



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 27, 2022 - 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 Pastor Crowell and Pastor Parham by Jeff & Lisa Rehm.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister & Preaching	Jim Blalock
Assisting Minister	Penny Bostain
Pianist and Choir Director	Jim Parham
Lector	Melissa Kolb
Cantors	Lani Wise Russ Wise
Prayers	Lani Ludian
Greeters	Bonnie Farmer Debbie Farstad Lani Ludian Terry Morgan Peggy Schotsch Sarah Weeks
Ushers	Richard Delap Calvin Harmon Franklin Sease
Video	Henry Wilcox
Audio	Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Stand as able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, †
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us,
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

**we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.**

Have mercy on us!

Forgive us and turn us again to you.

**Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

the Word draws near to you,
and all who call out to God shall be saved.

In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
and gathers you under wings of love.

In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.

God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

Amen.

**Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come",
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

THE 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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



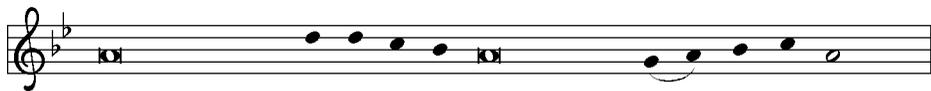
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



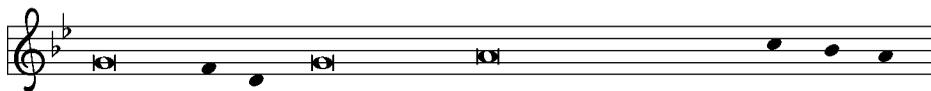
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



God, and for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.



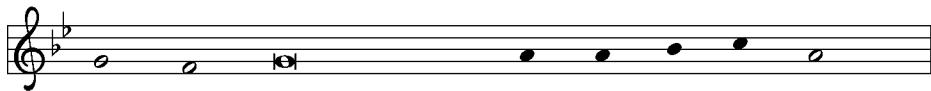
For this ho-ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through 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

Joshua 5:9-12

A reading from Joshua.

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. ¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

The refrain is introduced by the cantor

Psalm 32

Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.

*Psalm
Refrain*



Be glad, you right-teous, and re - joice in the LORD.

*Psalm
Tone*



¹Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,
and whose sin is | put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there | is no guile! R**

³While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,
because of my groaning | all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.

⁶**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them. R**

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.

8“**I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;
I will guide you | with my eye.**

9Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you.”

10**Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.**

11Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

A reading from second Corinthians.

¹⁶ And so from now on, we don't look on anyone in terms of mere human judgment. Even if we did once regard Christ in these terms, that is not how we know Christ now. ¹⁷ And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old order has passed away; now everything is new! ¹⁸ All of this is from God, who ransomed us through Christ—and made us ministers of that reconciliation. ¹⁹ This means that through Christ, the world was fully reconciled again to God, who didn't hold our transgressions against us, but instead entrusted us with this message of reconciliation. ²⁰ This makes us Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making the appeal directly through us. Therefore we implore you in Christ's name: be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake, God made the One who was without sin to be sin, so that by this means we might become the very holiness of God.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Blalock

Stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Meanwhile, the tax collectors and the “sinners” were all gathering around Jesus to listen to his teaching, ² at which the Pharisees and the religious scholars murmured, “This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!” ³ Jesus then addressed this parable to them: ¹¹ He added, “A man had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to their father, ‘Give me the share of the estate that is coming to me.’ So the father divided up the property between them. ¹³ Some days later, the younger son gathered up his belongings and went off to a distant land. Here he squandered all his money on loose living. ¹⁴ “After everything was spent, a great famine broke out in the land, and the son was in great need. ¹⁵ So he went to a landowner, who sent him to a farm to take care of the pigs. ¹⁶ The son was so hungry that he could have eaten the husks that were fodder for the pigs, but no one made a move to give him anything. ¹⁷ Coming to his senses at last, he said, ‘How many hired hands at my father’s house have more than enough to eat, while here I am starving! ¹⁸ I’ll quit and go back home and say, “I’ve sinned against God and against you; ¹⁹ I no longer deserve to be called one of your children. Treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰ With that, the younger son set off for home. “While still a long way off, the father caught sight of the returning child and was deeply moved. The father ran out to meet him, threw his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ The son said to him, ‘I’ve sinned against God and against you; I no longer deserve to be called one of your children.’ ²² But his father said to one of the workers, ‘Quick! Bring out the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. ²³ Take the calf we’ve been fattening and butcher it. Let’s eat and celebrate! ²⁴ This son of mine was dead and has come back to life. He was lost and now he’s found!’ And the celebration began. ²⁵ “Meanwhile the elder son had been out in the field. As he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the workers and asked what was happening. ²⁷ The worker answered, ‘Your brother is home, and the fatted calf has been killed because your father has him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ “The son got angry at this and refused to go in to the party, but his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ The older son replied, ‘Look! For years now I’ve done every single thing you asked me to do. I never disobeyed even one of your orders, yet you never gave me so much as a kid goat to celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But then this son of yours comes home after going through your money with prostitutes, and you kill the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ “ ‘But my child!’ the father said. ‘You’re with me always, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we have to celebrate and rejoice! This brother of yours was dead and has come back to life. He was lost and now he’s found.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Stand as able

Prayer cards may be placed on the cross during the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Our Father, We Have Wandered

#606

**Our Father, we have wandered and hidden from your face;
in foolishness have squandered your legacy of grace.
But now, in exile dwelling, we rise with fear and shame,
as, distant but compelling, we hear you call our name.**

**And now at length discerning the evil that we do,
behold us, Lord, returning with hope and trust to you.
In haste you come to meet us and home rejoicing bring,
in gladness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.**

**O Lord of all the living, both banished and restored,
compassionate, forgiving, and ever caring Lord,
grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing, in pardon and in peace.**

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

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Jesus formed the disciples in the ways of extravagant mercy and profound welcome. Lead your church to be a community of infinite forgiveness and radical hospitality. Remind us that all people are worth enthusiastic celebration. Send us out to transform a world plagued by fear and condemnation.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

You make the land to produce a harvest that sustains your entire creation. Equip farmers and farm workers who till the soil. Nourish the earth with plentiful rainfall and abundant sunshine. Welcome those animals waking from hibernation and returning home after winter migrations.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Countries are divided and leaders often harbor grudges. Reconcile nations experiencing conflict, especially Russia and Ukraine. Act quickly to bring an end to an unjust war. Anoint peacemakers trained in the art of diplomacy and foster a spirit of collaboration among nations.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Your people cry for help in times of distress. Resolve disagreements among family members and friends. Save those experiencing financial hardship. Hear us as we call out for those we name in our hearts or on our lips Console us with the promise that everything can become new.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Your love comes to us in the sharing of food. Bless the feeding ministries of this congregation, especially Nourishing Neighbors, Backpack Buddies, and our food pantry. Bring an end to hunger in our community and around the world.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

We are each the prodigal son. Remind us that your grace never runs out. You will always welcome us with open arms. We are each the older son. Help us to be joyful when those around us are blessed. Forgive us when we take for granted the gifts of our daily lives. We are each the father. We long to love and be loved deeply. Allow our regular encounters with those we love to become more like the celebrations we would throw if they were missed.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

The one who was dead is alive again. We give thanks for those who have died, confident that steadfast love surrounds them. Shelter them in your love until we are gathered at your heavenly banquet.

Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

All are encouraged to remain at your seats and extend a sign of peace by waving, bowing, making the peace sign, placing your hand over your heart, or sending a text.

Please be seated.

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.**

Stand as able.

Let us pray. Extravagant God,
you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.

Now we gather at your feast

where you offer us the food that satisfies.

**Take and use what we offer here, come among us,
and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,**

in whose name we pray.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

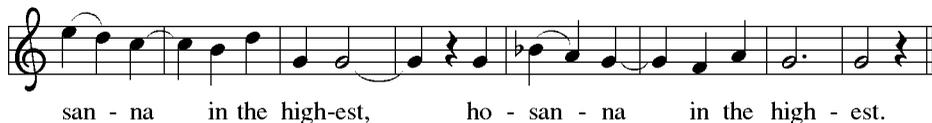
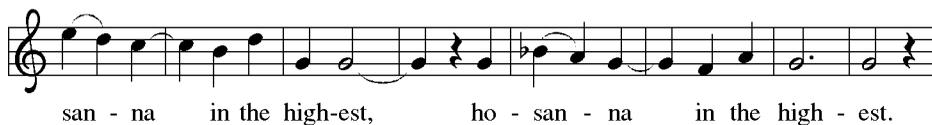
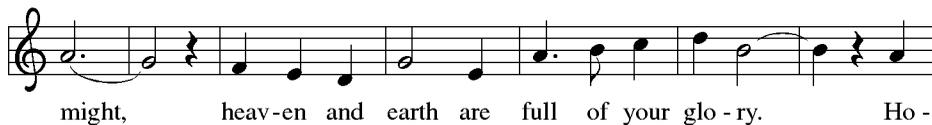
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:



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 for 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.**

Please be seated

COMMUNION

*Worshippers will come forward to receive the bread and
wine and then return to their seats to consume the elements.*

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's love and grace.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

HYMN

What Wondrous Love Is This

666

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I Am, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing God's love for me, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and through eternity I'll sing on.

Stand as able

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

You are children of God,
anointed with the oil of gladness
and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God,
motherly, majestic, and mighty,
✚ bless you this day and always.

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. Jesus meets you on the way.
Thanks be to God.

*Please take a prayer card from the cross with you as you leave and hold that prayer
request in you prayers throughout the week.*

*Everyone is invited to gather for refreshments and fellowship
in the back corner of the gym following worship.*

CHURCH STAFF

Susan J. Crowell
Senior Pastor

James C. Parham, III
Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

Amy R. Brown, Deacon
Director of
Educational Ministries

Mandi T. Whitley, Deacon
Director of Youth
and Children's Ministries

Patrick D. Preacher
Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator

Kay M. Cook
Office Manager

Henry W. Wilcox
Accountant and
Digital Media Manager

Karen M. Craig
Administrative Assistant

Roy L. Cook
Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald
Nursery Attendant

CHURCH COUNCIL

Donna Potts
Vice-President

Richard Moose
Treasurer

Wynne Boliek

Tom DiAntonio

Heather Fanning

Debbie Farstad

Calvin Harmon

Amy Hegarty

Heather Kleckley
Secretary

Roger Brown
Youth

Melissa Kolb

Terry Morgan

John Otten

Jimmy Reynolds

Joe Rice

Peggy Schotsch