



Holy Trinity

LUTHERAN CHURCH

N A R B E R T H

Growing in Faith - Making a Difference - Open to All

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 8, 2026**

196 Woodbine Avenue, Narberth, Pennsylvania 19072

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Website: holytrinitynarberth.org; Facebook: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Narberth

Jessica Zurcher, Pastor-elect - pastorjessica@holytrinitynarberth.org

Dale Morris, Office Manager - holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com

Christopher Ertelt, Music Director

Virtual choir: Meredith Beck, Emily Bigelow, Lauren Cupples, Christopher Ertelt, Dawn Falato, Elizabeth Fenton, Sarah Gliko, Paul V. Patanella, Brittney Marquand Sedgwick, Daniel Smith, Rob Tucker

You are a child of God and you are welcome here: whatever your faith commitment, experience, or level of doubt, mental or emotional health, physical abilities, financial or employment status, race, ethnicity, or primary language; whatever your gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. We welcome you whether you are a parent or caregiver; whether you are a fussy baby, an energetic toddler, a 'tween, or a teen; whether you are an inquisitive young adult, exhausted adult, or wise senior citizen; whether you are single, in a relationship, married, divorced, or widowed; whether you struggle with an addiction to drugs, alcohol, or anything else. We welcome you however you found us: on the internet, from your neighbor or friend, or passing by our Giving Garden. We welcome those who hurt and those who celebrate, those who worship every week or just this once, and in whatever you choose to wear. We extend a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now. We welcome you to join us as we grow in faith through worship, study, and friendship. We welcome you as we seek to make a difference through combating food insecurity, ministering with those in need, and committing to racial equity. And we welcome you to help us be fully open to all. Whoever you are and wherever you are from, you are a child of God and you are welcome here.

+ GATHERING +

Prelude

Aria

George Frideric Handel

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness:

L: 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.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Mighty God, lover of justice,
C: **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.

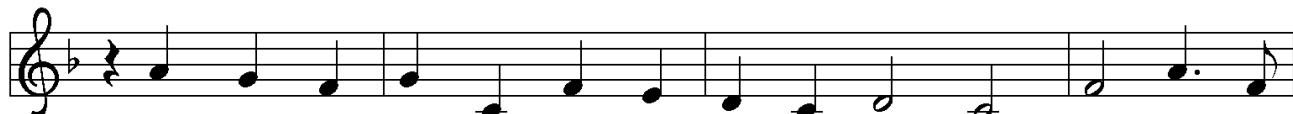
L: The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in [☩] Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

C: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: Rise, Shine, You People! (ELW 665)



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur-round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Greeting:

L: 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.**

Hymn of Praise:



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day:

L: Let us pray together...

C: **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.**

+ WORD +

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12

L: The first reading is from Isaiah, the 58th chapter.

¹Shout 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.

²Yet 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.

³“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.

⁴You 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.

⁵Is 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 L^{ORD}?

⁶Is 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?

⁷Is 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?

⁸ 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.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the **LORD** will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

⁹ If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The **LORD** will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 112:1-9

1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God's commandments!

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

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

4 **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;**
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 **For they will never be shaken;**
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

8 **Their heart is established and will not shrink,**
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

L: The second reading is from 1 Corinthians, the 2nd chapter.

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.

⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ 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. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ 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”—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **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.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:13-20

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

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹³ “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.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: Jessica Zurcher, Pastor-elect

Hymn of the Day: Christ, Be Our Light (ELW 715)

1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
 dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
 church gath - ered to - day.

Apostles' Creed:

L: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C: **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 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 People:

L: 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,

C: **receive our prayer.**

L: 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,

C: **receive our prayer.**

L: 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,

C: **receive our prayer.**

L: 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,

C: **receive our prayer.**

L: 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. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

L: 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,

C: **receive our prayer.**

L: 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.

C: **Amen.**

The Peace of Christ:

L: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us share a sign of peace with one another, as you are comfortable.

Offertory Anthem

Walk in the Light

arr. André Thomas

You are welcome to use this QR code if you wish to donate online, or to go to our church website.



Doxology & Offertory Prayer:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

L: God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

+ MEAL +

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L: 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:

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

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

L: Holy, mighty, and merciful God,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

L: Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer:

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
**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:

L: Taste and see that the Lord is good.
C: **Amen.**

Communion Song:

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

The Sacred Harp, 1844

Prayer after Communion:

L: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C: **Amen.**

Announcements

+ SENDING +

Benediction:

L: The God of all grace  bless you now and forever.
C: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: We Are Marching in the Light (ELW 866)



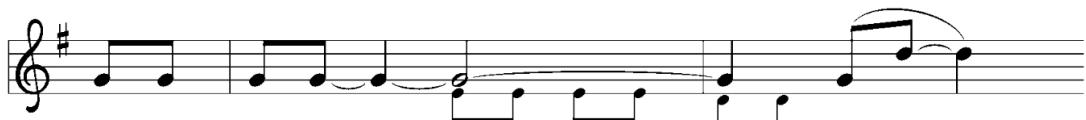
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march-ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march-ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

Dismissal:

L: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. Grow in faith, make a difference, be open to all.
C: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Allegro maestoso e vivace (Sonata No. 2)

Felix Mendelssohn

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ANNOUNCEMENTS**Ash Wednesday is coming.**

Join us at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, February 18, for a reflective service marking the beginning of Lent, with prayer, scripture, and the imposition of ashes. This is a quiet, grounding space to tell the truth about our lives, our world, and our need for grace, and to begin the Lenten journey together. All are welcome.

Rite of Ordination of Jessica Zurcher

Your prayers and presence are requested for the Rite of Ordination of Jessica Zurcher to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on Saturday, February 14, 2026 at 11 am at Luther Place Memorial Church, 1226 Vermont Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Lunch to follow.

Meet with Pastor Jessica

Pastor Jessica would love the opportunity to meet with you and get to know you better. If you're interested in scheduling a conversation, please reach out to Pastor Jessica after worship, by phone 301-412-8989, email pastorjessica@holytrinitynarberth.org, or Calendly calendly.com/pastorjessica.

Barb Grimaldi Meal Packaging Event

We have moved the date of our annual meal packaging event for Grace Food Bank. This year, it will be held on **SATURDAY, MAY 16th at 9:30am**.

As before, we will gather to package 20,000 emergency meals for the beloved clients of The Grace Food Bank in Mantua. Lunch will be provided that day and we'll finish up by early afternoon. Please contact the church office at holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com or 610-664-5503 and indicate if you will need a ride or are able to supply transportation when you sign up.

We also need your financial support to make this happen. Please consider donating online at holytrinitynarberth.org. Checks can be made out to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church with "Barb Grimaldi Meal Packaging Event" noted in the memo line. Checks can be mailed to the church office at 196 Woodbine Ave. Narberth, PA 19072 or simply placed in the offering plate at worship.

Thank you. GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS!

Staying informed

If you have an upcoming event or announcement and wish to include an article in our weekly newsletter, please reach out to the church office.

Prayer Candle in the Eichner Chapel

If you would like to memorialize the prayer candle, please contact the church office at 610-664-5503 or holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com. Please include *the week you would like, your name, and how you would like the wording to appear in the weekly bulletin*. The cost for the candle is \$10. Checks (please note in the memo line "prayer candle") or cash can be dropped to the church office or sent via snail mail.

Holy Trinity's Prayer List

Jan Doan

Ben Hoffman

Friends and Relatives

Bettina Chavanne (friend of the McCluskeys)

Sharon Neall (Hall family member)

Beth Brady (Kristine DelMonte's co-worker)

Norma DelMonte (Tom's mother)

The Houghs (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Linda Baldi-Boyd

Marbury Hooey

John & Rosemary (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Margie (Jan Doan's friend)

Joseph Davis

Heinrich Mengel (cousin of the Hoffmann Family)

Louise Jackson (cousin of Julie Ackerman)

Mary Fran (friend of Dorothy McCluskey)

Tara Echelmeier Dolan (friend of Julie Ackerman)

Mary Ann Dixon (friend of the Hoffmans)

David Segermark (Kristine DelMonte's father)

Jane S. (friend of Pat Brubaker)

Ken Ackerman (Carl Ackerman's father)

Grace Vanartsdalen (friend of Bruce and Dorothy McCluskey)

Ellen Mitchell (sister of Mary Williamson)

Bob Fuhrmeister (grandson of Bob Catherman)

Anthony Fuhrmeister (great-grandson of Bob Catherman)

Steve Crews (Kim's father)

The Lim family (friends of the Princes)

Cheryl Kurpiel and Family (friends of the Frye Family)

Cestare family (Extended family of Kim)

Bob Gamble (friend of Bruce & Dorothy McCluskey)

Joe Prince & Greg Savoy (loved ones of the Princes)

Deborah deHeyman and family (friends of Holy Trinity)

Katy Olsen (Pat Brubaker's niece)

Lori Chambers (friend of Mark and Dee Jaye Frye)

Laurie & Wayne (friends of Pat Brubaker)