



Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church

"We take the Bible seriously, but we don't take it literally."

125 W Saveland Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53207

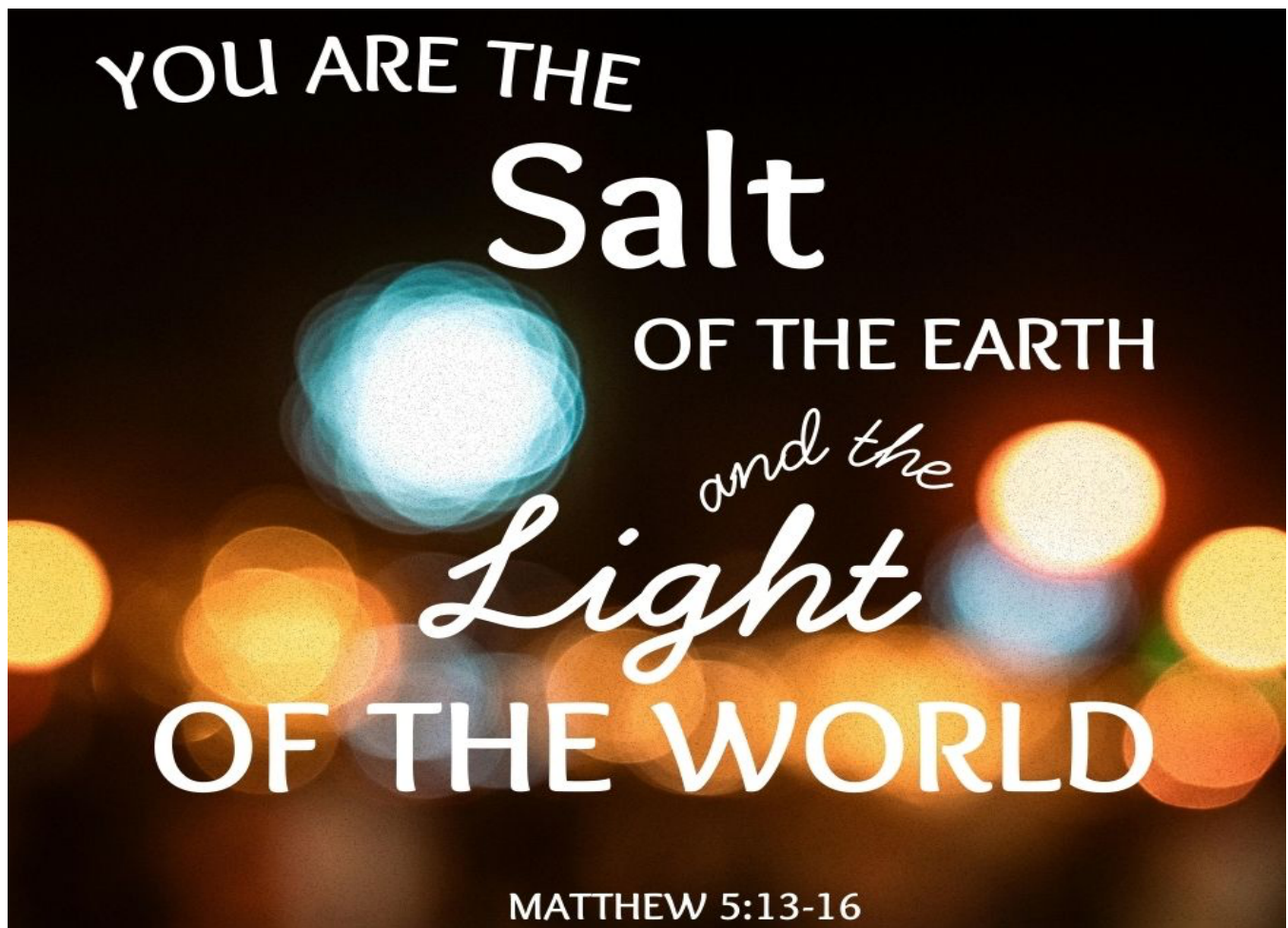
414-481-4680 tippechurch@gmail.com

<http://www.tippemission.org>

Welcome To Worship

February 8, 2026

9:30 a.m.



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

"Light-filled and Salty" Rev. Trish Eckert

✧Candle-lighting and Chimes

✧**Prelude** *Be Now My Vision* ~Tippe Musicians

✧Welcome and community news

Tippe 2026 Directories were emailed to you on Thursday – please let Pastor Trish know if you didn't receive the email. We also have a few hard copies here in the sanctuary. If you want a hardcopy mailed to you, just email Nicole to let her know:

tippechurch@gmail.com

Merger Subgroup Meeting: **Mission & Stewardship Committee will be meeting at Grace Presbyterian on Sunday, February 15th after worship.** Please attend the meeting if you want to participate in this conversation about the missions/ministries of Tippe and Grace, as well as stewardship or resources.

Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee's Committee on Interfaith Understanding is hosting a webinar: **"Fasting & Fulfillment" on Tuesday, February 10th at 6:30 pm.** You can register via Zoom [here](#)

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 18th**, and Tippe will be offering our midweek **6:30 pm gathering "Sanctuary Time of Belonging" via Zoom.** Please join us!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83158934917?pwd=bFom9UW1xDLOvTvy6yWvbYZQw2nBVc.1>

✧Readying Ourselves for Worship

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!

✧ A Poem as we center ourselves

Leaning to the Light

~ by Alice Wolf Gilborn

Our neighbor planted twelve
bulbs in the shadow of his barn
in the shadow of the trees
in the shadow of a mountain.
And now a dozen lilies grow
at an angle toward the sun
that touches them only
in the afternoon. Our neighbor
sold his house to strangers
who come for just a week

or two so they never see
their flowers bloom, later
than the rest, their soft pink
petals tinged with white,
curled like shavings, stamen
tuned to the western sky.
Like me since I left the land
where I was born, leaning west,
these laggard lilies with mouths wide
open, drinking in the setting sun.

~ **The Joy of Passing the Peace** ~

One: May the peace that surpasses all understanding be with you

All: **And also with you**

One: Thanks be to God

✧ **Time for Young Hearts** *Bring out the flavor*

✧ **Gathering as God's People: Light**

As we continue our journey through the season of Epiphany, today's lessons urge us to shine the light we have been given by God. The psalmist reminds us that what God really desires, is for us to take care of each other, to bring about justice and healing; proclaiming that those who are righteous will be remembered. In Matthew's Gospel, we are reminded that we are the light of the world and that we should put our gifts to use, letting our light shine. The season of Epiphany may be drawing to a close, but the scriptures implore us to keep allowing the light of God to shine through us in all we do.

✧ **Gathering Hymn 301** *Let us Build a House*

✧ **Opening Ourselves to God's Grace**

God sends light to us this day
and invites us to meet one another in this light.

**Light breaks forth like the dawn,
drawing us into relationship with one another.**

Humble yourselves for the worship of God,
that you may be empowered to serve.

**God calls us to trust with steady hearts
and to serve with righteous compassion.**

Seek not for lofty words of wisdom,
but for powerful demonstrations of God's way.

**God makes us to be the salt of the earth
and lights to show God's works to the world.**

✧ **Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

Calling Voice That Won't Be Silenced,
we come into this moment carrying the weight of our days—
the strain we feel in our bodies,
the struggle we witness in our neighbors,
the burdens that press on our shared life.

Draw near to us now.
Gather our scattered breath.
Steady our trembling places.
Kindle in us a courage that does not look away.

You are the One who refuses empty rituals
and meets us instead in acts of mercy,
in the work of lifting burdens,
in the rebuilding of what has been harmed.

Open us now—
open our hearts to compassion,
open our imaginations to repair,
open our hands to the work of freeing one another.

Let this time be honest,
let this gathering be brave,
and let your Spirit move among us
with the power to uproot what harms
and to plant what heals.

We are here.
Speak to us.
Lead us.
Remake us for your justice and joy.
Amen.

✧ **Prayer of Intention**

Holy Spirit, may we hear your gracious Word for us today. May we grow in wisdom, strength, and love as we open our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the transformative message you have in store for each of us. Amen.

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teachings**

Psalms 112:1-10

112:1 Praise the Holy One! Happy are those who fear God, who greatly delight in God's commandments. 112:2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. 112:3 Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever. 112:4 They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. 112:5 It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice. 112:6 For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. 112:7 They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Holy One. 112:8 Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. 112:9 They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor. 112:10 The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

✧ **Special Music *Blessed are They Who Hear God's Word***

Lyrics

*Blessed are they who hear God's word
and keep it and live it all of their lives.
They are a light which shall not be hidden.
They are a light shining bright.*

*Word is with God and God is the Word.
Word of God come to us.*

*Blessed are they who hear God's word
and keep it and live it all of their lives.
They are a light which shall not be hidden.
They are a light shining bright.*

Matthew 5:13-20

5:13 "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 underfoot. 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 5:15 People do not light a lamp put it under the bushel basket; rather they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 5:16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven. 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 5:18 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. 5:19 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. 5:20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: **Thanks be to our God.**

✧ **Message "Light-filled and Salty"** Rev. Trish Eckert

✧ **Reflection Questions**

- What brings out the "flavor" in my life?
- How might I share my light and salt with others?
- Where do I experience light in the midst of darkness?

✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧ **Hymn *O God, as Troubles Here Increase*** (song sheet)

✧ **Our gifts of support** We are told that giving freely to help others glorifies God. Let us bring our gifts to God, so that God's love may be made known.

✧ **Offertory Hymn 5 *All that We Have*** (v 1)

✧ **Offertory Blessing**

Bountiful God,
All that we can offer you stems from your generosity.
May the gifts that we return to you
become a blessing for your whole community,
enriching and empowering us
for the work to which you call us. Amen.

✧ **Prayers of the People**
Community Prayers
Pastoral Prayer

✧ **Hymn 530 *One Bread, One Body***

✧ **Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread**
Communion of the People

Welcome

Epiphany is the culmination of all that we have been expecting during the Christmas season. We have been celebrating the Light coming into the world as Jesus incarnate throughout these past weeks. Truth and light do not become manifest in any other way. For we need not only to see the light but also to understand it. John 1 famously says: *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.* But the Greek word for “overcome” can also be translated “understand” or “perceive.”

Maybe this is our Epiphany. But even so, we need to understand what it is we have suddenly figured out. We need to work out what it means in our life. Otherwise, its significance passes. And Ordinary Time will remain ordinary. Or Epiphany passes and its light fades away.

Let us give our thanks to the God who not only brings us light and truth but also gives us wisdom to perceive it.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, your faithfulness has been demonstrated from the creation of light on the first day to the sun that rose this morning. Even in the darkness of night, your presence rests upon us – providing peace in our unknowing. We give thanks to you for the light you bring into our world.

Dear Jesus, the crosses we bear are heavy and difficult to carry. Some are of our own making while others are simply the burden of the brokenness of humanity and all creation. Thank you for showing us how to be the salt of the earth, as you walked your path teaching, listening, questioning, healing, and including.

Holy Spirit, you are the sustainer of our souls and lives. When our lives become distracted and our love fails, you call us to return to you. We give thanks that you invite us again and again to be salt and light; joining you in your work in the world.

On this day, we pray, Holy Spirit, that we experience epiphany once again. May God's divine light bring us understanding. May Jesus' humility bring us peace. And may you feed us not with ordinary juice and bread but with your holy meal.

Gathered by a loving God, we join our voices as we continue to pray, each of us using the words we find most familiar, saying:

The Lord's Prayer
Our Father/Mother,
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, the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread

We are reminded that Christ is here in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. Jesus offers himself so that we might arise and shine, for love has come. That our hearts might rejoice as we witness his salvation.

This Table proclaims the promise that there is always a way to life: even if the journey takes us years, even if it goes farther than we could have imagined. For the Light of the World continues to shine, and those who are wise continue to seek him.

Let us come and eat at the Table of the Holy One.

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

May the cup and loaf continue to nourish us as we continue to go forward into this new year. May the light of the first Epiphany lead us in faith, truth, and courage as we

continue to follow you in the world. May our lives bring you glory as they guide others to you. Amen.

✧ **Benediction**

May we remain awake to the call –
to be salt of the earth and light of the world.
May God reveal our saltiness and uncover the radiance within us,
that we may shine the truth of God’s love wherever we go.

Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.

✧ **Our Response:**

Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your Word lives on in us.

✧ **Postlude** *You are Salt for the Earth, O People*

Communion liturgy adapted and excerpted from Rev. Michelle Henrichs’ book, “Come to the Table: Communion Liturgies of Invitation to Celebrate and Experience the Love of God” ©2020 Michelle Henrichs, Life in the Labyrinth LLC