



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 21, 2024

Stories of the call to discipleship continue as the season of Epiphany reveals the implications of our baptismal calling to show the Christ to the world. Jesus of Nazareth begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of fisherman brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

Prelude

Canzonetta

William Mathias
(1934-1992)

Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be God – Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit – who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, the whole company of heaven, and our sisters and brothers in this community.

silence for reflection

P: Holy and gracious God,

C: **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have lived only for the present, without regard for generations to come. We have sought the realms of this world, rather than your promised reign of justice and peace. Have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P: How blessed are those whose sins are forgiven. In the mercy of almighty God, I announce to you the entire forgiveness of your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

ENTRANCE RITE

Entrance Hymn

O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True



1 O Christ, our light, O Ra - diance true, shine forth on
2 Fill with the ra - diance of your grace the wan - d'ers
3 Lord, o - pen all re - luc - tant ears and take a -
4 Lord, let your mer - cy's gen - tle ray shine down on
5 Make theirs with ours a sin - gle voice up - lift - ed,



those es - tranged from you, and bring them to your home a -
lost in er - ror's maze. En - light - en those whose se - cret
way the child - ish fears of those who trem - ble to ex -
oth - ers strayed a - way. To those in con - science wound - ed
ev - er to re - joice with wond - 'ring grat - i - tude and

gain, where their de - light shall nev - er end.
 minds some deep de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
 press the faith their se - cret hearts con - fess.
 sore show heav - en's wait - ing, o - pen door.
 praise to you, O Lord, for bound - less grace.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. composite
 Music: O JESU CHRISTE, WAHRES LICHT, *Gesang-Buch*, Nürnberg, 1676
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Apostolic 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

(sung in unison)

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have
 mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have
 mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Hymn of Praise

1. Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
 2. Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 3. Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;
 Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
 Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
 we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Salutation and Prayer of the Day



☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.

ALL: Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson - Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 62:6-14

(sung in unison)

God is a rock and shelter. The people are to trust in God alone.

⁶For God alone my soul in | silence waits;
truly, my hope | is in him.

⁷He alone is my rock and | my salvation,
my stronghold, so that I shall | not be shaken.

⁸In God is my safety | and my honor;
God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

⁹Put your trust in him al- | ways, O people,
pour out your hearts before him, for God | is our refuge.

¹⁰Those of high degree are but a | fleeting breath,
even those of low estate can- | not be trusted.

¹¹On the scales they are lighter | than a breath,
all of | them together.

¹²Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no | empty pride;
though wealth increase, set not your | heart upon it.

¹³God has spoken once, twice | have I heard it,
that power be- | longs to God.

¹⁴Steadfast love is | yours, O Lord,
for you repay everyone according | to his deeds.

Second Lesson - 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse

(The congregation sings the refrain **(R)** as indicated.)



Jesus went about Galilee, teaching, preaching, and healing every disease. (R)

Holy Gospel - Mark 1:14-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



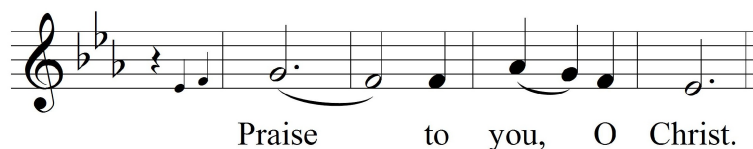
Before Jesus of Nazareth calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.



¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Pastor Roberts

silence for reflection

Hymn of the Day

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918
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The Creed

P: Using the words of our ancestors in the faith as expressed in the Apostles' Creed, we proclaim the triune God whom we believe:

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 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 Prayers

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

A: God our rock and deliverance, do not let your Church be shaken. We trust you never abandon your promises to the most vulnerable among us. Give your Church wisdom and empathy in its varied ministries. God of grace,

C: **receive our prayer.**

- A: God our hope and refuge, you placed the fish in the sea. Guide our care of oceans and all creatures that live in them. Hold us accountable for actions that endanger water sources and the people who depend on them. God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: God who proclaims judgement and offers mercy, be a model to the leaders of our nation and the world. As they lead, may they follow in your way of justice and truth. God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: God who cares for the suffering, care for survivors of assault and sexual abuse and sustain all who minister to them. Keep safe any who live under threat of violence, those living in poverty, and any among us who are ill or in pain. God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: God of resurrection and new life, as the first disciples shared the good news, empower us and this faith community to be open to your call. When we are uncertain of your call, assure us. When we have strayed from your ways, redirect us. God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.
- A: God who holds the saints in your tender embrace, we trust you welcome us into your care. Comfort those who grieve, even as we place our hope in your salvation. God of grace,
C: receive our prayer.
- P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
ALL: Amen

LITURGY OF THE MEAL

The Peace

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

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

Would I Have Answered When You Called

Roy Hopp
(b. 1951)

*Would I have answered when you called, "Come, follow me"?
 Would I at once have left behind both work and family?
 Or would the old, familiar round have held me by its claim
 and kept the spark within my heart from bursting into flame?*

*Would I have followed where you led through ancient Galilee,
 on roads unknown, by ways untried, beyond security?
 Or would I have hurried where home and comfort drew,
 where truth would not disturb the ordered world I knew?*

*Would I have matched my step with yours when crowds cried, "Crucify!",
 when on a rocky hill I saw a cross against the sky?
 Or would I too have slipped away and left you there alone,
 a dying king with crown of thorns upon a terrible throne?*

*O Christ, I cannot search my heart through all its tangled ways,
 nor with a certain mind my steadfastness appraise.
 I only pray, when you call, "Come, follow me!",
 you'll give me strength beyond my own to follow faithfully.*

(text, Herman Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007)

Offertory

Unison

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -
new a right spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence: and take not your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to
me the joy of your sal - va - tion:
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of six staves of music in a key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re - new a right spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence: and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with your free Spir - it."

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. God our provider,

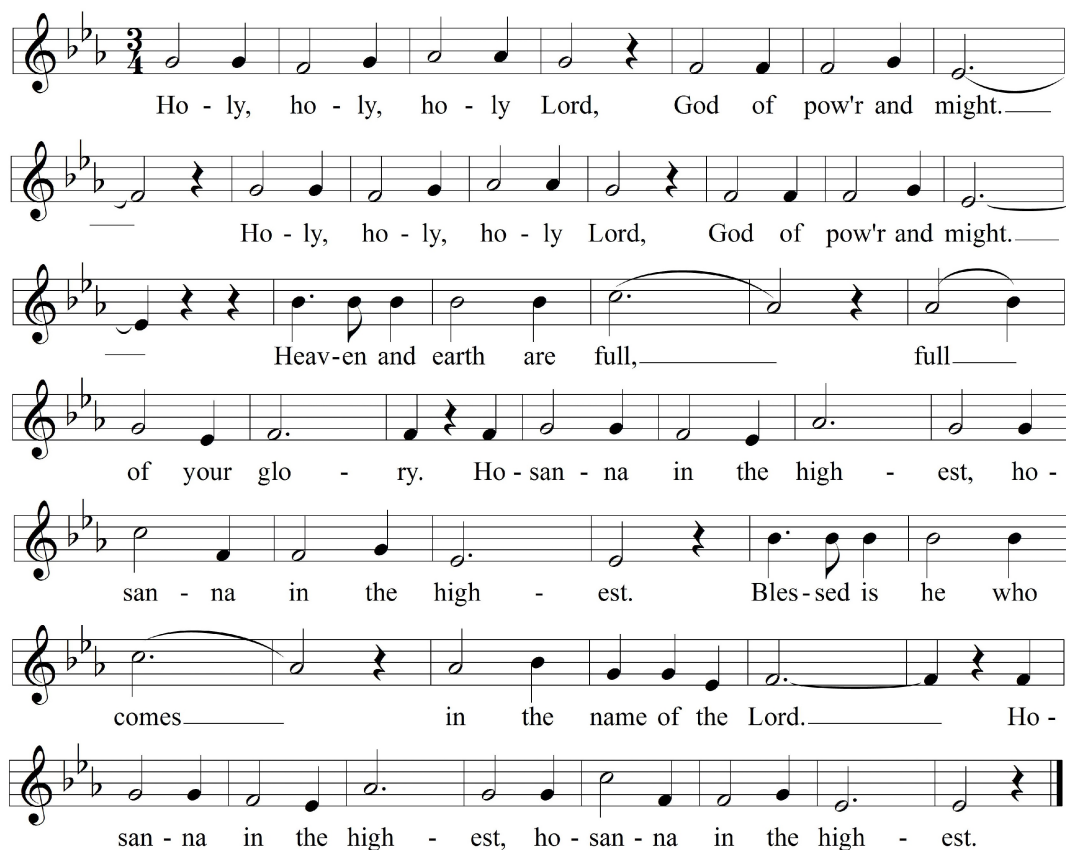
C: you have not fed us with bread alone but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts which we receive from your bounty; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Great Thanksgiving

(P) The Lord be with you. (C) And al - so with you.
(P) Lift up your hearts. (C) We lift them to the Lord.
(P) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
(C) It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of four staves of music in a key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "(P) The Lord be with you. (C) And al - so with you. (P) Lift up your hearts. (C) We lift them to the Lord. (P) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (C) It is right to give him thanks and praise."

Proper Preface and Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might. —

— Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might. —

— Heav-en and earth are full, — full —

of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who

comes — in the name of the Lord. — Ho -

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

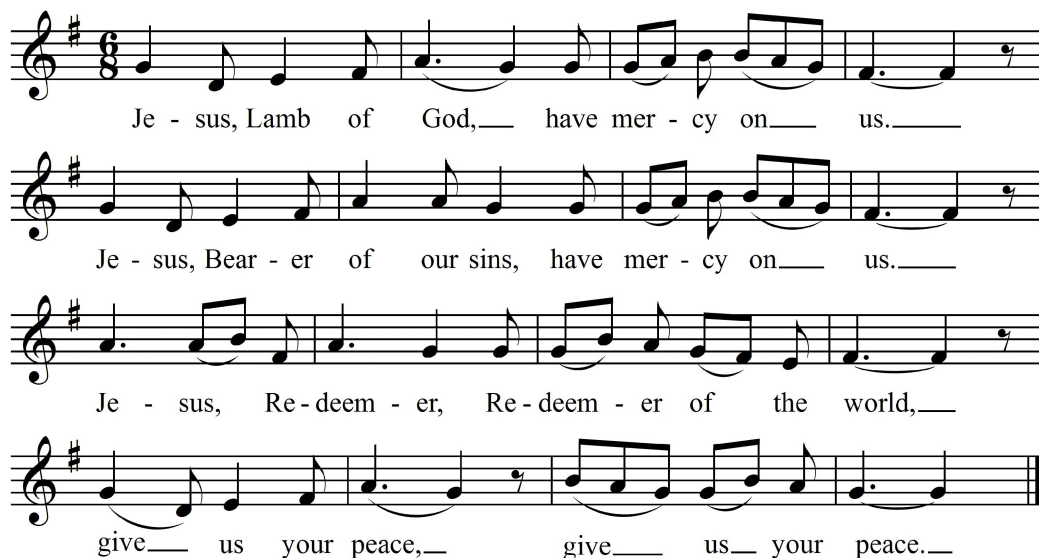
Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**C: 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**

Communion with our Risen Lord

Agnus Dei



Je - sus, Lamb of God, — have mer - cy on — us. —

Je - sus, Bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on — us. —

Je - sus, Re - deem - er, Re - deem - er of the world, —

give — us your peace, — give — us — your peace. —

Hymn

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind



1 Dear Lord and Fa-ther of man-kind, for-give our fev-'rish
2 In sim-ple trust like theirs who heard, be-side the Syr-ian
3 Oh, Sab-bath rest by Gal-i-lee, oh, calm of hills a-
4 Drop thy still dews of qui-et-ness, till all our striv-ings
5 Breathe through the heats of our de-sire thy cool-ness and thy



ways; re-clothe us in our right-ful mind; in
sea, the gra-cious call-ing of the Lord, let
bove; where Je-sus knelt to share with thee the
cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and
balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh re-tire; speak



pur-er lives thy ser-vice find, in deep-er rev-'rence, praise.
us, like them, with-out a word rise up and fol-low thee.
si-lence of e-ter-ni-ty, in-ter-pret-ed by love!
let our or-dered lives con-fess the beau-ty of thy peace.
through the earth-quake, wind, and fire, O still small voice of calm!

Text: John G. Whittier, 1807–1892
Music: REST, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

Post-Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen

Post-Communion Hymn



Come with us, O bless-ed Je-sus, with us ev-er-more to be.



And, in leav-ing now thine al-tar, let us nev-er-more leave thee!



Let thy bright ce-les-tial cho-rus nev-er cease the heav'n-ly strain;



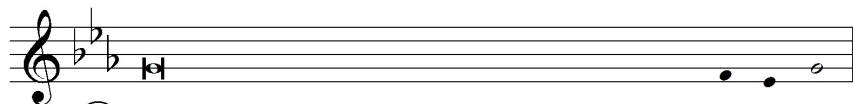
but in us, thy lov-ing chil-dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit, strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Benediction



(P) Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and for-ever.



(C) A-men, A-men, A - men, A-men, A - men._____

Hymn

O Jesus, I Have Promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt-ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard-ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.
Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

Dismissal

A: Our service now begins. Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Postlude

William Mathias

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Moira Rafferty and Rob Bass
in honor of the musicians of Holy Trinity.

The candles are given to the glory of God by Judy Schulz
in memory of Steve and in honor of those who share his birthday.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY		
Sunday, January 21	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube
	5:00 p.m.	Thomas Mass
	6:00 p.m.	Third Sunday Program
Monday, January 22	9:15 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:50 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
	6:00 p.m.	Youth Bible Study & Dinner (Youth House)
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study - <i>Seeing the Bible as Your Story</i> (via Zoom)
Tuesday, January 23	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study - <i>The Gospel of Mark: A Beginner's Guide to the Good News</i>
	5:40 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, January 24	12:10 p.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	5:30 p.m.	Winter Seminar - <i>The Passion of Jesus: The Way and The Kingdom</i>
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, January 25	9:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	11:00 a.m.	Sermon Discussion Group
Friday, January 26	9:15 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:50 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
	11:00 a.m.	Book Discussion Group - <i>Rebels, Despots, & Saints</i>
	5:15 p.m.	Dinner for Holy Trinity Residents at Westminster-Canterbury
Sunday, January 28	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube
	2:00 p.m.	Pastor's Information Class
	6:00 p.m.	International Dinner

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Our Mission: "To care actively in the name of Jesus Christ."

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
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Lynchburg, Virginia 24503**

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Organist-Choirmaster: J. William Greene

Parish Administrator: Carol Dee Robertson

Parish Nurse: Gail Midkiff

Pastor: Dennis S. Roberts

Director of Youth and Campus Ministries:

Susan H. Williams

Sextons: Linda Woody and Patricia Wiggington

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