

**Epiphany Moments: Blessings Are Cursed;
Curses Are Blessed**
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2025



Trinity Lutheran Church is a *family* because God welcomed us into his *family*. Our mission is to grow closer to God, to our brothers and sisters in Christ, and to share this sense of belonging with the surrounding community, welcoming more souls into the *family* of God.

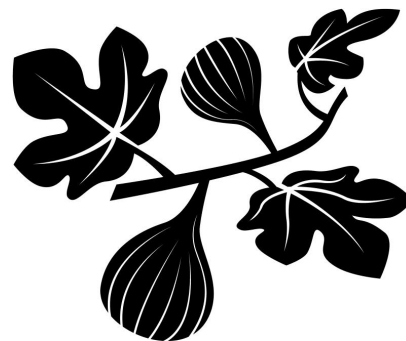
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

“This is good. That is bad.” We often think life is that simple. We believe we can assess a situation and accurately determine if it is positive or negative. It’s hubris. As Jesus gathered followers, he taught them that his kingdom runs exactly opposite to the principles and priorities of the world. Therefore, much that we think is good is bad, and vice-versa.

If we want to accurately see the world, we need to have this epiphany. That which the world considers a blessing can often be a curse. Things like success and wealth and health can lead us away from our God. We become so enamored with those blessings that we forget about the Blesser.

Conversely, there are hidden blessings in what we would normally consider curses. When we fail, when we suffer, and when things don’t go our way, it forces us to put our trust in God and for our souls to be satisfied in him. The reality is that perceived blessings can be cursed and perceived curses can be used for our blessing.

May God bless your worship.



Serving in Worship

Preacher
Organist

Pastor Matthew Langebartels
Kayla Bins

Hymn

706, Come unto Me, Ye Weary

1 “Come unto me, ye weary,
and I will give you rest.”

O blessèd voice of Jesus,
which comes to hearts oppressed!

It tells of benediction,
of pardon, grace, and peace,
of joy that has no ending,
of love that cannot cease.

2 “Come unto me, ye wand’rers,
and I will give you light.”

O loving voice of Jesus,
which comes to cheer the night!
Our hearts were filled with sadness,
and we had lost our way,
but thou hast brought us gladness
and songs at break of day.

3 “Come unto me, ye fainting,
and I will give you life.”

O cheering voice of Jesus,
which comes to aid our strife!
The foe is stern and eager,
the fight is fierce and long,
but thou hast made us mighty
and stronger than the strong.

4 “And whosoever cometh,
I will not cast him out.”

O patient love of Jesus,
which drives away our doubt,
which, though we be unworthy
of love so great and free,
invites us very sinners
to come, dear Lord, to thee!

Please Stand

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Confession of Sins

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.

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.

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.

Amen.

Prayer and Praise

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Oh, Taste and See

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are

The image shows a musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The melody consists of the following notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), C3 (quarter). The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens under 'Bless - ed' and 'are'.

they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e-

ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -

ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -

ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God of power and might, you know that we live in the midst of many great dangers, and in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Give us strength and protection to support us in all peril, and carry us through all temptations; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

Please be seated

First Lesson

Jeremiah 17:5–8

A blessed life is not connected to outward circumstances like health or wealth. Rather, the one who is blessed is the one who has been given the gift of faith, whose trust is in the LORD.

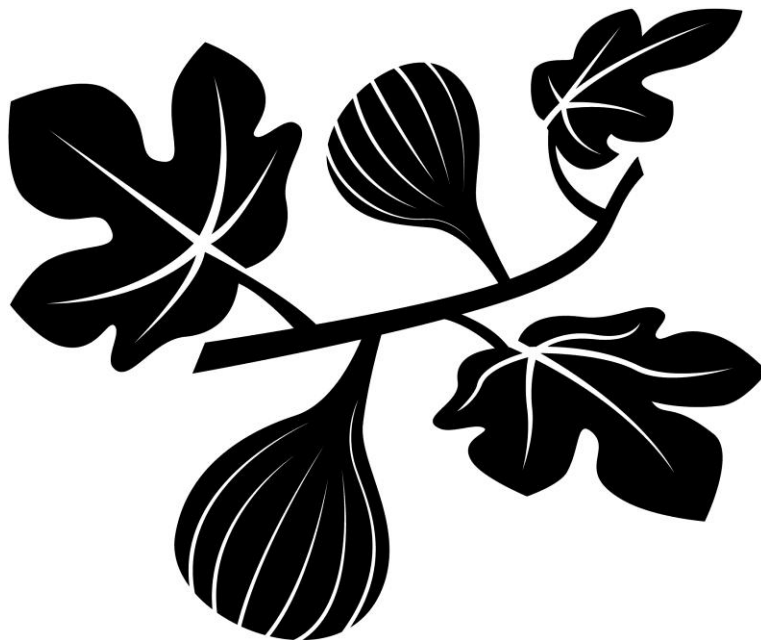
⁵This is what the LORD says:

“Cursed is the one who trusts in man,
who draws strength from mere flesh
and whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶That person will be like a bush in the wastelands;
they will not see prosperity when it comes.
They will dwell in the parched places of the desert,
in a salt land where no one lives.

⁷“But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him.

⁸They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.
It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.”



Psalm of the Day

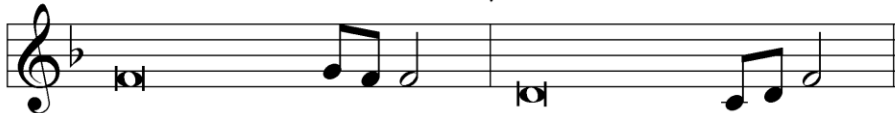
Psalm 1
Sung in unison

Refrain



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Psalm tone



Blessed is the man

who does not walk in the counsel of the / wicked
or stand in the way of / sinners.

But his delight is in the law / of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates / day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in / season
and whose leaf does not wither.

Whatever he does / prospers. ***Refrain***

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the / judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the / righteous.

For the LORD watches over the way of the / righteous,
but the way of the wicked will / perish.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be / ginning,

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

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 12:7b–10

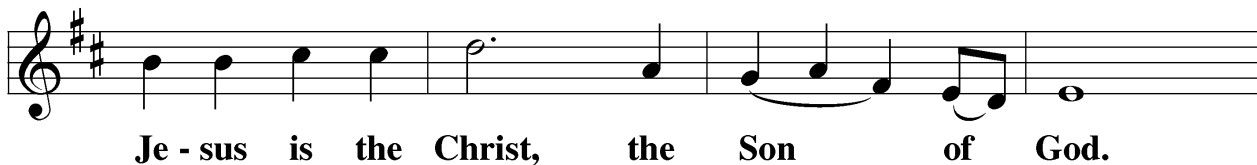
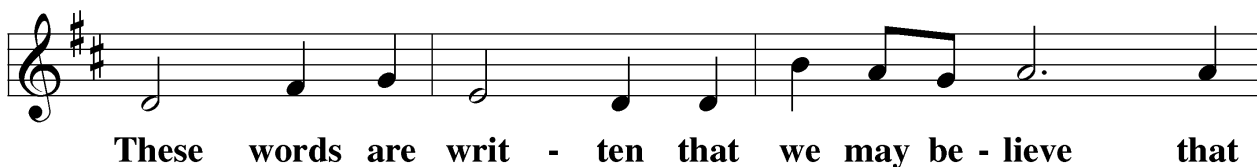
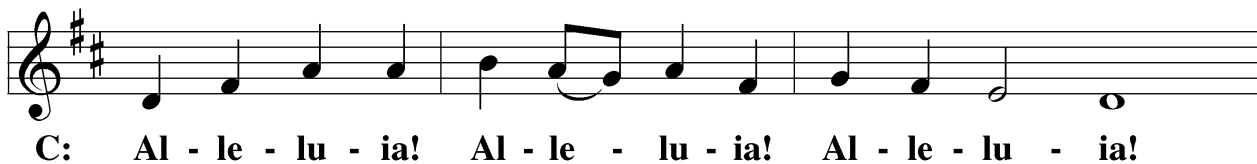
Paul had some infirmity he initially viewed as a weakness. He came to see it as a blessing as it forced him to rely on God's strength.

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Please Stand

Verse of the day

Alleluia. The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Alleluia.



Gospel

Luke 6:17–26

In one of his most famous sermons Jesus teaches that the good things we seek are found in places we would least expect.

¹⁷He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, ¹⁹and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

²⁰Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²²Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

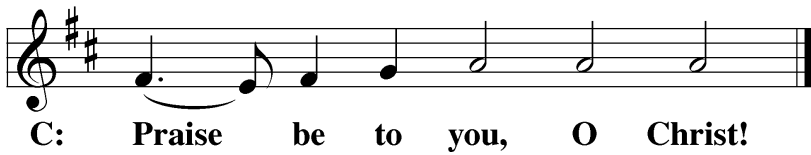
²³“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have already received your comfort.

²⁵Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,
for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.



Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

803, Day by Day

**1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.**

**2 Day by day, I know you will provide me
strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me
o'er the paths I struggle day by day.
I will fear no evil of the morrow,
I will trust in your enduring grace.
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow
till in glory I behold your face.**

**3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me
when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.
Day by day, no matter what betide me,
you will hold me ever in your hand.
Savior, with your presence here to guide me,
I will reach at last the promised land.**

My weakness = my strength??

Please Stand

Apostle's 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.**

Please be seated

**Friendship Registers
Offering**

*If you would like to give electronically, please visit
www.trinitycoleman.org and click "Giving" or scan the QR code.*



Dear Friends,

In Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ set you free from sin and death and made you members of his body, the church. Through Word and sacrament, the Holy Spirit has nurtured your faith and increased your love.

You have now been appointed to serve our Lord on behalf of this congregation. The Lord has entrusted you with responsibilities that you are to carry out according to his Word. St. Paul wrote concerning service in the church: “We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.”

St. Paul spoke to all who serve the Savior: “It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.” The Lord has promised to be with you and give you the gifts you will need to carry out the work entrusted to you.

As servants of Jesus Christ and workers in this congregation, you are to set aside time for study of the Scriptures so that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are to strive to be an example of Christian faith and life so that others may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

So that the congregation may be assured of your willingness to serve, I ask you in the presence of God and this congregation:

Will you diligently and faithfully carry out the work entrusted to you, according to the ability which God gives you? If so, answer: I will, and I ask God to help me.

I will, and I ask God to help me.



Installation

I install you as:

Dave Frievall-President

Wayne Maedke-Vice President

Ben Seefeldt-Education

Sebastian Freimuth-Evangelism

at Trinity Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord pour out on you his Holy Spirit for the work you have been called to do that you may faithfully carry out all your duties and responsibilities with the Word of God as your confidence and guide.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I urge you to regard these fellow believers as servants of Jesus Christ and God's gifts to his church. Pray for them and support them in their service so that believers may be strengthened in faith and many others may come to know the Savior and the eternal hope he gives.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless your church through the willing work and special gifts of so many people. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit to the servants we are installing today that they may carry out their duties with diligence, wisdom, and humility. Encourage them to seek guidance from your Word and lead them to pray for your direction. Help them to be good examples to others and support the work of the gospel ministry in this congregation. Keep them in your care and encourage them by your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord bless you and make your service a blessing to others.

We sincerely thank those who in the past *year(s)* have served the Lord and his people with their time and abilities. May the Lord graciously bless you and those you have served.

Please Stand

Prayer of the Church

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.**

Please be seated

Hymn

816, I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus

**1 I am trusting you, Lord Jesus,
trusting only you;
trusting you for full salvation,
free and true.
2 I am trusting you for pardon;
at your feet I bow,
for your grace and tender mercy
trusting now.**

**3 I am trusting you for cleansing
in the crimson flood;
trusting you to make me holy
by your blood.**

**4 I am trusting you to guide me;
you alone shall lead,
ev'ry day and hour supplying
all my need.**

**5 I am trusting you for power;
you can never fail.
Words which you yourself shall give me
must prevail.**

**6 I am trusting you, Lord Jesus;
never let me fall.
I am trusting you forever
and for all.**

Please Stand

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.



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

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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.
Please be seated

Hymn

924, Abide, O Dearest Jesus

**1 Abide, O dearest Jesus,
among us with your grace
that Satan may not harm us
nor we to sin give place.**

**2 Abide, O dear Redeemer,
among us with your Word
and thus now and hereafter
true peace and joy afford.**

**3 Abide with heav'nly brightness
among us, precious Light;
your truth direct and keep us
from error's gloomy night.**

**4 Abide with richest blessings
among us, bounteous Lord;
let us in grace and wisdom
grow daily through your Word.**

**5 Abide with your protection
among us, Lord, our strength,
lest world and Satan fell us
and overcome at length.**

**6 Abide, O faithful Savior,
among us with your love;
grant steadfastness and help us
to reach our home above.**

Announcements

Attendance 2/9: 119
Offering 2/9: \$ 7,495.54
General Fund Balance as of 2/9: \$56,555.81

WELS Connection will be played before service today.

Education Meeting is today directly after service.

Altar flower sign up calendar is located on the church bulletin board in the church entry for those who would like to beautify our altar to commemorate a special occasion. Also the flower/communion helper schedule is there as well.

2024 Offering Statement are in the Church office on Tue-Wed-Thurs 8-3 until February 27th.

Grace Lutheran in Crivitz, 716 Henriette Ave., Crivitz will hold the Winter Olympics Bible Camp on Saturday, Feb 22 from 1-5 p.m. for ages 4-12. The day includes Bible Lessons, Bobsled Hill, Hockey, Biathlon, Refreshments, Crafts and closing medal ceremony. There is no cost to attend, bring a friend!

Lent is Coming! Ash Wednesday is March 5th. Our Lenten meals start on Wednesdays at 5 pm, before worship and will be served by congregational groups/families starting on March 5th through April 9th. Worship service to follow at 6 pm.

Ash Wednesday, March 5th- Maedke Family

March 13: Teens

March 19: Terry Reed Family

March 26: Pre School

April 2: Char Meir, Sharon Grosse

April 9: Dale & Audrey Fredrick, Bill and Tom Prue

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid would like to invite the ladies of Trinity to their "Lent by Candlelight" brunch. They are extending an invitation to all women to gather together for Brunch and meditation. Starting with a brief reception at 9:30 am, the brunch menu will be ham, cheese and hashbrown egg bake, fresh fruit and breakfast pastries. Please invite a friend to come with you on Saturday, March 1st. Our program, "The Quiet Voices of Lent", focusing on the passion of Christ as seen by some of the ordinary people who observed the happenings of that week. Grace Lutheran Church is located at 716 Henriette Ave., Crivitz WI 54114. Please enter from the parking area located behind the church. RSVP back to Paula by February 16th. Thank you.

Travel with WELS Groups

Interested in traveling with other members of our WELS faith family where daily devotion and Christian fellowship are integral parts of the itinerary? The OWLS (WELS Seniors group) is partnering with *Father's World Tours* to offer two upcoming trips, and WELS members of all ages are eligible to come along. Nature enthusiasts, spend some time with MLC Professor Emeritus Jim Pope in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota. The May 10-16 trip offers convenient starting points (MSP, New Ulm, or Sioux Falls) and affordable pre/post-tour (May 9 or 16) hotel opportunities. History lovers, join

MLC professors Pete Baganz, Paul Koelpin, and Keith Wessel for a bucket list June 8-25 trip to London, Normandy, and Paris. Group flights are available from Chicago or Minneapolis. Registration closes March 14. Visit www.fathersworldtours.com or contact Steve Balza (steve@fathersworldtours.com or 507-217-1731) for full details.

March 15, 2025 Trinity will be hosting The Christian Family Seminar from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., with lunch provided. Our guest speaker Dr. Lawrence Olson, an MLC Professor, will lead us in study of the biblical teachings on marriage, the roles of husband and wives, and the roles of parents and children. This lecture is for adults only, and childcare will not be provided. Seminar registration fee is \$10 per person, and the deadline is Thursday March 13th. To pre-register contact Pastor David Mielke, revdavidmielke@gmail.com

Trinity this week...

16 8:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 9:30 am Worship Service 10:45 am Education Meeting 1 pm Part 2 BIC	17	18 6 pm Church Council Meeting	19	20 6 pm- 7:30 pm Part 1 BIC & When Christ Walked Among Us Classes	21	22
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