

# THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



March 1, 2026

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*

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# THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

### OPENING HYMN

907 God Himself Is Present



1 God Him - self is pres - ent: Let us now a - dore Him  
2 God Him - self is pres - ent: Hear the harps re - sound - ing;  
3 Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Pu - ri - fy my spir - it,



And with awe ap - pear be - fore Him. God is in His  
See the hosts the throne sur - round - ing. "Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
Trust - ing on - ly in Your mer - it. Like the ho - ly



tem - ple; All with - in keep si - lence; Hum - bly kneel in  
ho - ly!" Hear the hymn as - cend - ing, Songs of saints and  
an - gels, Wor - ship - ing be - fore You, May I cease - less -



deep - est rev - 'rence. He a - lone On His throne  
an - gels blend - ing. Bow Your ear To us here:  
ly a - dore You. Let Your will Ev - er still



Is our God and Say - ior; Praise His name for - ev - er!  
Hear, O Christ, the prais - es That Your Church now rais - es.  
Rule Your Church ter - res - trial As the hosts ce - les - tial.

Text: Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697–1769, abr.; tr. Frederick W. Foster, 1760–1835, alt.; tr. John Miller, 1756–90, alt.; Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80, 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 in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### INTROIT

*Psalm 105:4–7; ant.: v. 8*

*He remembers his covenant for- | ever,\*  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.*

Seek the LORD | and his strength;\*

seek his presence con- | tinually!

Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,\*

his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,\*

children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!

He is the | LORD our God;\*

his judgments are in | all the earth.

**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.**

*He remembers his covenant for- | ever,\*  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.*

### KYRIE

*LSB 204*



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

### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

*LSB 205*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt

the soul; 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

*Genesis 12:1–9*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>And 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. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

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

**C Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM *(spoken responsively)*

*Psalm 121; ant.: v. 8*

*The LORD will keep your going out and your | coming in\*  
from this time forth and for- | evermore.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes | to the hills.\*  
**From where does my | help come?**

<sup>2</sup>My help comes | from the LORD,\*  
**who made | heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your | foot be moved;\*  
**he who keeps you will not | slumber.**

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps | Israel\*  
**will neither slum- | ber nor sleep.**

<sup>5</sup>The LORD is your | keeper;\*  
**the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.**

<sup>6</sup>The sun shall not strike | you by day,\*  
**nor the | moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will keep you from all | evil;\*  
**he will | keep your life.**

<sup>8</sup>The LORD will keep your going out and your | coming in\*  
**from this time forth and for- | evermore.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*The LORD will keep your going out and your | coming in\*  
from this time forth and for- | evermore.*

**EPISTLE**

*Romans 4:1–8, 13–17*

<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup>Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup>And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, <sup>6</sup>just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;  
<sup>8</sup> blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”...

<sup>13</sup>The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

<sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup>That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup>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.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**Glo-ry to you, Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ!**

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 3:1–17*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to

you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.<sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.<sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’<sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?”<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?<sup>11</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony.

<sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?<sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,<sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>[Jesus said:] “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

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

## APOSTLES’ CREED

*LSB 207*

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.



# HYMN OF THE DAY

## 427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing  
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing, Light and  
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred  
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -  
love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance  
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no



sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.  
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872, Tune: Ithamar Conkey, 1815–67, Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

*Pastor David Russert*

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Laurie Udes

*Stand*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### Healing & Comfort

PETER DOMBROWSKI  
GIL SOTO  
GIA CIRILLO  
DENNIS MCCARTHY  
LARRY GEORGE  
MARISSA CHRISTENSON  
RITA FERRY  
STEVEN BRYANT  
LAURA BRETON  
BRUCE KASCAR  
SANDRA TALMADGE  
MARIA

RAMON ANGELES  
MARY ANN REED  
ANNETTE DAVIS  
JOSE SOUSA  
JOSEPH TRIFUN  
BERT WISWALL  
THEO NIEGLOS  
ELANTRA VEDENETRA  
CAROLYN CHERMAK  
LORENZO DINIA  
MARC THOMAS  
MELISSA NOTIS

FRED  
JASON ANDRIOPOULOS  
BROOKE MORGAN  
BERT RADES  
FRED BRYANT  
DEBBIE OLIVIERA  
KATE OLIVEIRA  
CAROL OLSEN  
JESSICA IMHAUSER  
ARLENE BACCAGLINI  
SUE FRANCE  
ANGELO

### Strength & Comfort

ELLA  
RUSS SCHILLING  
SUANNE MARTIN  
NICHOLAS  
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!

Public domain

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## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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### PREFACE

- 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

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

*LSB 208*

### SANCTUS



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

*LSB 208*



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!

### 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

### 744 Amazing Grace

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright  
saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and  
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me  
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to  
now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.  
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.  
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond, Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1829, Cincinnati, 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 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...
- 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

809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.  
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960, Tune: William M. Runyan, 1870–1957, Text: Public domain, Tune: Public domain



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORGANIST

*Bev McGregor*

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

*Patty Evanko*

USHER

*Paul Justl*

COUNTER

*Maryann Ferry*

GREETER

*Barbara Schilling*

ALTAR GUILD

*Maryann Ferry, Lisa Trifun*



*Today's altar flowers are given  
to the glory of God by the Altar Guild.*

## YEAR-ROUND OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



This year we are aiming to collect items for OCC shoeboxes all year. Each month will have a theme of the items to be purchased for the shoeboxes. Those items can be brought to the church and left in the Narthex in the box designated for shoebox items. February's theme is fashion accessories (sunglasses, jewelry, etc).



## FLOWER CHART 2026

Please consider supporting our beautiful altar flower fund by signing up for a week (or more) for continued beautiful flowers on the Altar. The new chart and envelopes are on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Fill out an envelope and place in the Dimitry's mailbox at least 1 week before the date



*Thank you to all who have supported in the past!*

**BOARD OF DIRECTION** meets each month. Members of the congregation are invited to attend. The next meeting is **Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.**





TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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