

## ***Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church***

725 SW Buchanan Street, Topeka KS 66606

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Interim Pastor Alan Saatkamp email: [ajsaat96@gmail.com](mailto:ajsaat96@gmail.com)

God of all creation who gives us this beautiful day  
and life itself, who hung the stars in the sky,  
and who also generously provides our daily bread,  
we welcome you into our presence.  
Dear Lord, what can I do for you today?

***March 11, 2018 — 4th Sunday in Lent***

Paul tells us in Eph. 2:10,

*“He creates each of us by Christ  
Jesus to join Him in the work He  
does, the good work He has gotten  
ready for us to do, work we had  
better be doing.”*



**4th Sunday in Lent**

**March 11, 2018**

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 5**

*The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith, for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.*

**PRELUDE**

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**GATHERING**

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**PRAYER**

*See Bulletin Cover*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

P In the words of a reformation hymn, let us confess our sin before God.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Out of the depths I cry to you;

**C O Lord God, hear me calling. Incline your ear to my distress in spite of my rebelling. Do not regard my sinful deeds. Send me the grace my spirit needs. Without it I am nothing. Amen.**

P In God alone we hope, and not in our own merit. We hope as Israel in the Lord, who sends redemption through the  $\mp$  Word. Praise God for grace and mercy!

**C Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

**ELW HYMN 666**

**GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

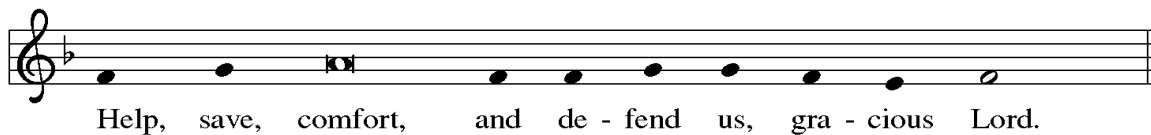
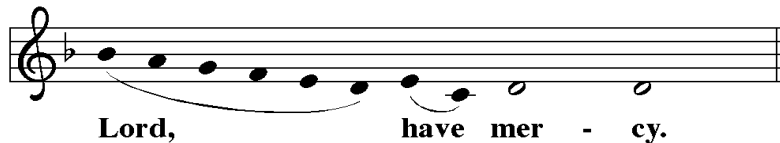
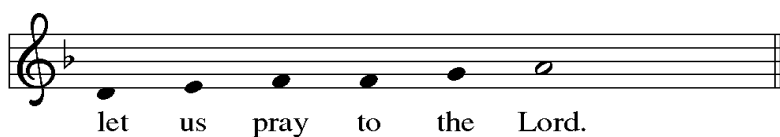
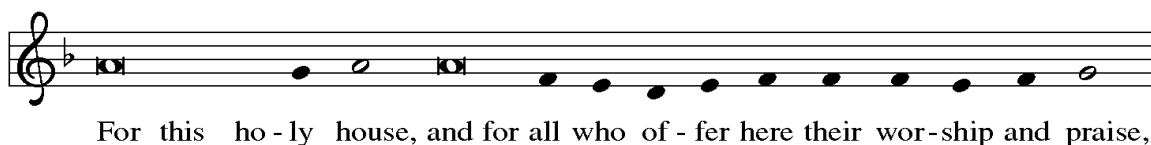
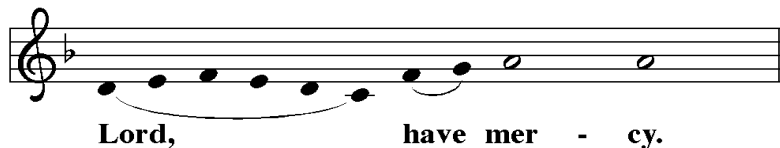
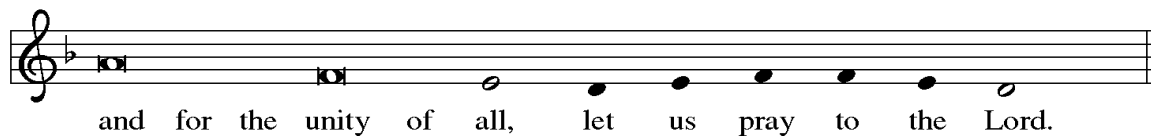
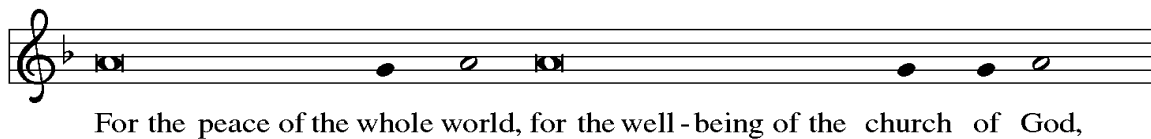
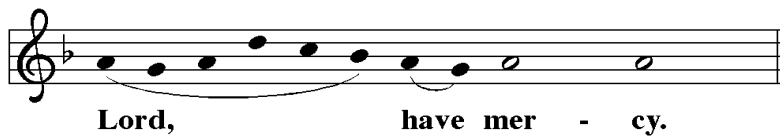
**KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



# HYMN OF PRAISE



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be  
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's  
 3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we



giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -  
 au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes  
 name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one



will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,  
 sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to  
 liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we  
 ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -  
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry.  
 ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.  
 God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - men.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P O God of mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

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**WORD**

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**FIRST READING: NUMBERS 21:4-9**

*Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.*

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22**

*Read responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

<sup>3</sup>gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>17</sup>**Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.**

<sup>18</sup>They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.

<sup>19</sup>**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress.**

<sup>20</sup>You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.

<sup>21</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.**

<sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

**SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 2:1-10**

*ON WHICH TODAY'S SERMON IS BASED*

*While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.*

It wasn't so long ago that you were mired in that old stagnant life of sin. You let the world, which doesn't know the first thing about living, tell you how to live. You filled your lungs with polluted unbelief, and then exhaled disobedience. We all did it, all of us doing what we felt like doing, when we felt like doing it, all of us in the same boat. It's a wonder God didn't lose his temper and do away with the whole lot of us. Instead, immense in mercy and with an incredible love, he embraced us. He took our sin-dead lives and made us alive in Christ. He did all this on his own, with no help from us! Then he picked us up and set us down in highest heaven in company with Jesus, our Messiah. Now God has us where he wants us, with all the time in this world and the next to shower grace and kindness upon us in Christ Jesus. Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We don't play the major role. If we did, we'd probably go around bragging, that we'd done the whole thing! No, we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



P The Holy Gospel, according to John, the third chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

**GOSPEL: JOHN 3:14-21**

*To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**CHILDREN'S TIME & SERMON**

**INTERIM PASTOR ALAN SAATKAMP**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

**ELW HYMN 335**

*Please stand for the final verse of the hymn.*

P Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C 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.**

## THE PRAYERS

A Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

A We pray for the church. Direct and guide us in following your will. Grant us clarity in the midst of confusion, and give us courage in the face of challenge. Make us passionate to share the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A We pray for the world you so deeply love. For wilderness places. For deserts and mountains, fruit trees and gardens. For places devastated by flooding or drought, by wind, fire, or earthquake. Restore damaged habitats and protect fragile environments. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A We pray for the nations and for wisdom for our leaders. Teach us to resolve conflicts without violence. Strengthen those who protect human rights, civil rights, and civil liberties. Bring an end to warfare and hunger. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

C We pray for those in need. For those who lack meaningful employment or stable housing. For those who live with mental illness. For those who have chronic pain, and for all who are grieving, sick, or injured, especially Keith Springer, Roy O'Neil, Gay Marker, Carl Quarnstrom, Don O'Brien, Marilyn Hypse, and Kathryn Axelton. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A We pray for this assembly and those of Garfield Lutheran in Garfield, St. Martin Lutheran in Kansas City, New Hope Lutheran in Onaga, and Bethany House of Studies, Lindsborg, Kansas. For those preparing for baptism. For parish nurses and all who provide health care in our community. For those who make quilts and gather supplies for global relief ministries. For ministries of prayer and visitation. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A We pray for Sara McGinnis, Jake Kennedy, and Trey Horton as they celebrate their birthdays this week and for Roy & Rosemary O'Neil as they celebrate their wedding anniversary. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died in faith, especially those whom we have known and loved. Bring us with them to the fulfillment of your promise of life eternal with you. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen.**



## THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

*Let us greet one another with God's peace.*

*Please be seated.*

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## PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

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### OFFERING

*Please stand as you are able.*

### OFFERTORY

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 your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P 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 paschal 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.  
 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.

# **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C 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

P Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

*Please be seated.*

### 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. A - men.

*We invite all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior to share with us in Holy Communion. All are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available as an alternative to wine. Everyone is invited forward to receive communion or a blessing. Hands cupped open indicate an openness to receive communion; hands closed reflect a desire to receive a blessing.*

*Note: we now have gluten-free communion wafers available. If gluten-free is your preference, please let the pastor know when you are at the communion rail.*

<b>COMMUNION HYMNS</b>	<i>That Priceless Grace</i>	<b>ELW HYMN 591</b>
	<i>Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound</i>	<b>ELW HYMN 779</b>

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

**P** May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A** Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

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### **SENDING**

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#### **BLESSING**

**P** May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.

**C Amen.**

<b>SENDING HYMN</b>	<i>Lift High the Cross</i>	<b>ELW HYMN 660</b>
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#### **DISMISSAL**

**A** Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

#### **POSTLUDE**

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## *Welcome to worship at Trinity!*

*Thank you for joining us for worship. We hope that you have found the Spirit of God in our midst.*

*If you are interested in becoming a member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, or have other questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Alan Saatkamp, 605-214-1469.*

*Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall for coffee and refreshments after worship.*

Worship Assistants									
Date	Greeter(s)	Usher(s)	Musicians	Lector	Acolyte	Altar Guild	Coffee Hosts	Assisting Minister	Presiding Minister
March 11, 2018	<b>Curt &amp; Jane Lewis</b>	<b>Curt Lewis</b>	<b>Laurie Jackson</b>	<b>LaVell Winsor</b>	<b>Ted Murphy</b>	<b>Pam Kobbeman &amp; Team Three</b>	<b>Janice Greenlee</b>	<b>Mary Heald</b>	<b>Pr. Alan Saatkamp</b>
March 18, 2018	<b>David &amp; Cindy McGinnis</b>	<b>David McGinnis</b>	<b>Mitchell Bean</b>	<b>Linda Longren</b>	<b>Cindy McGinnis</b>	<b>Pam Kobbeman &amp; Team Three</b>	<b>Linda Longren</b>	<b>Ted Murphy</b>	<b>Pr. Alan Saatkamp</b>
March 25, 2018 Palm Sunday	<b>Howard &amp; Loni Reece</b>	<b>Howard Reece</b>	<b>Mitchell Bean</b>	<b>Ted Murphy</b>	<b>Erin Lewis</b>	<b>Pam Kobbeman &amp; Team Three</b>	<b>Walt &amp; Helen Laughlin</b>	<b>Bob Horton</b>	<b>Pr. Alan Saatkamp</b>

### *Remember our shut-ins!*

Kathryn Axelton	Marie Henriksen	Ron Owensby
Lucille Brill	Don Longren	Keith Springer
Peggy Buchholz	Shawn Nowak	Naomi Walker
Marlene Hassan	Roy O'Neil	Evelyn Johnson



Please Notice This



**Members & visitors**, please notice the pew record books in your pew. Please fill out the information for yourself and pass it along to the other people in your pew. This will help us keep up with prayer needs among family and friends and maintain our records of membership and attendance. Thanks!



**Please call the office, 233-0767**, promptly about hospitalizations in our church family.

**To share a prayer request** please contact Barbara Apps at 249-7244 She will get the prayer chain started.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Mar. 11..... Daylight Savings Time Begins .....  
..... Worship with Holy Communion ..... 10:30 AM  
..... Children's Sunday School ..... 9:00 AM  
..... Adult Sunday School/Confirmation Class ..... 9:15 AM

Mon., Mar. 12..... Women's AA ..... 5:00 PM

Tues., Mar. 13..... Quilters..... 9:00 AM  
..... Learning Committee Meeting ..... 4:30 PM  
..... Church Council Meeting ..... 5:30 PM

Wed., Mar. 14..... Women's AA ..... 5:30 PM  
..... Soup Supper ..... 5:30 PM  
..... Lent Midweek Bible Study ..... 6:15 PM

Thurs., Mar. 15..... Men's AA ..... 7:00 PM

Sunday, Mar. 18 ..... Worship with Holy Communion ..... 10:30 AM  
..... Children's Sunday School ..... 9:00 AM  
..... Adult Sunday School/Confirmation Class ..... 9:15 AM  
..... Youth Group Meeting ..... 5:30 PM

Pr. Alan will be in Topeka on Tuesday, March 13 and Wednesday, March 14.

Don't forget to order your Easter lily. See the order form included in this bulletin.  
Deadline to order is Tuesday, March 13th!

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS								
Date	General	Building Fund	Other	Flowers	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/Communion
Feb. 11	\$4,928.30	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,938.30	-\$2,643.92	\$2,294.38	35/32
Feb. 18	\$1,213.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,213.00	-\$2,643.92	-\$1,430.92	50/43
Feb. 25	\$1,526.00	\$100.00	\$61.00	\$0.00	\$1,687.00	-\$2,643.92	-\$956.92	35/43
Mar. 4	\$4,431.00	\$135.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$4,686.00	-\$2,643.92	\$2,042.08	45/42
The money shown in the "Other" column is restricted and not available for our general fund.								
			Income	Expense	Behind/Ahead			
		Feb. 2018	\$10,160.86	-\$13,948.00	-\$3,787.14			
		Jan. thru Feb.	\$20,862.16	-\$24,852.29	-\$3,990.13			



The mission of  
**Trinity Evangelical  
 Lutheran Church**  
 is to

- worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
- serve those in need, and
- reach out to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!

**T**ogether in Community • **L**iving with Christ • **C**aring for Neighbors

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Interim Pastor Alan Saatkamp**

**725 SW Buchanan St. • Topeka, Kansas 66606**

**Phone: 785-233-0767 • Email: [office@topekatlc.org](mailto:office@topekatlc.org)**

**[trinitylutherantopeka.org](http://trinitylutherantopeka.org)**

**Congregation Council**

<b>President</b> Bob Horton _____	640-5344	Diane Bottorff _____	271-7131
<b>Vice President</b> Mary Heald _____	221-2790	Laurie Jackson _____	224-9683
<b>Secretary</b> Dean McGinnis _____	272-0255	Curt Lewis _____	286-2728
<b>Treasurer</b> Bob Kobbeman _____	478-0381	Ted Murphy _____	817-0372
<b>Interim Pastor</b> Alan Saatkamp _____	605-214-1469		