



Nurturing a Living Faith with Open Hearts and Serving Hands

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Introduction to the Day

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

**2nd Sunday in Lent
March 16, 2025
8:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE

CENTERING SONG "Come, Holy Spirit, Descend" ACS #980

WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ELW pg. 94

OPENING SONG "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" ELW #597

GREETING/KYRIE ELW pg. 203

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW pg. 204

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: GENESIS 15:1-12, 17-18

Margaret Fiechtner, reader

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir."⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir."⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be."⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess."⁸ But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?"⁹ He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon."¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."



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. 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.

PSALM 27

(Please read responsively).

Refrain

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
 The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
² When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
 they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.
³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.
 Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.
⁴ One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;
 that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
 to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

Refrain

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
 hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.
⁶ Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.
 Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;
 I will sing and make music to the LORD.
⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
 have mercy on me and answer me.
⁸ My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”
 Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

Refrain

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.
 Cast me not away—you have been my helper;
 forsake me not, O God of my salvation.
¹⁰ Though my father and my mother forsake me,
 the LORD will take me in.
¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD;
 lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.
¹² Subject me not to the will of my foes,
 for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

Refrain

¹³ This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD
 in the land of the living!
¹⁴ Wait for the LORD and be strong.
 Take heart and wait for the LORD!

Refrain

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:17—4:1

Although Paul’s devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Let Your Steadfast Love Come to Us, O Lord”

ELW pg. 189

GOSPEL: LUKE 13:31-35

Neither Herod’s plotting nor Jerusalem’s resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

The holy gospel according to Luke, chapter 13, beginning with verse 31.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

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

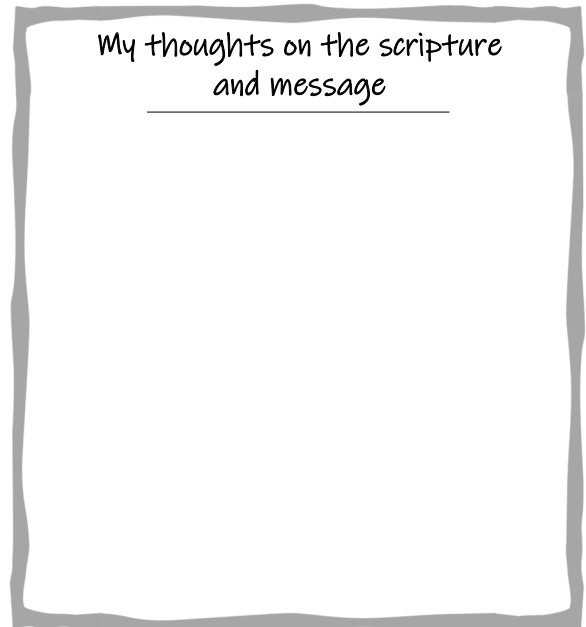
Refrain



The Lord is my light and my sal -



va - tion.—Whom shall I fear?



CHILDREN’S TIME/SERMON

Pastor Mark Narum

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Thy Holy Wings”

ELW #613

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please pray for James, Terry, Dick, Wendy, Amy, Barb, Dennis & Rod.

OFFERING MUSIC

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider.

you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

pg. 206

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

pg. 207

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LAMB OF GOD

pg. 208

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“Here on Jesus Christ I will Stand”

ACS #1024

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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FAITH FORMATION FOCUS GROUPS

Trinity is going to be entering into a process to look at our Faith Formation ministries (youth & children) to see how we can improve them in the years to come. We are excited for this opportunity to make our ministries for children & youth better!

The first step in this process is Focus Groups. These focus groups will meet with Beth Anderson. Beth formerly worked at the Synod Office and will be leading & coaching us through this process for the next few months. She will be meeting with the Focus Groups to ask questions and listen to feedback.

All are welcome! The focus groups will meet **TODAY & April 6th @ 9:35 a.m.** and **Wednesdays, March 19th & April 9th @ 6:40 p.m.** upstairs in Room 212.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025

RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM is in memory of Kathleen Matejcek, Vernon & Marlene Peterson. Given by Colleen, Eric, Isaac & Mia Peterson.

ALTAR FLOWERS are in memory of Don Smith given by Diane Smith.

SWEET DEAL FOR C.A.R. – Our Church School kids invite you to join them in raising money for the Lutheran church in the Central African Republic (C.A.R.). The C.A.R. is a sister synod to our Western ND Synod. To participate, simply take a tube of mini m&m’s, enjoy the sweet treat, add some quarters, bills, or a check to the empty tube and bring it back to the church office.

BUTTER BRAIDS & PUFFINS - Your orders are here! Please see Gracia to pick up your items. Thank you!

THE ST. JOHN PASSION CONCERT - Saturday, March 22nd @ 7 p.m. Dakota Pro Musica in partnership with the Bismarck Mandan Symphony Orchestra and the Bismarck Mandan Civic Chorus present J.S. Bach's masterpiece The St. John Passion. Pre-sale tickets are available in the Narthex between services **TODAY!** This is your last chance to purchase for \$20/person.

BLOOD DRIVE - Trinity is hosting a blood drive on Friday, April 25th. There are slots for 15 people willing to roll up their sleeves and bless those in medical need of life saving blood. A registration sheet to sign-up is available in the Narthex.

ONLINE GIVING - Giving has never been easier! Open your camera on your phone and scan the QR code. It will take you right to Trinity’s online giving site. You can choose to give via credit card or bank account. Try it out today!



GRADES 4-12
\$55

28-30 MARCH 2025

Youth Bash at Camp of the Cross!

SCAN TO REGISTER

WE’LL CARPOOL TO CAMP!
QUESTIONS? SEE GRACIA

THE ST. JOHN PASSION

BY JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Dakota Pro Musica
North Dakota’s Professional Choral Ensemble

In partnership with the
Bismarck Mandan Civic Chorus
and
Bismarck Mandan Symphony Orchestra

Dr. Jason Thoms
Founder and Artistic Director

Saturday, March 22nd at 7:00 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church, Bismarck

Tickets \$20 presale and \$25 after March 1st

Art by Alida Thoms

Season Patrons
Dr. Jason Thoms

Season Benefactors
Anonymous
Holly and Jacki Thoms

Season Sponsors
Goodie Family Foundation

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

- Sunday 3-16**
 8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
 9:35 AM - Faith Formation Focus Groups in Room 212
 9:35 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall
 9:35 AM - Church School
 10:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
- Tuesday 3-28**
 9 AM - Quilters in Quilters’ Room
- Wednesday 3-19**
 11:45 AM - Lunch served in Community Center
 12:15 PM - Lenten Worship in Community Center
 2:30 PM - Upstairs Bible Study in Room 212
 5:15 PM - Chili Cook-Off in Fellowship Hall
 6 PM - Worship in Sanctuary
 6:40 PM - Church School, Youth Group
 6:40 PM - Faith Formation Focus Groups in Room 212
- Thursday 3-20**
 9:30 AM - Thursday Morning Circle in Conf. Room
 5 PM - Mental Health Task Force in Conference Room
 6:30 PM - Council in Conference Room
- Saturday 3-22**
 7 PM - St. John Passion Concert in Sanctuary
- Sunday 3-23**
 8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
 9:35 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall
 9:35 AM - Church School
 10:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
 11:30 AM - Amazing Puzzle Races in Fellowship Hall
 1 PM - Soul Sisterhood at Good Shepherd

AMAZING PUZZLE RACES

\$20 TEAM ENTRY FEE

Spectators Welcome

FUN for all ages!

Additional Family Division with fewer pieces

POTLUCK - Bring your favorite appetizer

When: Sunday, March 23rd
Where: Fellowship Hall
Time: 11:30 a.m.

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX