



The LORD  
called me from  
the womb, from the  
body of my mother  
he named my name.

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I s a i a h 4 9 : 1

*SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY*

**“CALLED FROM THE WOMB”**

REV. PETER C. WILLIAMSON

7:30AM & 9AM SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026 IN THE SANCTUARY  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL, WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
“CALLED FROM THE WOMB”

REV. PETER C. WILLIAMSON

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**AS WE GATHER** People often speak about a person’s calling in life. They are describing a unique purpose or vocation according to interests and talents. Often, trying to determine a person’s “calling” or “destiny” is defined by some innate ability or giftedness found within ourselves, something we were born with or somehow born to do. Today we hear of God calling otherwise ordinary fishermen Andrew and his brother Simon Peter. They were called by God through John the Baptist to follow the Messiah, the Christ, Jesus of Nazareth. They were called to be disciples and eventually to be sent on Christ’s mission as apostles. The prophet Isaiah says even the Savior, the servant of the Lord, was called from the womb by God, “that Israel might be gathered to Him,” and called “as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth” (Isaiah 49:5–6). Saul of Tarsus was “called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus,” and Saul, now named Paul, reminds the church at Corinth and us that we are “called to be saints” (1 Corinthians 1:1–2). This calling differs from merely surveying interests or abilities within us; it comes to us from outside of ourselves, from the living God, our creator and Redeemer. This calling comes from God to everyone. It is the call of salvation, the divine call that transforms us from sinners into saints. Therefore, this calling depends not on anything within us but solely and totally on the grace and mercy and love of God.

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

## RINGING OF THE BELLS

## WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN     “Father, by the Heavens Spacious”     *Penikis; tune: LSB 589*

*A hymn written for the celebration of the eightieth anniversary of Camp Luther,  
The North Wisconsin District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.*

1. Father, by the heavens spacious We behold Your glorious might,  
And on earth Your care most gracious Keeps Your people day and night,  
Lodging in this wilderness, Where You test us and You bless  
Through deep waters, hills’ high stature, And Your wonders in all nature.
2. Morning-Star, call us to greet You, Risen Sun, sound, solid Rock;  
In Your tent, Word, may we meet You, Foll’wing, Way, where’er You walk.  
In each tree Your Cross be seen, Life in ev’ry evergreen,  
Feeding flocks here without number. Night comes; in You, Rest, we slumber.

3. Counselor, fill us for serving With Your breath, O Holy Wind;  
Keep us in the Faith unswerving, Mind and heart well disciplined.  
In the soaring birds above May we see You, heav'nly Dove,  
In the cloud, lest day's heat harm us, And in fire's embers to warm us.

Text: Michael A. Penikis, b. 1964 WERDE MUNTER Tune: Johan Schop, c. 1590–1667 87 87 77 88 Text: Copyright © 2026 Michael A. Penikis Permission is given to ministries of the North Wisconsin District, LCMS, for the purpose stated above, and in perpetuity to Camp Luther, provided that NO alteration be made to the text in any way without the author's written permission.

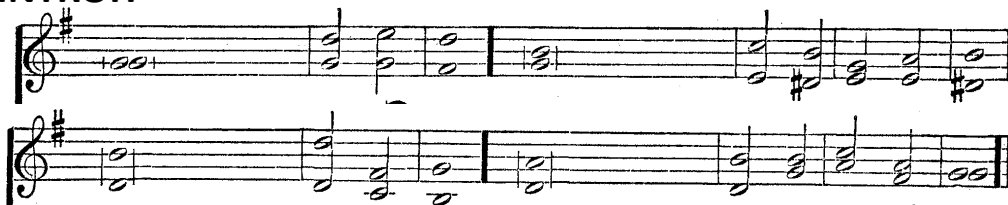
## INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**  
**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.  
**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**  
**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## INTROIT



Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in  
your | sight,\*

O LORD, my rock | and my | redee- | mer.

The heavens declare the glo- | ry of | God,\*

and the sky above pro- | claims his | handi- | work.

Day to day | pours out | speech,\*

and night to | night re- | veals know- | ledge.

There is no speech, nor | are there | words,\*

whose | voice is | not- | heard.

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end |  
of the | world.\*

In them he has set | a tent | for the | sun.

Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son\*

and to the | Holy | Sp- | irit;

as it was in the | begin- | ning,\*

is now, and will be | forev- | er. A- | men.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in  
your | sight,\*

O LORD, my rock | and my | redee- | mer.

## KYRIE

LSB 204



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

"Gloria in Excelsis"

LSB 204



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**



The Lord be with you.



**And also with you.**



Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**Amen.**

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

### **OLD TESTAMENT**

*Isaiah 49:1-7*

Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. <sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God." <sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—<sup>6</sup>he says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel;

I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”<sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## **SANCTUARY CHOIR** “Take My Life and Let It Be” *Havergal/arr. Rouse*

### **EPISTLE**

*1 Corinthians 1:1-9*

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,<sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—<sup>6</sup>even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup>who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

### **ALLELUIA AND VERSE**



**G** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**G** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

**G** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 1:29-42a*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"<sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.'<sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."<sup>32</sup> And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him."<sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'<sup>34</sup> And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."<sup>35</sup> The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples,<sup>36</sup> and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"<sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.<sup>38</sup> Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?"<sup>39</sup> He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.<sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.<sup>41</sup> He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ).<sup>42</sup> He brought him to Jesus.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## APOSTLES' CREED—*The First Article*

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**P** What does this mean?

**C** I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

## A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

### HYMN OF THE DAY

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

LSB 398



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,  
3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;  
5 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!  
To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.  
All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.  
From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,  
To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,  
Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;  
To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;  
The tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;



To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.  
Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.  
And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.  
His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A king - dom with - out end.  
His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Tune: Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532–c. 1601 Text and tune: Public domain

### SERMON

"Called from the Womb"

Rev. Peter C. Williamson

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(After each petition, the following is said...)*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**G** hear our prayer.

### GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS MUSICAL OFFERING

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

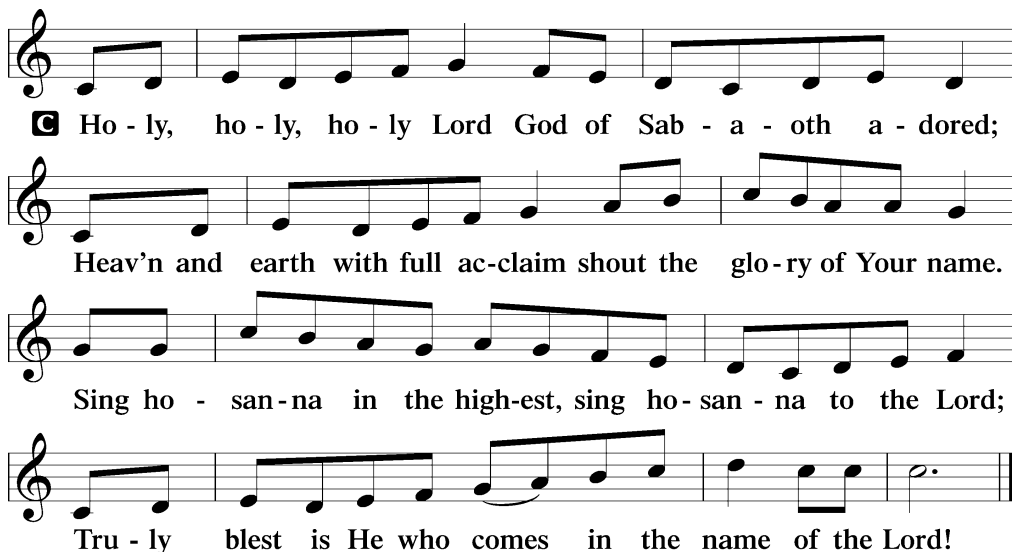
- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them to the Lord.  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

*LSB 208*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## THE 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### PAX DOMINI

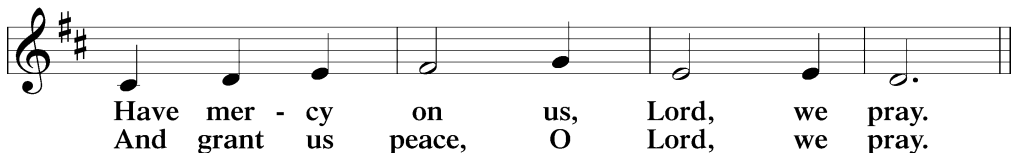
**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

### AGNUS DEI

*LSB 210*

**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION** *Christ invites all repentant sinners to partake in His feast of forgiveness – the Lord’s Supper. LCMS communicant members are invited to examine their faith using pages 329-330 in the hymnal and receive the Savior’s body and blood. Grape juice is available in the center of the trays in lieu of wine. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Visitors wishing to commune should see a pastor or an elder before service. We ask this because we love you.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**      “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”      LSB 702  
    “I Lay My Sins on Jesus”      LSB 606

**DISMISSAL AND NUNC DIMITTIS**      LSB 211



## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**A** Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## BENEDICAMUS

*LSB 212*

**A** Let us bless the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**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.

**G** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

*"Voices Raised to You We Offer"*

*LSB 795*



1 Voic - es raised to You we of - fer; Tune them, God, for  
2 All cre - a - tion joins to praise You; Earth and sky Your  
3 Christ, the song of Love in - car - nate, Touch - ing earth with  
4 Spir - it, flam - ing through cre - a - tion, Kin - dle faith with -  
5 How can an - y praise we of - fer Mea - sure all the



songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute  
works dis - play. Art and mu - sic, gifts You lend us,  
heav - en's grace, For Your liv - ing, suf - f'ring, dy - ing,  
in each heart. Lift our voic - es high in cho - rus;  
thanks we owe? Take our hearts and hands and voic - es—



For Your gifts through all our days. Al - le - lu - ia!  
We re - turn to You to - day. Al - le - lu - ia!  
For Your ris - ing, hear our praise! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Through our hands Your love im - part. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Gifts of love we can be - stow. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to You we sing!  
Al - le - lu - ia! God, Cre - a - tor, source of life!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, Re - deem - er, Lord of life!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Spir - it, Help - er, breath of life!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to You we sing!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: Carolyn Jennings, 1936 Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005874  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## POSTLUDE

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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**PRESIDING MINISTER:** *Rev. Peter C. Williamson, Associate Pastor*

**LITURGIST:** *Rev. James L. Mayland, Senior Pastor*

**ORGANIST:** *Mark Davidson*

**MUSICIANS:** *Sanctuary Choir, Kyle Wiskow, director;*

*Carla Schwantes, piano; Sharon Rock, flute*

**ELDERS:** *7:30am—Bob Zimmerman, Bob Moser; 9am—Dan Schwantes, Jeff Kelm*

## WELCOME TO TRINITY!

Your presence is very special to us. May your faith be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship to God!

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**TRADITIONAL/BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY—**  
7:30am & 9am Sunday  
**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER (SLC)—**  
5pm Saturday & 9:15am Sunday

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- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. We invite those who have been instructed in the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Others are asked to speak with a pastor before receiving the Sacrament. *Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*
- **LARGE PRINT**—large print copies of the bulletin are available on the table in the Narthex or you may ask the usher for one.
- **CHILDREN'S BULLETINS**—for ages 3-6 & 7-12 years, are available on the table in the Narthex.
- **NURSERY**—for children ages 3 & under. The upper level nursery is located near the Church Lounge on Sundays. *Please Note: The upper level nursery will be unstaffed unless volunteers are available.*
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 10:30am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 10:30am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8th grade School and our Childcare (infant through 13 years).
- **ELEVATOR**—is located next to the nursery on the upper level. On the lower level the elevator is located across from Classroom #101, which is past the offices. Use as needed.
- **RESTROOMS**—Narthex level across from the Library, lower level next to the elevator.
- **JOINING TRINITY**—We invite you to become part of this Christian community! If interested in membership, please speak with an elder or pastor, and we will contact you.

### Automated Giving Options



### MISSION & VISION STATEMENT:

*Teach the Faith—Love the Lost—Connect all to Christ*



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