

Mission Congregation of the ELCA
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 64 - 8520 Oakes Rd - Pitsburg, Ohio 45358



Mark 2:1-22
January 7, 2024



Scan with your Smartphone and link to our web page, our
Facebook page, and our YouTube Channel.



GATHERING

- **Prelude** **Roxanne Groff**
- **Office of the Acolyte and Ringing of the Bell**
- **Welcome** **Mark Oswalt**

* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Guiding God,

C: We have failed to follow you as we ought. We have not reached out to our neighbors with the selfless and sacrificial love you modeled for us. We have caused harm to others and your creation by our actions and by our unwillingness to act. Forgive us our sins and lead us back onto the path you have trod for the sake of others.

P: In Christ, God meets us where we are and as we are and for his sake, God makes us whole and holy. Go forth to follow Jesus in the knowledge that your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

-
- * Please stand if able
 - Please be seated

* **GATHERING HYMN** **“Brightest and Best”**

LBW 84

(Verses 1-4 Only)



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
3 Shall we not yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
fra - grance of E - dom and of - f'ring di - vine,
vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;



Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.
mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.
myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?
dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.

* **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

P: 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.**

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray... Transforming God, in Christ Jesus you make all things new, turning the status quo on its head and calling us to push out of our comfort zones for the sake of others. Strengthen our faith through your holy word and meal that we might carry Jesus' message with us to the world. In his name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

* Please stand if able

January 7, 2024

• Please be seated

Page 3 of 9

- **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**



Theme:
Materials:
Scripture: Mark 2:1-22

- **A READING OF SCRIPTURE: Mark 2:1-22**

R: Our scripture reading is from the Gospel of Mark, Chapter 2.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ²So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. ³Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." ⁶Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone? ⁸At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ⁹Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" — he said to the paralytic — ¹¹I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home. ¹²And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

¹³Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. ¹⁴As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. ¹⁵And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples — for there were many who followed him. ¹⁶When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹⁷When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

¹⁸Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" ¹⁹Jesus said to them, "The wedding guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. ²⁰The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.

²¹No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. ²²And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."

R: This is the Word of the Lord!

C: Praise to You, O Christ (*Spoken*)

• **SERMON**

Mr. Mark Oswalt

Silence may be kept for meditation...

* **APOSTLES' CREED**

The Nicene Creed is said on all festivals and on Sundays in the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. The Apostles' Creed is said at other times. The Creed is omitted here if the service of Holy Baptism or another rite with a creed is used.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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 INTERCESSION**

L: Trusting in the good news of Jesus Christ, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

L: You proclaim a new teaching, one with authority, that crosses boundaries and turns on its head the status quo. Make us to follow in this new way, that all might experience your boundless love. God our teacher and healer,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: You wandered in desert wilderness, by the Sea of Galilee, and along the Jordan River. Help us to envision your presence in all of your creation, that we might

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

care for it as you do. God our teacher and healer,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: You gave us the highest and best example of servant leadership. Help all our elected and appointed officials to hold themselves to that standard for the sake of those they serve. God our teacher and healer,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: You cast out demons and healed illnesses that excluded people from the community. Lend your strength to all who struggle with addiction, mental illness, and infirmities of every kind, (*especially...*) God our teacher and healer,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: You took time for prayer and solitude. Help us to honor our own need for quiet and close connection to you, that we might be filled up to do your work in the world. God our teacher and healer,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: We remember with gratitude all those who taught and healed in your name. Make us to likewise teach and heal others, sharing the good news of Christ's transforming love. God our teacher and healer,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: Confident that in Christ Jesus you answer prayer, we lift to you all for whom pray, aloud and in our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

• OFFERING

P: As we collect our offering here in person, those worshipping with us through the internet may go to our website located at www.pitsburgtlc.org where you'll find a button labeled "Give to Trinity." You can make your offering to God through our secure website.

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Holy God, we remember all your benefits to us—how you satisfy us with good as long as we live. In gratitude we return to you these gifts out of your abundance, that all might flourish in your name.

C: Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: United into one through this heavenly food, we pray as Jesus taught...

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

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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.

SENDING

- ANNOUNCEMENTS

- * SENDING BLESSING

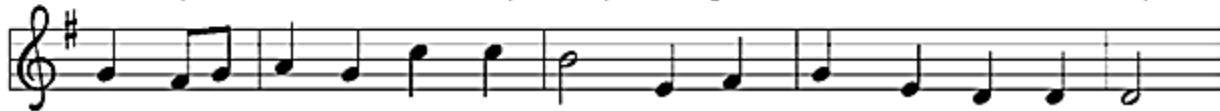
P: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, bless you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

- * SENDING HYMN “As With Gladness Men of Old” LBW 82
(Verses 1-4 Only)



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
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;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
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



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
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.

- * DISMISSAL

P: Thank you all for joining us to worship our great and gracious God! Thanks also to our Facebook and other social media viewers for joining us as well.

We're glad you're with us today. Until the next time we gather together as God's people to offer our worship and praise, depart in Christ's Love.

C: Seeking, welcoming, and serving all. Amen!

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January 7, 2024

Page 7 of 9

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Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff



Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Organist	Roxanne Groff
Lector	Linda Baker
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser
Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
Facebook Live Recorder	PJ Musser
Altar Flowers	



Scripture readings for next Sunday, January 14th
Mark 2:1-22

Health Tips for the Week

- MIND:** Prepare your vision or resolutions for 2024.
- BODY:** Be aware of your body statistics (height, weight, BMI, blood pressure, heart rate ,etc.)
- SPIRIT:** Start a Bible reading schedule.

This Week @ Trinity – January 7 thru January 14

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sun, Jan. 7	9:30 am	Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts)
	10:30 am	Worship Service
Wed, Jan. 10	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class
Thurs, Jan. 11	10:00 am	Prayers & Squares Quilting
Fri, Jan. 12	3:30 pm	FISH Choice Food Pantry
Sun, Jan. 14	9:30 am	Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts)
	10:30 am	Worship Service w/Communion & Council Installation

- * Please stand if able
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Save The Date!

Christian Conversations Guest Speaker – Morgan’s Place	Jan 21 @ 9:15 am
Euchre Tournament	Jan 27 @ 6:00 pm
Souper Bowl Sunday (Favorite Sports Team Jersey)	Feb 11 @ 10:30 am
Pancake Supper – Mardi Gras Celebration	Feb 13 @ 6:00 pm
Ash Wednesday Worship	Feb 14 @ 7:pm
Trinity Troops (5 th – 6 th Graders)	Feb 18 After Worship
Lent Midweek Soup Supper/Devotion	Feb 21, 28 Mar 5, 12, 19 @ 6:30 pm
Palm/Passion Sunday	Mar 24 @ 10:30 am
Maundy Thursday Seder Meal	Mar 28 @ 6:00 pm
Good Friday	Mar 29 @ 7:00 pm
Easter Sunday Worship, Breakfast, Easter Egg Hunt	Mar 31 @ 8:00 am & 10:30 am



Trinity is on the Air at FM 88.3

If you are near the Church on Sunday morning, you can tune in to FM 88.3 at 10:30 AM and hear the sermon from your car.

Holy Communion Delivery Available to ALL:

If you or anyone you know would like to have Holy Communion delivered to a home or place of business, please call Pastor Mel at 937-626-7100. He will bring a prefilled communion chalice including both sanctified wine and a morsel of bread all prepackaged from the Concordia True Vine company. This is a safe way to stay connected to your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Trinity Contact Info

Pastor:	Mel Musser
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January 7, 2024

Page 9 of 9