

First Sunday in Lent
February 18, 2024



for 40 days
He was subjected to
Satan's Temptation to sin

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

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TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINOCQUA, WISCONSIN

First Sunday in Lent
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Rethinking Religion
Rethinking Trials, Tests, and Temptations

Everyone has assumptions about God. Likewise, everyone has assumptions about religion. Increasingly, those assumptions are negative. Americans are walking away from Christianity in breathtaking numbers. It raises the question. How do those people know if their assumptions about religion are correct? Do they really understand Christianity at all? Do we? Do we truly understand this religion?

In the season of Lent, as much as any other, Jesus teaches things that turns the world's assumptions about religion completely upside down. We call it "Christianity." So, in this holy season, let us go straight to Christ and let him replace assumptions with truth. Jesus, help us to rethink religion!

"If God loves us, why doesn't he remove all the trials and tests and temptations that we face?" These things are bad, right? They aren't. In the hands of a loving God, they are tools by which he refines our faith. He uses tests as a way to compel us to be less self-reliant, and instead trust in his strength. He uses trials to teach us that this broken world is not our true home. God even takes Satan's temptations and uses them for our good.

Trials, tests, and temptations are not exceptions to God's love. These are examples of God's love.

To God alone be the glory!
Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

Welcome to all—both guest and member alike! May our gracious God fill your heart with joy, peace, and hope through the message of forgiveness in our living Savior, Jesus Christ!

- If you are in need of restrooms, they are located on the left as you leave church.
- Parents please use the welcome center or church fellowship hall to quiet an upset child.
- Please silence all cell phones and devices before worship.
- Please limit your conversations in the sanctuary and narthex.
- Please do use the welcome center to greet one another.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP: SETTING ONE

OPENING HYMN: 404 “Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing”



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing in your ho - ly
2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion fas - ci - nate my
3 If the world my heart en - tic - es with the broad and
4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me by your wounds, Lord,
5 O my God, my rock and tow - er, grant that in your



wounds I find, ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing pains of
sin - ful mind, let me think a - bout your pas - sion, and new
eas - y road, with se - duc - tive, sin - ful vic - es, let me
is made whole; when I'm weak, your cross re - vives me, grant - ing
death I trust, know - ing death has lost its pow - er since you



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in
cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,
weigh the aw - ful load you were will - ing to en - dure.
new life to my soul. Yes, your com - fort ren - ders sweet
crushed it in the dust. Sav - ior, let your ag - o - ny



tempt my treach - 'rous heart to sin, show the per - il,
let me then be on my guard, say - ing, "Christ for
Help me flee all thoughts im - pure, mas - ter - ing each
ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet; for your all - a -
ev - er help and com - fort me; when I die be



and from sin - ning keep me ere its first be - gin - ning.
me was wound - ed," that the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.
wild temp - ta - tion, calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.
ton - ing pas - sion has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.
my pro - tec - tion, light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: tr. composite; Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr.
Tune: Johann B. König, 1691–1758
Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSIO

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

**We have done those things that we should not have done,
and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

Have mercy on us, Lord!

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.
Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*

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, gracious Lord.



A - men.

Tune: Kevin Becker. Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712324

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Mighty God and Father, our Lord Jesus walked into the wilderness to face the devil's temptations, but he did not succumb to Satan's lies or falter in his resolve to save the world from the prison of hell. Bolster our faith by his mighty victory that we may battle against the forces of evil with courage and confidence; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 22:1-18 (EHV)

God gives Abraham a test which will demonstrate who Abraham loves and trusts most.

Some time later God tested Abraham. He called to him, "Abraham!"

Abraham answered, "I am here."

² God said, "Now take your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains there, the one to which I direct you."

³ Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, along with Isaac his son. Abraham split the wood for the burnt offering. Then he set out to go to the place that God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

⁵ Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go on over there. We will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and loaded it on Isaac his son. He took the firepot and the knife in his hand. The two of them went on together.

⁷ Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father?"

He said, "I am here, my son."

He said, "Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

⁸ Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them went on together. ⁹ They came to the place that God had told him about. Abraham built the altar there. He arranged the wood, tied up Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

¹¹ The Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!"

Abraham said, "I am here."

¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy. Do not do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

¹³ Abraham looked around and saw that behind him there was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ Abraham called the name of that place "The LORD Will Provide." So it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

¹⁵ The Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, "I have sworn by

myself, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will bless you greatly, and I will multiply your descendants greatly, like the stars of the sky and like the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the city gates of their enemies. ¹⁸ In your seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25A

Refrain



Tone



In you, LORD my God, I / put my trust.

I trust in you; do not let me be / put to shame.

Show me your ways, LORD, teach me / your paths.

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my / Savior.

Remember, LORD, your great mer- / cy and love,
for they are / from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth and my re- / bellious ways;
according to your love remember me, for you, LORD, / are good. *Refrain*

LORD, forgive my iniquity, though / it is great.

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and af- / flicted.

Look on my affliction and / my distress
and take away / all my sins.

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. *Refrain*

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:31-39 (EHV)

The proof of God's love is not that he removes all our trouble. The proof of God's love is that he gave us his son. If he did that, nothing can separate us from God's love.

³¹ What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

³³ Who will bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies! ³⁴ Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus, who died and, more than that, was raised to life, is the one who is at God's right hand and who is also interceding for us! ³⁵ What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ Just as it is written:

For your sake we are being put to death all day long.

We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Hebrews 4:15*



Refrain



Glo - ry, praise, and hon - or to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

Tone



We do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weak - ness - es;

Refrain



we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

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GOSPEL

Mark 1:12-15 (EHV)

Sometimes we fail to stand firm in trial or temptation. But by grace the kingdom of God is still ours because Jesus, as our substitute, perfectly overcame all of Satan's temptations.

¹²The Spirit immediately sent Jesus out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels were serving him.

¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. ¹⁵“The time is fulfilled,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near! Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: 806 “Your Days and Ways to God Surrender”



1 Your days and ways to God sur - ren - der, and let his
 2 Why do you wal - low in this wor - ry? Why tight - ly
 3 Wait for his hand to write your sto - ry, his gra - cious
 4 Then wake with joy and ex - pec - ta - tion, for God is



wis - dom be your light. He stands be - side you, strong but
 clutch this pain and fear? Do you for - get that on this
 will, your des - ti - ny. What looks like gloom he turns to
 good and heav'n is sure. Sing, pray, and work in your vo -



ten - der, and guides your steps thro' storm and night. Up - on a
 jour - ney you're not a - lone? Your God is near! The man - y
 glo - ry; what's hid - den now he will re - veal. Who holds your
 ca - tion, and sleep in peace, your heart se - cure. Sur - ren - der



rock you build your life when you re - ly on Je - sus Christ.
 mid - night tears you spill just make the dark - ness dark - er still.
 fu - ture and your past knows what you need be - fore you ask.
 all to his good grace; he keeps you safe in his em - brace.

Text: tr. Laurie F. Gauger, b. 1965; Georg C. Neumark, 1621–1681, abr.

Tune: Georg C. Neumark, 1621–1681

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The Lord is Willing to Break Our Heart to Build Our Faith!

- 1. We Learn This From Abraham's Nightmarish Test**
- 2. We Learn This From Abraham's Unbelievable Obedience**
- 3. We Learn This From the Lord's Gracious Intervention!**

Please stand.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS

Please sign the friendship registers at the ends of the pews during the musical selection.

THE SACRAMENT

We believe that God comes to us with forgiveness in very tangible means as we participate in Holy Communion. Because the Bible has convinced us that Jesus' body and blood are present in the Lord's Supper, and that receiving this sacrament together is a public statement of complete oneness in our beliefs and commitment, we invite to the Lord's Supper members of Trinity and guests from sister congregations of the WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) and the ELS (Evangelical Lutheran Synod). If you are a member of another Lutheran denomination or another Christian church and would like to commune with us in the future, please speak with our pastor after the service and he would be delighted to explain what that entails. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of stating your agreement with our convictions before we have had an opportunity to explain them. We do look forward to any opportunity to discuss the Christian faith with you.

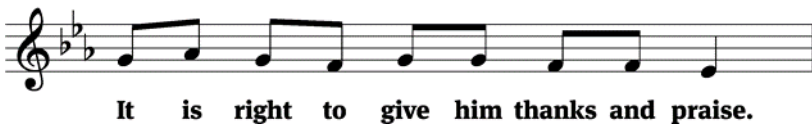
The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.

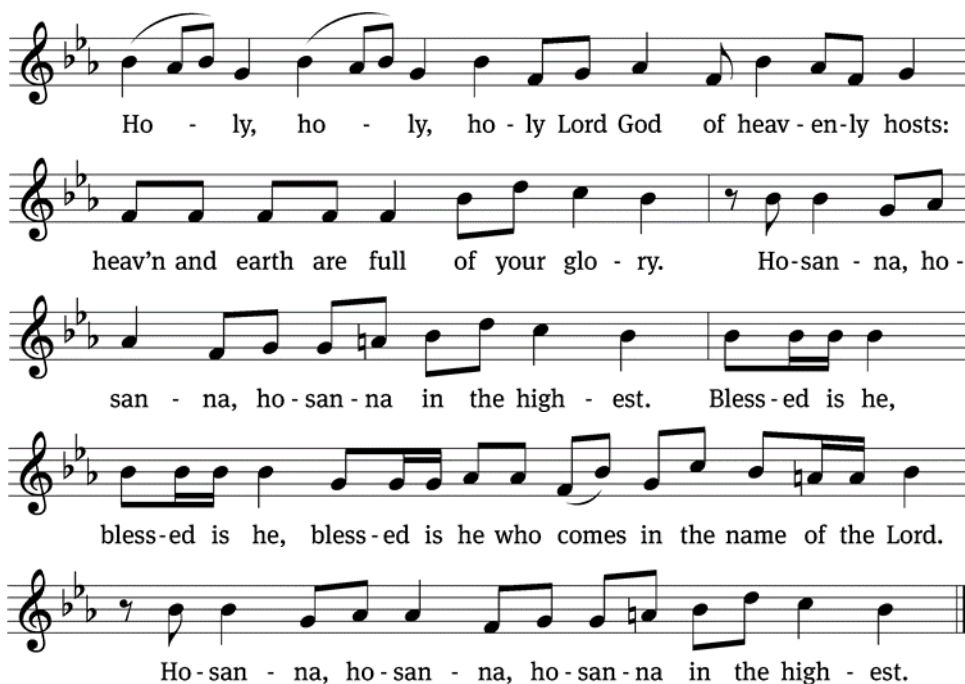


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n 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,
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

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

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: 820 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727

Text and tune: Public domain

HYMN: 841 “Entrust Your Fear and Doubting”



1 En - trust your fear and doubt - ing and all that pains your life
2 Have faith in God's vast mer - cy; con - sid - er all he's done;
3 In vain the pow'rs of e - vil op - pose the Lord's de - signs;
4 Take hope, O wea - ry spir - it, be strong and un - a - fraid;
5 These trou - bles that dis - tress us, Lord, bring them to an end;



to him whose hand is guid - ing your way thro' storm and strife.
his might - y acts in his - t'ry, sal - va - tion he has won.
in all of life's up - heav - al his prom - ise ev - er shines.
God prom - is - es a res - pite for hearts that are dis - mayed.
with strength and cour - age bless us, your love to us com - mend,



He gov - erns times and sea - sons in ways that none can see,
When sor - rows o - ver - whelm you and self - tor - ment - ing care,
For God holds firm the end - ing, though now it seems un - clear;
Your Sav - ior's per - fect tim - ing is gov - erned by his grace;
that we, till death ac - cept - ing your hid - den, lov - ing ways,



so trust his hid - den rea - sons, though dark your path may be.
your wor - ry will not help you— ap - proach his throne in prayer.
his pur - pose is un - bend - ing, and thus you need not fear.
the day is sure - ly com - ing when joy will light your face.
may then, new life at - tain - ing, give praise for end - less days.

Text: tr. Bryan Gerlach, b. 1954; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.

Tune: Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555–1613

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Please stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

Please be seated

CLOSING HYMN: 835 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Due to copyright restrictions, we are unable to print the hymn in the bulletin. Please use the blue hymnal found in the pews.



Serving God and Us Today

Presiding Minister: Pastor Glenn Schwanke
Organist: Miss Lynn Schmidt

Last Weekend's Worship Attendance

- 192 (Sunday—164; Monday—28)

Stewardship Encouragement from Scripture

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine" (Proverbs 3:9,10).

Lessons for Next Sunday (Second Sunday in Lent)

"Rethinking Religion: Rethinking Suffering Under the Cross"

- Job 1:13-22
- Romans 5:1-11
- Mark 8:31-38

Prayers: If you would like your name on the prayer list, or you have a friend you would like to add, please call or e-mail the church office.

Offerings: You may leave your offering in the basket as you walk out today. You may continue to mail in your offering, give online at www.trinityminocqua.org, or on the Vanco Mobile app. On the app, search for Trinity Evangelical Lutheran or search for Minocqua.

Meditations: Copies of the newest edition of *Meditations* are available on the table in the fellowship hall and in the rack in the welcome center. This copy begins March 3 and goes through June 1. Each booklet is \$3.00.

Book Club: Our next Book Club meeting will this Tuesday, February 20, from 12:00-1:00 pm. We will discuss the book, "Pearl in the Sand" by Tessa Afshar. Make plans to join us!

Fellowship Friends: Everyone is invited to attend our next Fellowship Friends gathering on Tuesday, February 27 from 1:00-3:00 pm. This month, we have someone coming from Northwoods Wildlife Center to do a presentation. The NWC is a non-profit hospital and rehabilitation facility that cares for locally injured and orphaned wildlife and provides a better future for wildlife through rehabilitation, environmental education and research. If you would like to help the center by donating items they frequently use, a collection box is near the doors in the fellowship hall. Their wish list includes toilet paper, paper towels, AA & AAA batteries, tall kitchen bags, liquid soap, and 16 oz. plastic spray bottles. You can also find additional items listed on their website, www.northwoodswildlifecenter.org. We hope you can attend on February 27!

Choir: The Festival Choir, our group of mixed voices, will rehearse on Thursday, February 22 at 6:30 pm. This will be in preparation for singing at Easter. Whether you have attended before or would like to join us for Easter, we encourage and welcome you to attend.

Easter for Kids Volunteers Needed: On Saturday, March 23 from 9:00-11:45 am, Trinity Lutheran Church will be hosting an Easter for Kids VBS for children ages 3-10. To ensure its success, many volunteers will be needed in the following areas: Teachers/Group Leaders (3), Craft Coordinator, Snack Coordinator, Game Coordinator, and Music Coordinator. If you have the gifts to serve in this way, please contact Jake or Kristen Smith, Pastor Luchterhand, or the church office as soon as possible. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve, and God's richest blessings to you all!

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society: We encourage you to check out the table in the fellowship hall that has information on the upcoming LWMS Convention being held in Sioux Falls, SD at the end of June. Registration information is available.

Thrivent Financial Choice Dollars: If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, don't forget to direct your Choice Dollars! Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice program can benefit our church and school. Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until March 31, 2024 to direct any remaining 2023 funds. Help Trinity and don't let those dollars expire. To direct your Choice Dollars, go to www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or you can call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Flower Chart: There are still dates available for 2024. If you would like to sponsor a bouquet during the year, please sign up in the flower chart binder to the right of the window in the Welcome Center. Bouquets are \$30.

Join us for Worship during Lent



WEDNESDAYS at 4:00 pm
February 14 at 4:00 & 6:30 pm

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Mid-week Lenten services continue on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. We will be exchanging

Opportunities to Grow & Serve at Trinity This Week		
Sunday	9:00 am	Worship w/Holy Communion
	10:30 am	Bible Class & Sunday School
Monday	6:30 pm	Worship w/Holy Communion
Tuesday	12:00-1:00 pm	Book Club
	5:30 pm	School Board
	6:30 pm	Church Council
Wednesday	8:15 am	Midweek Chapel
	9:30 am	Quilters
	4:00 pm	Lent Worship
	5:00-6:00 pm	Public School Confirmation & Bible Class
Thursday	6:30 pm	Festival Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	10:00 am	LWMS Board Meeting
Sunday	9:00 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Class & Sunday School
Monday	6:30 pm	Worship

pulpits with the pastors from: Christ, Eagle River; Zion, Rhinelander; and St. John's, Phelps.
Series theme: **"God on Trial."**

- February 21 = John 18:33-40 "Truth"
- February 28 = Luke 22:47-53 "Restraint"
- March 6 = Luke 23:26-34 "Sympathy"

Lenten season Sunday worship continues to explore the theme, **"Rethinking Religion."**

- February 25/26 = **Rethinking Religion: Rethinking Suffering under the Cross**
Sermon Text: Romans 5:1-11 Sermon Theme: "We Now Stand in Grace"
- March 3/4 = **Rethinking Religion: Rethinking the Worth of Worship**
Sermon Text: John 2:13-22 Sermon Theme: "Zeal Revealed"
- March 10/11 = **Rethinking Religion: Rethinking the Solution to Sin**
Sermon Text: Numbers 21:4-9 "The Utter Foolishness Of Faith: Look Up And Live!"

Bible study opportunities:

- **Wednesday "Lunch Break" Bible study** (Wednesday, 12-15 – 1:15 p.m.) On break until after Easter.
- **Pastor's "Wednesday Encouragement" blog**, continues to be found on Trinity's Facebook page and on our church website. You can also have this devotion sent to your email each Wednesday.
- **Sunday Bible Study (and Sunday School)** – Sunday School is for children PreK3 through 4th grade. Adult Bible Study is working through the book of Exodus under the theme, "Deliver Us!"

Ministry Updates...

- **Trinity Book Club** meets Tuesday, February 20th, from 12-1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be discussing the book, "Pearl in the Sand" by Tessa Afshar.
- **Singing Rehearsal:** All singers (men & women) planning to participate in singing for the festival Easter service are invited to a rehearsal this Thursday evening (February 22) at 6:30 p.m.
- **Fellowship Friends Gathering** will take place on Tuesday, February 27th at 1-3 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. We'll enjoy a presentation by a Wildlife Educator from The Northwoods Wildlife Center, a non-profit wildlife hospital in Minocqua.
- **Easter for Kids, Saturday, March 23 (9-11:30 a.m.)** for children ages 3-10.

God keep you and yours in his gracious care,

Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

THE LORD IS WILLING TO BREAK OUR HEART TO BUILD OUR FAITH.

Sermon Notes on Genesis 22:1-19

Part of the Series: Rethinking Religion.

Introduction: What supreme test of faith did the Lord give to Abraham? _____

The Lord Is Willing to Break Our Heart to Build Our Faith.

I. We Learn This From Abraham's Nightmarish Test.

1. There are several reasons this test was so nightmarish for Abraham. What are those reasons? _____
2. How can our schedules sometimes cause us to love family more than the Lord? _____

II. We Learn This From Abraham's Unquestioning Obedience.

3. What did Abraham do in the morning, immediately after receiving the Lord's challenging command? _____
4. Isaac carried the wood for the sacrifice, but what heart-breaking question did Isaac ask of his father? _____
5. Abraham was ready to sacrifice his son. Why/? What did Abraham believe was possible? _____

6. Why might the Lord send heart-breaking tests of faith into our lives? _____

III. We Learn This From the LORD's Gracious Intervention!

7. Who is "*the Angel of the Lord*?" _____
8. What did the Angel of the Lord provide for Abraham and Isaac? _____

9. What has our Lord provided for all of us? _____

Sometimes the Lord is willing to break our hearts to build our faith.



Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
www.wels.net

Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:00 am
Mondays at 6:30 pm



Pastor

Rev. Stephen Luchterhand

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Email: stephenluchterhand@gmail.com

Visitation Pastor

Rev. Glenn Schwanke

Cell: (906) 869-6101

Email: yooperrev@gmail.com

Welcome to Trinity

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. If you have any questions during your time with us today, please ask an usher for assistance. If you would like to know more about our church, our teachings, our Christian school (grades K-8), our preschool (3-4 year old) or the studies and programs offered at Trinity, please introduce yourself to our pastor. He would be delighted to speak with you and serve you in whatever way he can.

"Our mission at Trinity Lutheran Church is to teach the Word of God, to train believers for lives of Christian service, and to tell the good news of Jesus Christ to the Northwoods community and to the world."

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

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