

ORDER OF WORSHIP

[Based on pp. 41–59 in the black
hymnal—the Evangelical
Lutheran Hymnary (ELH)]

PART 1: THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION



We prepare ourselves for worshiping God by acknowledging our unworthiness
to stand before Him, and by receiving His forgiveness through absolution
(forgiveness).

Call to Worship • Epiphany 4

[Psalm 100:1–2 (EHV)]

PASTOR: *Today we pray to the God who shows His humanity through His life and His glory
through His miracles. May we who have received our earthly wealth, spiritual forgiveness, and
all our gifts from Him, be motivated to give our offerings back to Him out of thankfulness.*

“Shout to the LORD with joy, all the earth.

CONGREGATION: **Serve the LORD with gladness.”**

First Hymn • “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

[CW 485]

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|---|--|
| <p>1. We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.</p> | <p>2. May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our first-fruits give!</p> |
| <p>5. The captive to release,
To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace—
It is a Christ-like thing.</p> | |

-Stand-

Confession of Sin

[ELH p 41, alt]

P Let us confess our sins to God and pray:

*We poor sinners confess to You, O God, not only that we have been conceived and born
in sin, but also that throughout life we have often and in many ways offended You, our Lord*

and Maker, in thought, word and deed. In Your perfect justice, You should reject and condemn us for all eternity.

☞ Therefore we come before You with sorrowful hearts, dreading Your holy justice and terrorized by everlasting death. Our sins are a great enemy and we should hate them in every way as long as we live.

☞ But merciful God, You still grant us in this hour to be reminded of Your fatherly goodness. According to the promise of Your Word we run to You—our infinitely merciful God—for refuge. We pray to You for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your only-begotten Son, our Brother, who was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. We beg You, dearest Father, to forgive our sins through faith, which the Holy Spirit increases in our hearts so we are fully assured of Your grace.

☞ We therefore pray You, O Lord, through Your servant to declare to us the forgiveness of all our sins. We poor sinners are willing to forgive all who have offended against us. We earnestly desire to grow in true godliness. Help us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Prayer for Mercy ~ Kyrie Eleison

[Mark 10:47 • ELH p. 42]



☞ O God the Fa-ther in heav - en, have mer-cy up-on us.

O God the Son, Re - deem-er of the world, have mercy upon us.

O God the Ho-ly Ghost, true Com-fort-er, have mercy upon us.

Forgiveness of Sin ~ Absolution

[Mt 11:28; John 3:16; Mark 16:16 (EHV)]

☞ Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord:

He says, "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." "For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall

not perish, but have eternal life." Indeed, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved."

Lift up your hearts! By the authority of God and of my holy office, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PART 2: THE SERVICE OF THE WORD



After receiving the forgiveness of sins, we thank God by singing His praises and praying to Him. He then increases our faith through His holy Word which we hear through the *Lessons* and the *Psalms*, and especially through the *Sermon* where God's Word is applied to our lives today.

Song of Praise ~ Gloria

[Luke 2:14, John 1:29 • text: ELH 35, alt. • tune: CW 69]

All glo - ry be to God on high Who has our world be - friend - ed!

To us no harm shall now come by, The strife at last is end - ed.

God shows His grac - ious will to men, And peace shall dwell on

earth a - gain. O thank Him for His good - ness!

Blessing of People and Pastor ~ Salutation

[Ruth 2:4, 2 Tim 4:22]

☐ *The Lord be with you, His people.*

☒ **And with your spirit as you minister to us.**

☐ *Let us pray:*

Prayer of the Day • Epiphany 4

P *O merciful Creator, Your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us always thankful for Your loving care; and grant that we, remembering the richness of Your grace, may be faithful stewards of all your good gifts.*

A **We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our living Lord, who reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.**

-Be seated-

First Lesson • Haggai 1:1–11



The Lord asks his people to give careful thought about the relationship between their finances and their faith. With open hearts, Christians should give their firstfruits.

In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the LORD came through Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, the governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest.

²This is what the LORD of Armies says. This people has said, “It is not the right time for the House of the LORD to be built.”

³So the word of the LORD came through Haggai the prophet.

⁴Is it time for you to live in your paneled houses while this house lies in ruins? ⁵Now this is what the LORD of Armies says. Consider your ways carefully. ⁶You sow much seed but you harvest little. You eat but you are never satisfied. You drink but you never become drunk. You get dressed, but no one is warm. The one who makes money puts that money into a bag with a hole in it.

⁷This is what the LORD of Armies says. Consider your ways carefully. ⁸Go up to the mountains, bring lumber down, and build the House. I will be pleased with it, and I will be glorified, says the LORD.

⁹You expected much, but look, there was little. When you brought it home, I blew it away.

Why did I do that? This is a declaration of the LORD of Armies. It is because my house lies in ruins while each of you is busy with your own house. ¹⁰So it is because of you that the heavens have withheld the dew and the earth has withheld its produce. ¹¹I called

for a drought on the land, on the mountains, on the grain, on the new wine, on the olive oil, on everything which the soil produces, on people, on livestock, and on all the labor of your hands. (EHV)

📖 *This is the Word of our Lord.*

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson • 1 Corinthians 16:1–4



Scripture calls for offerings that “in keeping with your income,” that is, proportionate. These offerings are given so that God’s people might be a blessing to others, meeting physical and eternal needs.

Now concerning the collection for the saints, do as I directed the churches in Galatia to do. ²On the first day of every week, each of you is to set something aside in keeping with whatever he gains, saving it up at home, so that when I come, no collections will need to be carried out. ³When I arrive, those whom you approve will be provided with letters, and I will send these representatives to deliver your gracious gift to Jerusalem. ⁴If it is appropriate for me to go also, they will go with me. (EHV)

📖 *This is the Word of our Lord.*

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

-Stand-

Gospel Acclamation • Psalm 100:1–2 (EHV)

📖 *Alleluia! Alleluia! Shout to the LORD with joy, all the earth. Serve the LORD with gladness.*

Alleluia!



Gospel • Matthew 25:14–23

| 📖 Jesus gives us our gifts to use them! |

[Jesus said:] “You see, the kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a journey. He called his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two talents, and to still another one talent, each according to his own ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶The servant who had received the five talents immediately put them to work and gained five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the servant who had received the two talents gained two more. ¹⁸But the servant who had received one talent went away, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master’s money.

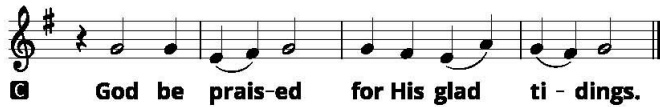
¹⁹“After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰The servant who received the five talents came and brought five more talents. He said, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.’

²¹“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’

²²“The servant who received the two talents came and said, ‘Master, you entrusted me with two talents. See, I have gained two more talents.’

²³“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’” (EHV)

📖 *This is the Gospel of our Lord.*



-Be seated-

Hymn • “*Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly*”

[CW 484]

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|--|---|
| <p>1. Brothers, sister, let us gladly
 Give to God our all, our best—
 Service hearty, thorough, honest,
 With a living love impressed.
 All our duty, all our striving,
 All our time to Him belong;
 Praise Him, then, with true devotion;
 Come before Him with a song.</p> | <p>2. By His mercy, by His bounty,
 By the gift of Christ, His Son,
 What great goodness, He has shown us,
 What high marvels He has done!
 Let us to Him, promptly, freely,
 Yield our bodies and our souls,
 Thankful that His love protects us,
 That His wisdom all controls.</p> |
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Sermon • *Matthew 25:14–23***What Really Matters Is Knowing the Master**

-Stand-

Confession of Faith ~ *Nicene Creed*

[ELH p. 47]

☞ *Having heard the Word of God, we confess our holy faith using the words of the Nicene Creed:*

✠ **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and

glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Reception of Offerings and Prayer



Offerings are brought by those who are thankful to God for saving them through Jesus. Before the service starts we collect the offering in the designated areas in the entryway and Gathering Room. For those who wish to give digitally, please use the link to our PayPal account to the left, or consult our Church Website: www.trinityels.org

Prayer of the Church

☞ *Heavenly Father, may Your will be done in this world.*

☞ **May the governments You have established run well for the benefit of Your people.**

☞ *May Your pure Word which is taught by Your holy Church be preserved in every place.*

☞ **May many more people enter into Your kingdom by faith.**

☞ *Keep us, who are gathered here, in the true faith.*

☞ **As You re-created us in our Baptisms, we pray that You continue to enlighten us through Your Word, and strengthen us through Your holy Supper.**

☞ *[Special prayers may be added here]*

☞ *Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our private petitions:*

-A few moments of silence for personal prayers-

☞ *We ask this all in the name of Jesus Christ.*

☞ **Amen.**

PART 3: THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION



Following Christ's command, we receive His grace to us in the special meal He instituted for the forgiveness of our sins. Here, He feeds with His true body

and His true blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. This is the same body which was born of the Virgin Mary, and the same blood which dripped down the wooden cross. This part of the liturgy is one of the oldest parts, dating back to at least the third century AD.



FOR OUR GUESTS: Please note that Trinity practices "Close Communion" (or "Membership Communion"). This means we only Commune with people who believe and teach the same doctrine which we do (ELS or WELS). This is necessary because Christ commands us to be unified as a congregation (Ephesians 4:3; 1 Corinthians 10:16–17). He warns that—much like abusing a powerful medicine—those who improperly receive Holy Communion receive Divine judgment rather than blessing (1 Corinthians 11:27, 29). And, contrary to the way many congregations practice today, "Close Communion" is the ancient practice of the Christian church (Acts 2:42). Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, please speak with the pastor BEFORE the service to find out how our "Close Communion" practice affects you.

Great Thanksgiving

[2 Tim 4:22, Col 3:1, Ps 136]

☞ *The Lord be with you, His people.*

☞ **And with your spirit as you minister to us.**

☞ *Lift up your hearts in joy.*

☞ **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.**

☞ *It is truly good and right... evermore singing Your praise:*

Song of Saints and Angels ~ Sanctus

[Is 6:3, Mt 21:9 • text: Rev. Arden Mead • tune: CW 492]



☞ **Lo, the heav'n - ly host re - joic-es: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"**



Lord's Prayer

[Lk 11:2-4; Mt 6:9-13]

☩ 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

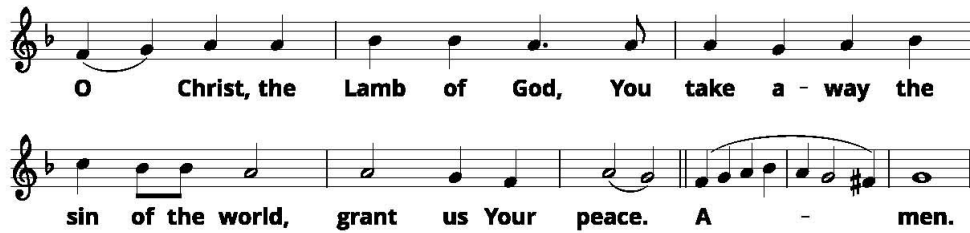
[Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25;
Through these words, the presence of Our Lord's Body and Blood is effected in our midst.]

☩ Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night... in remembrance of me.

Song to the Lamb ~ Agnus Dei

[Jn 1:29 • ELH p. 55]





-Be seated-

Distribution

*[Communicants come forward at the direction of the ushers.
During the Distribution, the congregation sings the following hymn]*

Hymn • "Salvation Unto Us Is Come"

[ELH 227]

1. Salvation unto us is come
By God's free grace and favor.
Good works cannot avert our
doom;
They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
Who did for all the world atone;
He is our one Redeemer.
2. What God doth in His law demand
No man to Him could render.
Before this Judge all guilty stand;
His law speaks curse in thunder.
The law demands a perfect heart;
We were defiled in ev'ry part,
And lost was our condition.
3. False dreams deluded minds did fill,
That God His law had given,
As if to Him we could at will
Earn grace and enter heaven.
The law is but a mirror bright
To bring the inbred sin to sight
That lurks within our nature.
4. From sin our flesh could not abstain,
Sin held its sway unceasing;
The task was useless and in vain,
Our guilt was e'er increasing.
None can remove sin's poisoned dart
Or purify our guilty heart,
So deep is our corruption.

5. Still all the law fulfilled must be,
Else we were lost forever,
Then God His Son sent down that He
Might us from doom deliver;
He all the law for us fulfilled
And thus His Father's anger stilled
Which over us impended.
6. As Christ hath full atonement made
And brought to us salvation,
So may each Christian now be glad
And build on this foundation:
Thy grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,
Thy death is now my life indeed,
For Thou hast paid my ransom.
7. Not doubting this, I trust in Thee,
Thy Word cannot be broken,
Thou all dost call, "Come unto Me!"
No falsehood hast Thou spoken:
"He who believes and is baptized,
He shall be saved," say'st Thou, O
Christ,
And he shall never perish.
8. The just is he—and he alone—
Who by this faith is living,
The faith that by good works is shown,
To God the glory giving;
Faith gives thee peace with God
above,
But thou thy neighbor, too, must love,
If thou art new created.
9. The law reveals the guilt of sin,
And makes men conscience-stricken;
The Gospel then doth enter in
The sin-sick soul to quicken.
Come to the cross, look up and live!
The law no peace to thee doth give,
Nor can its deeds bring comfort.
10. Faith to the cross of Christ doth cling
And rests in Him securely;
And forth from it good works must
spring
As fruits and tokens surely;
Still faith doth justify alone,
Works serve thy neighbor and make
known
The faith that lives within thee.
11. Hope waits for the accepted hour
Till God give joy for mourning;
When He displays His healing pow'r,
Thy sighs to songs are turning.
Thy needs are known unto thy Lord,
And He is faithful to His Word,
This is our hope's foundation.

12. Though it may seem He hears thee not,
Count not thyself forsaken;
Thy wants are ne'er by Him forgot,
Let this thy hope awaken;
His word is sure, here is thy stay,
Though doubts may plague thee on thy way,
Let not thy faith be shaken.

13. All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace,
All glory to His merit.
O Father in the heav'ns above,
The work begun performs Thy love,
Thy worthy name be hallowed.

14. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done
In earth, as 'tis in heaven.
Keep us in life, by grace led on,
Forgiving and forgiven;
Save Thou us in temptation's hour,
And from all ills; Thine is the pow'r,
And all the glory, Amen!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

[ELH p. 56, alt.]

☞ *Let us give thanks and pray:*

We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have refreshed us with Your Holy Supper. We pray that through it, You would mercifully strengthen us in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another.

☞ **We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.**

God's Final Blessing ~ Benediction

[Num 6:24–26]

☞ *The Lord bless you and keep you... and give you peace* ☩ .

☒ **Amen.**

Closing Hymn • “Lord Jesus Christ We Humbly Pray”

[text: ELH 311 sts 4–5 • tune: ELH 50]

**4. One bread, one cup, one body, we,
United by our life in Thee,
Thy love proclaim till Thou shalt come
To bring Thy scattered loved ones
home.**

**5. Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
To keep us steadfast to that day
That each may be Thy welcomed guest
When Thou shalt spread Thy heav'nly
feast.**

-Be seated-

Worship Notes

- Preacher: Pastor Daniel J. Hartwig
- Organist: Donna Moll
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- February Altar Committee: Janelle Brei