

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH.

The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

1960 East Johns Avenue

Decatur, Illinois 62521 - Phone 217-422-3630

The Fourth Sunday In Lent

March 19, 2023



## Adult Bible Study Opportunities

**10:15 A.M. Today**

Adult Bible Study

“The Book Of Genesis”

**10:00 A.M. Thursday**

Adult Bible Study

“The Gospel Of Matthew”

*Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend our Bible based study.*

Our hymns for today: 849, 396, (570, 618, 851), 697

## AS WE GATHER

Welcome to all who join us for worship today. We pray that God will bless you with a stronger faith through our worship service. Greet one another before and after the service, especially our visitors. Please fill out an attendance card, available in the pew racks, and introduce yourself at the door. If you would like a visit, prayer, or more information, about Trinity Lutheran Church, please note that on the card.

## PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O God, you give faith to believe in the healing power of your Word: Put away from us, we entreat you, temptations to doubt Your providential care and give us those things that are profitable for our salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Divine Service Setting Three, Page 184

#### Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

LSB 849



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -  
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet  
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,  
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons  
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the  
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool  
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing  
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this  
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.  
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**Introit**

*Psalm 27:4–6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15*

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

**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.**

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,  
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

**Kyrie**

*LSB 186*

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 42:14–21*

<sup>14</sup>For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. <sup>15</sup>I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. <sup>16</sup>And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. <sup>17</sup>They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, “You are our gods.” <sup>18</sup>Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! <sup>19</sup>Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? <sup>20</sup>He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. <sup>21</sup>The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Hebrews 12:2*

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,  
the founder and perfecter of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,  
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

## Epistle

*Ephesians 5:8–14*

<sup>8</sup>For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*



<sup>28</sup>And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.  
<sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” <sup>30</sup>The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. <sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth.  
 And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven  
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy Christian Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Sit

# Arise and Shine in Splendor

LSB 396



1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; Let night to day sur -  
 2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, The hea - then na - tions  
 3 The world's re - mot - est rac - es, Up - on whose wea - ry  
 4 Lift up your eyes in won - der— See, na - tions gath - er  
 5 Your heart will leap for glad - ness When from the realms of



ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near. A - bove, the  
 dy - ing In hope - less gloom and night. To you the  
 fac - es The sun looks from the sky, Shall run with  
 yon - der From sin to be set free. The world has  
 sad - ness They come from near and far. Your eyes will



day is beam - ing, In match - less beau - ty  
 Lord of heav - en— Your life, your hope— has  
 zeal un - tir - ing, With joy Your light de -  
 heard Your sto - ry; Her sons come to Your  
 wake from slum - ber As peo - ple with - out



gleam - ing; The glo - ry of the Lord is here.  
 giv - en Great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.  
 sir - ing That breaks up - on them from on high.  
 glo - ry; Her daugh - ters haste Your light to see.  
 num - ber Re - joice to see the Morn - ing Star.

Sermon

John 9:1-41

Sermon Text

“I Can See”

Stand



## Offertory

LSB 192



**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

*Sit*

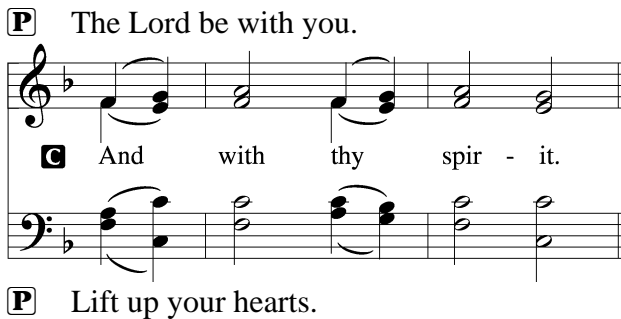
## Offering

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

## Preface

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

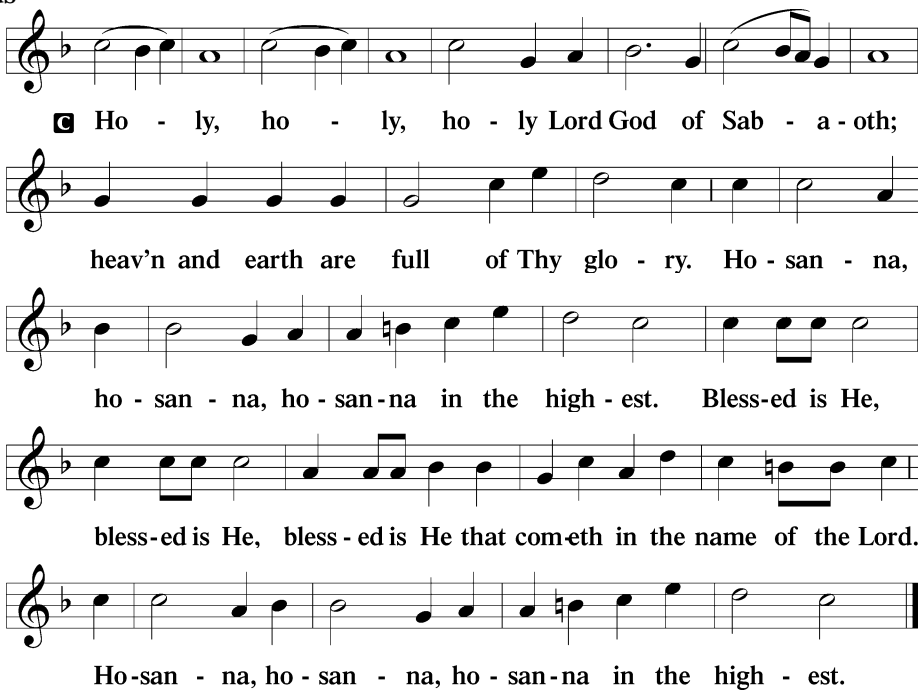


**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Sanctus

LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
 heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
 ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
 bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**P** 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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.  
Amen.

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 197

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



The musical notation for "Pax Domini" is presented in two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics "A - - - - - men." are placed below the notes. A copyright symbol (C) is located at the beginning of the first staff.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Sit*

*Holy Communion is celebrated today. Mindful of the Scriptural teaching concerning church fellowship, we practice closed communion. Communicant members of this congregation, or another congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are encouraged to commune this morning. Visitors who desire to join in the Lord's Supper are encouraged and welcome to join in a class of instruction leading to confirmation. Please speak to Pastor Verseemann regarding your desire and may you receive the gifts of our Lord Jesus through faith this Divine Service.*

**Distribution**

# Just as I Am, without One Plea

LSB 570



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy  
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my  
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a  
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to  
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each  
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -  
heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

# I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

LSB 618



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and  
 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners  
 3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I  
 4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my  
 5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's



wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -  
 may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in  
 have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt  
 soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -  
 bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of



lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:  
 faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.  
 ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:  
 ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.  
 heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

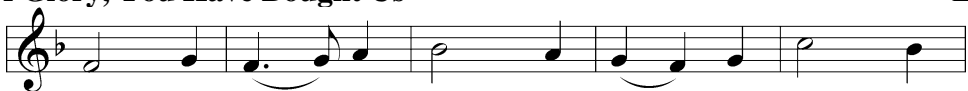


*Refrain*

Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

# Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

LSB 851



1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your  
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,  
 3 Won - drous hon - or You have giv - en To our  
 4 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your



life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the  
 free - ly of Your own. With the sun - shine of Your  
 hum - blest char - i - ty In Your own mys - te - rious  
 life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the



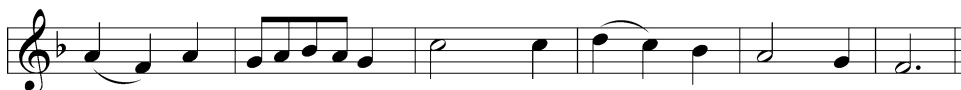
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;  
 good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone  
 sen - tence, "You have done it all to Me."  
 lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings  
 Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by  
 Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That You  
 Give us faith to trust You bold - ly, Hope, to



count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful  
 You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py  
 deign for alms to sue, Say - ing by Your  
 stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of



and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.  
 and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.  
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you?"  
 all Your grac - es, With Your love our love re - new.

*Stand*

**(Personal Prayer Of Thanksgiving After Receiving The Lord's Supper)**

Merciful Lord, I thank You for the forgiving body and blood of Your Son, which are Your pledge and promise of my salvation, and Your promise of eternal life. May the gifts of Your heavenly banquet fortify me against the Evil One, strengthen me for life in this sinful world, and equip me to put to death my sinful flesh. Help me to live as one who continually hungers for Your grace, and thirsts for Your righteousness, who longs to taste anew of Your goodness, that I may sit at Your table at the marriage feast of Your Son, when Jesus, my heavenly Bridegroom comes to take His holy bride home to heaven. In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

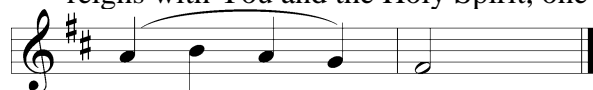


Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**A** Let us pray.  
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through  
this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would  
strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love  
toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and  
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

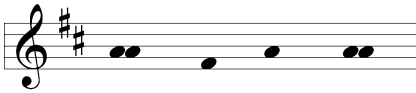


**C** A - men.



## Benedicamus

LSB 202



**A** Bless we the Lord.

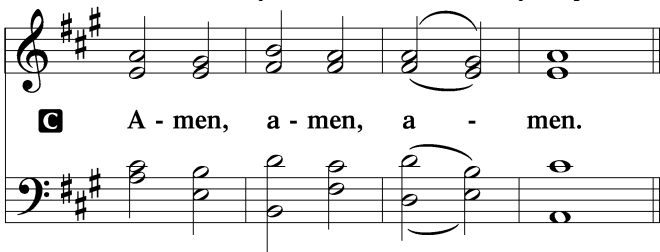


**B** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A - men, a - men, a - men.

## Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

LSB 697



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And  
2 To us on earth He came to bring From  
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who  
4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And



Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its  
sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's  
died that He might save; With kind and gen - tle  
con - quered in the strife; A - wake, a - rise, go



length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth, and height.  
u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.  
hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.  
forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS** may be found on the stand just outside the center sanctuary doors.

**P.A. DEVICE AVAILABLE** - Please see an usher if you have difficulty hearing.

**PEW CUSHIONS** are available from a box near the Usher's Stand. Help yourself and please feel free to leave them in your seat after services.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TODAY AT 10:15 A.M.**

**PRE-K – 4th GRADE** – Sarah Casebeer, Laura Cogan – Downstairs

**5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> GRADE** – Tracie England, Denise Roberts - Classroom across from the church office

**HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY** – Elizabeth Verseemann – Upstairs

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** – Pastor Verseemann – Downstairs

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** regularly scheduled hours: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday.

Pastor Verseemann's hours are 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM (tentative), Tuesday through Friday. If you need to speak with him, please call the church office at 422-3630 to make an appointment.

**Weekly Average Offering for 2023** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$4,691.72**

**Weekly Offerings Needed for 2023 Budget** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$4,378.27**

**Weekly Average Attendance for 2023** \_\_\_\_\_ **61**

**Attendance for March 12, 2023** \_\_\_\_\_ **60**

**Sunday, March 19, 2023**

**9:00 AM – Worship Service**

**10:15 AM – Sunday School, High School Bible Study, Adult Bible Study**

**11:30 AM – Ladies Bible Study**

**Monday, March 20, 2023**

*No office hours, Pastor's Day Off*

**Tuesday, March 21, 2023**

**4:00 PM – Junior Confirmation Class**

**Wednesday, March 22, 2023**

**6:30 PM – Midweek Lenten Service**

**Thursday, March 23, 2023**

**8:30 AM – Quilters**

**10:00 AM – Thursday Morning Bible Study**

**Saturday, March 25, 2023**

**10:30 AM – Junior Confirmation Class**

**Sunday, March 26, 2023**

**9:00 AM – Worship Service**

**10:15 AM – Sunday School, High School Bible Study, Adult Bible Study**

**11:30 AM – Ladies Bible Study**

### **Leading us in worship today:**

The Officiant	Rev. Matthew Versemann
The Organist	Rachel Versemann
The Elders	Jim Harper, Bill Buechsenschuetz
The Ushers	Kent Birmingham, Terry Koontz
The Greeters	Sharon Harper, Diana Buechsenschuetz
The Acolyte	Charlotte Patterson
The Altar Guild	Tracie England
The Offering Counters	Bill Buechsenschuetz, Diana Buechsenschuetz

### **Our Volunteers for Wednesday, March 22, 2023**

The Officiant	Rev. Matthew Versemann
The Usher	Tom Robinson

### **Our Volunteers for Sunday, March 26, 2023**

The Officiant	Rev. Matthew Versemann
The Organist	Rachel Versemann
The Elders	Tom Robinson, Kent Birmingham
The Ushers	Mike Kurecki, Jim Harper
The Greeters	Sarah Casebeer, Pam Poland
The Acolyte	Lizzie Harper
The Altar Guild	Becky Alexander
The Offering Counters	Kent Birmingham, Susan Birmingham

*Volunteers to serve snacks and coffee and clean up afterwards for Sunday  
Adult Bible class:*

*March 19                      Terry and Sharon Koontz*

*March 26                      Jim and Sharon Harper*



### **SIGN UP TODAY FOR EASTER BREAKFAST!**

Trinity will be celebrating our Lord's Resurrection with a worship celebration on April 9th, followed by our annual Easter Breakfast! Please sign up in the narthex, if you will be attending the Breakfast, and what food item(s) you will be providing. NOTE: We need a couple of people to be in charge of this event. If you are willing, please let Judy or Pastor know.



**PLEASE WARMLY WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!**

Brian and Anna Shookman joined our Trinity family on Sunday, March 12, 2023. Please warmly welcome Brian and Anna as our brother and sister in Christ, into our congregation. And join me in praying that our congregation will be a great blessing to Brian and Anna, and that they will be a great blessing to Trinity, as together we serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!



Easter lily order forms have been placed in your mailboxes. The order forms and monies need to be returned to the secretary by Tuesday, March 21. The cost is \$23.50 per lily.



**The available dates for the (\$35.00) 2023 altar flowers are:** 4/16, 4/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/27, 9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 11/5, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17, 12/31.

**The available dates for the (\$10.00) 2023 worship folders are:** 8/6, 8/13, 8/27, 9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 10/8, 10/15, 11/19, 11/26, 12/10, 12/17, 12/24.



Please let Pastor Verseemann know if you or a family member are going in the hospital.



Any Trinity student who would like to attend the **LSA HIGH SCHOOL** next year **FOR THE FIRST TIME**, please request an application from one of the KFF Scholarship Committee Members no later than Sunday, April 9th.

**KFF Committee Members:** Harry Kaminski, Ilene McQuality, Kristy Pranschke

*A Very Happy Anniversary to:*

*John and Sarah Casebeer March 25 (27)*

*Pedro and Jeannie Patterson-Rivera March 28 (15)*

*A Very Happy Birthday to:*

*Lance Morrow March 24*

*Family prayers for  
Dana and Hanford Chase and Lois Clower*

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by  
Joe and Susan Patterson in memory of loved ones*

*The worship folders are given to the glory of God by  
Joe and Susan Patterson in memory of loved ones*



*The spring issue of Lutheran Women's Quarterly is on the stand.*

### *LIFE THOUGHTS in the CHURCH YEAR*

Jesus clearly instructs us not to regard physical impairment as reason for condemnation to death (John 9:3). Yet our culture often uses disability as excuse for abortion and euthanasia. The Lord our God works wonders through our neighbors' brokennesses just as He does through our own. So we may cheerfully, compassionately, courageously persuade our communities to turn away from doctor-assisted deaths.



*The April-June Portals of Prayer are on the stand.*



**SCRIPS HELP THE LSA ASSESSMENT!**

All money earned this year, thru the Scrip program will go toward Trinity's LSA Assessment for K-8th grade. So far, \$377 has been earned toward next school year. All members are urged to buy scrip orders. This costs you nothing extra. If you order a \$25 gift card, you only pay \$25. We don't have many opportunities to support programs at no expense to us. If you have questions, please see Ilene McQuality on Sunday mornings, call 217-429-1367 or e-mail at [ilenemcquality@att.net](mailto:ilenemcquality@att.net).

<u>Order Date</u>	<u>Delivery Date</u>
03/12	03/26
04/09	04/23
04/23	05/07
05/07	05/21
05/28	06/11
06/11	06/25



**SERVICE OPPORTUNITY:**

The five Church Council officer positions are slated for election in the May Voter's meeting. Mike Kurecki and John Pranschke can answer questions about roles and responsibilities. Please prayerfully consider serving as:

- 1) President, 2) Vice President, 3) Secretary, 4) Financial Secretary, or 5) Treasurer*



**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org:** Study John 14-16 on Sharper Iron's "The Word Became Flesh" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Hosea 11-14 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and study Christ's Words in the Sacrament of the Altar on Concord Matters (3/25 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or on the KFUO Radio app!



**DONATE  
AUCTION  
ITEMS**

**SUPPORT THIS YEAR'S LSA DINNER AUCTION WITH A  
"THEMED BASKET" OR OTHER DONATED ITEM(S)!**

The 2023 LSA Dinner Auction will be held on Friday, April 21st, at 5:30 pm, at the LSA gym. The LSA is seeking items for their silent and live auctions, and we would like to encourage our members to consider putting together a "Themed Basket" for the auction. The possibilities are limitless: Mother's Day Basket (nursery gift cards, a planter, flowers or gardening tools; or perhaps Coffee, Tea, and Spa gift cards), Father's Day Basket (gift cards for Menards, Lowes, ACE Hardware, or hand tools), Board Game Basket, Shop Local Basket, Restaurant Gift Card Basket, Book Lover's Basket, Sports Basket, Movie Night Basket. As an added suggestion, everyone who is a member of Thrivent can get up to two (2) \$250 gift cards per year, with a simple on-line application (if you need the computer link let pastor know), and then you can use the \$250 from Thrivent to put together a "Themed Basket". In addition, if you have any New or Like New items that you would like to donate to the LSA Auction, please feel free to let Pastor or Judy know, or you can deliver them directly to the LSA. Such items could include:

*Sports Equipment, Fishing Supplies, Tools or Tool Kit, Hammock, Planters, Indoor or Outdoor Decorative Items, or maybe even a used car.*



**DOOR OFFERING TO SEND RACHEL VERSEMANN TO  
ORGANISTS' WORKSHOP IN FT. WAYNE, IN, WITH ELIZABETH**

Trinity's Church Council voted to collect a Door Offering on Sundays, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup> (and possibly June 4th, if needed), IN PLACE OF THE NORMAL "DEACONS' FUND OFFERING", in order to send Rachel Verseemann to the Annual Organists' Workshop at Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, IN; together with Elizabeth Verseemann. Please consider supporting these door offerings, so that the Verseemann's do not incur any personal expenses for this training. The anticipated total of expenses for Rachel and Elizabeth is \$750.



## **JUNIOR YOUTH MEETING AND FUN EVENT!**

Trinity's next Junior Youth meeting, for all youth in Grades 5th-8th, will be held on Saturday, April 1st, from 12:30-2:00 pm at Trinity! Please plan to join us for fun, food, fellowship, friends, and faith strengthening!

Isaiah 42:14-21 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the Darkness into His Marvelous Light

The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. "For his righteousness' sake," He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns "the darkness before them into light" (Is. 42:16) because He is "the light of the world" (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh "while it is day," until that night "when no one can work" (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though "at one time you were darkness," now "you are light in the Lord" (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to "awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead" (Eph. 5:14).



### **Contact information**

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