

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



March 30, 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church
Morris Plains, New Jersey
Pastor David Russert

WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We are glad to have you at worship with us today,
as we receive God's good and gracious gifts!

At Trinity, we joyfully share God's love and Word with all people
through worship, learning, fellowship, and service.

Trinity is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), meaning our beliefs and teachings follow after the Bible-based teachings of Martin Luther, who sought to bring the Church back to the pure doctrines of Scripture. Simply put, we believe, teach, and confess what the Bible says—no more, no less.

As part of the LCMS, our beliefs and teachings can be summarized as:

Grace Alone: God loves the people of the world, even though they are sinful, rebel against Him & do not deserve His love. He sent Jesus, His Son, to love the unlovable & save the ungodly.

Faith Alone: Jesus' suffering & death as the substitute for all people of all time purchased & won forgiveness & eternal life for all. Those who hear this Good News & believe it receive these gifts. God creates faith in Christ & gives people forgiveness through Him.

Scripture Alone: The Bible is God's inerrant & infallible Word, in which He reveals His Law & His Gospel of salvation in Christ. It is the sole rule & norm for Christian doctrine.

God bless you as He speaks to us His Word during this time of worship!

**WE OFFER BIBLE STUDIES FOR ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN,
BOTH YOUNG AND OLD! PLEASE JOIN US!**

Adult Bible Study – 7:00 p.m. Thursday Evenings – Ages 12+

Confirmation Class – Contact the Church Office for more info

Membership Class – Contact the Church Office for more info

A NOTE ON COMMUNION:

In this congregation, the Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites those who trust His words and repent of all sin to His table.

Communion is also a confession of the faith confessed at this altar. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession different than that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (yet desire to receive the Sacrament) are asked to first speak with Pastor Russert or an usher.

"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord." 1 Cor. 11:27-28

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

OPENING HYMN

790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent - by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt., Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneuertens Gesang-Buchs, 1665, Stralsund, Text and tune: Public domain

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.

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

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

INTROIT

Psalm 51:2–6; ant.: v. 1

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your / steadfast love;**
according to your abundant mercy blot out my trans- / gressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,*
and cleanse me | from my sin!

For I know my trans- | gressions,*
and my sin is ever be- | fore me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight,*
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your | judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in in- | iquity,*
and in sin did my mother con- | ceive me.

Behold, you delight in truth in the inward | being,*
and you teach me wisdom in the | secret heart.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your / steadfast love;**
according to your abundant mercy blot out my trans- / gressions.

KYRIE

LSB 204

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 12:1–6

¹ You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

² “Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.”

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵ “Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶ Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM (*spoken responsively*)

Psalms 32; ant.: v. 11

Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O / righteous,
and shout for joy, all you up- / right in heart!*

¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
whose sin is | covered.

²Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,*
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

³For when I kept silent, my bones wast- | ed away*
through my groaning | all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy up- | on me;*

my strength was dried up as by the heat of | summer.

⁵I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in- | iquity;*

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;*

surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.

⁷You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from | trouble;*

you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

⁸I will instruct you and teach you in the way | you should go;*

I will counsel you with my eye up- | on you.

⁹Be not like a horse or a mule, without under- | standing;*

which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay | near you.

¹⁰Many are the sorrows of the | wicked;*

but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

¹¹Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O | righteous;*

and shout for joy, all you up- | right in heart!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O | righteous,**

and shout for joy, all you up- | right in heart!



EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

f *All.*

f

Glo-ry to you, O Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1–3a, 11b–32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15th chapter.

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

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: . . .

^{11b}“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them.

¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’” ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

C I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God,
 begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father,
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets.
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Sit



HYMN OF THE DAY

435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain



1	Come to	Cal - v'ry's	ho - ly	moun - tain,	Sin - ners,	ru - ined
2	Come in	pov - er - ty	and	mean - ness,	Come	de - filed, with -
3	Come in	sor - row	and	con - tri - tion,	Wound - ed,	im - po -
4	They that	drink shall	live	for - ev - er;	'Tis	a soul - re -

by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
 out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
 tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
 new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er

Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
 From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
 Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
 Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -

pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
 make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
 will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
 deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87, Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Pastor David Russert

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Healing & Comfort

MARY ANN REED
 ANNETTE DAVIS
 JOSE SOUSA
 JOSEPH TRIFUN
 BERT WISWALL
 ANTHONY CHIACHRAMONTE
 THEO NIEGLOS
 DONNA FINKE
 ELANTRA VEDENETRA
 CAROLYN CHERMAK
 FRED BRYANT

LORENZO DINIA
 MARC THOMAS
 CHERYL ALONSO
 MELISSA NOTIS
 FRED
 RUSS SCHILLING
 JASON ANDRIOPOULOS
 BROOKE MORGAN
 BERT RADES
 ANITA RADES
 DEBBIE OLIVIERA

KATE OLIVEIRA
 JOYCE ENGELBERT
 LISA SCHNEIER
 CAROL OLSEN
 JIM MARTIN
 JESSICA IMHAUSER
 RUSS BACCAGLINI
 ARLENE BACCAGLINI
 SUE FRANCE
 ANGELO

Strength & Comfort

SUANNE MARTIN
 NICHOLAS
 LOUIS WIEDEMANN
 WARREN



Sit

OFFERING

Stand



PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich - es, cares, and plea - sures Nev - er may Your work e - rase;



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt., Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758, Text and tune: Public domain

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



PREFACE

LSB 208

- 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 Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

LSB 208

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 209

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 209

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 209

PAX DOMINI

LSB 209

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.



AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

571 God Loved the World So That He Gave



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.</p> | <p>6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessèd Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!</p> |
|---|---|

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt., Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93, Text and tune: Public domain

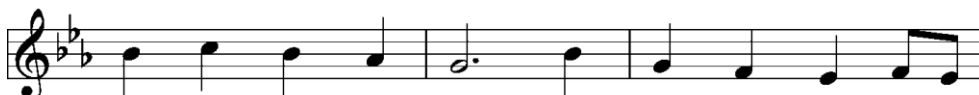
Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS


LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in lead the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

LSB 212

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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

661 The Son of God Goes Forth to War



1 The Son of God goes forth to war A king - ly crown to gain.
2 The mar - tyr first, whose ea - gle eye Could pierce be - yond the grave,
3 A glo - rious band, the cho - sen few, On whom the Spir - it came,
4 A no - ble ar - my, men and boys, The ma - tron and the maid,



His blood - red ban - ner streams a - far; Who fol - lows in His train?
Who saw his mas - ter in the sky And called on Him to save.
Twelve val - iant saints—their hope they knew And mocked the cross and flame.
A - round the Sav - ior's throne re-joice, In robes of light ar-rayed.



Who best can drink His cup of woe, Tri - um-phant o - ver pain,
Like Him, with par - don on His tongue In midst of mor-tal pain,
They met the ty - rant's bran-dished steel, The li - on's gor - y mane;
They climbed the steep as - cent of heav'n Through per - il, toil, and pain.



Who pa - tient bears his cross be - low— He fol - lows in His train.
He prayed for those who did the wrong— Who fol - lows in his train?
They bowed their necks their death to feel— Who fol - lows in their train?
O God, to us may grace be giv'n To fol - low in their train!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt., Tune: Henry S. Cutler, 1824–1902, Text and tune: Public domain



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

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Bev McGregor

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

Patty Evanko

USHER

George Nelson

COUNTER

Evankos

GREETER

Barbara Schilling

ALTAR GUILD

Kim Bryant, Lisa Leggett



*Today's altar flowers are given by
Frank & Maryann Ferry in thanksgiving for God's blessings.*

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute to the flowers on the altar for Easter, please fill out an envelope from the Narthex (*please print*), enclose your check, and place it in the Dimitry mailbox by **Sunday, April 13th**.



PRAYER REQUEST NETWORK

Matthew 18:19 tells us *"If two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven."*

The Prayer Network will offer prayers for your concerns and joys.
To request a prayer call Betty Vetter @ 973-887-6027

THE BOARD OF DIRECTION meets during the second week of each month. Members of the congregation are invited to attend.
The next meeting is **Tuesday, April 8th, 7:00 p.m.**



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

131 Mountain Way, Morris Plains, New Jersey 07950

Office: 973-538-7606 ♦ www.tlcmp.com

Donna Schroeder, Church Administration ♦ tlcmorrisplains@gmail.com