

A Guide to the Divine Service

9:00 a.m.

January 26, 2025



St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor

“Faith,” “the knowledge of the truth,” and “the hope of eternal life” are manifested daily among us in His Word through the preaching of the Gospel of Christ Jesus (Titus 1:1–3). The times seem desperate: “fierce wolves” are among us, “not sparing the flock” (Acts 20:29) and “the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few” (Luke 10:2). The Lord, however, is diligent to build and care for the Church “which he obtained with His own blood” (Acts 20:28). We are not to fear, but rather to “pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest” (Luke 10:2). Send us faithful laborers! Preserve all pastors and teachers, that they “hold firm to the trustworthy Word as taught” so that they, like St. Titus, “may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it” (Titus 1:9)! Give us ears to hear their preaching in repentance and faith. Preserve them from falsehood, greed, and unholy living. We commend them to You and the Word of Your grace (Acts 20:32), that “when the chief Shepherd appears,” (1 Peter 5:4) He may declare, “Well done, good and faithful servant. . . Enter into the joy of your master” (Matt. 25:21).

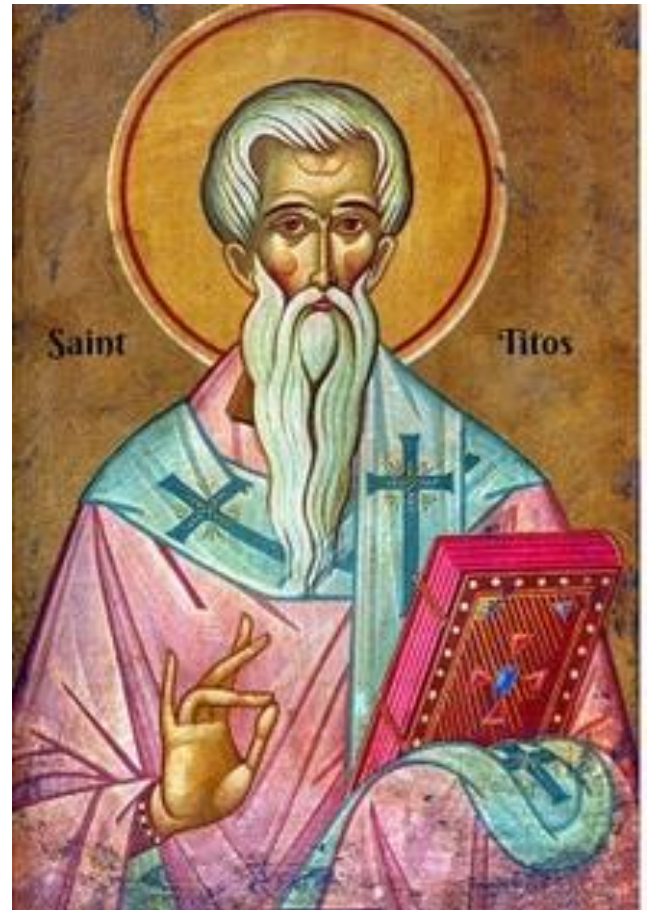
Readings for Next Sunday:
The Purification of Mary
and Presentation of Our Lord
“Candlemas”

Prophecy of the Day: 1 Samuel 1:21-28
Epistle of the Day: Hebrews 2:14-18
Holy Gospel of the Day: St. Luke 2:22-32

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**cum benignitas et humanitas
apparuit salvatoris nostri Dei**

“when the kindness and humanity of our savior God appeared”

Feast of St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor

Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church
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Colorado Springs CO 80918

*A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical
Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions --
Where the Lutheran Reformation Lives!*

MEMBER: THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

NOTE ON PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout history, "closed communion" is observed here, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those who:

- (a) are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;
- (b) have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scriptures as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, have been confirmed in this Lutheran faith and practice, and now embrace this same Lutheran faith in the same way that it is believed, taught, confessed, and practiced in this congregation;
- (c) believe that in this Sacrament the real Body and Blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) repent of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services who are able to affirm these facts should speak to our pastor or the elder on duty before receiving the Sacrament. To other guests with us today, we express to you our sincere interest, friendship, and concern, and we assure you that it is for the spiritual welfare of all that we practice closed communion. Those desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to speak with our pastor.

[We rise and face the Processional Cross]

Processional Hymn "Preach You the Word" #586

Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution p. 184

The Service of the Word begins with the Introit

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,

He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy.

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

Let the heavens praise Your wonders, O LORD,
Your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

Blesséd are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of Your face,
who exult in Your name all the day
and in Your righteousness are exalted.

(Ps. 89:1, 5, 15-16; antiphon: Titus 3:4-5a)

Gloria Patri, Kyrie p. 186
Gloria in Excelsis p. 187
Salutation p. 189

Collect for the Feast of St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor:

Almighty God, You called Titus to the work of pastor and teacher. Make all shepherds of Your flock diligent in preaching Your holy Word so that the whole world may know the immeasurable riches of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **A - - - men!**

[We are seated]

First Reading of the Day Acts 20:28-35

[Take Heed]

This is the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God!

Gradual

Behold, I will search for my sheep and will seek them out;
I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered.

I will set shepherds over them who will care for them,
and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed.
(Exek. 34:11, 12b; Jer. 23:4a, b)

Epistle of the Day Titus 1:1-9

[Qualified Elders]

This is the Word of the Lord: Thanks be to God!

[We rise] Triple Alleluia p. 190

The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit.

Holy Gospel of the Day St. Luke 10:1-9

[The Seventy Sent Out]

Responses to the Holy Gospel p. 190

Nicene Creed p. 191

[We are seated]

Hymn of the Day "By All Your Saints in Warfare" #517
(st. 1, 11, 3)

Sermon

[We rise] Offertory p. 192

[We are seated]

The offering is received

God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!

[We rise] Prayer of the Church

[Please review our Communion Policy inside this Guide]

The Service of the Sacrament p. 194

[We are seated for the Distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ]

Hymn "Wide Open Stand the Gates" #639

[We rise] Doxology #805

Dismissal, *Nunc Dimittis*, Thanksgiving, Salutation, *Benedicamus*, Benediction p. 199

[We are seated for announcements]

[We rise for the Recessional Hymn]

"Spread the Reign of God the Lord" #830