

Sunday, March 15, 2026
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Trinity Lutheran Church
11:00am: Meadowlawn
1801 62nd Avenue 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 *O Christ, Your Heart Compassionate*

ELW 722



1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
 so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
 that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
 whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
 We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
 come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
 and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
 that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
 whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833
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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

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



INTRODUCTION TO READINGS



FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the Lord, designating David as the Lord's chosen successor to Saul.

¹ The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."

² Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.'" ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴ Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵ He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord." ⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 23

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"

Shepherd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want; I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace. R

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your name. R

Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are by my side, your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. R

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my power to hold. R

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. R



READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

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 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." ¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸ They did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the leaders, for they had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." ²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his

disciples?" ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

³⁹ Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?"

⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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 *Christ, Whose Glory fills the Skies*

ELW 553



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of righ-teous-ness, a - rise, tri - umph o'er the shades of night;
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815



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 *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

ELW 324



1	In	the	cross	of	Christ	I	glo - ry,	to - w' - r	- ing
2	When	the	woes	of	life	o'er -	take me,	hopes	de -
3	When	the	sun	of	bliss	is	beam - ing	light	and
4	Bane	and	bles -	- ing,	pain	and	plea - sure,	by	the



o'er	the	wrecks	of	time.	All	the	light	of
ceive,	and	fears	an -	noy,	nev -	er	shall	the
love	up -	on	my	way,	from	the	cross	the
cross	are	sanc -	- ti -	fied;	peace	is	there	that



sa -	cred	sto -	ry	gath -	ers	round	its	head	sub -	lime.
cross	for -	sake	me;	lo,	it	glows	with	peace	and	joy.
ra -	diance	stream -	ing	adds	more	lus -	ter	to	the	day.
knows	no	mea -	sure,	joys	that	through	all	time	a -	bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815-1867



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 *There is a Balm in Gilead*

ELW 614

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e - ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e - ad to heal the sin - sick soul.



- 1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain,
- 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
- 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual



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 *Be Thou My Vision*

ELW 793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional



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 in the COMMUNITY Room 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:

- None -

Anniversaries this week:

- None -

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today (03/15)

1:30pm – Fleet Reserve Assn (DT – 2nd Floor)

Monday (03/16)

(no scheduled activities)

Tuesday (03/17) – St. Patrick's Day

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

Wednesday (03/18)

9:00am – Quilting Circle (ML – CommUNITY Room)

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

1:00pm – Grace & Games (DT – 2nd Floor)

6:00pm – Bible Study (ML – CommUNITY Room)

Thursday (03/19)

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

6:30pm – Choir Practice (ML Sanctuary)

Friday (03/20)

9:30am – TLC Pantry (DT – 1st Floor)

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

6:00pm – Film & Faith (ML – CommUNITY Room)

Saturday (03/21)

9:00am – Hope Chest (ML – Thrift Store)



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> 03/15/26
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:



Further Info & Items of Interest:

This month's film: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. C.S.Lewis' tale of love, betrayal, death, and resurrection and the triumph of good over evil.

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
Bob Sockrider

For those homebound:

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

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

For those needing strength or healing:

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

For those grieving the loss of a loved one:

Logan & Grace Paul (baby Millie)
Deigh Stanton