



*Our mission, as God's people, is to **gather** in worship, **grow** in faith, and **go** in service in the name of our Risen Lord.
Our vision – Sharing God's love, hope and healing.*

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 19, 2023**

Prelude: “Jesus, Lover of My Soul” arr. by Lani Smith/Joseph Parry

Welcome to Worship and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness:**

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

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,

C **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.**

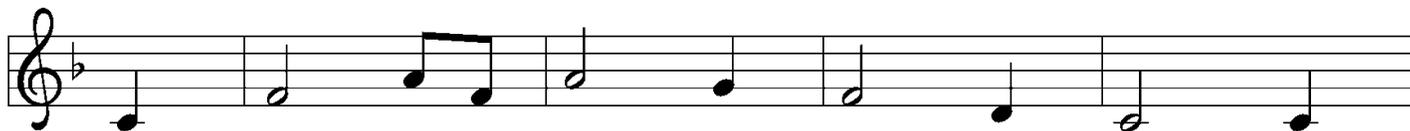
P Hear the good news:

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.

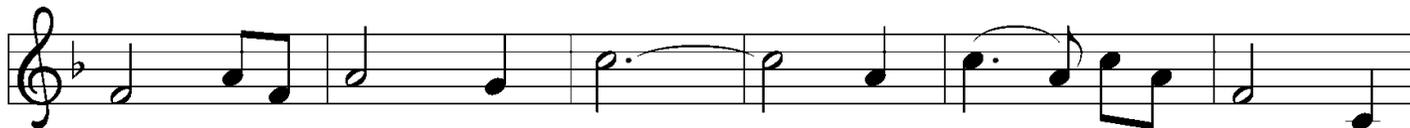
C **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn: "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" ELW 779**

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1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

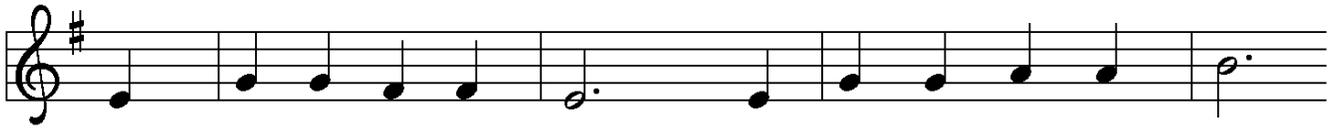
***Greeting:**

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.**

*Please stand as you are able.

*Kyrie



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*Prayer of the Day:

All Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Kids Word: Pastor Jerry O'Neal

Our first reading is from 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse

*Please stand as you are able.

called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 - (Read responsively between Lector and Congregation.)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Our second reading is from Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

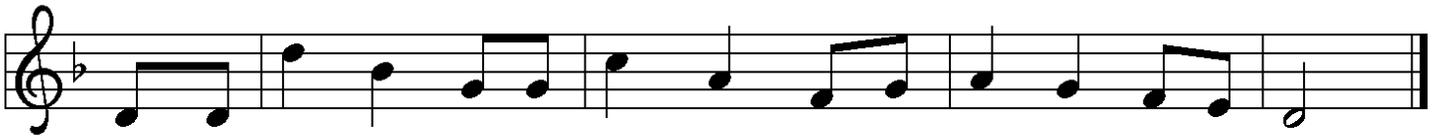
L Word of God. Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation:**



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

***Gospel Reading: John 9:1-41**

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 9th chapter.

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

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered,

*Please stand as you are able.

“We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Jerry O’Neal

***Hymn of the Day: "Open the Eyes of My Heart"**

CCLI # 11519369/2298355

Copyright Information: Text and Music by Paul Baloche ©1997, *Integrity's Hosanna! Music* (Admin. Hal Leonard Publishing Corp.)

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You (repeat)

To see You high and lifted up
Shinin' in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy (repeat verse and refrain)

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
I want to see you

***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.)

L For our prayers today, I will conclude each petition with "Merciful God," and your response is, "**receive our prayer.**"

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

A brief silence.

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve, especially those we now name either aloud or in the silence of our hearts (pause). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community, especially Holy Trinity's Open Hands ministry. Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of forgiveness, open our hearts to our neighbors who suffer misfortune, poverty, hunger or physical or mental illness, we will not judge them, blame them or decide where they do and don't belong but will instead respond as Jesus did, with boundless mercy, respect, care and hospitality. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of history, with thanksgiving we remember our ancestors in faith who cared for your people. We praise you for the ways they formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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.

***Sharing the Peace:**

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 Play or Apple Store, 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!

Offering Music: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. by C.S. Lang



***Offertory Hymn: "We Are an Offering" ELW 692**

CCLI # 11519369

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Text: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
Music: Dwight Liles
Text and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING
PM

***Offering Prayer:**

L God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

C Amen.

*Please stand as you are able.

***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 Praise upon praise belongs to you, God of David...

...and all the company of heaven as we join the unending hymn.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Anointing God...

...may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(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.

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 Great is the mystery of faith.

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

P Searching God...

...one God, now and for ever.

C Amen.

***Lord's Prayer:**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. (Lord's Prayer)

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 and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

Communion Hymn: "Lamb of God" (setting 10)



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



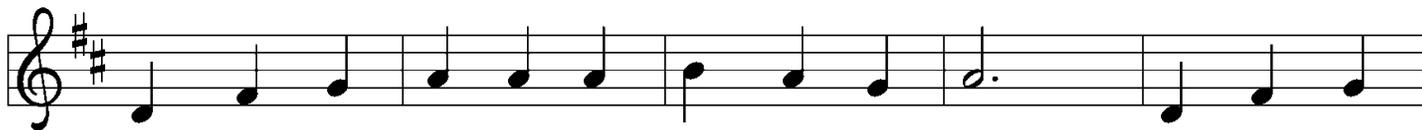
you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Distribution:

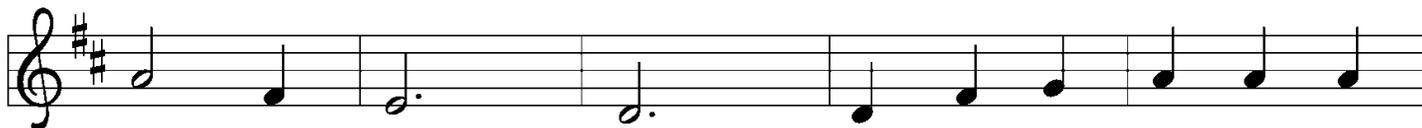
This is the Table of Grace for all who belong to Christ and seek his gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. We extend to you all that we have in the Lord Jesus and invite you to his Holy Supper. Those communing with us who haven't been baptized and desire God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation 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: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" ELW 815

One License: A-727907



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

***Post Communion Blessing:**

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

All Amen.

***Post Communion Prayer:**

L 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.

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: "Be Thou My Vision" ELW 793**

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1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

***Dismissal:**

L Go in peace. Serve in love.
C **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.

Announcements for March 19, 2023

This week's Prayers: Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Neal Lambert and Denise Amschler
Linda Cougill
Chuck Cook
Stephanie and Rich Thompson
Amy O'Neal
Gwen Carey
Maria and her family in Ukraine
Arlene Murphy, Mike Metzcar's sister
Dan Haynes
For all who are sick and suffering
Roberta Debolt
Sue Metzcar
John Paul Metzcar
Liam, 2 year-old great grandson of Nancy Brown
Mary Broughton
For the people of Ukraine

Serving in Worship Today:

Acolyte: Logan Norris

Usher: Andy Brelage and Gary Santoni

Greeter: Kathy McCauliff

Lay Worship Leader, Lector and Communion Assistant: Ann Santoni

Altar Guild: Kathy McCauliff

Birthdays and Anniversaries for March 19 - 25, 2023:

Birthdays:

March 21 - Ken Miller

March 23 - Rosemary Martin

Anniversaries:

March 24 - Jaren and Kendra Summers

Calendar of Events for the Week of March 19:

Sunday, March 19 - Bible Study and Sunday School (9am) and Worship (10am)

Monday, March 20 - Bible Study (10am) and Choir Practice (4pm)

Tuesday, March 21 - Volunteers work CMDC Food Pantry (9am), Walking Group meets (9am), Staff Meeting (9:30am), Binding Ties Group Meets (10am), and Afghan Sewing Circle Meets (10am) and Project Stepping Stone Meeting (7pm)

Wednesday, March 22 - Volunteers work CMDC Food Pantry (9am), Mid-Week Lenten Meal and Service at Community of Hope (6pm) and Riverside/Normal City Neighborhood Association Meeting (7pm)

Thursday, March 23 - Volunteers work CMDC Food Pantry (9am)

Friday, March 24 - Volunteers work CMDC Food Pantry (9am) and Healthy Community Alliance Meeting (12 Noon)

Saturday, March 25 - Step Aerobics (9:30am)

Flowers at the Altar:

(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/narthex 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.)

Christian Ministries Food Pantry Volunteers:

The next opportunity to volunteer at the Christian Ministry Food Pantry is on Tuesday, March 21; Wednesday, March 22; Thursday, March 23; and Friday, March 24, from 9:00am to 12:30pm. Sign up sheet is in the lobby/narthex.

If you have any questions, please contact Dan Beard (765-284-0700) or the church office (765-282-0619).

Lenten Non-Food Collection:

We will again collect baby items (especially diapers) during Lent. This is a blessing to mothers in need in our community. Bins will be available from February 22 through Easter, April 9. Thank you.

From Outreach - Art and Lee Baker Scholarships:

We now welcome applications for Art and Lee Baker Scholarships. They are open to youths graduating from high school who have participated in the ministries of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The deadline to apply is April 14, and awards will be made May 14. Applications are available in the Church Office.



Here is the schedule of our Mid-Week Lenten Services on Wednesday's:

Meal at 6pm
 Service at 7pm

March 22: Community of Hope
 1968 W. Main Street
March 29: Grace Episcopal Church
 300 S. Madison Street

*Please stand as you are able.