

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER LILIES – It is that wonderful time again & the sign-up is ready for Easter Lilies. This year, they are \$11 each. Envelopes are provided for your convenience. Orders are due **TODAY!**

WORSHIP TRAINING! - Are you interested in helping in our worship services, but it makes you nervous or you don't know what to do? Let's fix that! **TODAY**, after the 1115am service, we will have a training event to walk people through how to be assisting ministers, lay readers, acolytes, ushers, and altar guild volunteers!

LENTEN WEDNESDAYS - Our theme for Lent this year is **Engage Your Faith!** Our last Wednesday meal will be **March 29th**. Dinner will be at 5:30pm, and worship will start at 6:15pm. We are in need of volunteers to CLEAN UP. **WE CAN HELP!** If you cannot come in to sign-up, send Laura an Email and she will add you to the list. Whatever we can do to make it easier for you to enjoy.

LAY WEEDERS – **SAVE THE DATE:** Grounds clean up - **April 1st**, Saturday morning from **9 to 12** - No Foolin'! Gloves, rakes, pruning tools and tarps are needed. Call Dennis at 810-333-9342 with any questions.

GOOD FRIDAY DINNER - While you are there, you can sign-up for the **Good Friday** Fish Dinner, too! **April 7, beginning at 5:30.**

YOUTH BREAKFAST - EASTER WEEKEND - Our youth will once again be cooking us breakfast on Easter weekend, but they need some help! On Saturday **April 8th** at 10am anyone willing to come to the church to help prep breakfast are welcome to come and stay for as long or as short as you can! On Easter morning from 9-11:15am breakfast will be

available in the Paul George Room! The youth are welcome to join in on an egg hunt outside at 10:30am.

Next SACK SUPPER SAINTS - book is "It Ends with Us" by Colleen Hoover. We will discuss it on **April 12th** at 6pm in the youth room. Sack suppers at 6 and discussion starting at 6:30. All ladies are welcome! We will do a new book each meeting, so jump in whenever you can! If you have any questions or need help getting the book, please call/text Anne Cain at 865-206-4390.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY - If you have been thinking about joining Trinity as an official member, we will be welcoming new members into our church family on **Sunday April 16th** at all services! If you would like to join the church and weren't able to attend the new member interest meeting, please contact Pastor Elise and she will get you all the information you need!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - Sunday, **April 30th** is an F5 Sunday so we will be having one service at 10:30am! Following the service there will be a lunch where all are welcome. After lunch all voting members will gather in the sanctuary for a **congregational meeting where we will vote** on whether or not to enter the call process and begin our search for a solo pastor. If you have any questions about this meeting, please reach out to a council member!

PERSONAL CARE KITS - The LWR Quilters are finishing up their care packages and need approx. 20 more towels. They need to be light-weight and between 20x40" and 27x52". Darker colors are recommended. **Please place in the Welcome Center.**

DINNERS for 8 - We are gathering a list of people interested in **DINNERS for 8**, which will begin after Easter. Those who

participate will host one meal, either in their home or at a restaurant, and be guests at three other meals, which will be scheduled later in the year, with the exact dates being negotiable among those attending. If a restaurant meal is scheduled by the hosts, everyone will pay his/her own expenses; if you are a host in your own home, you will provide the entree and beverages, with those attending furnishing an appetizer, a salad, a vegetable, or a dessert. This is a wonderful opportunity to become better acquainted with your church family, and we hope you will join us.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Sun Porch Area.

MEMBER OF THE MONTH – **Would you like to help me out?** Want to help the congregation know each other better? Please, consider completing the “Member of the Month” questionnaire, located in the Welcome Center/coffee area. It’s not showing off to let people know more about you! Even if you have been member of the month in the past, feel free to send it in again. Completed sheets may be left in Laura’s mailbox. **DON’T** forget your name. I HAVE 2 SO FAR!

ATTENDANCE- If you could, include a name and address for your visitors, so that our Evangelism Committee may send them a nice “Thank You” note. Let us know you are here! Remember to complete your **attendance slip** each week. THANK YOU to those who faithfully do this!!

KNITTERS - Like to knit, crochet, or do other crafts? The knitting/crochet group meets the **second and fourth Saturdays** from 9:00 am to noon in the library. **Come join in!** Teachers are available if you can’t knit or crochet and want to learn.

VENMO– Our username is **@trinitylutheran**. Thank you to our members who use this service. We hope it is useful to your family.



**Trinity Lutheran Church
Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 26, 2023
9:30 Service**

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

PRELUDE

Come, Now is the Time

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

People: Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Holy God,

we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GOSPEL READING John 11:1-45

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she

went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” ²³Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead

four days.” ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Children’s Sermon

Pastor Elise Anderson

SERMON

Pastor Elise Anderson

HYMN OF THE DAY More Love, More Power

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Sustained by God’s abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

You have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church. Deepen our partnerships with our companion churches around the globe, and bless the work of missionaries who accompany them.

Your spirit brings life to creation. Enliven the natural world and restore ecosystems in need of healing, our waterways, lakes, hills and mountains. Uplift prophetic voices that turn us to the needs of the soil beneath our feet and the air all around.

You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of oppression. Unbind nations and societies from the sins of racism, sexism, and homophobia. Raise up leaders at all levels of government who work to promote the dignity of every human life.

You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness. Especially, do we pray for... **The Fraser family** (Dean Lanternier), **Shirley** Wooten & **Leon** Stonecipher (Joyce Davis), **Libby** & **Ernie** Martin (Muncy Family), **Marcus** Bandalan (Penticuff family), **Ray** Vandergriff (Bobbie Iles), **The Szeglin family**, **Judy** & **Ella** Buck (Buck family), **Liam** Muncy & **Mikey** Teems (Muncy family), **Erin** Woodfin (Giesel family), **Sheila** Hilley, **Kristen** Esparza (Steve Jackson), **Shawn** & **Mark** (Marlene Hiltunen), **Lynn** Ayers (Cree Giesel), **Alice** Barnett, **Colin** Bakse (Sondra Hart), **Bill** Balsis, **Susan** Bolinger (Ginny Minninger), **Gene** & **Laura** Cline, **Tommy** Dixon (Dale Elmblade)...and those we name before you now, both aloud and in our hearts... You hear us when we call to you. Deliver us from the depths of our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us.

Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who lead us in hymns of praise and thanksgiving and in songs of lament and prayer.

You are the resurrection and the life. Even though we die, we will live. With thanksgiving, we remember all your saints who now live in your eternal love.

Pastor: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

And also, with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

HOLY COMMUNION

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, who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light.

Holy God, mighty and merciful, your people praise you, saying:

Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures, granting them life and calling them to flourish, setting the sign of your bow in the clouds, the colors of your love and faithfulness.

Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old, blessing them with family outnumbering the stars and calling them to be a blessing to others, showing them steadfast love in every generation and calling them to be a light to the nations. **Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, grafting us into your living Vine, and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless us to be a blessing. Make us a sign of your faithfulness. Send us to tend and cherish the earth and to serve the world with mercy and love.

With all the saints in light, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: **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

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

Communion Hymn 10,000 Reasons

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together. **Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

SENDING Trading My Sorrows

DISMISSAL Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
Thanks be to God.