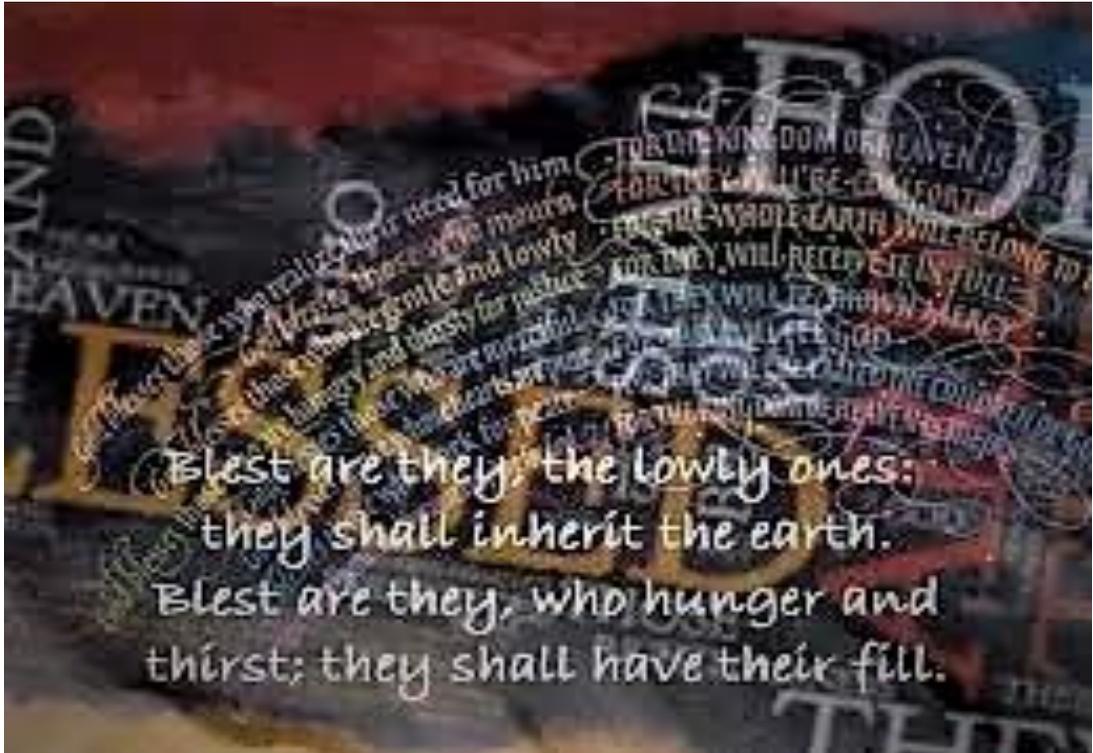


Triune Lutheran Church



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

*We thank you for joining us here
at Triune Lutheran Church, a
family united by our Risen Lord,
Jesus Christ!*



In order to make you feel more at home, here are a few notes about the service. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. We hope to make your time here as meaningful as possible!

Worship

- The * by the headings throughout the service indicate when we invite you to stand, as you are able.
- The light print will be spoken by the pastor or another worship leader, while we encourage you to speak the **bold print**.
- The hymns are chosen from our *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) hymnal, which is the red book directly in front of you in the pews. You will find the hymns in the last two-thirds of the book with the bold numbers on the top of the pages.
- We welcome all the baptized to join us in the Lord's Supper, where we believe Jesus is present "in, with, and under" the bread and wine as his body and blood. After the organist and assisting minister commune, you will be invited to come forward up the non-organ side aisle to the pastor, who will give you bread (gluten-free wafers also available upon request). You are encouraged to keep the bread in your hands and then dip it into the chalice of wine for intinction. You may also come forward to receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded. You may return to your seat up the center aisle. If you are unable to come forward, the elements will be brought to you.
- For visitors, if you so choose, we encourage you to fill out a card available at the center-aisle end of the pew to learn more about us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates us and forms us,
who redeems us and calls us,
who unites us and sends us.

Amen.

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

You are invited to kneel or remain standing. Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Mighty and loving God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We seek our own way.
We divide the body of Christ.
In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us.
Let the words of our mouths,
the thoughts of our hearts,
and everything that we do
be filled with faith, hope, and love.
Amen.**

Hear the voice of Jesus:
"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me
to proclaim release to the captives."

In the name of † Jesus Christ,
I proclaim to you
that your sins are forgiven and you are released.
The joy of the Lord is your strength,
and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.
Amen!

***GATHERING HYMN**

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

ELW 742

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen!**

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:5-10

⁵Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

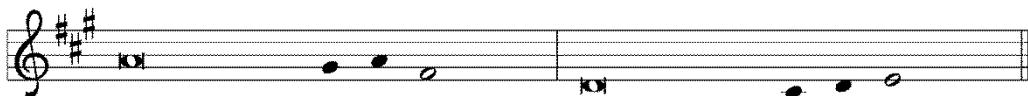
¹⁰I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM

Psalm 1



¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the
wicked,

nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the
seats | of the scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law | of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching | day and
night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that | do not wither; everything they | do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so | with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.

⁶**For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed.**

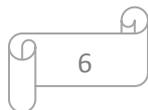
SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

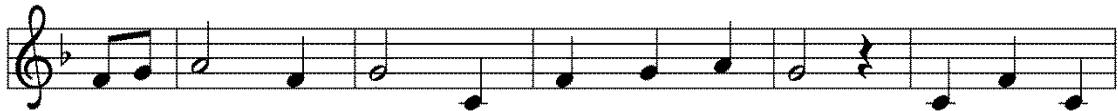
¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

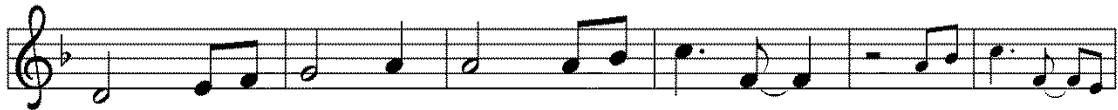
The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!



*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



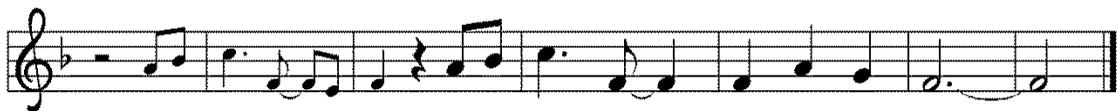
Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



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



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

*GOSPEL

Luke 6:17-26

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord!

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²²“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵“Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

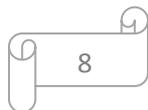
This is the holy Gospel of our Lord!
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Blest Are They”

ELW 728



***APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION**

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Universal God, continue to raise up faithful leaders to proclaim the gospel. Guide us in the ways of love, and empower us in ministry and service. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, sustain deserts and canyons, farmlands and vineyards. Bring sufficient rainfall to lands parched by drought, and restore places scorched by wildfire. Protect fragile environments from harm. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, grant wisdom to our elected leaders for the sake of the common good. Give courage to those who suffer persecution. Give patience and perseverance to those who work to bring an end to injustice. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God, we lift up those in any need: for those who do not have enough food; for those who lack money; for those who are estranged from their families; for those who worry about many things. Comfort those who mourn. Heal and strengthen those who are sick, including Bev Deitrick, Hazel Schwab, Trudy Weidman, Mardell Weiss, Dave & Clara Wilcox, Ed Uhlir, Jenny Bennett, Cathy Gallagher, Richard Jakubcin, Jeff Nash, Mary Phillips, George Tomaselli, those serving in the armed forces and as first responders, and all those we name in our hearts...Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, our help in ages past and our hope for years to come, we give you thanks for our family of Triune. As always, root us deeply in your hope-filled word and strengthen our faith. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died.
Encourage us by their example and lead us in faith until we
are united at your unending feast. Lord, in your mercy, **hear
our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen!**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always!
And also with you.

OFFERING

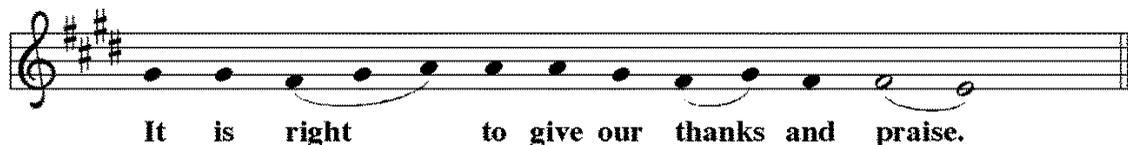
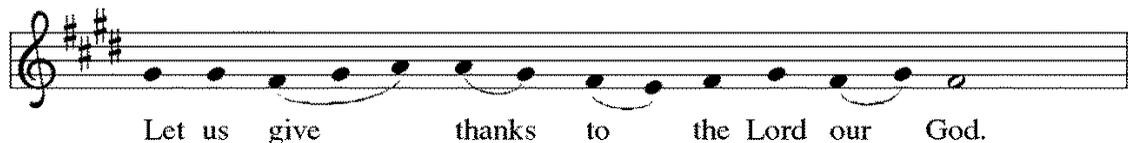
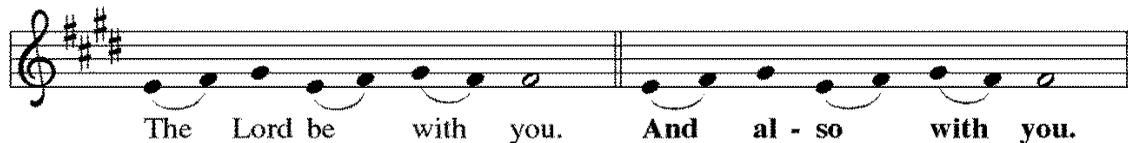
***OFFERING HYMN**

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” VERSE 1 ELW 674

***OFFERING PRAYER**

God of all creation,
all you have made is good,
and your love endures forever.
You bring forth bread from the earth
and fruit from the vine.
Nourish us with these gifts,
that we might be for the world
signs of your gracious presence
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen!

*GREAT THANKSGIVING



*PREFACE

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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of
everlasting life.
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:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff has a longer note value for 'san - na'. The fourth staff has a rest for the first measure. The fifth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God:
you are the Life and Light of all.
By your powerful word you created all things.
Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to
the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
He is your Light, shining in our darkness
and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
his preaching and healing,
his dying and rising,
and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

Holy Spirit, bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of our Lord.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
both now and forever.

Amen!

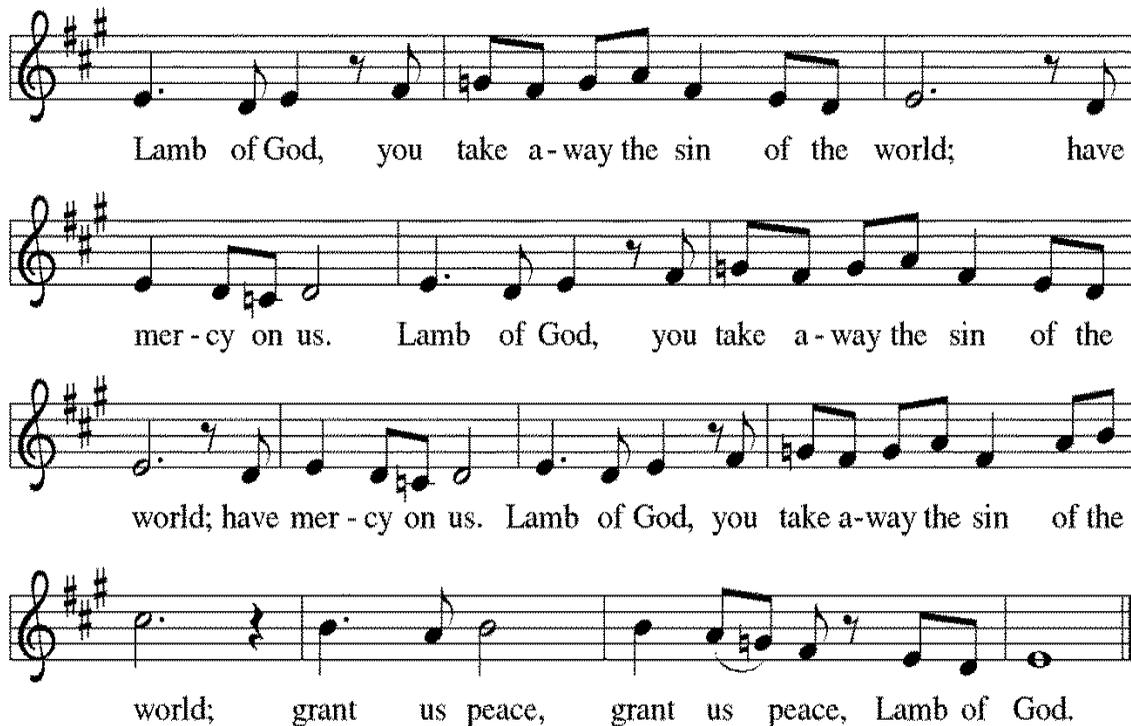
***LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

**Come to the table.
Feast on God's abundant life for you!
Thanks be to God!**

*COMMUNION HYMN



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION

*COMMUNION PRAYER

We thank you, O God,
that you have fed us at your banqueting table
with bread and wine beyond compare,
the very life of Christ for us.
Holy Spirit, continue with us now,
that we may set the captive free,
use your gifts to build one another up,
and in everything reflect your glory
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen!**

***BLESSING**

The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,
and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen!

***SENDING HYMN**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

ELW 815

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is your light!
Thanks be to God!

Copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000689. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Ministers: ***All People***
Pastor: ***Brad Ross***
Organist: ***Edith Schatt***
Worship Leader: ***Dale Kirk***
Office Manager: ***Jan Piskac***

Not Being Mockers



In this time of microtargeted advertisements and affinity communities on Facebook and Twitter, it's easy to feel morally superior, as if we are right and everyone else is wrong. I was struck by this recently when meeting friends and colleagues at a café. One attendee was holding forth loudly about his political beliefs and mocking anyone who disagreed with him. Comments I overheard from the surrounding tables after our meeting broke up suggested that his ideas were less popular than he might have imagined.

Mocking those with whom we disagree is a dangerous habit that Scripture repeatedly warns us about. For example: “Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night” (Psalm 1:1-2a; New International Version).

The way of blessing is in loving and meditating on God's law rather than emulating the wicked, the sinners and the mockers. Mockery robs our fellow children of God of their dignity and worth. *Lutsim*, the Hebrew word translated here as "mockers," means something like "those who contort their faces" (as if trying to pronounce a difficult foreign word). You can just imagine someone sneering and contorting his face while mocking what someone else has said. The verb form of this word can also mean "to speak arrogantly," and mockery is the height of arrogance: my thoughts are so superior to yours that I don't even need to take you seriously or address you with respect.

The warning can be read in this week's passage from Jeremiah, who cautions us that trusting in humans is like being a cursed bush in a parched, salty, deserted wasteland (17:5-6). Trusting in the LORD to defend us (even when we are the ones being mocked) is like being a tree planted beside ever-present streams (17:7-8).

The way of blessing is in loving and meditating on God's law rather than emulating the wicked, the sinners and the mockers.

Jesus takes up this warning against mockery in the Gospel of Luke by addressing the victims of such treatment. We know there will be those who mock others. But just as the poor, the hungry and the mournful are blessed, so, too, are the excluded and the insulted (Luke 6:22). Instead, Jesus promises woe to those of whom everyone speaks well (Luke 6:26). He justifies these pronouncements by explaining that this is how wicked people responded to true and false prophets respectively. We should not wish to be adored like prophets who tell soothing lies in God's name. Neither should we emulate those who heaped praise upon false prophets while mocking and ridiculing those who revealed God's true heart.

The Scripture readings from this week note the dangers of a moral failing engaged in all too frequently by me and many of my friends. Mocking others, even when their ideas are horrible or contrary to God's heart for the world, is impermissible. As Lutheran Christians, we need to be especially careful about this. Crude mockery was a frequent tactic of Martin Luther against those who disagreed with him, and we are steeped in this tradition. We are to speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15), not in arrogance.

By all means, argue for what is right. Jesus charges us with spreading the love and truth of God's kingdom. But we need to do the even more difficult work of spreading love and truth both lovingly and truthfully. For Christians, the medium is the message. If we mock, degrade and dehumanize those for whom Jesus died, are we serving the kingdom of heaven or our own in-group identities? Even when we disagree passionately, let us do so with humility, acknowledging that we didn't always know what we know now and that we continue to learn and grow. Mockery and arrogant talk should have no place in the mouths (or social media) of Christians.



Cory Driver is an adjunct professor of North African history and religion. He earned his doctorate in Jewish religious cultures from Emory University. He is a rostered ELCA deacon waiting for his first call and lives with his family in Valparaiso, Ind. Cory blogs the lectionary readings at corydriver.com.



Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 3, for our next congregational meeting. Like last time, we will gather at 5pm, starting with a pot-luck meal before continuing with the meeting. As always, we will provide the dinnerware, but just let us know if you plan on attending, and, if so, if you plan on bringing something to share (don't forget to bring your own beverage as well). This is a great way to re-connect with each other and to go over anything needed to discuss for our church family!