

Sunday, March 8, 2026
The Third Sunday in Lent

Trinity Lutheran Church
11:00am: Downtown
401 Fifth Street N



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes all guilt
and blots out our offenses.

We take time to reflect on our actions and choices.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you,
For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word,
For failing to recognize your coming reign,
and for hindering the work of the Spirit,
**For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,
and for disdaining the living water Christ offers,**
For disregarding voices from the margin,
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world,
**For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:**
Gracious God,
have mercy upon us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
Through faith, which is a gift of God,
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
In the name of Jesus Christ, † your sins are forgiven.
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead
dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts,
and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**



GATHERING HYMN *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

ELW 533



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
 let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680



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

“Kyrie eleison,” Greek for “Lord have mercy,” is one of the most ancient prayers of the Christian Church. Lutherans use it in a prayer that our time of worship will be blessed by God’s presence.



Mer - cy, we a - bide in you. Stir in us, we pray.

Cantor: In peace, may we assemble. In peace, may we unite.
 In peace, may we be whole. Move within each heart. **R**

For all who suffer in war, for all who struggle for comfort, for all who slumber in
 ease. Move within each heart. **R**

We are broken, longing for peace; forgiveness flow among us. May we be
 reconciled. Move within each heart. **R**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our
 sin. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through
 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
 Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO READINGS

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—“Is the Lord among us or not?”—received a very positive answer.

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 95

The accompanist will play the refrain once as introduction and then all will join in singing; and will repeat the sung refrain when indicated by “R”



Let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal - va - tion.

¹ *Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.*

² *Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.*

³ *For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods. R*

⁴ *In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.*

⁵ *The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land. R*

⁶ *Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker.*

⁷ *For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. R*

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

⁸ *“Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.*

⁹ *There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works. R*



READING: Romans 5:1-11

Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand and sing:



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.



GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

The good news of God's love according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and

he would have given you living water.”¹¹ The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?”¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?”¹³ Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.”¹⁷ The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!”

¹⁹ The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.”²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.”²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.”²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.”²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.”³⁵ Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.”³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.”³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word.”⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

A brief period for silent meditation will follow at the conclusion of the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

ELW 611



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worm, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing - place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav - ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

THE 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

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

After each petition:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.
Amen.

eGiving



THE SHARING OF PEACE

Instead of putting a donation in the offering plate during the anthem, you can use the QR code to make a contribution on the church website; or you can mail an offering to the church.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty*

ELW 777



- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev-ers bur - dened; find re - fresh-ment in this place.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow-ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

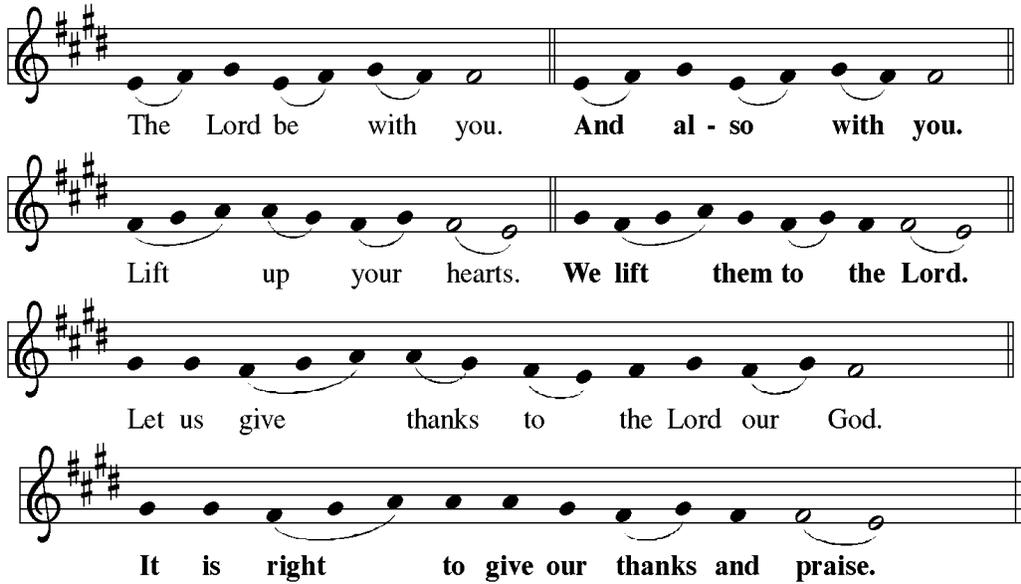
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OFFERING PRAYER

O God, maker of heaven and earth,
through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

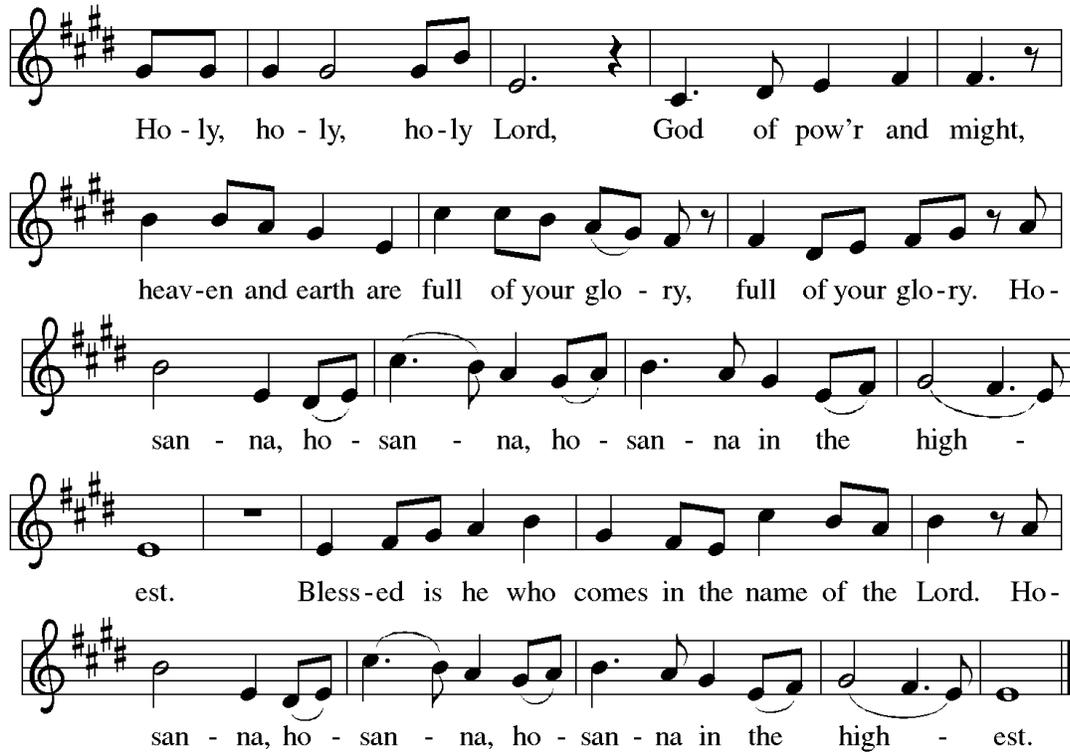


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 Passover 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'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.



THE 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.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table; feast on God's goodness and mercy.
Amen.



LAMB OF GOD

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.

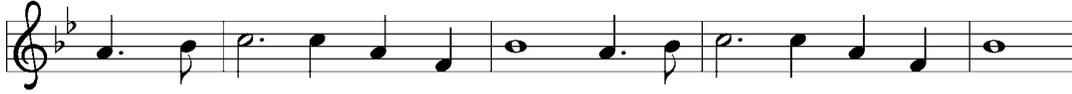


COMMUNION HYMN *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

ELW 623



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
 could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
 when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
 all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
 foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778
 Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. God of our salvation,
 we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
 reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for life's journey.
 Through the body and blood of your Son,
 may we become Christ's body in the world,
 bearing witness to your love for all creation. **Amen.**



BLESSING

God, who calls all things into existence,
 Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
 and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
 † bless you now and always. **Amen.**



SENDING HYMN *O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts*

ELW 658



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
 2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
 3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
 chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
 turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.
 Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Trust the good news.
Thanks be to God. We will!



POSTLUDE

[Livestream ends]



Please join us for a time of fellowship immediately after worship.

Thank you to those serving this month: (ML) = Meadowlawn Campus (DT) = Downtown Campus

Date	Loc	Time	Lector	Communion Assistant(s)	Flower Sponsor	Dedication
03/01/26	DT	11 AM	Linda Gascon	Frances Guido, Aimée Fox	Roy Pringle	In Gratitude
03/08/26	DT	11 AM	Marty Snapp	Phil Rearick, Ruth Kinsey	Pat Shipley	IHO Don Shipley's Birthday
03/15/26	ML	11 AM	Terri Craig	Marty Snapp, Gary Bartelt	Phil Rearick	IMO Annemarie Rearick
03/22/26	ML	11 AM	Phil Rearick	Violet Prepost, Margarita Rodriguez		
03/29/26	ML	11 AM	Betty Herzhauser	Suzanne Bohning, Linda Gascon	F. Guido	For the glory of God

Birthdays this week:

03/11 - Bob Skidmore

Anniversaries this week:

- None -

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today (03/08)

12:30pm – All Ages Education Hour!

Monday (03/09)

(No Scheduled Activities)

Tuesday (03/10)

11:30am– Women of Grace Meeting (ML Library)

2:00pm – Healthy Grieving (DT 2nd Floor)

6:00pm – Council Meeting (ML Library)

Wednesday (03/11)

11:30am– Community Meals Program (DT 3rd Floor)

1:00pm – Grace & Games (DT 2nd Floor)

6:00pm – Bible Study (CommUNITY Rm)

Thursday (03/12)

6:00pm – Grace Family Bible Study (CommUNITY Room)

6:30pm – Choir Practice (ML Sanctuary)

Friday (03/13)

9:30am – TLC Pantry (DT 1st Floor)

9:30am – Dolores Food Pantry (CommUNITY Room)

Saturday (03/14)

9:00am – Hope Chest (Thrift Store)

10:00am–Congregation Bkfst (Spring Garden Family Rest)

Further Info & Items of Interest:

THIS TUESDAY: March 10th is the first meeting of our now-merged women's group! The **Women of Grace** will meet at 11:30am on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Meadowlawn campus. Meetings are BYOSL (bring your own sack lunch)!

Prayer List:

For those ministering in our congregations:

Pastor Paul Gibson
Deacon Lynne Tallon
Music Director Ross Kimura
Music Director Brenden Hall

For those suffering from cancer:

Jim Tallon
Whitney & Greg Corrigan
Rick Jackson
Frank Durilla
Rev. Ernest Knoche
Ron Oughton

For those homebound:

Lorna Holder
Shirley Taylor
Betty Aker
Marion Cheslock
Judy Milanese
Petra Young

Note: The following prayer requests are active for 3 months unless a shorter timeframe is requested.

For those needing strength or healing:

Jill Boos Martin	Bill Quinn
Pr. Felice Johnson	Doug Pryor
Sally Evans	Corinne, Bob, & Irma Kay
Mary Alice Boller	Leonard
Paula Smith	Robert & Brenda Meredith
Vickie Clark	Brian Schutzbach
Luke Mendenhall	Shakira and family
Guy Smith	Janet Crim
Joyce Dare	Pr. Tom Snapp
Cecil Miles	Will Diefel
Linda Miles	Billy Boynton

For those grieving the loss of a loved one:

Logan & Grace Paul (baby Millie)
Deigh Stanton



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome, visitors!
Please tell us something about yourself.

Fill out the form below or scan the provided QR Code to contact us digitally

Name and Address	<u>Today's Date:</u> 03/08/26
Email	
Phone	
Home church, city, and state	

- I'm visiting: First time Repeat
- I just moved here
- Please add me to your email list(s)
 - Pastor's weekly announcements, etc.
 - Office's Monthly Newsletter, etc.

Digital Contact Card:

