

Thro Sunday of Lent

March 3, 2024

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 4

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because only God has freed us oppression, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

HYMN SING ALONG

GATHERING

Welcome & Announcements

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.
- C Amen.
- P Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

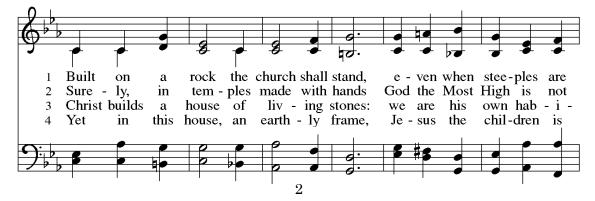
- P Holy God,
- C we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.
- P Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Built on a Rock

ELW 652





5 Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing, many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. Amen."

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

- A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A 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.
- A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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.

WORD

FIRST READING: EXODUS 20:1-17

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

- ¹³You shall not murder.
- ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.
- ¹⁵You shall not steal.
- ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.
- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19 Spoken responsively

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,

and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²One day tells its tale to another,

and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³Although they have no words or language,

and their voices are not heard,

⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,

where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;

it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;

nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;

the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;

the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?

Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

SECOND READING: 1ST CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

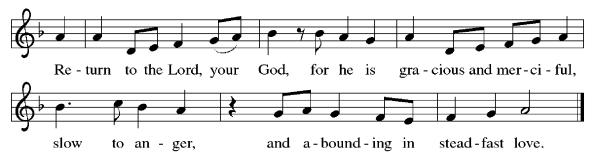
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

- 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 second chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: JOHN 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pr. Barbara Jones

HYMN OF THE DAY

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ELW 803

 $Please\ stand\ for\ the\ final\ verse\ of\ the\ hymn.$



- 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 Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

A You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land, especially the German Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Ukraine, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Urals, Siberia and the Far East, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, and therapists who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick, especially Marilyn Heckman, Peggy Buchholz, Naomi Walker, Linda Longren, David McGinnis, Liz Utech, and Martha Nemeth. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You abide with your church. Remind us of your faithfulness here and at St. James Lutheran in Garden City, Assaria Lutheran in Assaria, Kansas, and St. Matthew American Lutheran in Butler, Missouri. Keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

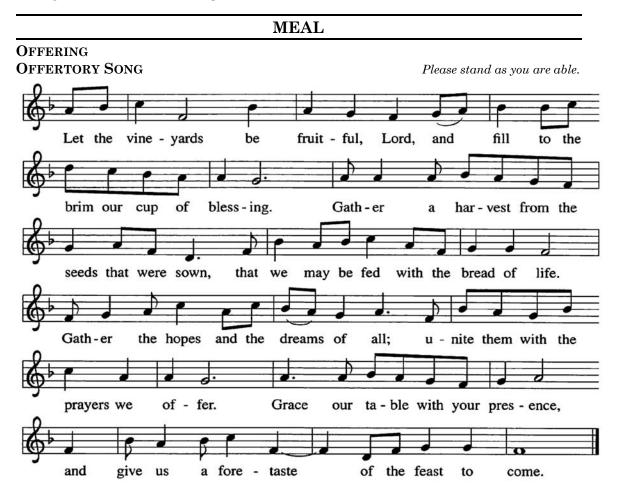
- P You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen.

THE PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

Let us greet one another with God's peace.

Please be seated.



OFFERTORY PRAYER

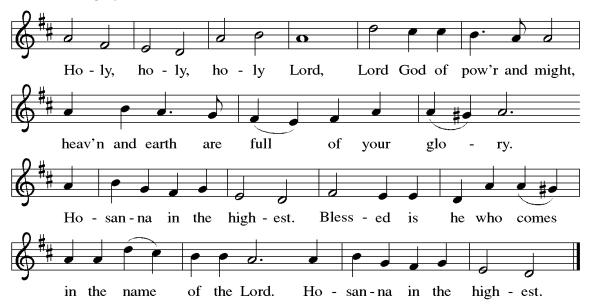
A Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

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:



EUCHARISTIC 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.

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.

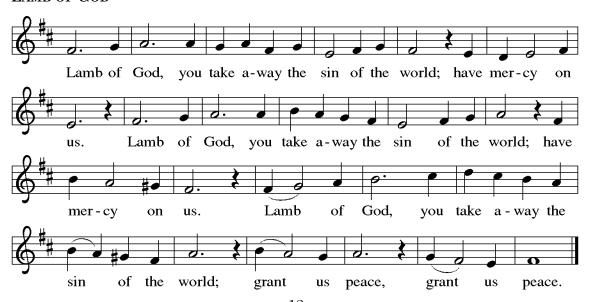
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

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. We have gluten-free communion wafers available. If gluten-free is your preference, please let the pastor know when you are at the communion rail.

Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD





COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C Amen.

SENDING PRAYER FOR COMMUNION KITS

P Gracious God, loving all your family with a parent's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we are sent forth. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and \pm give you peace.

C Amen.





DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Share your bread.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Welcome to worship at Trinity! Thank you for joining us for worship.

We hope that you 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 contact the church office at 785.233.0767.

	UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY	
		10:30 AM after worship
Tues., Mar. 5	Quilters	9:30 AM
	Soup Supper @ Our Saviors Lenten Worship @ Our Saviors	5:30 PM
		10:30 AM after worship luring coffee hour

Lenten Services

March 6th – "Prayer" Ephesians 1:15-23

12:00 noon Trinity with Pr Merle

5:30 pm Our Saviors - Soup Supper......... 6:15 pm Our Saviors with Pr Merle

March 13th – "Sacrificial Giving" 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

12:00 noon Trinity with Pr Barb

12:00 noon Trinity with Pr Barb

5:30 pm Our Saviors - Soup Supper......... 6:15 pm Our Saviors with Pr Barb

March 20th – "Works of Love" John 4:9-12

12:00 noon Trinity with Pr Merle

5:30 pm Our Saviors - Soup Supper......... 6:15 pm Our Saviors with Pr Merle



Please note the lily order form included in this bulletin. I need to place the order by March 8th. Thanks.

And if you haven't picked up your poinsettias, please do so.

Worship Assistants								
Date	Acolytes	Ushers	Musician	Lector	Altar Guild	Asst. Minister	Presiding Minister	Coffee Hosts
Mar. 3	Parker Jackson	Duane Pomeroy	Laurie Jackson	Marcy Carlson	Donna Allen & Team 3	Marcy Carlson	Pr. Barb Jones	Duane & Debbie Pomeroy
Mar. 10	Brayden Winsor	Diane Bottorff, Bob Horton	Mitchell Bean	LaVell Winsor	Donna Allen & Team 3	Ted Murphy	Pr. Barb Jones	
Mar. 17	Laurie Jackson	Dean McGinnis, Duane Pomeroy	Laurie Jackson	Debbie Pomeroy	Donna Allen & Team 3	Bob Horton	Pr. Barb Jones	Janelle Meredith & Charlotte O'Brien

Hymn Sing Along = Food for Our Soul Food Donation for Doorstep = Food for Our Neighbors



Along with our Hymn Sing Along, the first Sunday of each month is now also a day to bring food to church, which will then be taken to Doorstep to help keep their shelves stocked with food for our neighbors.



Please make a note on your calendars for March 3 to remember to bring food to church — and add a few items to your grocery list.

Luther College Symphony Orchestra Concert



Join us on Saturday, March 16, 7:00 p.m. at First Lutheran Church for a concert by the Luther College Symphony Orchestra on tour from Decorah, Iowa. You won't want to miss the performance by this ensemble made up of students from a variety of academic disciplines under the direction of Dr. Daniel Baldwin. The program includes works by Bernstein, Faure, Mussorgsky, Wagner, and Moncayo.

No tickets are necessary to attend the performance; freewill donations will be collected in support of the orchestra and their travel expenses.

LFACT needs help in housing these students. If you can help, please contact Linda Anderson at 785-221-5513.

Greetings from your Interim Consultant.

Thank you for the time we spent on February 11th on "Community." I hope you learned a few things and had good conversations.

This is to remind you that our next group processing time is **Sunday**, **March 10th at 11:30 a.m. following worship**. This time we'll focus on the area of "Leadership."

Available to you as a preview are the three Likner Scale areas we will be examining. Feel free to take one home and ponder the three questions, jot down a few thoughts to share, and then come prepared to discuss and discover.

A reminder about this process. What you are doing in these three "all together" sessions is providing your Transition Team with an opportunity to listen to your input, concerns and thoughts as a congregation.

The Transition Team will take what they have heard into the process of writing a **Ministry Site Profile.** This is the document that will be shared with the Bishop, potential candidates, and possible partners in ministry. It is your "handshake" if you will, that introduces you and your passions to those who are looking for places to serve and lead.

The process can seem a bit "disconnected" at first, but this listening time really does pay off in helping the people who have to put "pen to paper" feel as if they have truly listened and are putting down YOUR concerns, hopes, and desires.

See you on the 10th, and don't forget to **SPRING FORWARD!** Pastor Merle

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS								
Date	General	Other	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/ Communion		
Feb. 4	\$991.00	\$25.00	\$1,016.00	-\$2,211.54	-\$1,195.54	28/25		
Feb. 11	\$1,287.34	\$0.00	\$1,287.34	-\$2,211.54	-\$924.20	29/24		
Feb 18	\$4,162.00	\$0.00	\$4,162.00	-\$2,211.54	\$1,950.46	33/26		
Feb. 25	\$2,943.00	\$75.00	\$3,018.00	-\$2,211.54	\$806.46	37/30		
				Expense				
		Jan.2024	\$8,851.47	-\$8,849.15	\$2.32			
		Jan Jan.	\$8,851.47	-\$8,849.15	\$2.32			



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

725 SW Buchanan St. • Topeka, Kansas 66606 Phone: 785-233-0767 • Email: office@topekatlc.org Website: trinitylutherantopeka.org

OFFICE HOURS

10:00AM-3:30PM, Monday through Thursday

Together in Community

Living with Christ

Caring for Neighbors

Living with Christ's Love

As Lutherans, we believe that we are justified by faith alone through the grace of God (*Ephesians 2:1-9*). As our namesake Martin Luther made clear, we are both sinners and saints as we live our lives of faith. Together as Christians, we are called to allow God into our lives everyday and to do our best to live according to Christ's love. We do this through being a community of faithful that welcomes all people to join us in prayer, service, study, and worship as we journey together in learning how to live out the Great Commandment.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President Diane Bottorff

Vice-President Curt Lewis (Maintenance) Secretary Shelley Andrews (Administration)

Parker Jackson (Administration)

Carol Marker (Spiritual Care)

Janelle Meredith (Community Relations)

Dean McGinnis (Congregational Life)

Duane Pomeroy (Spiritual Care)

Treasurer Bob Kobbeman