



*Nurturing a Living Faith  
with Open Hearts  
and Serving Hands*

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**Introduction to the Day**

*In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.*

***Fifth Sunday in Lent  
Sunday, Mar. 26th, 2023  
8:30 & 10:30 a.m.***

*Copies of "With One Voice" (WOV) are available in the Narthex.*

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

Paula Schilling, Barb Steiner (10:30)

"When the River Turns to Sky"  
"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN**

"Hymn of Promise"

On Screen

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**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

WOV pg. 28

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



***Welcome to  
Worship at Trinity  
Lutheran***

*Whether this is your first time worshipping with us, or if you regularly attend, we are very glad that you are with us! Today, we gather to worship God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*The church is not a building – it is you, the people. So "church," thanks for showing up today. If you look around what you will see are imperfect people. Some with smiles, some with broken hearts, some with secrets they are ashamed to share... and yet all of us together are the "church."*

*We are thankful you are here. Through God's Holy Spirit we pray you hear a word of grace and hope today.*

**FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 37:1-14**

Bob Wefald (8:30), reader

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."*

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

**PSALM 130**

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>**Yet with you is forgiveness,**

**in order that you may be feared.**

<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

<sup>6</sup>**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,**

**more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

<sup>8</sup>**For the LORD shall redeem Israel**

**from all their sins.**

**SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:6-11**

*For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

**WE WELCOME GOD'S WORD**

"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"  
(Verse One and Lent 5)

ELW #334

**GOSPEL: JOHN 11:1-45**

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.*

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup>after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." <sup>11</sup>After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." <sup>13</sup>Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup>For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup>Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

<sup>17</sup>When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup>When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup>She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME/SERMON**

Faith Simoneig

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

"You Are the Way"

ELW #758

**APOSTLES' CREED**

WOV pg. 33

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Please pray for Annette, Jan, Cathy, Mardell, James, Wilbur, Ellen and Morgan.*

**GATHERING OF GIFTS & OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious God,

**in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action.  
With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER (traditional)**

WOV pg. 39

**BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING SONG**

"Jesus Is A Rock in a Weary Land"

ELW #333

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

**RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM** is in memory of Alice Marks, given by family.

**TRUST FUND SCHOLARSHIPS** - We are now accepting scholarship applications for the upcoming Fall '23/Spring '24 school year. These Scholarships are meant to honor the dedication of students who have shown a desire to grow in their faith and serve God by serving their neighbor. Eligible applicants are members of Trinity who are either:

- High school seniors preparing to graduate
- Post-secondary students in a certificate, associate degree, or bachelor's degree program
- Seminary students

Check out further information on our website under Trust Fund Scholarship. You can print a form there or pick-up one in the office. **Deadline to apply is Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.**

**PLANTING SEEDS FOR MINISTRY SUNDAY – TODAY**, Faith Simonieg will lead a conversation in the Community Center @ 9:35 a.m. about the impact Trinity's Trust Fund is having on our ministry now and into the future.

**BRASS PLAYERS NEEDED** - Join the ensemble who will accompany hymns at the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Easter worship services! Players from middle school to adult are all invited to come and play. We'll have ONE rehearsal on Saturday, April 8th @ 11 a.m. Please send an email or voicemail to Pastor Mary Lou: [aune@trinitybismarck.com](mailto:aune@trinitybismarck.com), or 223-3560. We're counting on you!

**PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST** - Please join us for breakfast this Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to help with food prep, serving and clean up.

**VISITATION LIST** - We are trying to make sure that we have a complete visitation list of those who would like to receive pastoral care visits. This would usually be people who live in nursing homes, assisted living or retirement homes, those who are homebound, or those who just appreciate a regular home visit. Please contact Pastor Martha If you have someone you would like to put on this list.

**SERVANT HEARTS GROUP** - We are starting a new service group that will meet once a month. We will gather to do small projects that will help our surrounding community and organizations that we partner with. For example, one month we might gather to bake cookies to take to Ministry on the Margins for their Coffee House. This is just one example. There are so many ways that we can serve our community. If you are interested in getting more information or being a part of this group, please sign up at the Welcome Center in the Narthex or contact Pastor Martha. All ages are encouraged to join us.

**EASTER FLOWERS** - Forms are available in the Narthex. Please fill one out and turn it and your payments into the office or offering basket **by Friday, March 31st**. Thank you!



**Games,  
Faith Talk &  
Pretzel Making!**

**3rd - 5th Grade**  
@ 2 - 3 p.m.

**Middle School**  
@ 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

**Sunday, March 26**

Use North Doors  
See Gracia with questions.

 trinitylutheran



# Lay Preaching Academy

A group of pastors in our synod is exploring the possibility of launching a preaching academy in order to support lay people who have been called to preach. You're invited to a conversation to dream and vision what this might look like.

The conversation will be via Zoom video call on **Saturday, April 1 at 10 a.m. (CT)**. Please fill out a survey at the link below if you are interested in learning more and being included in the Zoom call.

[www.bit.ly/LayPreachingSurvey](http://www.bit.ly/LayPreachingSurvey)