



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 23, 2025 - 10:00 AM - in the Sanctuary



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

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

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Roy Cook's birthday by his daughter, Amanda Cook

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister and Preaching	Jim Parham
Assisting Minister	Richard Moose
Organist and Choir Director	Julie Florin
Lector	McKinsey Threlkeld
Prayers	Emily Hager
Cantor	Patrick Morgan
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Sarah Sherwood Lara Wannemacher
Nursery	Karen Craig
Praying for Possibilities	Pat Morgan
Greeters	Deirdre Hixson Chris Barsody Duke Barsody Dexter Brecht Jack Heidt
Ushers	Danny Fagala Calvin Harmon David Potts
Fellowship Host	Dedra Johnson
Video	Henry Wilcox
Audio	Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Now That Daylight Fills The Skies
Dale Wood

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

Please stand as able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.**

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

**Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In + Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

**Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence, the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters, the road where faith is found.**

**Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way;
your hope burns through the terrors, your love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound;
together we are seeking the road where faith is found.**

**Divine eternal lover, you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise where milk and honey flow,
but waiting not for places, you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

You Are Holy, You Are Whole

#525

**You are holy, you are whole. You are always ever more
than we ever understand. You are always at hand.
Blessed are you coming near. Blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.**

**You are holy, you are wholeness,
you are present. Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God!**

Sing two times

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Eternal God, your kin-dom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
- ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
- ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
- ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
- ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because GOD most high, the Holy One of Israel, has glorified you.
- ⁶We seek you, O God, while you may be found,
call upon you while you are near;
- ⁷let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to you, O GOD, that you may have mercy on them,
and to you, our God, for you will abundantly pardon.
- ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says our GOD.
- ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Word of God for the people of God.

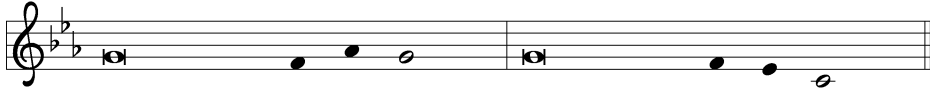
Thanks be to God.

*Psalm
Refrain*



O God, ea-ger-ly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you.

*Psalm
Tone*



- ¹ O God, you are my God; eager- | ly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where
there | is no water.
- ² **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your | holy place,
that I might behold your power | and your glory.**
- ³ For your steadfast love is better than | life itself;
my lips shall | give you praise.
- ⁴ **So will I bless you as long | as I live
and lift up my hands | in your name. R**
- ⁵ My spirit is content, as with the rich- | est of foods,
and my mouth praises you with | joyful lips,
- ⁶ **when I remember you up- | on my bed,
and meditate on you in | the night watches.**
- ⁷ For you have | been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I | will rejoice.
- ⁸ **My whole being | clings to you;
your right hand | holds me fast. R**

A reading from first Corinthians.

¹I do not want you to be unaware, dear siblings, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. ⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful and will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Please stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.²Jesus asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” ⁶Then Jesus told this parable: “A landowner had a vineyard and had a fig tree planted in it; when the time came for it bear fruit there was none. The landowner came looking for fruit on it and found none ⁷and said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸The gardner replied, ‘Please let us give it just one more year. I will I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Please stand as able

**God is here! As we your people meet to offer
praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.**

**Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong
need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place. Here in honesty
of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.**

**Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants
of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.**

**Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of
change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's
dedication, all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!**

APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. Have mercy on us, O God,

according to your steadfast love.

We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. Celebrating the arrival of Spring, allow us to experience the greening and flowering of the lands around us in new ways, that we might remain in a state of awe and wonder at your magnificent creation. Have mercy on us, O God,

according to your steadfast love.

We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. We pray for peace and healing in areas of the world ravaged by conflict, including Ukraine, South Sudan, and Palestine. Have mercy on us, O God,

according to your steadfast love.

We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted by legislation and political turmoil. Aid organizations such as the Queer Wellness Center, the Greenville Women's Clinic, the Free Medical Clinic, Harvest Hope, and United Ministries working to support the vulnerable and marginalized. Guide local and national leaders to advocate strongly for public school free lunch programs in the face of USDA funding cuts and proposed eligibility changes. Have mercy on us, O God,

according to your steadfast love.

We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Sustain staff, lay leaders, and members in the good work of serving and proclaiming your inclusive gospel. Continue strengthening this community as a place of refuge, hope, bravery, and love for the queer community and all on the margins of a troubled society. Have mercy on us, O God,

according to your steadfast love.

We pray for the lonely, grieving, and those who suffer, called to know and experience that you are with always with us. As Spring brings abundant signs of new life, work through the songs of birds, the smell of new blooms, and the surprise of a budding tree to remind us in our darkest times that you are making things new. Where there is grief, bring comfort; in our pain, bring relief; in our loneliness, bring community. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... Have mercy on us, O God, **according to your steadfast love.**

We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own. Have mercy on us, O God, **according to your steadfast love.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen

PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Lord, Make Me an Instrument

Adult Choir

Music: Jody W. Lindh

Text attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, let there be faith; Where there is darkness, let there be light;
Where there is sadness, let there be joy.

Lord, Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

Lord, Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

O divine master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love,
for it is in giving that we receive and in pardoning that we are pardoned.

It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Lord, Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

Lord, Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

Please stand as able

**The trumpets sound, the angels sing, the feast is
ready to begin. The gates of heav'n are open wide,
and Jesus welcomes you inside.**

Refrain

***Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight.
Come and revel in heaven's love and light.
Take your place at the table of the King.
The feast is ready to begin; the feast is ready to begin.***

**Tables are laden with good things; oh, taste the
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love divine;
he'll turn your water into wine. *Refrain***

**The hungry heart he satisfies, offers the
poor his paradise. Now hear all heav'n and earth applaud
the amazing goodness of the Lord. *Refrain***

Let us pray. Gracious Provider,
**you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est, 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.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Please be seated

COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Both wine and grape juice are available. Christ's grace and forgiveness is found in the bread, wine, and grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available.

At the direction of the ushers worshipers are invited to come to the Altar - kneeling as able to receive a wafer and a small cup of wine or grape juice. Raise a finger at the altar so the pastor will know of your desire for grape juice.

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.

**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.**

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

#777

**“Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give.
If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live.”**

Refrain

***Jesus, ever flowing fountain, give us water from your well.
In the gracious gift you offer there is joy no tongue can tell.***

**“Come to me, all trav’lers weary; come that I may give you rest.
Drink the cup of life I offer; at this table be my guest.” *Refrain***

**“Come to me, believers burdened; find refreshment in this place.
Come, receive the gift I offer, turn to me and seek my face.” *Refrain***

**“Come to me, repentant sinners; leave behind your guilt and shame.
Come and know divine compassion, turn to me, I call your name.” *Refrain***

**“Come to me, distressed and needy; I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer, Come, your open hands extend.” *Refrain***

**“Come to me, abandoned, orphaned; lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer, let me make in you my home.” *Refrain***

**As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth,
as snow from the heavens refreshing the land.**

**Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand.**

**We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word;
we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil.**

**We bless you, best farmer, for hundred-fold yield,
for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.**

**As grain that is scattered your word has been sown
on rocks and on roadways, in good earth and sand.**

**Make fertile our soil that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand.**

**We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word;
we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil.**

**We bless you, best farmer, for hundred-fold yield,
for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.**

**As rays of the sun shall your word light the world,
awaking and warming and healing our land.**

**Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand.**

**We praise you, our God, for the light of your word;
we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil.**

**We bless you, best farmer, for hundred-fold yield,
for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.**

Please stand as able

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,

that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,

in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen

SENDING HYMN

The Glory of These Forty Days

Text: 320 Tune: 389

The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in

brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
fast_ and_ prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en

things were made, him - self has fast - ed_ and has prayed.
with_ your grace, and give us joy to_ see your face.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Festival Voluntary on "Truro"
arr. Franklin Ashdown

*Following worship, everyone is invited to gather
for refreshments and fellowship on the front lawn.*

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

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Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

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The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

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You Are Holy

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CHURCH STAFF

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Pastoral Intern

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Administrative Assistant

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