



Sunday, March 9, 2025

First Sunday in Lent

Theme of the Day:

*Open Door Policies: God's Surprising Strategies for Getting Sinner Back Home-
One Stands; Everyone Else Sits*

Congregation sings or speaks the bolded text

Holy Baptism (2nd service)

p. 151

419 Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

CW 419

Text: Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530–609, abr. Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929–2021 Tune: © 1967 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016

Please stand.

O Lord, o - pen my lips,

and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

Has - ten to save me, O God;

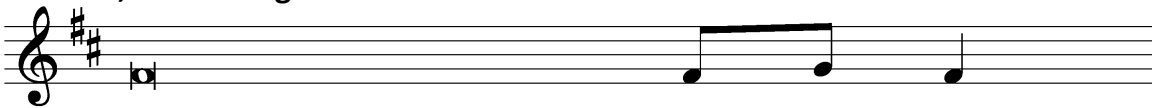
O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

General **Jesus Christ is Lord of all:**

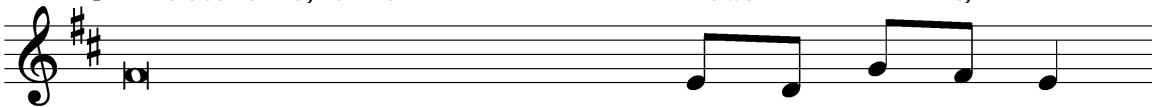
praise and thanks to God!

O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

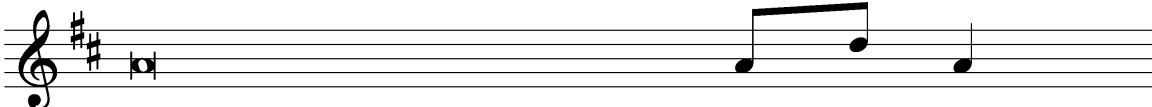
CW 208



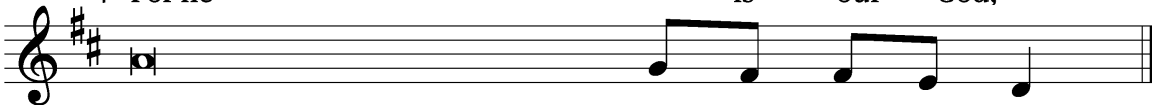
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is his, for he made it,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and his hand formed the dry land.



- 1 Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in his hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For he is our God,



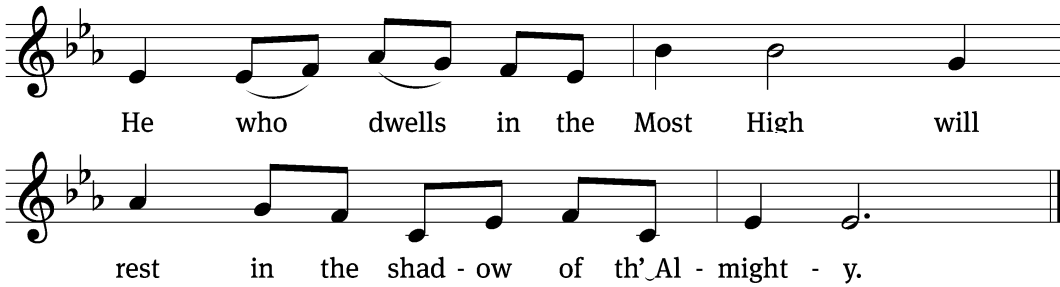
- 1 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.
2 the heights of the hills are al - so his.
3 let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of his
pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Please be seated.

91A The Shadow of the Almighty- Sung Responsively

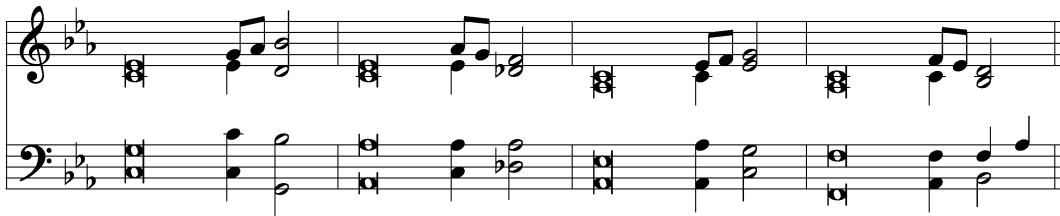
Psalm 91A

Refrain



He who dwells in the Most High will
rest in the shadow of th'Al - might - y.

Tone



P: Surely he will save you from the / fowler's snare
and from the deadly / pestilence.

He will cover you with his / feathers,
and under his wings you will find / refuge.

**C: You will not fear the ter- / ror of night,
nor the arrow that / flies by day,
nor the pestilence that stalks in the / darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at / midday. Refrain**

P: If you say, "The LORD is my / refuge,"
and you make the Most High your / dwelling,
no harm will over- / take you,
no disaster will come / near your tent.

**C: For he will command his angels con- / cerning you
to guard you in / all your ways;
they will lift you up / in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot a- / gainst a stone.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

First Reading

1 Samuel 17:4–11,32–40,45–49

One warrior from each nation stood and fought while everyone else sat. David's victory over Goliath is as much a spiritual victory as a military one, for it teaches us that the battle is the Lord's.

⁴A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. His height was six cubits and a span. ⁵He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; ⁶on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. ⁷His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him. ⁸Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. ⁹If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." ¹⁰Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." ¹¹On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified. ³²David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him." ³³Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth." ³⁴But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, ³⁵I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. ³⁶Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. ³⁷The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you." ³⁸Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. ³⁹David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. "I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off. ⁴⁰Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine. ⁴⁵David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. ⁴⁷All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands." ⁴⁸As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. ⁴⁹Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Luke 4:1–13

Weak and in the wilderness, Jesus stands against Satan’s temptations. He overcomes them, winning the victory for us.

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.” ⁴Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’” ⁵The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷If you worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” ⁹The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰For it is written: “ ‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; ¹¹they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” ¹²Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

Children's Lesson

Luke 4:1-13

863 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

CW 863

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Composite Tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: Hebrews 4:14-16

Jesus has stood in our place, facing every temptation that we have faced. Yet he did not sin.

¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Theme: Rely on Jesus, the Great High Priest

Please stand.

538 Jesus, My Great High Priest

CW 538

- 1 Jesus, my great High Priest,
offered his blood and died;
my guilty conscience seeks
no sacrifice beside.
His pow'rful blood did once atone,
and now it pleads before the throne.
- 2 To Christ, my substitute,
will I commit my cause;
he answers and fulfills
his Father's broken laws.
Behold my soul at freedom set—
my Jesus paid the dreadful debt!
- 3 My advocate appears
for my defense on high;
a gracious Father hears
and lays his thunder by.
Not all that hell or sin can say
shall turn his heart, his love, away.
- 4 Should all the hosts of death
and pow'rs of hell unknown
put their most dreadful forms
of rage and mischief on,
I shall be safe, for Christ displays
superior pow'r and guardian grace.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt. Text: Public domain

Please be seated.

Offering

Friendship Registration

Guests: Please fill out name, address, and phone number.

Members: Please fill out name and any new information.

Please, return the booklet to its original location. Thank you!

Please stand.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 213



Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful and an-swer me.



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Mighty God and Father, our Lord Jesus walked into the wilderness to face the devil's temptations, but he did not succumb to Satan's lies or falter in his resolve to save the world from the prison of hell. Bolster our faith by his mighty victory that we may battle against the forces of evil with courage and confidence; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

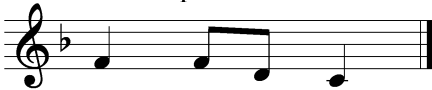
C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

842 Jesus, Still Lead On

CW 842

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760, adapt.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt. Tune: Adam Drese, 1620–1701 Text and tune: Public domain. **Acknowledgments:** Morning Prayer from Christian Worship Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

Announcements

WELCOME! Thank you for joining our Trinity family in worship today. We invite you to keep growing with us through God's Word and Sacraments. If you have a question, please speak to a pastor or a Trinity member. If you are a guest, please pick up a guest packet and give your name and address in the friendship registration located in each pew. Ask the ushers if you need a pocket-sized aid for the hearing impaired. Large print bulletins are available upon request, with the Hymns for the service printed in them. A Nursery with our service on TV is located off the lobby for parents who need to calm young children.

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT of Holy Baptism in the second service today are Blair and Beau Benner. Beau and Blair are the son and daughter of Levi & Kendra Benner. We rejoice at Beau & Blair's spiritual rebirthday.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: For the next several months, volunteers are needed to help with the weekly cleaning of the church. Even if you cannot help every week, any and all help is greatly appreciated. If interested or need more information, please contact Gordon and Pam Nessler at 419-306-9025 or send an email to gnessler@hotmail.com. Thank you for your help.

OFFERING STATEMENTS for 2024 are available at the deacons' table. Please contact Bob Inniger at 567-674-6049 with questions.

CHURCH MAIL Any correspondence in the mail that needs to be sent to the church, please begin sending to the school instead at 105 Allen St. Jenera, OH 45841.

CALL UPDATE Pastor Nowak has accepted his call to serve at Anchored in Christ in Greenfield, MN. He will still be serving at Trinity until the end of May. The Elders met with Pastor Krueger on Wednesday night to plan a timeline for filling the upcoming vacancy. Stay tuned for more information about a pre-call meeting and a call meeting. The pre-call meeting will gather information for District President Sims to help him compile a list of candidates for the call meetings. It is an open forum for all members of the congregation. For more information, please talk to either Mr. Falck or President Ron Bower.

IMMANUEL VICAR PROGRAM SUPPORT OPPORTUNITY The members of Immanuel have decided to pursue a vicar for the next term (August 2025-August 2026). Traditionally they fund the vicar using an established savings account. This fund was spent down considerably this year as they provided support for Vicar Fluegge. Because of the blessings of this program to Immanuel as well as how we also have been able to help the future pastor grow through opportunities here at Trinity, we would like to provide our members the opportunity to support this fund as well. If any member would like to support this fund, they can give a gift with the designation "Immanuel Vicar" and we will direct it to Immanuel. The contributions can be made at any time, but any gifts given before March 16 will help them reach their goal of \$30,000 that Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary has suggested as a target amount. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Bower or Mr. Falck.

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT is happening again this year at Trinity on March 15th, 6:00pm. We'll have the home court advantage as we win the championship. All card players are encouraged to sign up on the sheet at the back of church. Go Team!

LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP GRANTING ORGANIZATION OF OHIO (LSGOO) If you are not taking advantage of this excellent opportunity to direct a portion of your Ohio tax liability directly to our school's ministry, please check out www.lsgoohio.org or talk to Mr. Falck.

HOPE HOUSE DONATION DRIVE: Until March 11th, we will be collecting items for Hope House Women's Shelter. Let's show our love and support for these women by donating the following items: Shampoo, Conditioner, Body wash, Deodorant, Cleaning products(Lysol, Pinesol, etc.), Shower curtains & rings, Small bottles of dish soap, \$25 gas cards, \$25 Walmart gift cards. Please drop off your donations in or near the collection bins in the church basement. Additionally, Hope House will be joining us on March 11 to host a special 'Game of Life' event for the Women's Ministry. Save the date! Thank you for your generous support.

THE ELDERS ARE LOOKING FOR YOUR HELP – At the Annual Meeting, the Elders brought a list of people they were having a hard time getting into contact with. If you would like the list please grab a copy of the Annual Meeting Report or email tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org for a copy. Thank you!

THE ELDERS ARE LOOKING FOR YOUR HELP II – Do you like to talk with people and sharing your faith with your fellow believers? Then, the Elders are looking for your help. The Elders are looking for people to visit our shut-ins. If you are interested in helping encourage our homebound members, please sign up on the sheet in the back of church or in the basement. You can also email tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org or pastormattn@gmail.com. Thank you for considering this.

DISCOVERY STORY: FOREST ANIMALS: The Hancock County Parks is coming for the next Discovery Story on **Wednesday, March 12 at 10:00 AM** in the church basement. Forests are full of life, including many different animals. A story titled, *Bear Helps the Forest (Maybe You Help, Too)*, will be read. It is a picture book that highlights the life of a baby bear and other animals, such as squirrels, white-tailed deer, and Virginia opossums. Stay afterwards for crafts and other activities! Email mwmtrinity@tlcjenera.org if you plan to come to this event!

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help at Easter for Kids on Saturday, April 26 from 9:30 AM -12:00 PM. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you are able to help. You can specify what you would like to help with—crafts, music, games, registration, snacks, or group leaders.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY is hosting the Lenten supper on Wednesday, March 12 starting at 5:30. We will be serving soup and homemade bread. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you are able to bring food or help serve the meal. Bring food to the church basement by 5:00 PM and hot food no later than 5:30 PM.

BUGS, WORMS, AND LITTLE THINGS: Join us for Mornings with Mommy on Monday, March 17 (at 9:30 or 11:00) or Tuesday, March 18 at 9:30. Bring your little ones to play with all sorts of little critters—butterflies, caterpillars, worms, spiders, ladybugs, and flies. Make a rainbow butterfly, go on a "sticky walk", swat flies, and sort bugs. Register online at tlcjenera.org or call 262-391-7994.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Women's Ministry is volunteering at the West Ohio Food Bank in Lima on Thursday, March 27 from 1:00-3:00 PM. We will be packing/preparing boxes, sorting through foods and checking expiration dates, and much more! Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you are able to join us. Anyone is welcome to come help—men, women, teens! The address is 1380 Kibby St. Lima, OH 45802. Questions? Contact Jenny Boehm 262-391-7994.

SAVE THE DATE:

April 20th- Easter Sunday; April 26th - Easter for Kids & Outdoor Egg Hunt (Rain Date: April 27)

May 4th- Confirmation; May 25th – Graduation Sunday

MIDWEEK LENT SERVICES started, Wednesday, March 5th: Reflections on Repentance from Psalm 51 - Using David's great penitential Psalm 51, penned following his affair with Bathsheba and the murder of Uriah, this series of Lenten reflections explores the depths of our sinful depravity, the brokenness of our relationship with God, our dire need for rescue, and the good news of forgiveness, cleansing, and rejoicing in our restored relationship with God and the promise of eternal life through Jesus our Savior. Lent worship services will be Wednesday at 7 pm, starting March 5th. Join us to reflect on our Savior's sacrifice for us and our salvation.

EASTER FOR KIDS & EGG HUNT: Trinity is hosting Easter for Kids on Saturday, April 26 from 9:30 AM-12:00 PM. The program is open to children age 3 - 5th grade. This event will give your children an opportunity to celebrate and learn about the true meaning of Easter. Children will discover the good news of Easter and what Jesus' resurrection means for them. The program features Bible-based activity stations where kids learn about the Savior's resurrection, praise him in song, make crafts, play games, and enjoy snacks together. Families are invited to stay after our Easter for Kids program for an **egg hunt** on the school grounds. Snacks and drinks will be provided for families in the parking lot following the egg hunt. The egg hunt is for toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary age children. If your children are not attending Easter for Kids but would still like to participate in the Egg Hunt, please register for the Egg Hunt. Please register online at tlcjenera.org (click on the "Upcoming Events" icon) or pick up a registration form in the back of church. Questions—contact Jenny Boehm 262-391-7994.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: GAME OF LIFE: Women can participate in the Hope House Game of Life on Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30 PM in the church basement. This game uses real life scenarios, sometimes determined by a spin of life's wheel, that lands clients in various situations out of their control. While playing the game, you will be asked to make some difficult choices. The hope is that by the end of the game, you will better understand the barriers people living in homelessness and poverty are faced with. After the Game of Life is completed, we will continue our Bible study entitled "Time—It's a Gift". Lesson 2 goes deeper into God's Word to increase our understanding of four concepts of time: time of grace, times of refreshment, opportune time, and the fullness of time. If you missed Lesson 1, you can pick up a copy by the mailboxes in the church basement. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you plan to attend the March event.

DAILY LECTIONARY

Sun: Gen 4:1-26, Mark 2:18-28; **Mon:** Gen 6:1-7:5, Mar 3:1-19; **Tue:** Gen 7:11-8:12, Mark 3:20-35

Wed: Gen 8:13-9:17, *Gen 9:18-11:26*, Mark 4:1-20; **Thu:** Gen 11:27-12:20, Mark 4:21-41

Fri: Gen 13:1-18, *Gen 14:1-24*, Mark 5:1-20; **Sat:** Gen 15:1-21, Mark 5:21-43

Sun: Gen 16:1-9, 15:17-22, Mark 6:1-13

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Matt Nowak
Office: 419-326-4402
Cell: 419-302-5271
pastormattn@gmail.com

Principal Jeff Falck
Cell: 920-809-4263
jfalck@tlcjenera.org
Office: 419-326-4685

Church/School Secretary
Office: 419-326-4685
tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org
website: tlcjenera.org

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of March 2nd)

Total Worship Attendance: 265, Early: 108, Late: 43; Adult Bible Study: 28; Sunday School: 30; Teen Bible Class: 4; Mornings with Mommy: 70; Online Worship Views for Feb. 23rd: 95

MONEY COUNTERS for this morning through March 22nd are the members of Craig von Stein's Undershepherd group. Beginning Sunday, March 23rd, will be the members of David Bower's Undershepherd group.

GREETERS today are: John & Janet Weihrauch – early
Bob & Julie Inniger – late

Next Sunday: Josh & Ashley Breitigam – early
Warren Pratt – late

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (March 9th through March 16th)

TODAY Worship 8:00 & 10:30; Children's Lesson; Adult Bible Study, Teen Bible Class, Sunday School 9:20; Open Gym 2:00

MON Elders 7:00

TUE Women's Ministry Hope House Event 6:30

WED Discovery Story in Church Basement 10:00; Lenten Meal 5:30; Handbells 6:00; Lenten Service 7:00; Choir after service

SAT Euchre Tournament 6:00

SUN **Worship 8:00 & 10:30;** Communion; Adult Bible Study, Teen Bible Class, Sunday School 9:20; Open Gym 2:00

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Mon Board of Ed 7:00

Tue Hancock Courthouse & Museum Field Trip Grades 3-8

Wed NO CHAPEL

Fri HCA Chapel Presentation 8:20

Vanco
Mobile
App



OUR MISSION STATEMENT: *Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to glorify our Triune God as we train, strengthen and nurture ourselves and others through His Word and Sacraments, so that we are enabled by His love to live lives of faith and to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people.*