - frent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem-ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

LINSTEAD
L M and refra

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Music: Finnish folk tune, 19th cent.; arr. Joel Martinson
Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Co.
Arr. © 1992 Augsburg Fortress

KUORTANE
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