



ISAIAH
9:2

THE
PEOPLE
WHO
WALKED IN
DARKNESS
HAVE SEEN A
GREAT
LIGHT



Welcome to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and School.
We gather to worship the only God and Savior: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We have seen a great light

January 25, 2026

Epiphany 3

Light is truly a great thing, but we often do not appreciate how great light is until we have experienced going without it for a while. Whether the sun is shining or not, this world is a dark place without Jesus in it. The good news is that Jesus is near, and he lights up our life with his great mercy.

Today's 8:00 a.m. worship is broadcast live on YouTube. The YouTube link can be found at the church's website:

- holytrinity.church

After the service, the recording can be accessed at the same YouTube site.

2021 S. 260th Street
Des Moines, WA 98198
253-839-0731
e-mail: secretary@htls-wa.net
website: holytrinity.church
facebook.com/holytrinitywa

Pastor Bart Brauer 480-828-4919
bartbrauer@gmail.com
Principal Jason Gibson 920-840-3331
jgibson@htls-wa.net
Dan Smith, church president 253-569-1682

ORDER OF SERVICE—MARTIN LUTHER’S GERMAN MASS

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Psalm 27 (NIV)

*The congregation speaks the words in **bold**.*

The LORD is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?

**The LORD is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?**

When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh,
when my enemies and my foes attack me,
they will stumble and fall.

**Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me,
even then will I be confident.**

One thing I ask of the LORD,
this is what 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 him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble
he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle
and set me high upon a rock.

**Then my head will be exalted
above the enemies who surround me;
at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

Hear my voice when I call, O LORD;
be merciful to me and answer me.

My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"

Your face, LORD, I will seek.

Do not hide your face from me,
do not turn your servant away in anger;
you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,
O God my Savior.

**Though my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will receive me.**

Teach me your way, O LORD;
lead me in a straight path
because of my oppressors.

**Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,
for false witnesses rise up against me,
breathing out violence.**

I am still confident of this:

I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.

**Wait for the LORD;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the LORD.**

CONFESSION

P: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Almighty and merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Hymn 934 Kyrie! God, Father



Ky - ri - e! God, Fa - ther in heav'n a - bove, you a - bound in gra - cious love,



of all things the mak - er and pre - serv - er. E - le - i - son! E - le - i - son!



Ky - ri - e! O Christ our King, sal - va - tion for all you came to bring.



O Lord Je - sus, God's own Son, our me - di - a - tor at the heav'n - ly throne,



hear our cry and grant our sup - pli - ca - tion. E - le - i - son! E - le - i - son!



Ky - ri - e! O God the Ho - ly Ghost, guard our faith, the



gift we need the most, and bless our life's last hour that we leave this

sin - ful world with glad - ness. E - le - i - son! E - le - i - son!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn 936 All Glory Be to God Alone stanzas 1,4

1 All glo - ry be to God a - lone, for -
 4 You take the whole world's sin a - way; have
 ev - er - more the high - est One, who did our
 mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray. You take the
 sin - ful race be - friend and grace and peace to
 whole world's sin a - way; O lis - ten to the
 us ex - tend. A - mong man - kind may his good
 prayer we say. You sit at God's right hand each
 will all hearts with deep thanks - giv - ing fill.
 day; have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson: Isaiah 8:19-9:4

When they say to you, "Inquire of the mediums and the spiritists who chirp and mutter," shouldn't a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living? Go to God's instruction and testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, there will be no dawn for them.

They will wander through the land, dejected and hungry. When they are famished, they will become enraged, and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God. They will look toward the earth and see only distress, darkness, and the gloom of affliction, and they will be driven into thick darkness.

Nevertheless, the gloom of the distressed land will not be like that of the former times when he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali. But in the future he will bring honor to the way of the sea, to the land east of the Jordan, and to Galilee of the nations.

The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
a light has dawned
on those living in the land of darkness.

You have enlarged the nation
and increased its joy.

The people have rejoiced before you
as they rejoice at harvest time
and as they rejoice when dividing spoils.

For you have shattered their oppressive yoke
and the rod on their shoulders,
the staff of their oppressor,
just as you did on the day of Midian.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: 1 John 2:3-11

This is how we know that we know him: if we keep his commands. The one who says, "I have come to know him," and yet doesn't keep his commands, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps his word, truly in him the love of God is made complete. This is how we know we are in him: The one who says he remains in him should walk just as he walked.

Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old command that you have had from the beginning. The old command is the word you have heard. Yet I am writing you a new command, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. The one who says he is in the light but hates his brother or sister is in the darkness until now. The one who loves his brother or sister remains in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But the one who hates his brother or sister is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and doesn't know where he's going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Hymn 596 To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray stanzas 1,4



1 To God the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray
4 Shine in our hearts, O Spir - it, pre - cious light;



for the true faith need - ed on our way
teach us Je - sus Christ to know a - right



that when life is end - ing he may de - fend us, on our
that we may a - bide in the Lord who bought us, un - til



home - ward jour - ney at - tend us. Lord, have mer - cy!
home at last he has brought us. Lord, have mer - cy!

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

When he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
along the road by the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.
The people who live in darkness have seen a great light,
and for those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned.

From then on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he was walking along the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter), and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. “Follow me,” he told them, “and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father, preparing their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Now Jesus began to go all over Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

Hymn 381 *The People Who in Darkness Walked*



1 The peo - ple who in dark - ness walked have seen a glo - rious
2 To us a child of hope is born, to us a son is
3 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, the Ev - er - last - ing
4 His right - eous gov - ern - ment and pow'r shall o - ver all ex -
5 Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, and make us yours a -



light; the heav'n - ly dawn broke forth on those who
giv'n, and on his shoul - ders ev - er rests all
Lord, the Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, the
tend; on judg - ment and on jus - tice based, his
lone, for you are with the Fa - ther and the



dwelt in death and night, who dwelt in death and night.
pow'r in earth and heav'n, all pow'r in earth and heav'n.
God by all a - dored, the God by all a - dored.
reign shall have no end, his reign shall have no end.
Spir - it ev - er one, the Spir - it ev - er one.

Sermon— Matthew 4:12-23

We have seen a great light

Hymn 940 *We All Believe in One True God*



1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and
2 We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and
3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, who from both for -



Ho - ly Ghost, ev - er - pres - ent help in need,
Mar - y's Son, who de - scend - ed from his throne
e'er pro - ceeds, who up - holds and com - forts us



praised by all the heav'n - ly host, by whose might - y
 and for us sal - va - tion won, by whose cross and
 in all tri - als, fears, and needs. Bless - ed, ho - ly



pow'r a - lone all is made and wrought and done.
 death are we res - cued from all mis - er - y.
 Trin - i - ty, praise to you e - ter - nal - ly!

OFFERING

The ability to give from the heart is itself a gift from God. We thank God for the means to give. Even more, we thank God for the motive to give. Christ gave himself for us. We give as Christians out of love for Christ.

You may place your offering in the plates or use Online Giving.

The QR code at right will also take you to the giving site.

Thank you for your offerings.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: I invite you to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me the Lord's Prayer as Christ our Lord taught us.

First, we pray that God our Father in heaven would look with mercy on all his children on earth. We ask him to give us grace that we might proclaim his Word faithfully and live our lives according to his will, for then we show that his name is precious to us. We also pray that he would keep us from any teaching and living which would dishonor his name.

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

P: We pray that his kingdom and the rule of his grace might come to us and grow in us each day; that all who are still captives in Satan's kingdom might be brought to know Jesus Christ, his Son, so that the Christian Church might grow and prosper.

C: Your kingdom come.

P: We pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen us to do and accept God's will in life and death, in good times and in bad, and that we might have power to put down our own sinful will and its desires.

C: Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

P: We pray that our Father would also give us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish desires, and help us to trust that he will provide for all our needs.

C: Give us today our daily bread.

P: We ask that God would forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may rest and rejoice in a good conscience before him, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us.

C: Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

P: We pray that God would protect us from all temptations and help us by his Spirit to put down our sinful flesh, to despise the world and its vices, and to overcome the devil and all his trickery.

C: Lead us not into temptation.

P: And finally, we pray that God would deliver us from all evils of body and soul now and forever.

C: But deliver us from evil.

P: All those who sincerely desire these things will say from their hearts "Amen," trusting without doubt that their prayers are answered in heaven, as Christ has promised: "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

**C: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT

P: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, as we gather to celebrate the Testament of our Lord, let us take to heart the words of Christ by which he imparted to us his body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

Let us remember and give thanks for his boundless love, which he proved to

us when he redeemed us from God's wrath, from sin, death, and from hell by his own precious blood.

Let us faithfully confess that in this bread and wine—which are his body and blood—we receive the pledge and guarantee of his forgiveness.

Let us receive and enjoy this Sacrament according to the command that Christ gave, and glorify the name of the one who has so richly blessed us with this meal.

Hymn 943 Isaiah, Mighty Seer

I - sa-iah, might-y seer in days of old, the Lord of all in spir-it
did be-hold high on a loft-y throne, in splen-dor bright, with robes that
filled the tem-ple courts with light. A-bove the throne were flam-ing ser-a-phim;
six wings had they, these mes-sen-gers of him. With two they veiled their
fac-es as was right, with two they hum-bly hid their feet from sight,
and with the oth-er two a-loft they soared; one to the oth-er called and
praised the Lord: "Ho - ly is God, the Lord of heav'n-ly hosts! Ho - ly is
God, the Lord of heav'n-ly hosts! Ho - ly is God, the Lord of heav'n-ly hosts!

His glo - ry fills the heav - ens and the earth!" The beams and lin - tels
trem - bled at the cry, and clouds of smoke en - wrapped the throne on high.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Hymn 947 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy stanza 3

3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,
ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your - self to scorn did of - fer.
All sin you car - ried for us, else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
your peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Holy Trinity offers the Lord's Supper to communicant members of our congregation (and congregations in WELS and ELS). If you are not a communicant member and are interested in going through a course of study to prepare for receiving the Lord's Supper here, please speak with the pastor.

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 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.

C: Amen.

Hymn 932 Sent Forth by God's Blessing (See page 17)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Minister: Pastor Bart Brauer

Accompanist: Dave Kriewall

Acknowledgements

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Education

Sunday education for all begins at 9:15 a.m. The adults are studying 1 Peter.

Call meeting

There will be a call meeting today after second service. We will be calling a 6th-grade teacher.

Men's retreat

The men's retreat will be April 24-26 at a new venue in Gig Harbor. Pastor Donn Dobberstein, chairman of WELS Discipleship, will present and share tools on spiritual leadership in marriage, family, and church. The cost is \$175 per participant. Space is limited to the first 80 sign-ups. See the poster in the entryway near the restrooms or our church's weekly email for the link to the sign-up page.

Call Received

Joel and Kelli Plocher have received calls to teach at Mt. Lebanon Lutheran School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Over the coming weeks they will consider their current calls to Holy Trinity, their new calls to Milwaukee, and where they can best serve the Lord. Please keep them in your prayers as they deliberate.

Father/Son Dodgeball

Father/Son Dodgeball is back on Sunday, February 1. Come one and all to the gym and enjoy a fun-filled time of hitting each other with regulation dodgeballs. We will begin at 2:00 p.m. and end about 4:00 p.m. with root beer floats! Please email Tad Doviak at tubatad@gmail.com to be sure there will be enough ice cream and root beer for everyone.

Weekly email

If you are not receiving the weekly church email and would like to, please email the office at secretary@htls-wa.net.

Church directory

The most recent church directory is on a table in the entry way. Please check and make sure that your information is correct.

This week at Holy Trinity.

Today 11:30 a.m. Call meeting

Wednesday..... 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible study

Hymn 932 Sent Forth by God's Blessing



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from his dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.



The sup - per is end - ed; O be now ex - tend - ed
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing his chil - dren of each tribe and race.



The seed of his teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,
One bread that has fed us, one light that has led us



shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
u - nite us as one in his life that we share.



His grace did in - vite us; his love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for God's king - dom and an - swer his call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.