



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

3225 Roosevelt Road, Muskegon MI
231.755.1292 - tlcmuskegon.org
Sunday, January 3, 2021
2nd Sunday after Christmas

Good morning and welcome to worship! And Happy New Year, 2021!

In St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he reminds them and us, that God chose us in Him before the creation of the world. God knew about us, and He knew about 2021 before the creation of the world. He has great plans for us in 2021! Our sermon for today is titled, "Grace Lavished Upon Us!"

Pre - Service Music

Michael VanBemmelen

Welcome

Pastor Paul Appold

Opening Song

"Above All"

**Above all powers above all kings
Above all nature and all created things
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man
You were here before the world began**

**Above all kingdoms above all thrones
Above all wonders the world has ever known
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
There's no way to measure
What You're worth**

**(CHORUS) Crucified laid behind the stone
You lived to die rejected and alone
Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall and thought of me
Above all**

*Lenny LeBlanc | Paul Baloche © 1999 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)
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Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

(Psalm 119:97-104)

P: Oh, how I love Your Law!

C: It is my meditation all the day.

P: Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,

C: For it is ever with me.

P: How sweet are Your words to my taste,

C: Sweeter than honey to my mouth

P: Through Your precepts I get understanding;

C: Therefore I hate every false way,

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever and ever. Amen

Time of Confession and Forgiveness

P: As we begin this New Year together, we confess that we have often followed false ways in our world. But God calls us again to the truth of His Word and joyfully calls us to repent of our sins and receive His forgiveness. Please join me then as we confess our sins together.

(We pause beneath the cross to confess our sins)

All: Gracious God, in this New Year, we humbly fall before You, asking for Your forgiveness. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. Please send us Your Holy Spirit to help us overcome the temptations we have to go against Your will and ways.

P: In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was sent to bring forgiveness for all of our sins. Because of Him, we have hope in all situations. You are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen! Thank You Lord for Your Lavish Grace!

Hymn of Praise

"Way Maker"

You are here moving in our midst

I worship You I worship You

You are here working in this place

I worship You I worship You

Chorus

***You are Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise Keeper
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are (repeat)***

You are here touching every heart

I worship You I worship You

You are here healing every heart

I worship You I worship You

You are here turning lives around

I worship You I worship You

You are here mending every heart

I worship You I worship You

Chorus

Bridge

Even when I don't see it You're working

Even when I don't feel it You're working

You never stop You never stop working

You never stop You never stop working (repeat)

Chorus
Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise Keeper
Light in the darkness my God that is who You are (repeat)

Tag
That is who You are
That is who You are
That is who You are
That is who You are

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Prayer

P: Holy Lord, Your voice is like thunder; Your presence is commanding. You number the stars and call each of them by name. You know Your creation so intricately and intimately- even the hairs on our heads are numbered. Your knowledge and understanding has no limit, and yet You love us so much that You became flesh for us. Your Son Jesus gave His very life for our sake in payment for our ransom. Please open our hearts that we may gain a heart of wisdom as we hear Your Word. We love and thank You today.

C: In the name of the Father, Son, and Spirit. Amen.

The First Reading

1 Kings 3:4-15

As Solomon was stepping into his father's footsteps as king, and since he was just a young child, he sought the Lord for wisdom. This pleased the Lord and He blessed Solomon with a long life.

R: The First Reading for the 2nd Sunday after Christmas is from the book of First Kings, the 3rd chapter:

And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. 5 At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." 6 And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. 7 And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. 8 And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. 9 Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

Our eternal inheritance has been sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. Through Jesus we have been blessed with spiritual blessings, forgiveness and redemption through Christ's blood, knowledge and wisdom, and an eternal home in Heaven.

R: The Second Reading is from the book of Ephesians, the 1st chapter:

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

"Praise the Father, Praise the Son"

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Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶ "'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."

⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Children's Message

Pastor Paul Appold

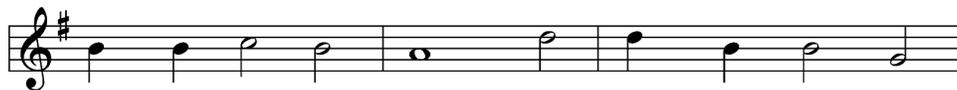
Sermon Hymn

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

LSB #528, vs. 1-3, 5, 7



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As -
 3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That
 5 Look un - to Him, ye na - tions; own Your
 7 To God all glo - ry, praise, and love Be



great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my
 sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
 bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the
 God, ye fall - en race. Look and be saved through
 now and ev - er giv'n By saints be - low and



God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!
 earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.
 sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.
 faith a - lone, Be jus - ti - fied by grace.
 saints a - bove, The Church in earth and heav'n.

Tune and text: Public domain

Sermon

"Grace Lavished Upon Us!"

Ephesians 1:3-14

Offerings

(Thank you for your faithful offerings for the Lord's Kingdom!)

Prayers of God's People

(Response to the petitions)

P: Lord, in Your Mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

The 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.

Blessing

P: Go with the Father, who sets eternity in Your hearts. Go with the hope and peace of the Lord Jesus Christ who lavishes us in His grace. Go in the name of the Holy Spirit, who calls, gathers, and enlightens us!

C: In the name of the Lord, we will do this, alleluia!

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

Closing Hymn

"As with Gladness Men of Old"

LSB #397 vs. 1,3-5



1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day Keep us in the nar-row way;
5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright Need they no cre-at-ed light;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;
So may we with ho-ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al-loy,
And when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran-somed souls at last
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;



So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev-er-more be led by Thee.
All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo-ry hide.
There for-ev-er may we sing Al-le-lu-ias to our King.

Announcements

Continue to join us for worship on our Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/tlcmuskegon or on our website at www.tlcmuskegon.org.

GIVING AT TRINITY Thank you for continuing to give generously to Trinity and support the ministry with your Offerings. You may do so by mailing your Offering envelopes to Trinity at 3225 Roosevelt Road, Muskegon, MI, 49441 or by giving online. To set up an online giving account, please visit www.tlcmuskegon.org/give

"Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great People?" 1 Kings 3:9

OFFERING ENVELOPES are being delivered to your homes this week. Please call the church office 231-755-1292 if you have not received them by Wednesday, January 6.

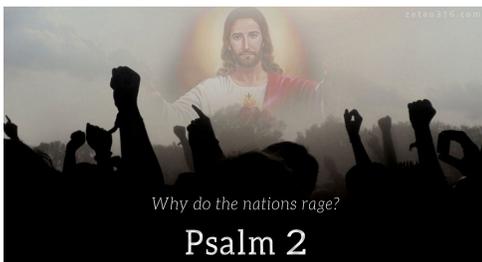
2021 DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE *Want a great resolution for 2021? How about reading through the Bible in one year. Here is a great guide from a great organization--Lutheran Bible Translators...Go ahead and give it a try!* [2021 DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE](#)

LOOKING FOR DRIVERS Please let the church office know if you would be interested in delivering CD's & DVD's of our services or any other information that we need to get out to our members during the time that we are closed to in person worship.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

We rejoice with those who celebrate birthdays this week; Marisa Caldwell, Bill Jandt, Drew Roberts, Isla Marrs and Carol VanBemmelen!

If you wish to have contact information, please call or email the church office at telephone number - 231.755.1292 or email info@tlcmuskegon.org

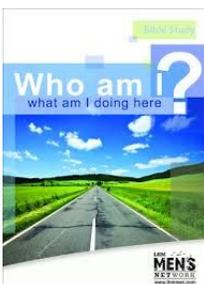


ONE WEEK BIBLE STUDY "Why Do the Nations Rage? A Study of Psalm 2" You are invited to join Pastor Appold on Zoom on Sunday morning January 3, 2021 for a one week lesson on Psalm 2. Psalm 2 explains the peace and hope that Jesus brings, even though the world tries to rage against Him. This Psalm is a perfect study for Christmas and the New Year of 2021. This study is only one lesson, so please join us at 11 AM on January 3rd. [Zoom ID 204 576 0929 Passcode Trinity](#)

NEW BIBLE STUDY beginning, Sunday, January 10th.

The class is titled, "Who Am I, and What Am I Doing Here?" This class will focus on the purposes of our lives, why God has us here, and how we can make the most effective use of our time. This class will be led on Zoom, (and in person when we are able). This class will take place every Sunday morning, beginning January 10th at 11 AM on Zoom--

ID 204 576 0929 Passcode Trinity Please join us!



You're invited to join the Thursday night Bible Study group for 2021

I sense that believers in Jesus Christ struggle to grow deeper in their Biblical understanding of the meaning behind the words and phrases of Jesus. Often these insights into the words and phrases are anchored in the Hebraic context of the Old Testament which was the Bible that Jesus read. Some of these key words and ideas are in Lois Tverberg's book: "Listening to the Language of the Bible." Her observations provide rich insights into the root of Hebrew words used in the Bible. These insights will teach us new perspectives for looking at God & at our lives. I would like you to join me on this ZOOM journey as we open Scripture and discover keys that will unlock hidden treasures for our life in Christ. Each Thursday beginning January 7, 2021 at 7 pm we will meet on-line to discuss and grow together in Biblical insights. This adventure will cost you:

1. \$ 10. for the book & companion study book
2. Preparation time – to read and prepare the lesson
3. An hour every Thursday evening (@ 7-8 pm)

I hope you decide to join the group as we unlock a more complete "Hearing the Bible through Jesus' Ears." (subtitle for the book)

Send an email to me to reserve your copy of the books and receive the information on the ZOOM class beginning January 7th. dennlass03@gmail.com Pastor L



MONTHLY MIRACLE DRIVE For the months of December and January we are collecting monetary donations and diapers for Muskegon Pregnancy Services. You may send a check to Trinity with the notation MPS on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

THE MICHIGAN MINUTE NEWS FROM THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT, LCMS

Now, more than ever, it is important to be up-to-date with the news of our church body, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, as a whole. The Michigan District of the LCMS is working hard to provide resources of encouragement, answer theological questions, provide financial guidance for churches, educate about best practices of staying connected for worship online, and more. To connect, subscribe to their Michigan Minute Enews emails by going to <https://michigandistrict.org/about-us/publications/michigan-minute-e-news/>. You will need to click on an additional link on the top of this webpage (it says, "To subscribe to the Michigan Minute E-newsletter, [click here.](#)")

CEF and the 3 E's.

Efficiency, Economy, Endurance. Apply these E's now to lead to EASE later. An investment in the Church Extension Fund is a good way to practice economy while also serving the Lord. Consider making an investment today! For more information, contact (Congregation Representative Name and telephone number) or call 800-242-3944.

Click the link to find January Interest Rates [View/Download Rates at CEF Website](#)

Attendance & Contributions for December 2020

Attendance			
Bible Studies		Online	
Sunday, Dec 6	0	6	
Sunday, Dec. 13			
Church Attendance	In Person	Online	Communion
Wednesday, Dec. 2	NA	20	NA
Sunday, December 6	NA	46	NA
Wednesday, Dec. 9	NA	20	NA
Sunday, Dec. 13	NA	48	NA
Wednesday, Dec. 16	NA	25	NA
Sunday, Dec. 20	NA	46	44
Thursday, December 24	NA	40	NA
Friday, Dec. 25	NA	18	NA
Sunday, Dec. 27	NA	43	NA
* Online refers to highest number of total viewers during Facebook Live			
Contributions			
November Totals (General & Building/Debt)			
Monthly Need	\$34,000	Monthly Total	\$28,377
December 27, 2020		December Month-to-Date	
General Fund		General Fund	
Weekly Need	\$5,600	MTD Need	\$22,400
Offerings	\$5,521	MTD Total	\$25,233
Building Fund		Building Fund	
Weekly Need	\$1,200	MTD Need	\$4,800
Offerings	\$193	MTD Total	\$2,282
Total		Total	
Weekly Need	\$6,800	MTD Need	\$27,200
Offerings	\$5,714	MTD Total	\$27,515