



Second Sunday in Lent – Year A
March 1, 2026

Holy Trinity's Purpose Statement:
*Gathering in faith and joyfully sharing
Christ's love for the world.*

Prelude: “O Bread of Life from Heaven” arr. by Aaron David Miller

Welcome to Worship and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness:**

*(*Please stand as you are able.)*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

C **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn: "What Wondrous Love Is This" ELW 666**

One License: A-727907

(*Please stand as you are able.)



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

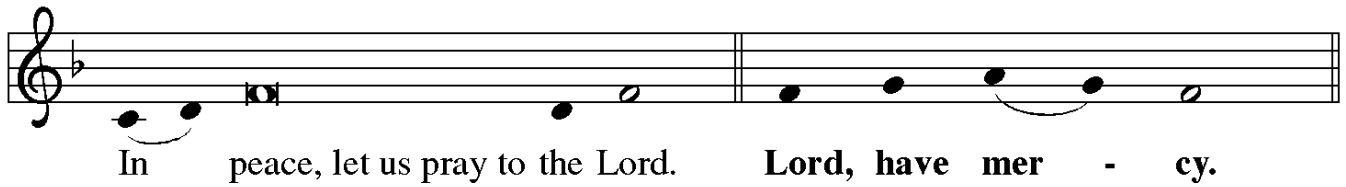
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

***Greeting:**

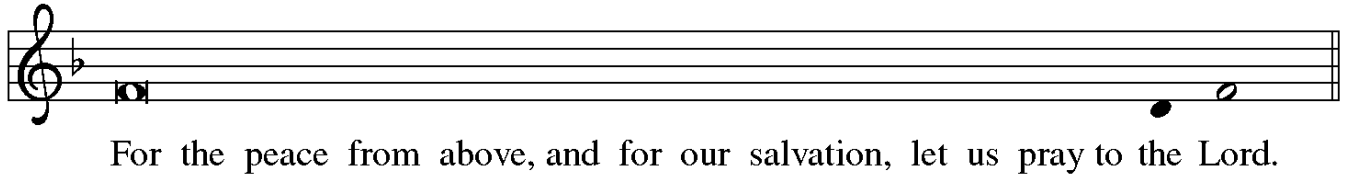
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

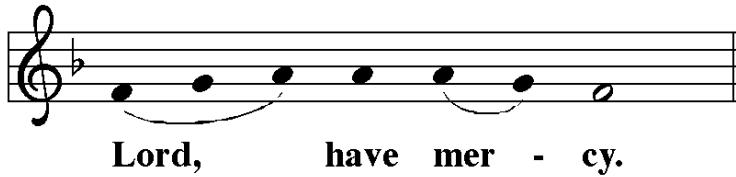
***Kyrie (Setting 3 ELW)** (**Please stand as you are able.*)



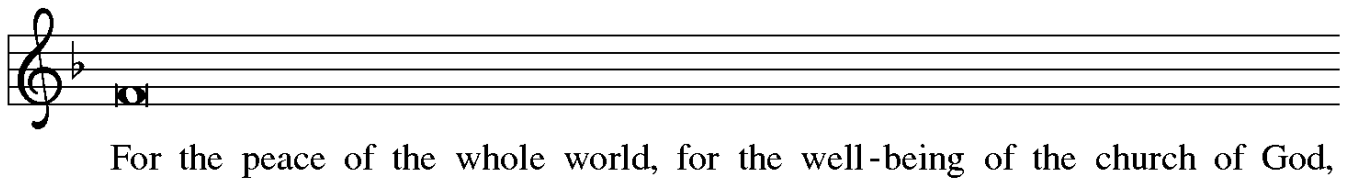
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



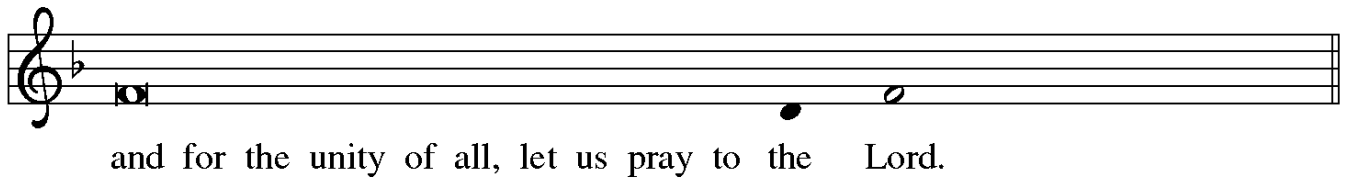
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



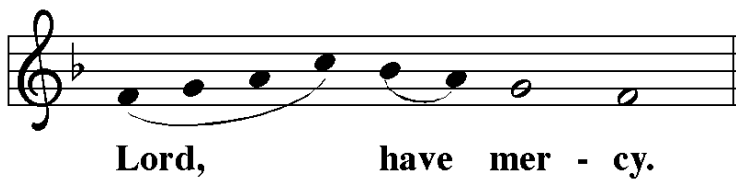
Lord, have mer - cy.



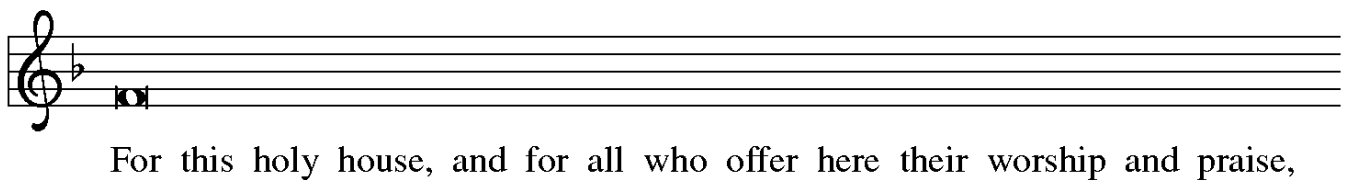
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



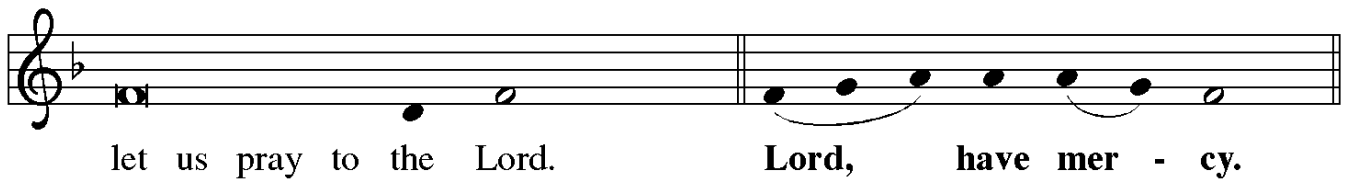
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.




Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

***Prayer of the Day:** (**Please stand as you are able.*)

P O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Kids Word: Pastor Jerry O’Neal

Our first reading is from Genesis 12:1-4a

God’s call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.

¹ The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

^{4a} So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

L Word of God. Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

(Read responsively between Lector and **Congregation**, which is in bold print.)

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

² **My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³ The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵ the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

Our second reading is from Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?
² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.
³ For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness."
⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due.
⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith.
¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.
¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

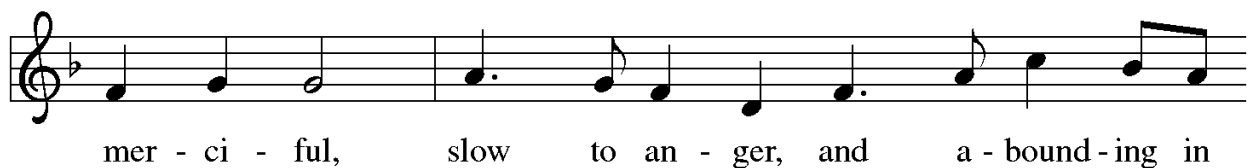
¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L Word of God. Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation: Setting 3 ELW

*(*Please stand as you are able.)*



***Gospel: John 3:1-17**

A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

P The holy gospel according to John the 3rd chapter.

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

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “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.

¹⁷ “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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon – Pastor Jerry O’Neal

***Hymn of the Day: "Lift High the Cross" ELW 660**

One License: A-727907

(*Please stand as you are able.)



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied tree,
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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***Apostles' Creed:**

P&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.

***Prayers:** (Congregation's response in bold type.) (**Please stand as you are able.*)

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

Faithful One, you renew us by grace. As you have inspired faith through the work of church artists and hymnwriters throughout the ages, give your church the means to praise your beauty today. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect conservationists, scientists, and all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person and lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss especially to those we now name either aloud or in the silence of our hearts (pause). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Guiding One, you watch over our going out and coming in. Bless newcomers and new members in this assembly and accompany those who have recently left this community to journey elsewhere. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving One, you love us unconditionally. Help us to recognize how the Holy Spirit is moving through our midst and to answer your call to love one another and help those who are in need and to go out with good courage to invite our neighbors to join us in worship. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for our beloved who have died, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen.

***Sharing the Peace:** (**Please stand as you are able.*)

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Offering:

If you would like to give electronically, you may

1. Download the ELCA Giving App from Google Store or Apple Play, or
2. Go to our website www.holytrinitylutheranchurch.com and click on the green “Give” button.
3. Using your bank’s online BillPay features.

Thank you for your support of Holy Trinity and our ministries!

Offertory Anthem: “Psalm 30” arr. by Aaron David Miller – Sung by Holy Trinity Choir
(I Will Exalt You, O My Lord)

Offertory Presentation: “Create in Me a Clean Heart” ELW 186

One License: A-727907

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 to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

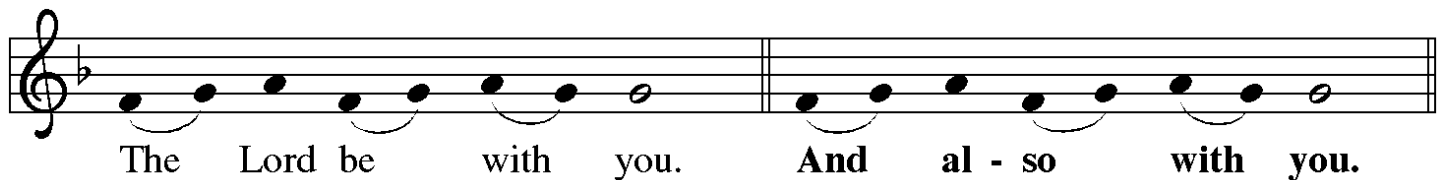
***Offering Prayer:**

*(*Please stand as you are able.)*

L O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

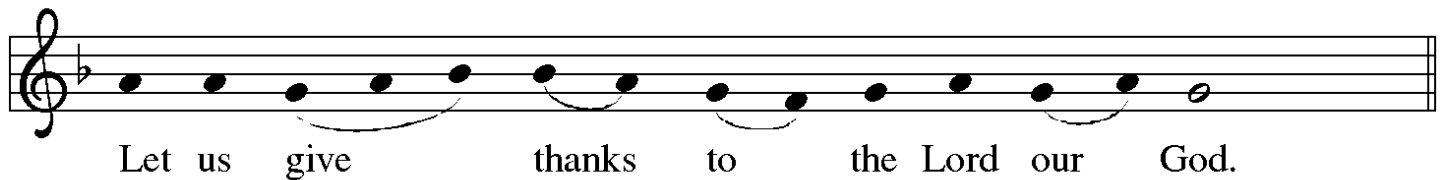
***Great Thanksgiving: Setting 3 ELW**



The Lord be with you. **And al - so 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.

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. Ho -
 san-na. 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.

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

- Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
- Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
- Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
- Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.
- Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
- Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
- Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

(The Words of Institution will be said in Spanish, then English.)

P La noche en que fue entregado,
 nuestro Señor Jesús tomó pan y dio gracias;
 lo partió y lo dio a sus discípulos, diciendo:
 Tomen y coman; esto es mi cuerpo, dado por ustedes.
 Hagan esto en memoria mía.

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.

P De igual manera, después de haber cenado, tomó la copa, dio gracias y la dio a beber a todos, diciendo:
Esta copa es el nuevo pacto en mi sangre, derramada por ustedes y por todo el mundo para el perdón del pecado. Hagan esto en memoria mía.

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.

P With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

***Lord's Prayer:**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

All 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 Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Communion Hymn: "Lamb of God" (setting 3 ELW)

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.

Distribution:

This is the Table of Grace for all who belong to Christ and seek his gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. We extend to you all that we have in the Lord Jesus and invite you to his Holy Supper. Those communing with us who haven't been baptized and desire God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation in Holy Baptism are invited to talk to the Pastor. Communion is continuous as we kneel at the altar. White grape juice is offered as an alternative to wine. Communicants come to the altar down the center aisle, fill in the communion rail from left to right and return by the side aisles.

Communion Hymn: "We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus" ELW 451

One License: A-727907



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,
3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo-ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin-ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin-ning, glo - ry now re-sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. A - men.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: OUIMETTE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

***Post 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.

All Amen.

***Post Communion Prayer:**

L God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

***Sending Call and Response:**

L God's work!

C Our hands!

L God's love!

C Our hearts!

L God's story!

C Our voices!

***Benediction:**

P "Barocha" - Michael Card

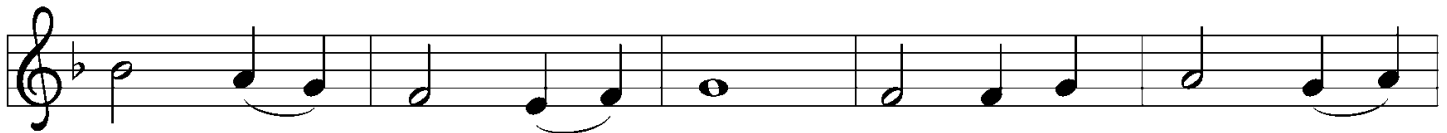
C Amen.

***Sending Hymn: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” ELW 803**

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1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

***Dismissal:**

L Go in peace. We are

C **Gathering in faith and joyfully sharing Christ’s love for the world.**

Announcements for March 1, 2026

Serving in Worship Today:

Presiding: Pastor Jerry O'Neal

Holy Trinity Organist: Karen Huff

Acolyte: Gail Bader

Ushers: John Huff and Larry Ahlersmeyer

Greeter: Dawn-Marie Oberly

Lay Worship Leader, Communion Assistant and Lector: Betsy Ahlersmeyer

Altar Guild: Linda Reynolds and Kathy McCauliff

Flowers at the Altar:

The bouquet of flowers at the altar are given by Becki Bergs to the glory of God and in celebration of Autumn Smith's 21st birthday.

Sign-Up for Altar Flowers:

If you would like to purchase a \$10 flower arrangement to decorate the altar, please fill out the flower chart on the closet door in the lobby/gathering space and make sure to fill out a slip and put the slip in the envelope with your check or money and put it in the offering plate or send it to the church office. Thank you.

Prayer Requests:

We invite you to send us any prayer requests that you want included in our weekly emails or the Holy Trinity Prayer Chain. Send requests to: holytrinitymuncie@gmail.com.

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Don Park

Gwen Carey

Karen Wenger

Jenna Schwartz, co-worker of Kelli Smith's

Audrey Snyder, friend of Amy O'Neal's

Betty Haffner

Lou Ellen Botkin

Robyn Klaus, friend of the O'Neal's

Dan Haynes

Al Smith, Karen Wenger's husband

Guy Wood, Larry Wood's older brother

Jarod and Sydney DelSorbo, Pr. Jerry and Amy O'Neal's nephew and his wife

Tim Scholl, John and Rosanna Scholl's nephew

Bradley Wuthrich, Gwen Carey's grandson

Chrissy Miller, friend of Kent Barlow

Douglas Watters, Kristen Dashler's Uncle

Debbie Singer, Sherri Elwood's sister-in-law

Kent Windmiller, Karen Wenger's brother

David and Jency Engle, Susie Peterson's parents

Janis Foster, Shirley Foster's daughter-in-law

Brenda and John Kearns

Tony Brinkman

Shelle Richardson

Matthew Santoni

Roberta Debolt

Chuck Cook

Maria and her family in Ukraine

John Paul Metzcar

Mary Broughton

For those not named

For all who are sick and suffering

Two Reminders:

1] Please remember to silence your cell phones before entering the sanctuary. Let's keep this space peaceful and prayerful for everyone. Thank you.

2] Remember that we live stream our service on Facebook and YouTube each week and the congregation mic is live throughout the service. (Food for Thought: This means your conversations may be heard online if you are close to the sound system.)

Calendar of Events for the Week of March 1, 2026:

Sunday, March 1 – Bible Study/Sunday School (9am) and Worship (10am)

Monday, March 2 – AARP Tax Preparation-Mike Metzcar (10am), Bible Study (10am) and Choir Practice (4pm)

Tuesday, March 3 – Walking Group (9am), Staff Meeting (9:30am)

Wednesday, March 4 – Lenten Lunch and Learn at Hazelwood Christian Church (12:30pm)

Thursday, March 5 – Volunteers to Work CMDC Food Pantry (9am)

Friday, March 6 - Volunteers to Work CMDC Food Pantry (9am) and Better Together Wellness (9:30am)

Saturday, March 7 – WOW Meeting (9am) and Step Aerobics (9:30am)

Birthdays and Anniversaries for March 2026:

Birthdays:

March 5 – Bonnie Hoodlebrink

March 5 – Autumn Smith

March 5 – Cody Voga

March 6 – Gary Santoni

March 6 – Kelsey Voga

March 10 – Eric Myrick

March 12 – Roger Hollands

March 14 – Betty Haffner

March 14 – Erma Unger

March 21 – Ken Miller

March 23 – Rosemary Martin

Volunteers Needed to Work Christian Ministries (CMDC) Food Pantry:

Holy Trinity has been asked to help at CMDC's Food Pantry this week on Thursday, March 5 and Friday, March 6 from 9am-12:30pm. If you are available to help out, please let Dan Beard know. Thanks!

Anniversaries:

March 1 – Paul and Laura Adamson

Lenten Non-Food Collection:

We have begun receiving donations of baby items-especially diapers. This traditional Outreach activity helps many young families in need who come to Christian Ministries. Thank you.

Attention Quilters!

Save the following date: Saturday, March 21 for quilting 9am-Noon.

Mid-Week Lenten Lunch and Learn:

Please join us on Wednesdays from 12:30pm – 1:30pm we will begin our Mid-Week Lunch and Learn series by studying the book, "An Unlikely Lent" by Rachel Billups.

This book can be purchased on Amazon using this link: <https://a.co/d/8AIESgc>

"An Unlikely Lent" by Rachel Billups explores the Easter story through the lens of unexpected characters, inviting readers to discover new insights and embrace the themes of devotion, courage, and companionship.

Schedule of Mid-Week Lenten Lunch and Learn on Wednesdays from 12:30pm to 1:30pm:

March 4 – Hazelwood Christian Church, 1400 W. University Ave, Muncie

March 11 – First Presbyterian Church, 1400 W. Riverside Ave., Muncie

March 18 – Community of Hope, 1968 W. Main St, Muncie

March 25 – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 900 W. White River Blvd, Muncie

Getting Rid of Household Items? Give to A Better Way:

Would you please consider donating your gently used (or new) household items, clothes, and/or furniture to A Better Way? The ABW Donation Center is located at 1000 S. Elm Street in Muncie. The center is open Monday and Wednesdays from 8:30 to 12:30 and Thursdays from 12:30 to 4:30. The items that you no longer need might be just what the residents living in ABW housing need to help them start over. Thanks!

AARP Tax Preparation:

Holy Trinity is hosting the AARP Tax Preparation team on Mondays beginning February 2 through April 13 from 10am to 2pm in Fellowship Hall. You may make an appointment by calling 765-283-9680. They will only accept pre-arranged appointments. There are other sites located within Muncie on other days of the week. You can call the number above for more information.

OUR HANDS MINISTRY

This is a new initiative of the church. We are trying to match up people in need of assistance with those who can provide that help.

In the event you have an immediate, one-time job that needs to be done, you can call the church office and your information will be forwarded to someone that has the expertise and/or equipment to give you a hand.

Anyone with expertise and/or equipment who would like to be included in the OUR HANDS group should contact the church office so we can begin a registry of helpers.

Muncie Mission Walk A Mile In My Shoes THANK YOU!

THANK YOU! YOU are a blessing to Holy Trinity and to the Muncie Community! Muncie Mission's Walk A Mile In My Shoes was a success with over 1,000 registered walkers and donations that raised \$193,000. Holy Trinity's Team had 14 registered walkers and with your donations we raised over \$1,800.00! Again, THANK YOU!

Financial Wisdom Workshop:

When: 9am – 1pm March 14, 2026

Where: Horizon Convention Center, Muncie

Cost: Free for the first 300
\$25/person after

Use the QR Code in the picture to reserve your spot.

FINANCIAL WISDOM

UNDERSTANDING
WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS
ABOUT MONEY
AND POSSESSIONS

Join us for the **second annual** conversation on Financial Wisdom featuring:



Courtney Markley
Founder, Center for Financial Discipleship
Speaking on: Why Do We Experience Money Anxiety?



Art Rainer
Founder, Christian Money Solutions
Speaking on: Your Next Step in Financial Wisdom

WHEN: 9AM-1PM
March 14, 2026
WHERE: Horizon Convention Center
Muncie, IN
COST: Free for the first 300
\$25/person after

Plus a food drive to benefit our community!



Secure your spot today!



E-Connect Congregation Vitality Survey:

We started the E-Connect process in 2024 by filling out this Congregation Vitality Survey and as we approach the end of the E-Connect process we are once again asking you to fill out this survey. This will help the E-Connect Team, Holy Trinity Leadership and the Synod's E-Connect Team see how the Holy Spirit has worked in and through our ministry at Holy Trinity.

This survey is totally anonymous.

You can fill out the survey online using the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZLZFYZK>

or scan this QR Code:

or you can fill out the paper survey on the next page and either mail it into the church office or put it in the envelope in Jennifer Sanderfer's mailbox in the room next to the office. **The deadline for participating in the survey is Sunday, March 22.**



Thank YOU!



Congregation Vitality Survey

This short survey is designed to help congregational leaders understand participant perceptions of key missional areas. Please mark inside the box that best represents your perception of the congregation. Please do not mark between boxes. (e.g. Marking 1,2,3,4, or 5 is okay. Marking between 3 and 4 or 3.5 is not okay)

| | Poorly | | Somewhat | | Great |
|---|---------------|---|----------|---|-----------|
| How well do these phrases describe your congregation? | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Worship nurtures people's faith | | | | | |
| Deepens people's relationship with God | | | | | |
| A clear sense mission | | | | | |
| Excitement about the congregation's future | | | | | |
| Always ready to try something new | | | | | |
| A positive force in the community | | | | | |
| Works for social justice/advocacy | | | | | |
| How well does your congregation... | Hardly at all | | Well | | Very Well |
| Incorporate new members into congregational life | | | | | |
| Seek out and use the gifts of members of all ages | | | | | |
| Build strong, healthy relationships among members | | | | | |
| Manage disagreements in a healthy respectful manner | | | | | |
| Address social concerns (helping those in need) | | | | | |
| Equip members to share their faith with others | | | | | |
| Interact with the local community | | | | | |
| Help members live out their faith in daily lives | | | | | |

Demographic Information: *Tell us about yourself.*

Your role in the congregation: Active participant Elected leader Pastoral leader Visitor
 Other (specify) _____

Your age: under 18 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 75+

Your ethnicity: Asian Black/African Descent Hispanic/Latino Middle Eastern/North African
 Multiracial/Multiethnic Native American/Alaska Native
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander European Descent (often called "white")
 Another race or ethnicity (please describe) _____

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