

Longing for Mystery



TRINITY  LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

9:00 am Service

Order of Worship

**stand as you are able*

Prelude

Joy Rundell

Welcome

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin
and whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to God and one another.

We confess to you, most loving God, the sins that both bind and scatter us. We have knowingly believed dishonest words. We have questioned your gracious power again and again. We have given into temptation. We have acted out of fear, placing blame on others yet holding ourselves apart. In our disbelief and confusion we have hurt our neighbors and ourselves. Gather us back to you. Forgive us, free us, and make us whole for the sake of your son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Friends, beloved of God,

Jesus came not to condemn the world but that all might be saved through him. In the name of † Christ your sins are forgiven. May God unbind your guilt and shame, lead you by the Spirit, and bring you to wholeness in abundant life.

Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Hymn #335

verses 1, 2, 4

Jesus, keep me near the cross,
there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

Refrain:

In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross, a trembling soul,
love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star
sheds its beams around me. *(Refrain)*

Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
just beyond the river. *(Refrain)*

***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.

Lenten Hymn of Praise

Lamb of God

Hymn #336

Your only Son, no sin to hide,
But You have sent him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain:

Oh Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God.
Oh, wash me in your precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love we crucified.
We laughed and scorned him as he died.
The humble king they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God. *(Refrain)*

I was so lost, I should have died.
But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God. *(Refrain)*

***Prayer of the Day**

Living God,

We come looking for signs of your heavenly kingdom. When certainty binds our spirits, astonish us and confound our expectations. Bring us through water and Spirit to trust that you speak of what you know; Birth us into the mystery that you desire to give all eternal life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Anthem

10,000 Reasons

Worship Choir

Children's Moment

Lydia Haller

Reading

John 3:1-17

Longing for Mystery

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day

Lift High the Cross

Hymn #660

verses 1, 3, 4

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *(Refrain)*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *(Refrain)*

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory! *(Refrain)*

***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 Church**

Congregational Response: **Hear our prayer.**

***Sharing of the Peace / Announcements**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

*Thank you for your continued financial support.
An offering plate can be found in the back of church as
you leave worship. Or give online at www.trin.org/give.*



Offertory Response

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

Hymn #814

Take, oh, take me as I am, summon out what I shall be,
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Holy Communion

***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.**

Distribution of Holy Communion

*Please come forward for Holy Communion this morning by using the center aisle and
returning by the side aisle. If you prefer, gluten free wafers are available on the
center table and white grape juice is located in the inner circle of the tray.*

Communion Music

One Bread, One Body

Worship Choir

***Closing Prayer**

Heavenly Father,
**You have met us here and filled our hearts with your truth,
that we might rejoice in the abundance you provide.
Send us now into the world as signs of your unbound presence,
seeking the wholeness of the kingdom of God,
and inviting all who hunger to come and see your glory.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

***Benediction**

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always.

Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
verses 1, 3, 4

Hymn #803

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss
and pour contempt on all my pride.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Joy Rundell

In Our Prayers:

Scott Johnson, Frank Fritzke, Dick Erickson, Stacey Lewandowski,
Aiko Landgraf (niece of Sue Magnuson), Stacey Barta (niece of
Bob & JoAnn Lohmann), Robin Nelson (sister-in-law of Curt and Eileen Nelson),
our missionary in Papua New Guinea, Rev. Andrew Ronnevik and family



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Faithful Living. Changing Lives.

Paul Lutter, Interim Pastor
Chelsea Farniok, Children's Ministry
Joy Rundell, Accompanist
Hannah Rosholt, Choir Director

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Announcements

Midweek Lent Services Wednesdays, February 25 - March 25
Supper from 5:30 - 6:30 pm | Worship at 7:00 pm (Onsite & Online)

Trinity Call Committee If you are interested in being considered for Trinity's Call Committee to search for our new permanent pastor, please notify the church office.

Stewardship Reminder Thank you to those who have returned your Stewardship Campaign pledge cards and "Time & Talent" forms. Both can still be turned into the church office any time or be completed online at www.trin.org under the GIVE menu.

Trinity Easter Garden Sale Purchase a plant from the Trinity Easter Garden Sale to adorn our altar on Easter morning! Place your order by March 22. Order forms are available at the Welcome Center or order online at www.trin.org/easter-garden.

March is Food Share Month During the month of March, Trinity will be collecting non-perishable food items for Gather and Grow Food Shelf. Pick up an empty grocery bag from the back rows of pews to collect your foodshelf donations. Please return full grocery bags to church by Pack the Pews Sunday, March 22.

Special Meeting and a Visit with the Bishop Join us Sunday, March 22, for a 10:00 am special congregational meeting to approve our Call Committee, followed by a conversation with Bishop Jen Nagel after worship. Your input is vital as we finalize our Ministry Site Profile and officially begin the search for our new pastor.

Community Action Support local immigrant communities by donating to the Minneapolis Area Synod's "Welcome Fund" via the Synod website, or by designating it as a special gift through Trinity. Indicate "Welcome Fund" on your check or online gift.