



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

## THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

February 28, 2021 - 10:00 AM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of their 50th Anniversary by Randy and Linda Brown.

## SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister & Preaching

Susan J. Crowell

Pianist

Jim Parham

Cantor

Jeff Rehm

Lectors

Patrick Preacher  
Dora Welch

Video Direction and Production

Henry Wilcox

# GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the keeper of the covenant,  
the source of steadfast love,  
our rock and our redeemer.

**Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Fountain of living water,  
**pour out your mercy over us.**  
**Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.**  
**Rebuild what we have ruined**  
**and mend what we have torn.**  
**Wash us in your cleansing flood.**  
**Make us alive in the Spirit**  
**to follow in the way of Jesus,**  
**as healers and restorers of the world you so love.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails.  
The promise rests on grace:  
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,  
the wisdom and power of God,  
your sins are ✝ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.  
Journey in the way of Jesus.  
**Amen.**

**How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”**

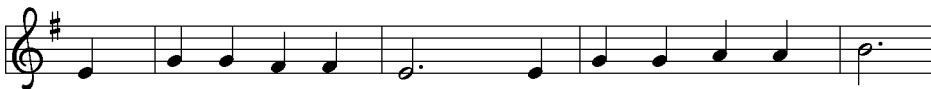
**“When through fi’ry trials your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.”**

**“Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
my sov’reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.”**

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Genesis 17:1-16

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and rulers shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you." <sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; rulers of peoples shall come from her."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The refrain is introduced by the cantor  
Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.*

*Psalm  
Refrain*



All the ends of the earth shall re - mem - ber and turn to the LORD.

*Psalm  
Tone*



- <sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.  
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.
- <sup>24</sup>**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- | den from them; but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.**
- <sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
- <sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever! R**
- <sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.
- <sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,  
who rules o- | ver the nations.**
- <sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.
- <sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**
- <sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!" **R**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>13</sup>The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

<sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup>Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

CHILDRENS’ SERMON

*A Celebration of You*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the eighth chapter.

### **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>Jesus began to teach them that the Promised One must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.<sup>32</sup>Jesus said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” <sup>34</sup>Jesus summoned the crowd and the disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Whoever in this faithless and corrupt generation is ashamed of me and my words will find, in turn, that the Promised One and the holy angels will be ashamed of that person, when all stand before our God in glory.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, O Christ.**



**O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
remain forever near me, my master and my friend.**

**I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.**

**Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near.  
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.**

**My foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.**

**Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still  
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.**

**Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.**

**O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you  
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.  
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.**

#### APOSTLES' CREED

**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 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

Gathered in our homes on this second Sunday in Lent, let us pray for the church and for all people in need.

God of mercy and might, bless your church throughout the world. Uphold those believers who suffer for the sake of your gospel. Strengthen the faith of all the baptized, and make your presence felt by those unable to assemble for worship. When we cry out, O faithful God,

**hear us, we pray.**

As this week we commemorate John and Charles Wesley, we ask you to bless the Methodist churches around the globe. Unite them in the promises of baptism, and in due time return us all to the joy of singing the hymns that Charles wrote.

When we cry out, O warm-hearted God,

**hear us, we pray.**

Bless the earth. Save the animals and their habitats from wild and uncontrolled weather. Teach humanity to live respectful of nature and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. We ask you to smile also on Mars. When we cry out, O wondrous God,

**hear us, we pray.**

Bless the nations of the world. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. Lead all people around the world to receive the COVID-19 vaccine with gratitude to you. Grant to our Congress the wisdom and the will to improve the lives of all our residents. When we cry out, O righteous God,

**hear us, we pray.**

Bless all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. We beg that you bring an end to the pandemic. Restore medical systems, and comfort all who are sick or dying. Lead us out of the practices of discrimination. Bring vindication for victims of injustice and relief to oppressed minorities. We remember before you . . . . When we cry out, O benevolent God,

**hear us, we pray.**

Bless families: those in our community, those waiting at national borders, those whose struggles are known only to you. Keep children safe; sustain expectant parents and those facing infertility; protect women in childbirth. Accompany everyone who lives alone. Equip the ministries and services of church and state that attend to families in their needs.

When we cry out, O loving God,

**hear us, we pray.**

Fill each one of us with hope, and receive our personal prayers.

When we cry out, O gracious God,

**hear us, we pray.**

Praises to you, O God, for centuries of saints whose faithfulness inspires our Lenten journey. Bless those who mourn the half million dead of the virus. Be our way, our truth, our life, and strengthen our faith in the gift of your final salvation. When we cry out, O everlasting God,

**hear us, we pray.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Peace be with you.

☒ **Peace be with you.**

*Worshippers are invited to use their phones to text now or make a call later today to extend a message of peace to someone you love and care about.*

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

*Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256,  
or by following the link on the homepage of the website, [www.trinitylutheran.ws](http://www.trinitylutheran.ws).  
Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 North Main St., Greenville, SC 29601.*

*How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*

Text; Fred Pratt Greene, Music; C. Hubert H. Parry (ELW 580)

OFFERTORY HYMN

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

#188

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right  
spirit within me. Cast me not away from your  
presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit**

Let us pray. Faithful God,

**you walk beside us in the wilderness,**

**and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.**

**Accompany us in this meal,**

**that we may pass over from death to life**

**with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

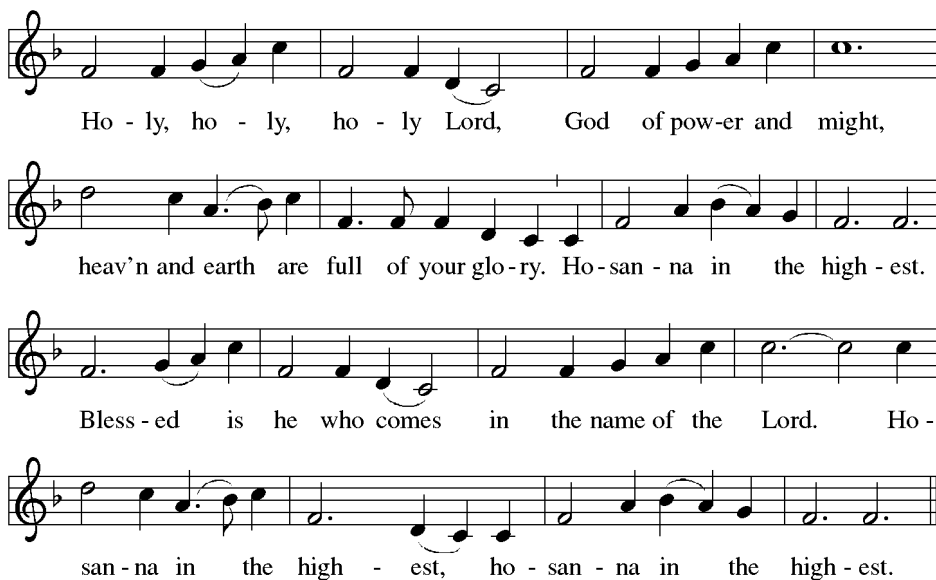
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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:



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### 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.**

#### COMMUNION

*All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.*

*Worshippers who gather with family at home are invited to share the bread and wine with each other using these words spoken directly to each person, "The body of Christ given for you," and "The blood of Christ shed for you."  
Worshippers who are gathering with the community from their individual homes are invited to receive the bread and wine while saying these words, "The body of Christ given for me," and "The blood of Christ shed for me."*

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

*Lamb of God*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN

*If You But Trust in God to Guide You*

#769

**If you but trust in God to guide you with gentle  
hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there  
beside you when crosses come, in trying days. Trust then in  
God's unchanging love; build on the rock that will not move.**

**What gain is there in anxious weeping, in helpless  
anger and distress? If you are in your Savior's  
keeping, in sorrow will he love you less? For Christ who  
took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.**

**The Lord our restless hearts is holding, in peace and  
quietness content. We rest in God's good will unfolding,  
what wisdom from on high has sent. God, who has  
chosen us by grace, knows very well the fears we face.**

**Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving, offer your  
service faithfully. Trust heaven's word; though undeserving,  
you'll find God's promise true to be. This is our  
confidence indeed: God never fails in time of need.**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of steadfast love,  
at this table you gather your people  
into one body for the sake of the world.  
Send us in the power of your Spirit,  
that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

You are what God made you to be:  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
chosen as holy and beloved,  
freed to serve your neighbor.  
God bless you + that you may be a blessing,  
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*On My Heart Imprint Your Image*

#811

**On my heart imprint your image, blessed Jesus, King of grace,  
that life's troubles nor its pleasures ever may your work erase.**

**Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,  
is my life, my hope's foundation, all my glory and salvation!**

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news of God's love in Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

If You Bur Trust in God to Guide You  
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## CHURCH STAFF

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Director of  
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Mandi T. Whitley, Deacon  
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Henry W. Wilcox  
Accountant and Digital Media Manager

Karen M. Craig  
Administrative Assistant

Roy L. Cook  
Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald  
Nursery Attendant

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