



Sunday, March 16, 2025

Second Sunday in Lent

Theme of the Day:

Open Door Policies: God's Surprising Strategies for Getting Sinners Back Home- No Detours Allowed

Congregation sings or speaks the bolded text

531 The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns

CW 531

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855 Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707 Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand.

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

The Word

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

Jeremiah 26:8–15

Jeremiah knew the path the Lord had called him to walk—calling the nation to repent—might get him killed. In love for the Lord and for his nation, Jeremiah walked that path willingly.

⁸But as soon as Jeremiah finished telling all the people everything the LORD had commanded him to say, the priests, the prophets and all the people seized him and said, “You must die! ⁹Why do you prophesy in the LORD’s name that this house will be like Shiloh and this city will be desolate and deserted?” And all the people crowded around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD. ¹⁰When the officials of Judah heard about these things, they went up from the royal palace to the house of the LORD and took their places at the entrance of the New Gate of the LORD’s house. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and all the people, “This man should be sentenced to death because he has prophesied against this city. You have heard it with your own ears!” ¹²Then Jeremiah said to all the officials and all the people: “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the things you have heard. ¹³Now reform your ways and your actions and obey the LORD your God.

Then the LORD will relent and not bring the disaster he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴As for me, I am in your hands; do with me whatever you think is good and right. ¹⁵Be assured, however, that if you put me to death, you will bring the guilt of innocent blood on yourselves and on this city and on those who live in it, for in truth the LORD has sent me to you to speak all these words in your hearing.”

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

42C Why Does Such Grief Weigh Down My Soul

Psalm 42C

P: Why does such grief weigh down my soul? Why such despair and pain?

C: I hope in God who makes me whole, and praise him once again.

P: As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.

C: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

P: My tears have been my food / day and night, while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?”

C: These things I remember as I pour out my soul:

P: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One

C: with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Text: Christopher Idle Text: © 1975 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. (refrain). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016

Second Reading

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Paul explains that being a follower of Jesus means that our path in life will resemble his. Paul encourages us to not try and take detours as we journey toward heaven.

¹⁷Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. ¹⁸For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. ¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:8

P: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. Being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God.

Gospel

Luke 13:31–35

The Pharisees offer Jesus a detour around danger and a shortcut to safety. But Jesus was determined to continue down the path he was on for us and our salvation.

³¹At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, “Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He replied, “Go tell that fox, ‘I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.’” ³³In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem! ³⁴“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. ³⁵Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

817 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

CW 817

Text: Martin M. Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tablatur, Strassburg, 1577 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Sermon Theme: Swim against the mainstream

- 1) Following behind the leader**
- 2) Standing alongside fellow partners**

Please stand.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

**He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Prayer of the Church

P: Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to free us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

C: We confess that without your love we are lost.

P: Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

C: Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

P: Guard and guide those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and values as Christians.

C: By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

P: Keep in your care those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, and those victimized by war and injustice. Comfort all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

C: Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

P: Watch over those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

C: Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

P: Hear us as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

P: Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

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!

The Sacrament

Please Stand.

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might.



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power. By his incarnation, he became one with us. By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will. By his innocent death, he overcame hell. By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven. Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

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.

Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \dagger body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my \dagger blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God



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

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer Tune: © 2002 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016

Please be seated.

Distribution

397 My Song Is Love Unknown

CW 397

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683, alt. Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962 Text and tune: Public domain

704 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

CW 704

Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871–1941, alt. Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand.

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

P: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

853 I'm But a Stranger Here

CW 853

Text: Thomas R. Taylor, 1807–1835, abr. Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900 Text and tune: Public domain. **Acknowledgments:** Setting Four 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.

HOLY COMMUNION: The Bible teaches us that Holy Communion is a public demonstration of participants' united confession of the Bible's teachings (1 Cor. 10:17). Since we strive to follow all that the Bible teaches, we believe that members of this congregation or the WELS or ELS synod are united in the true teaching and may commune together. All guests should speak with a pastor before Communion, to first determine if unity of faith exists. We're eager to establish a unity of faith and to declare this oneness at Communion with you. Members of the congregation are to indicate their intention to commune in the friendship registration booklet. For preparation before you communion, you could read about the Sacrament of Holy Communion from Luther's Small Catechism on page 293, or you could review the Christian Questions that Martin Luther wrote for those who were about to communion on page 295. **We now have individually wrapped Gluten-Free wafers available for those who need them.**

OPEN HOUSE The congregation is welcome to the school for an Open House on Tuesday, March 18th, from 4:30-7:00. Sandwiches, chips, cookies, and drink will be served from 5:00-6:00. Bring your friends, neighbors, etc. to learn all about our school! Principal Falck will be available to talk about Ed Choice. You can tour the school, visit the classrooms, and talk with teachers and families!

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. **Our pre-call meeting is set for Tuesday, March 25th @ 7:00pm. Michigan District President Sims will work through the call process with us, and gather information 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.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS We will continue our study through the book of 1st Corinthians for the rest of the school year. Paul wrote an important letter to a deeply divided congregation with problems. Paul addresses the issue of how to deal with each other as Christians in our study of chapter 6. Join us as we see how our God unites us with his work to wash, sanctify and justify us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

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.

ALPHA PREGNANCY HELP CENTER DONATIONS: Do you have clothes and toys your children have outgrown? Please consider donating them to the Alpha Pregnancy Help Center. We will offer them to Alpha families along with the Gospel and prayers they will one day be in heaven with us. "The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." *Please put all donations in the tote in the south entryway.* Are you interested in other ways to support the Alpha ministry? Contact Cindy at 614.804.4773 or email her: Cindy@justasking.org.

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.

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.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Part three of “Time—It's a Gift” Bible study is scheduled for Monday, April 7 at 6:30 PM in the church basement Bible classroom. In Lesson three, we'll talk about identifying and assessing our current season of life, noting that choices are involved and priorities may need to be adjusted. We'll look at the importance of depending on God's wisdom as a guide rather than on what the world has to offer. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you are planning to attend.

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.

DAILY LECTIONARY

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

Mon: Gen 18:1-15, *Gen 18:16-20:1*, Mark 6:14-:34

Tue: Gen 21:1-21, Mark 6:35-25

Wed: Gen 22:1-19, Mark 7:1-23

Thu: Gen 24:1-31, Mark 7:24-37

Fri: Gen 24:32-52,61-67, *Gen 25:1-26:35*, Mark 8:1-21

Sat: Gen 27:1-29, Mark 8:22-38

Sun: Gen 27:30-45, Mark 9:1-13

CONTACT INFORMATION

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OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of March 9th)

Total Worship Attendance: 258, Early: 96, Late: 162; Adult Bible Study: 26; Sunday School: 28; Preschool Playtime: 17; Ash Wednesday: 159; Midweek 2: 107 Online Worship Views for Mar. 2nd: 56

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: Josh & Ashley Breitigam – early
Warren Pratt – late

Next Sunday: Deb Reichley – early
Mike & Jill Woodward – late

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (March 16th through March 23rd)

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

MON Mornings with Mommy 9:30 & 11:00; Church Council 7:00

TUE Mornings with Mommy 9:30; Worship Committee 9:45; Serenity Spring 11:00

WED Lenten Meal 5:30; Handbells 6:00; Lenten Service 7:00; Choir after service

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

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Tue School Open House 4:30-7:00

Wed Chapel 8:20

Fri NO SCHOOL- Resumes on Tuesday, March 25th

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.*