

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 8, 2026

Welcome

P This is the day that the Lord has made!

C Let us rejoice and be glad in it!



Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

P Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

P The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers us in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives our sin in ✝ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give us strength to live for others, and bless us with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

Praise Songs

Make Me A Servant

Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant,
Make me a servant today.

Change My Heart, O God

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true;

Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.

You are the Potter, I am the clay;
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true;
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray together. **Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

First Reading *Isaiah 58:1-9a*

Please be seated

Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

....*The Word of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

Psalm *112:1-9*

¹Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD, who greatly delight in his commandments.

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

⁴**They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

⁵It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

⁶For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.

⁷They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

⁸Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

⁹They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 2:1-12*

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"

God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

....*The Word of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Please stand as you are able

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

(sung) Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel *Matthew 5:13-20*

Jesus said "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not

one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

....*The Gospel of the Lord.*

(sung) Praise to you, O Christ.

Youth Time

Please be seated

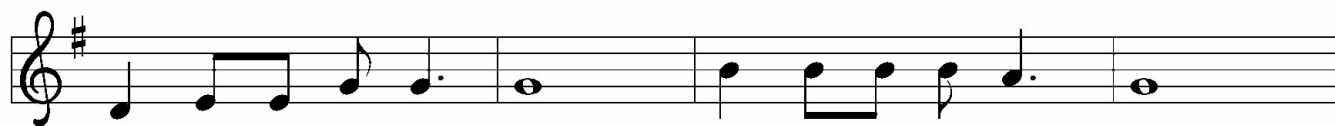
Choir Anthem

We Live By Faith

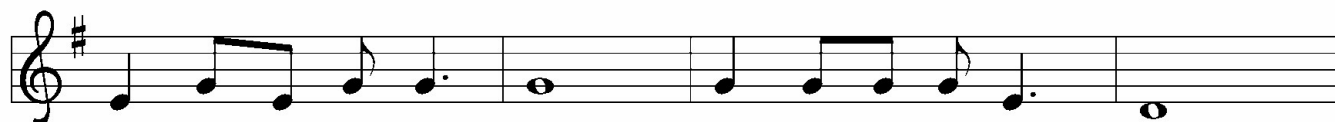
Message

Hymn of the Day

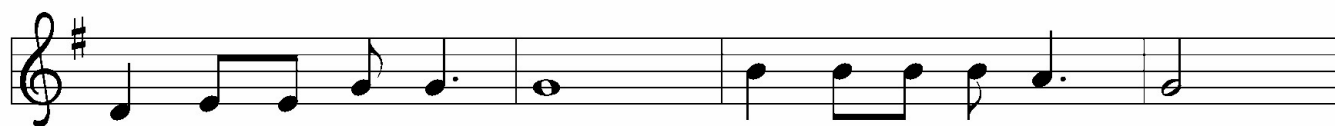
This Little Light of Mine



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
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 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

The Apostles' Creed

A Let us profess our faith through the words of the Apostles Creed.

C 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 to the dead. 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.

Prayers of the Church

A As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to war zones. We pray for our enemies.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those impacted by war and violence, for our men and women in the armed forces, and for first responders. We also ask for your blessing on Glenda, Ralph, and Arlen, and for those for whom we now pray, either in our hearts or aloud:

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our ordained leaders, staff, lay leaders, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Bless the ministries of TOL, Augustana, Good Shepherd and Pr. Sohail's South Asian Ministry, as we serve our neighbors in love.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

Please stand as you are able

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn (*sung*):

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray. **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

*{P Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see.}*

Communion Song

Please be seated

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion: Please be seated until the usher directs your row to the communion rail. Please come forward and stand or kneel. If you do not wish to receive communion, please come for a blessing. All who share our confession that Christ is present in the Sacrament are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. If you would like a gluten free wafer, please let Pastor know.

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Post-Communion Blessing

Please stand as you are able

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

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

Closing Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo-ry



and tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911
Music: HANKEY, William G. Fischer, 1835–1912

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C **Thanks be to God.**

MINISTERS: All the Members of Our Congregation

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Pastor's Study: 716-836-4990 Email: pastor_tol@verizon.net

Website: www.trinityoldlutheran.com

Music Minister: Don Grabau

Media Minister: Jeff Ward

Today's Worship Assistant: Barb Edwards

Today's Prayer Partner: Velma Achenbach

Today's Ushers: Jenna and Scott Edwards

Prayers and Announcements

Welcome: We extend a very warm welcome to everyone worshiping with us today. If you are visiting, we are delighted to have you here, and we hope you enjoy your worship time.

Prayer Partner Ministry: Today's prayer partner is Velma Achenbach. If you are in need of additional prayer, please see Velma following worship. Prayers are confidential.

Offering: Thank you for your gifts to TOL. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you send your offering through the US mail, please use checks only-please don't mail cash. We also have online giving through tithe.ly, which can be accessed through TOL's website (www.trinityoldlutheran.com) or on your smartphone.

Today's Altar Flowers: Today's flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Richard's birthday from the Geschwender family, and the rose on the altar is in loving memory of Heidi from Diane and Charlie Schmidtke.

Souperbowl of Caring/Sharing: Today we have an opportunity to help fight hunger in our community by making monetary donations to our soup pot in the narthex or by bringing in pantry staples and soups/canned goods for the shopping cart. Thank you for your generosity!

February Mission: TOL is part of the community helping to support the ministry of Hearts & Hands-Faith in Action, which is a local interfaith coalition providing

services to individuals. Please use the marked envelopes in the narthex, or contribute through tithe.ly, indicating that it is designated for Hearts & Hands. Thank you.

Women's Lunch Group: You are invited to join the group for lunch this **Thursday, Feb. 12** at 12:30 pm, at Carabba's Italian Grill, 1645 Niagara Falls Blvd. Please contact Judy Menz or Barb Maugans if you have any questions.

Adult Education: The next two classes are listed below. Classes start at **1 pm**, in person and on Zoom. **Please contact Charlie Schmidtke if you need a Zoom invite.**

February 16	Rome – Peter and Paul
March 2	Corinth - Letters

Grief Support Meeting at TOL: For those who have experienced the death of a child or grandchild. We meet the first Tuesday of each month, next on **Tuesday, March 3**. The meetings begin at 10 am until 11:30.

Ash Wednesday: The season of Lent begins on **Wednesday, February 18**. Ashes will be distributed that day at **11 am** at Augustana and at **7 pm** at TOL.

Mid-week Lenten Services and Soup Suppers: Here is this year's schedule of Wednesday Lenten soup suppers (6 pm) and worship services (6:30 pm):

February 25	Abiding Savior, 1534 Ruie Rd., North Tonawanda
March 4	Good Shepherd, 2669 Sheridan Dr., Tonawanda
March 11	Augustana, 3143 Eggert Road, Tonawanda
March 18	St. Martin's, 322 Old Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda
March 25	TOL

Sermon Discussion/input: Join Pastor Fred in a bag lunch discussion of the texts for the next month of sermons. The next meeting will be **Wed., February 25**, in the Fireside Lounge at TOL at noon for two hours.

Curtains Up: On **Saturday, May 2**, please join us at Ellicott Creek Playhouse for a live performance of "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels." There is a sign up sheet on the main bulletin board. We have 30 seats available.

Augustana Book Club: The book for January is Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt. All are invited this **Thursday, February 12** at 6:30 pm to discuss!

Chili Sale at Augustana: Augustana Lutheran Church, 3143 Eggert Road, is having a Chili Sale **this Saturday, February 14 from 11 am – 2 pm**. Baked goods will also be available for purchase.

Chowder and Chili Sale at Good Shepherd: On **Saturday, February 21** beginning at **10 am**.

Friends of Night People: Thank you to our volunteer teams who continue to prepare and deliver 100 sandwiches each week! Besides donations of peanut butter and jelly, you can help the homeless by collecting winter items, such as thermal clothing, sleeping bags, blankets, boots, hand & foot warmers, gloves, hats, hygiene items, lip balm & travel mugs. Please place donations in the blue barrel in the hallway. Thanks!

Operation Christmas Child: The suggested donation for February are reusable plastic cups or plastic water bottles. Thank you.

Book and Puzzle Sale: Please visit our Book Sale in the Resource Library, which is the first room in the hallway near the main bulletin board. Books and puzzles are always being added, and are available for a fraction of the cost at retail. No cost for the greeting cards available. Proceeds are used for church building interior improvements, such as carpeting, door mats, etc.

Thank You for your Continuing Support of these ministries:

- Non-perishable food items for the food pantry at Good Shepherd.
- Aluminum can pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House – bin in hallway.
- Dash's Tapes for the Niagara Lutheran Health System – bin in hallway.
- Cans and bottles to be recycled – barrel in hallway.
- Warm clothing and hygiene items for Friends of Night People– blue barrel.
- Items for Operation Christmas Child boxes – bin in hallway.
- Calendars for 2026 for Veterans Hospital – bin in hallway.

Weekly Calendar (*next page*)

This week's calendar

<p><i>Please notify the Church Office of any schedule changes, member illness, prayer request, etc., so church staff can respond accordingly. Office hours are <u>Tuesday, 9 am – 1 pm, Thursday and Friday, 9 am–12 noon.</u></i></p> <p><i>For a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Fred. For office related matters, please leave a voice mail message or send an email.</i></p>	Sun	2/8	9:30 am 9:45 am 11 am 12 noon 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Sunday School Worship Service at TOL Church Council Meeting Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting
	Mon	2/9	10 am 5:45 pm 6 pm	OA Meeting Yoga Sandwich Team #1
	Tues	2/10	5:45 pm 7:30 pm	Chair Yoga CoDA
	Wed	2/11	5:45 pm	Yoga
	Thurs	2/12	9:30 am 5:45 pm 7 pm	Yoga Yoga GA Meeting
	Fri	2/13	11 am	Pr. Sohail's South Asian Community
	Sat	2/14	11 am-2 pm	Augustana Chili and Baked Good sale
	Sun	2/15	9:30 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting

Announcements: *If you'd like to submit a bulletin or Tidings announcement, please send to trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com or call 716-836-4868 by Wednesday morning.*

TOL's Free WiFi and Password:

N7W7y; Password = limp82hewer43dig

