

# *March 23, 2025*

## *The Third Sunday in Lent*



“Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” And He told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

*Luke 13:5–9*

### *Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*

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Our mission is sharing the saving love of Jesus

# Opening Hymn

## 696 O God, My Faithful God



1 O God, my faith - ful God, True foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,  
2 Grant me the strength to do With read - y heart and will - ing  
3 Keep me from say - ing words That lat - er need re - call - ing;  
4 Lord, let me win my foes With kind - ly words and ac - tions,



With - out whom noth - ing is, All per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:  
What - ev - er You com-mand, My call - ing here ful - fill - ing;  
Guard me lest i - dle speech May from my lips be fall - ing;  
And let me find good friends For coun-sel and cor - rec - tion.



Give me a health - y frame, And may I have with - in  
That I do what I should While trust - ing You to bless  
But when with - in my place I must and ought to speak,  
Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small



A con-science free from blame, A soul un - stained by sin.  
The out - come for my good, For You must give suc - cess.  
Then to my words give grace Lest I of - fend the weak.  
And by Your Spir - it's might To live in peace with all.

5 Let me depart this life  
Confiding in my Savior;  
By grace receive my soul  
That it may live forever;  
And let my body have  
A quiet resting place  
Within a Christian grave;  
And let it sleep in peace.

6 And on that final day  
When all the dead are waking,  
Stretch out Your mighty hand,  
My deathly slumber breaking.  
Then let me hear Your voice,  
Redeem this earthly frame,  
And bid me to rejoice  
With those who love Your name.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen Text and tune: Public domain

## Stand

## Invocation

LSB 203

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

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

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

- P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

## Confession of Sins

LSB 203

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

## Prayer for Forgiveness

- P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Kyrie

LSB 204



- C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

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

## Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 33:7–20*

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

<sup>10</sup>“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

<sup>12</sup>“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. <sup>13</sup>Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>14</sup>Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, <sup>15</sup>if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>16</sup>None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

<sup>17</sup>“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. <sup>18</sup>When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. <sup>19</sup>And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. <sup>20</sup>Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 10:1–13*

<sup>1</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, <sup>10</sup>nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. <sup>11</sup>Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### *Stand*

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 13:1–9*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

<sup>6</sup>And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup>And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup>Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

**C** Praise to You, 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*

## Hymn of the Day

### 511 Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment



1 Her - ald, sound the note of judg - ment, Warn - ing  
2 Her - ald, sound the note of glad - ness; Tell the  
3 Her - ald, sound the note of par - don— Those re -  
4 Her - ald, sound the note of tri - umph; Christ has

us of right and wrong, Turn - ing us from sin and  
news that Christ is here; Make a path - way through the  
pent - ing are for - giv'n; God re - ceives His way - ward  
come to share our life, Bring - ing God's own love and

sad - ness Till once more we sing the song.  
des - ert For the one who brings God near.  
chil - dren, And to them new life is giv'n.  
pow - er, Grant - ing vic - t'ry in our strife.

*Refrain*

Sound the trum-pet! Tell the mes-sage: Christ, the Sav-ior king, is come!

*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

**P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, You order and number our days according to Your wisdom. Give us repentant hearts, lest we perish with this world of violence and suffering. Let us hold fast to Christ for life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Merciful Lord, You take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but desire that they turn from evil and live. Give pastors courage to warn of sin and death. Give all Christians strength to defend that message. Turn sinners to life by the proclamation of Christ, who delivers from all unrighteousness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Heavenly Father, guard Your people against sexual immorality. Grant that our homes would be havens of godly instruction and chastity, and fill marriages with fidelity and love. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** God of all, You establish justice not through the desires of sinners but by Your Law, which is for all. Enlighten the authorities of this and every nation, that they might rule justly for true good. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Faithful God, protect us when we are tempted. Guard us especially from pride that justifies sin and from doubting that You provide the way of escape. Strengthen us with penitent hearts to endure until You deliver us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Holy God, remember Your people who cry to You for mercy in a world where towers fall and sinners work evil. Deliver those in need of healing and comfort, *especially Vicki, Brent, Carol, Teresa, Jack, Ron, Vivian, and Nita*, and strengthen them to look to You for help in their time of affliction. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord of life, You have brought us into Your vineyard and appointed us to bear good fruit. Receive our thanks for Your patience, and grant that we would show Your love and grace in all that we say and do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Offering

*(God continually provides for us. Our giving should reflect our heartfelt cheerfulness that trusts in God. As your faith guides you, let your offering of all your gifts – time, talents, resources – enable us to move forward in the mission Christ has given us.) Rom. 12:1; 2 Cor. 8:1-9, 12; 2 Cor. 9:6-8,*

## Lord's Prayer

**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.

## Benedicamus

LSB 212

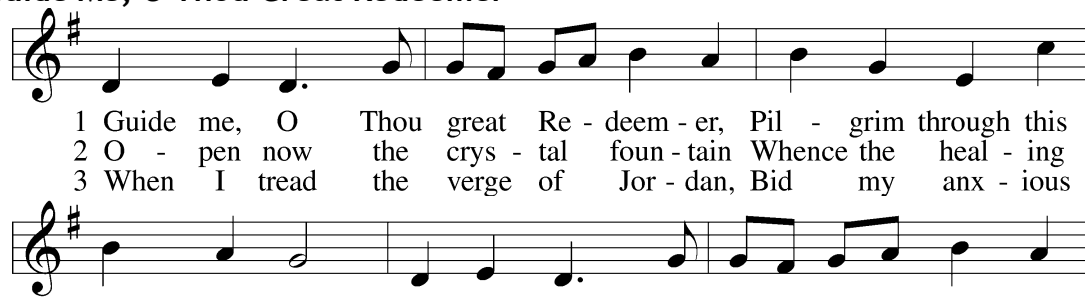
**A** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn

918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious  
bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;  
stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar  
fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,  
Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,  
Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,  
bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no  
strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and  
songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to  
more;  
shield;  
Thee;  
Feed me till I want no more.  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.  
I will ev - er give to Thee.

Text: William Williams, 1717–91, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Peter Williams, 1722–96, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. William Williams, 1717–91 Tune: John Hughes, 1873–1932 Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

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## IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK,

We pray to our merciful Heavenly Father for:

- ✠ **Healing for all those who are experiencing health issues:** Vicki Ackerman, Brent Berg, Carol Bogle (Randy Bogle's mother), Teresa Groth, Jack Humphrey, Ron Moyer, Vivian Oestmann, Nita Whitney and all those in need.
- ✠ **Encouragement, strengthened faith and healing for those with long-term illnesses:** Amber Albrecht (Romelle Humphrey's great niece), Delta Boden, Carmen (Loli Bohling's sister), Susan Bohling, Glen Hogue, Lynn LaBalle, Melissa Pierpoint, Joni Scotter (Rich Scotter's mother), and Kamani Williams (infant, friend of Nita Whitney)
- ✠ **For all inactive members of Trinity:** that they will feel God's love and his call to worship, and return to church.

## THOSE CELEBRATING SPECIAL DAYS THIS WEEK:

**Birthdays:** 3/29: Bob Boden

**Baptisms:** 3/25: Dustin Volker; 3/27: Abel Berg, Dan Gottula

**Anniversaries:** 3/25: Eric and Loli Bohling

| 3/23  | 3/24 | 3/25                                      | 3/26  | 3/27 | 3/28  | 3/29   | 3/30  |
|---|------|---|---|------|---|--|---|
| <b>9:00 AM</b><br>Worship<br><b>10:00 AM</b><br>Adult &<br>Children's<br>Sunday<br>School |      | <b>6:30 PM</b><br>Bible Study<br>& Prayer | <b>5:30 – 6:30</b><br>PM Lenten<br>Meal<br>Taco Bar<br><b>7:00 PM</b><br>Lenten Md 3<br>Worship |      | <b>6:30 PM</b><br>Serving in<br>God's<br>Mission<br>class | <b>8:00 AM</b><br>LWML<br>Workshop –<br>carpool<br>leaves<br>Trinity | <b>9:00 AM</b><br>Worship with<br>Holy<br>Communion<br><b>10:00 AM</b><br>Adult &<br>Children's<br>Sunday<br>School |

### Scripture reading for next week:

Isaiah 12:1-6; 2 Cor. 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

### Weekday Bible Study:

Lessons for discussion 3/25: Ezk. 22:1-Ezk. 34:31

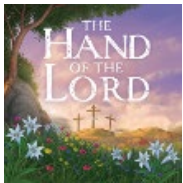
Lessons for discussion 4/1: Ezk. 35:1-Ezk. 46:24

Organist .....Sandy Wilson

Pianist....Vicki Ackerman

If you have a hearing aid and are having difficulty during the musical segments of the worship service, could you please try setting your hearing aids to either “noisy” or “music” if your devices have such a setting. If this doesn't resolve this issue, please contact Vicki Ackerman at (402) 314-4407 or

[worshipattrinityaub@gmail.com](mailto:worshipattrinityaub@gmail.com)



## Lent 2025

During Lent this year we will follow the sermon series “The Hand of God” by Matthew D. Rosebrock. In this unique perspective, we will consider hands, the instruments that can do a great deal of things. Hands appear throughout the Bible, and the Lord's hand is active in creation, power, control, judgement and salvation. In Jesus' incarnation, the merciful and personal work of His literal hands alongside His words bring forgiveness, life and salvation.

**March 26, Midweek 3:** The Hand of the Lord Who Heals the Sick;

Matthew 8: 1-17

Join us at 5:30 for a Taco Bar meal, with Midweek worship following at 7:00!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Lenten Midweek Meals & Potlucks:** We will have a congregational potluck on **April 9!** Thank you to all who have signed up to prepare meals for the remaining evenings.

**Witnessing to Adult Children Who Have Left the Church** is the theme of a workshop coming up on Saturday morning, March 29. If this is your situation, you are encouraged to attend this workshop sponsored by the LWML of Zion Lutheran Church, Pawnee City. Pastor Warneke of Christ Lutheran, Nebraska City, will be conducting the workshop, based on Luke 15:24. **You do not need to be an LWML member to attend.** Trinity members will be car-pooling, leaving from the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Lunch will be served. Those attending are encouraged to bring an item of food or personal hygiene supplies to be donated to the Pawnee City pantry. Contact Merri Johnson (402-274-7011) if you have any questions.

**Lutheran Witness subscription renewal time is here!** The subscription cost for the coming year is \$20.65. Please make sure to let Jim Parrish know by March 30 if you want to renew or begin a subscription.

**“Serving in God’s Mission”:** This ReVitality strategic planning exploration has begun during Adult Sunday School. (For anyone who can’t attend a Sunday class, each Friday evening at 6:30pm there will be a repeat presentation of the prior Sunday’s class.)

Any questions, please contact Pastor or one of the Elders.

**See the VBS Sign-Up Sheet on the table in the Fellowship Hall!** The 2025 Theme is “Army Bootcamp/Armor of God.” We are seeking troops to accomplish the mission of spreading the Word of Christ. There are assignments for warriors of every age, strength and ability! Questions, please contact Todd Flick or a member of the Board of Education.