



**Epiphany Moments:
Baptism is the Cure for an Identity Crisis**

First Sunday After Epiphany -Baptism of Our Lord

January 12, 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.

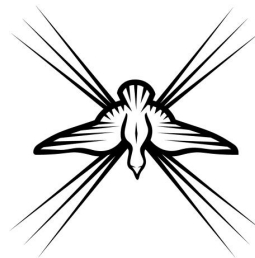
First Sunday After Epiphany-Baptism of Our Lord

“Who is Jesus?” For the longest time, people thought the answer to that question was, “Mary and Joseph’s son” or “a carpenter from Nazareth.” While true enough, those answers do not adequately describe Jesus. But when Jesus was baptized, God the Father spoke, declaring Jesus’ true identity. Jesus was the dearly loved Son of God, chosen to be the Savior of the world.

“Who are you?” someone asks. Perhaps you would answer by providing your name. Maybe you would add additional information—where you are from or what you do for a living. Perhaps, in some dark corner of your mind, you would answer negatively. “I’m no one.”

We need to understand that none of those things *really* describes who we are. To answer that question—Who are you?—we must look to our baptism. Baptism is the cure for an identity crisis. There, just like he did with Jesus, our Father declares us to be his dearly loved child. Moreover, in baptism God anointed us with power for a life of selfless service. May God grant us this epiphany moment!

May God bless your worship.



Serving in Worship

Preacher

Organist

Pastor Matthew Langebartels

Hannah Langebartels

Hymn

679, *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It*
Choir sings v. 1 & 2

1 *God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
that brought me salvation free,
lasting to eternity!*

2 *Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
since my baptism did release me
in a dear forgiving flood,
sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?*

3 *Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
all your might has come unraveled,
and, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!*

4 *Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
to inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
to make life immortal mine.*

5 *There is nothing worth comparing
to this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!*

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Please stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 188

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.**

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.**

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

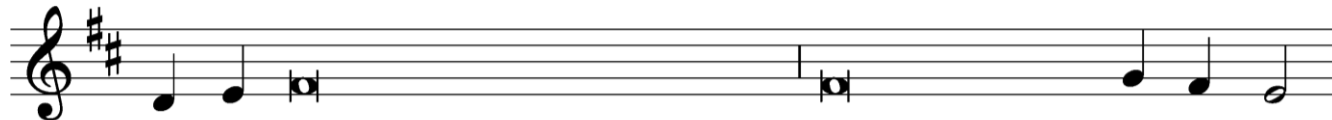
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190



In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from above and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the un - it - y of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and
 praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**
 Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men. A - men.

Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman
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Glory to God in the Highest CW 191

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to
 God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
 and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
 Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
 Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For

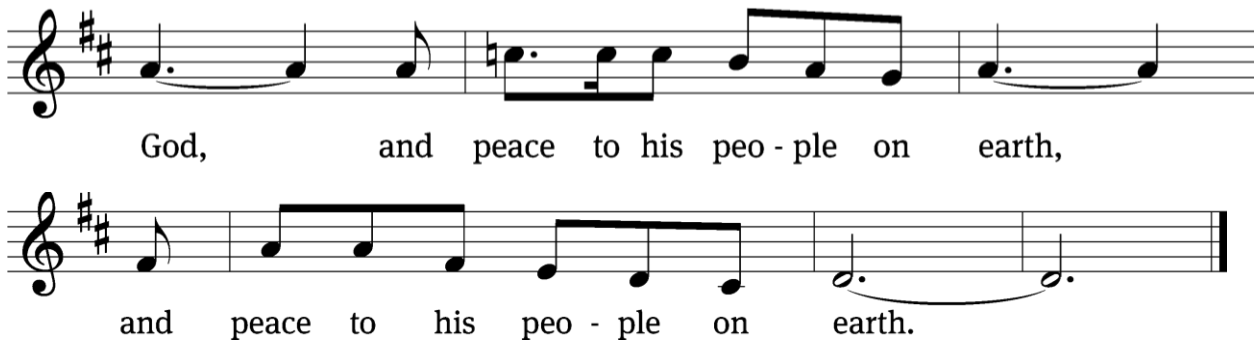
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus

Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to



God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,
and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

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The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1–13

David was the youngest of eight brothers and a shepherd. Yet, at his anointing, the Lord declared his true identity—future king of Israel.

¹The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”

²But Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.”

The Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.”

⁴Samuel did what the Lord said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, “Do you come in peace?”

⁵Samuel replied, “Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.” Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed stands here before the Lord.”

⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The Lord has not chosen this one either.” ⁹Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the Lord chosen this one.”

¹⁰Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The Lord has not chosen these.” ¹¹So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”

“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.”

Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

¹²So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

¹³So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Psalm of the Day

2A You Are My Son

Cong. sings in unison

Refrain



You are my Son; this day have I be - got - ten you.

Why do the / nations rage?

Why do the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers assemble a - / gainst the Lord

and against his A - / noointed One. *Refrain*

He who sits in / heaven laughs;

the Lord / scoffs at them.

Then he addresses them in his anger and frightens them with his fury, / saying,

“I have set my King on Zion, my / holy hill.” *Refrain*

I will declare the / Lord’s decree:

He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have be - / gotten you.”

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*

Text: translation

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Second Reading

Titus 3:4–7

In the eyes of the world, baptism appears to be just a religious ceremony.

St. Paul explains baptism is so much more—a second birth that gives you the identity of God’s child and heir.

⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so

that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:11



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Tone



You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.

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Gospel

Luke 3:15–17,21-22

People wondered if John the Baptist was the Messiah. He was a powerful preacher who lived a unique life. But at his baptism, Jesus was identified by his Father as the Anointed One.

¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his

threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

377, To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

1 To Jordan's river came our Lord,
the Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,
the God from God, the Light from Light,
the Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.

2 The Savior came to be baptized—
the Son of God in flesh disguised—
to stand beneath the Father's will
and all his promises fulfill.

3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood
and John baptized the Lamb of God,
the Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,
descended on him from above.

4 Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound
came God's own voice with words profound:
“This is my Son,” was his decree,
“the one I love, who pleases me.”

5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight
anointed Christ in glorious sight
as God's own choice, from Adam's fall
to save the world and free us all.

6 Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute!
This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

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Sermon

Titus 3:4-7

**Baptism is the cure for an identity crisis
It shows us who Jesus is.
It shows us who we are.**

Please stand

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Please be seated

Friendship Registers & Communion Announcement

When filling out the Friendship register for communion, please include those communing on one line, and those not communing on a separate line. Thank you.

Offering

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



Please stand

Preface

CW 199



The Lord be with you.



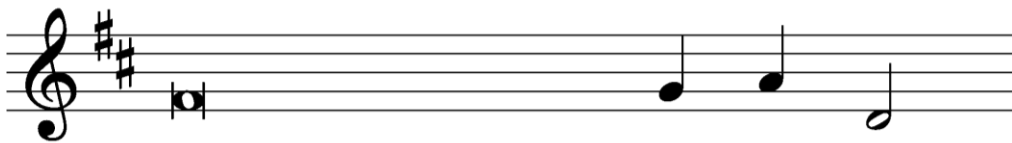
And al - so with you.



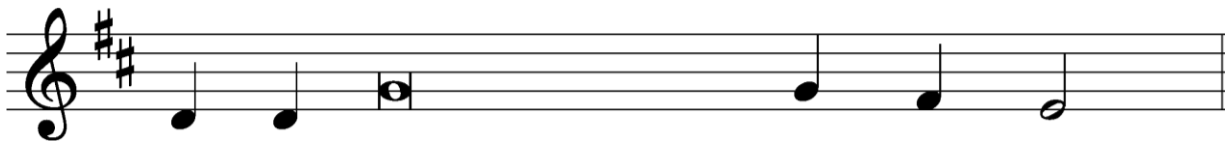
Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

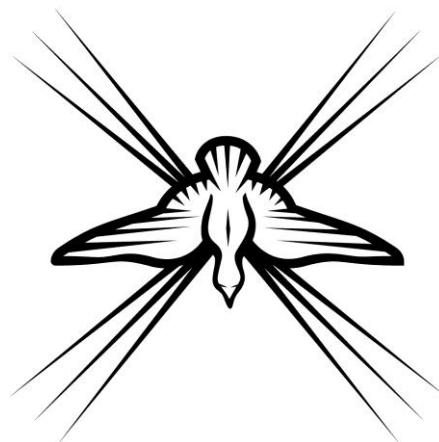


It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 200



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,



heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for

you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God

CW 202



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, grant us peace.

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Please be seated

Communion is an expression of unity and agreement in faith. We ask if you are not a member of Trinity, please speak with pastor before you publicly express such unity.

Distribution

Distribution Hymns 379, *Christ, Your Footprints through the Desert*

1 Christ, your footprints through the desert
 led to Jordan's flowing stream;
there you heard the herald crying
 Israel's old, prophetic dream:
"He is coming! He is coming!
 He will cleanse the earth with flame!
Sinners, plunge beneath the waters!
 Wash away your guilt and shame!"

2 Christ, you heard the stirring summons
 as by Jordan's bank you stood;
bathed, though sinless, with your people
 in the river's cleansing flood.
High above, the heavens opened;
 came the Spirit as a dove;
spoke a voice beyond all hearing:
 "See my Son, the One I love!"

3 Son of God, the road from Jordan
 led at last to Calv'ry's hill.
There upon the cross forsaken,
 you fulfilled the Father's will.
Lamb of God, we see you dying,
 sinless, yet for sinners slain.
But where death rose up to triumph,
 you began your glorious reign!

4 God, in Baptism you have made us
 one with Christ, our risen Lord,
freed us, claimed us, cleansed, forgiven
 thro' the water and the Word.

Help us hear your urgent summons,
calling us to serve you now.
Send us forth, your sons and daughters,
with the cross upon our brow.

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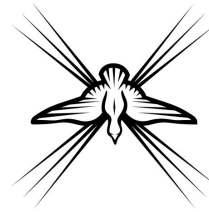
360, Behold, a Branch Is Growing

1 Behold, a branch is growing
of loveliest form and grace!
As prophets sang, foreknowing,
it springs from Jesse's race
and now begins to flow'r
in midst of coldest winter,
at deepest midnight hour.

2 Isaiah had foretold it
in words of promise sure,
and Mary's arms enfold it,
a virgin meek and pure.
Through God's eternal will
this child to her is given
at midnight calm and still.

3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor
the darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, and yet true God,
from sin and death he saves us
and lightens ev'ry load.

4 O Savior, child of Mary,
 who felt our human woes,
O Savior, King of glory,
 who conquered all our foes,
bring us at last, we pray,
 to the bright courts of heaven
and to the endless day.



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Please stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Please be seated

Hymn

692, All Who Believe and Are Baptized

1 All who believe and are baptized
shall see the Lord's salvation;
baptized into the death of Christ,
they are a new creation;
through Christ's redemption they shall stand
among the glorious, heav'nly band
of ev'ry tribe and nation.

2 With one accord, O God, we pray:
grant us your Holy Spirit;
help us in our infirmity
through Jesus' blood and merit;
grant us to grow in grace each day
that by this sacrament we may
eternal life inherit.

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Announcements

Ministry Update is today after church.

- Annual Report
- Large Projects Fund
- New secretary/Volunteer Coordinator
- Survey
- Entryway addition?

There are still a few members that have not paid for their poinsettias. Please pay Paula as soon as you can so we can close this account. Thanks.

BIC 2 will start today, January 12th at 1 pm- 2:30 pm.

Women's Faith & Fellowship will meet Tuesday, January 21st at 6 pm. (not January 14th as it reads in the newsletter.) We will finish our study of the book of Ruth.

Voter's Meeting Feb 2nd after church.

Youth Ski Trip

On Saturday January 18th, our teens in 7th grade and older are invited to go downhill skiing as a group with our area church friends. We will meet at church at 11:30am and carpool up to Pine Mountain Ski Resort in Iron Mountain. We will ski until approximately 8:00pm and then get pizza on our way home. The cost for the trip is \$39.00 for your lift ticket + \$39.00 for your equipment rental. Even if you have never skied before this is a great opportunity to come try out a neat winter activity. Talk to Dave Frievalt if you are interested in going.

The Sixteenth Annual -Men of His Word Conference “Forge Ahead in Faith”, This year's keynote speaker is Pastor Earle Treptow. Featuring the Worship Band: Koine'14. With Challenging Breakout Sessions Saturday, February 8, 2025, Oshkosh Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center – Oshkosh, WI registrations are in the back of the church or register online at: www.menofhisword.org

This week at Trinity...

| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|----|---|----|----|
| 8:15 Sunday School & Bible Study 9:30 Communion Service 10:45 am Ministry Update 1 pm Part 2 BIC | 6 pm Education Meeting | 6 pm Church Council Meeting | | 6 pm- 7:30 pm Part 1 BIC When Christ Walked Among Us Classes | | |

Attendance 1/5: 132
 Offering total as of 1/5: \$ 3,489.58
 General Fund 1/5: \$73,236.05

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