

# Trinity Lutheran Church

February 26,  
2023

First Sunday  
In Lent

217 Brackenridge  
Southwest  
Sleepy Eye, MN

Website  
[www.trinity  
sleepyeye.org](http://www.trinitysleepyeye.org)

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Office Hours  
Tues-Thurs  
9am –3pm  
Friday  
9-Noon

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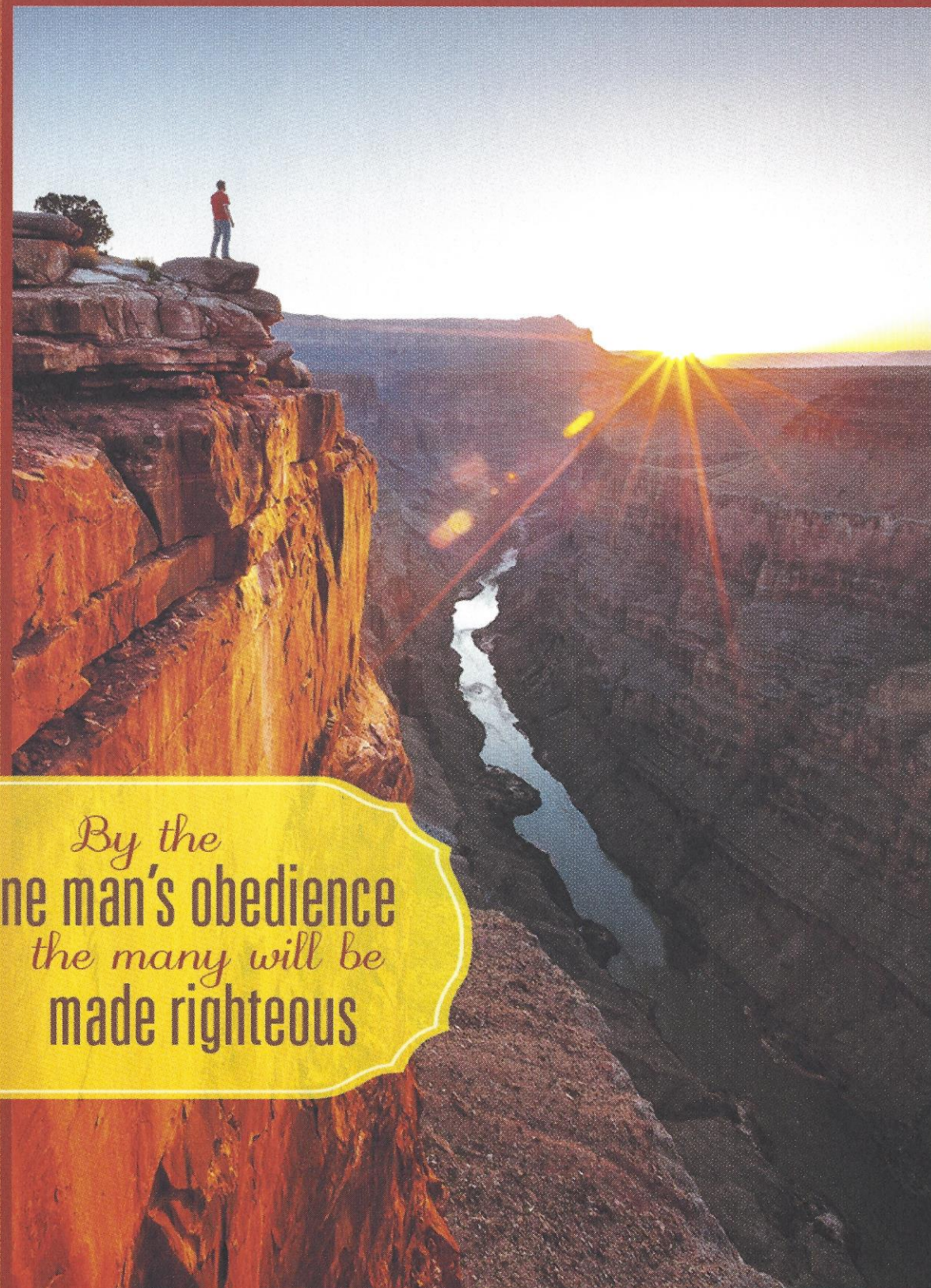
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*By the  
one man's obedience  
the many will be  
made righteous*



# FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT SERVICE OF THE WORD



9:00 AM FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

**THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WELCOMES ALL!** *We are gathered in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who beckons us to come to Him in faith and repentance. Today we welcome Pastor Heather Culuris as she shares the message today. May the gospel of the Lord inspire and fill you with the Spirit! Fellowship & refreshments are available in the Library immediately following our Sunday worship.*

## GATHERING

**WE PREPARE:** *These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues; to receive the gifts of God's grace; to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus; and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter.*

### RINGING OF THE BELL / PARISH NOTICE

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

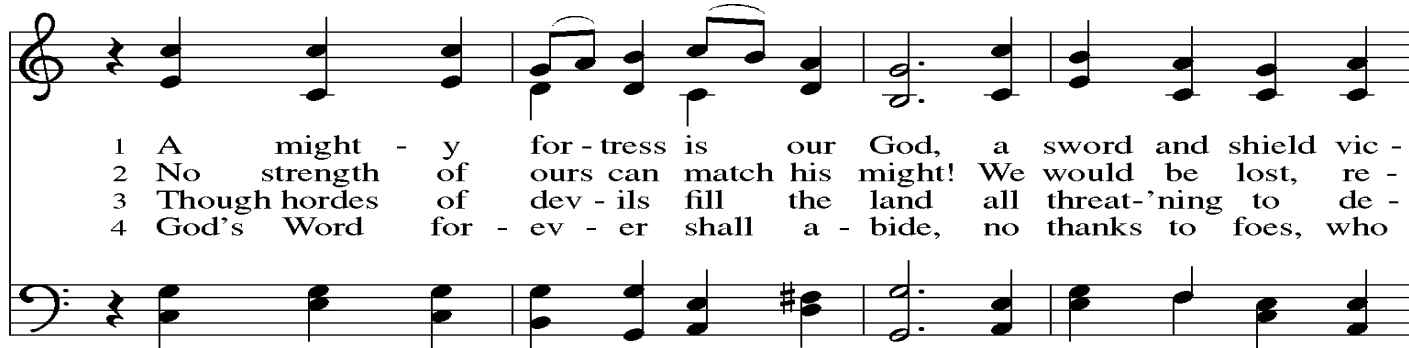
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,


**we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ✝ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**





1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



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## WORD

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### FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

The First Reading is in Genesis, the second chapter, verses 15-17 and the third chapter, verses 1-7.

*The Lord GOD took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord GOD commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord GOD had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.*

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

### PSALM 32

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,

**and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

While I kept silence, **my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.**

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;

**my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, **and I did not hide my iniquity;**

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"

**and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**



**GOSPEL**

Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**"

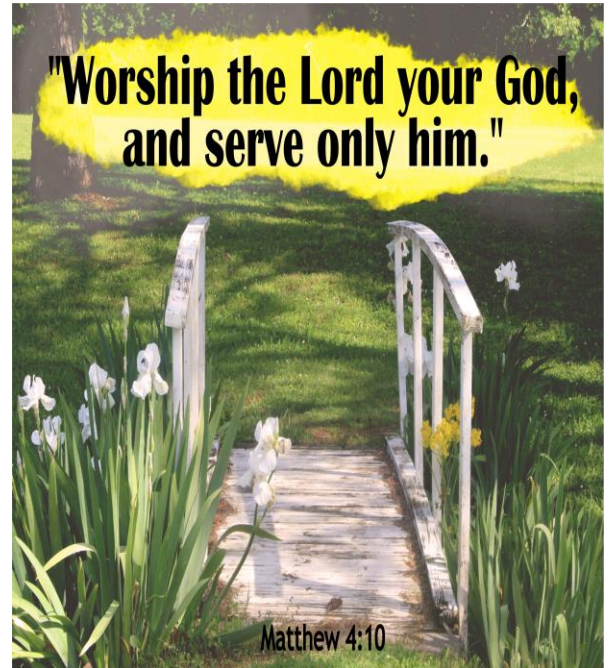
*Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"*

*Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"*

*Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"*

*Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"*

*Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.*



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

**SERMON**

**Pastor Heather Culuris**

**SONG OF THE DAY**

*Blessed Assurance*

**ELW #638**

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!  
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;  
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
 an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.  
 watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.



*Refrain*

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long:

this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

**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**

... Merciful God, receive our prayer.

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** (Due to illness, vocal only)

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING**



**TRINITY CHOIR**

(THE USHERS BRING UP THE OFFERING)

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Together, let us pray with confidence the words our Savior gave us:  
**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.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

God, the giver of love, ✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth  
bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

*I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

ELW #325

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
when in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
when my head is bowed in sor - row,

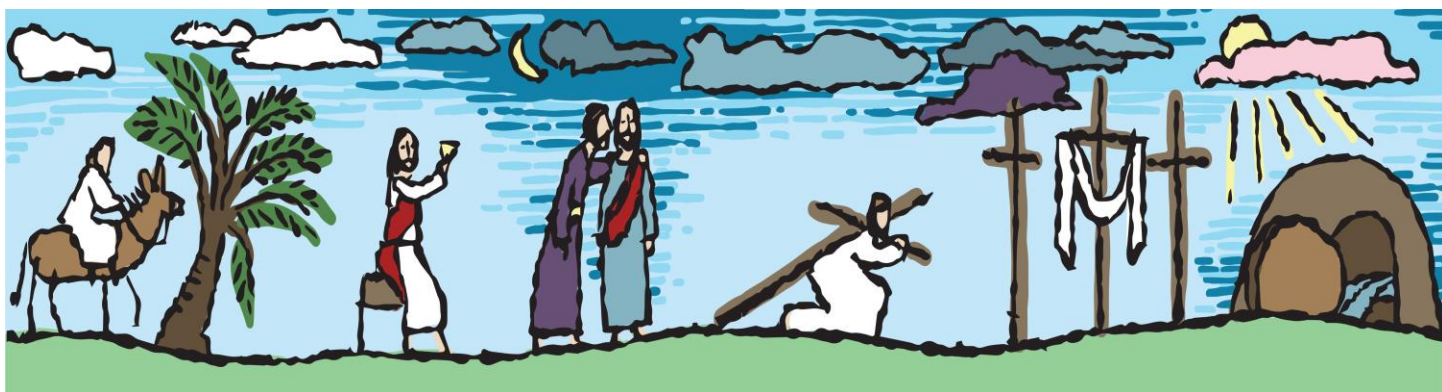
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.



**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**



**Our Thanks to All Who Serve the Body of Christ**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:00 am Worship</b>	<b>7:00 pm Wednesday</b>
<b>Accompanist</b>	Mary Mulry	Mary Mulry
<b>Acolyte</b>	Gavin Fischer	Callie Evers
<b>Readers</b>	Karen Voge	Destiney Dittbenner
<b>Sound Techs</b>	Russ Sorensen	Russ Sorensen
<b>Greeters</b>	Eric & Juliann Wahlborg	Jon Hansen Jacob Fullmer, Shea Evers
<b>Ushers</b>	Dennis Mangen, Sue Pedersen	Jon Hansen Jacob Fullmer, Shea Evers
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Joleen Dittbenner	



Thank You  
Pastor Heather

**Great Thanks to Pastor Heather for sharing our Worship today!**

**SOUP SUPPERS ARE BACK FOR LENT!** Four choices of Soup along with bread will be served beginning at 5:30 starting on Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Lenten Worship will begin at 6:15 pm with Confirmation classes at 6:45. Noon services are also being offered. Our Trinity boards will be serving the soup suppers.



*Many thanks to those supplying the soup!*

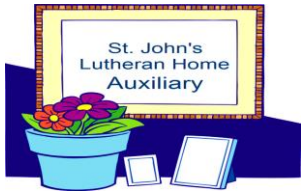


**MEALS THAT MATTER** Remember! Prepared frozen meals are in the freezer for you to deliver to a friend or neighbor who have had a life changing event- illness, birth of a baby, death in the family, etc... *Be the hands of Jesus!*

Lent has traditionally been a time of special offerings and it will happen again. The quarter folders have been designated for Camp Scholarships for Trinity Youth. This will also include the Ash Wednesday offering. Thank you for your generosity.



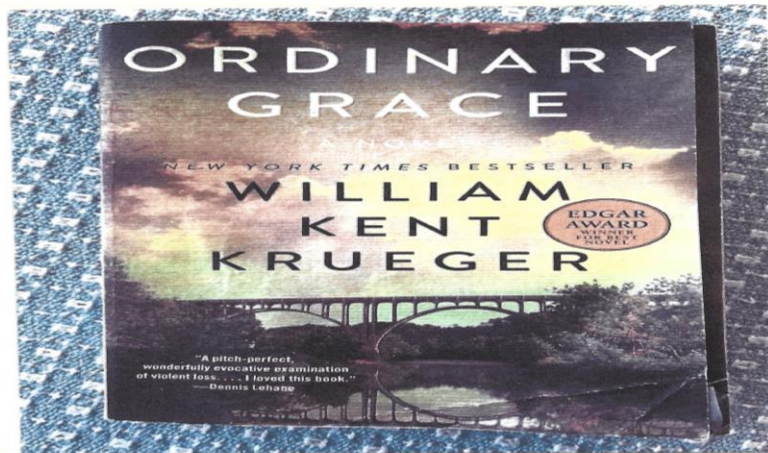
**Thank You**



It's another exciting year for St. John Home Auxiliary. We look forward to purchasing items that are needed for the residents. We also enjoy providing an occasional treat for the valued staff. This is made possible by membership donations and fundraisers. Please read a detailed report in our church Annual Report.

Membership envelopes are in the Narthex. Five dollars is suggested. Place the envelope with your name on it in the offering plate or leave it in the office. Every donation is thoughtfully used. Thank you!

Judy Weedman, Trinity Representative



WE WILL BE READING  
**"ORDINARY GRACE"**  
 AUTHOR - WILLIAM KENT KRUEGER

**Please let Michal Lowther know if you would like to purchase this book by March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**CHANGES TO THE SE MARCH FOOD DRIVE**

Because Sleepy Eye no longer has any scout troops, our participation in the statewide March Food Drive requires some changes. Rather than food being picked up at your doorstep, we are asking for your donations in the following ways:



Monetary gifts can be mailed to: Lori Sellner, Treasurer SHEAF, 221 4th Ave SW Apt 4, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085. You will receive a receipt.

Non-perishable food items can be delivered to the various collection boxes in town: Schutz's Family Foods, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Trinity Lutheran Church or directly to the food shelf.

If you are interested in volunteering at the food shelf, please let us know. The food shelf is open from 4-6 on Mondays.

February 26, 2023

# Worship the Lord.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 4:1-13</b>	<b>The temptation of Jesus</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Romans 10:8-13</b>	<b>Salvation is for all</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 10:1-13</b>	<b>Be careful that you don't fall</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Luke 22:39-46</b>	<b>Jesus on the Mount of Olives</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>James 1:2-18</b>	<b>Trials and temptations</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Genesis 39</b>	<b>Joseph resists temptation</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalm 119:1-16</b>	<b>The word of God</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 13:31-35</b>	<b>Jesus' sorrow over Jerusalem</b>



## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

**Jesus answered, "The Scriptures say: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!'"**

Luke 4:8

## SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

### A Prayer for the Week:

O God, Make me strong when I am tempted to do wrong. Help me to do what is right and good. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

You give us bread for living, O God. Save us from living for bread. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with love. May God rescue and protect you, and give you long life. Amen. (Psalm 91:14-16)

## CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

Share about a time when you felt tempted. What happened?

How did the devil test Jesus? How did Jesus respond?

What can we learn from the way Jesus responded?

## DEVOTIONS

Lent is a season of the church year when we focus on prayer. As a family or household, make the decision to pray for specific things each day of the week throughout Lent. Here are some ideas:

**Sunday:** For pastors and other church workers, and for the ministry of your congregation

**Monday:** For missions and missionaries

**Tuesday:** For friends and neighbors, and for those who don't know Christ

**Wednesday:** For political leaders and world peace

**Thursday:** For colleagues at work or school

**Friday:** For your relatives

**Saturday:** For personal needs or concerns

You may want to print or write up your chosen schedule and post it where all can see.

## SERVICE

Think of a food item that is especially tempting for your household, but with which you could do without. Decide to forgo it for this week or longer, and set aside the money saved to donate to charity.

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Set up a "crown of thorns" wreath as a home devotional focus. Make or purchase a grapevine wreath to use as the base. Insert six purple candles, one for each week of Lent, and a white candle to represent Christ. Light one candle for this week, two for the week after, and so on. Begin Holy Week (on Palm Sunday) with all of the candles lit, then extinguish one candle each night thereafter. Light the Christ candle as you celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday, and decorate the wreath with flowers.

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In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

***Please take your bulletin home for weekly devotions***





## Trinity's Mission Statement

*We are a community where Jesus is Lord: our mission is to invite, welcome, nurture, and equip all people to be disciples in His name.*

**TRINITY'S PRAYER CHAIN** Send an email to [secretary@trinitysleepyeve.org](mailto:secretary@trinitysleepyeve.org) or call the office at 507 794-5051. Leave a message.

**TRINITY'S WEBPAGE** Send an email to the church office at [secretary@trinitysleepyeve.org](mailto:secretary@trinitysleepyeve.org) and let Darlene know you want your newsletter via email!

**TRINITY IS NOW ON FACEBOOK CHECK IT OUT!!**

*"Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) Sleepy Eye MN"*

The Trinity Tidings newsletter is now also posted on [www.sleepyeveonline.com](http://www.sleepyeveonline.com) watch this site for community news and events.



If you haven't already, please consider *Simply Giving*, an automated giving program for your offering. You determine the frequency of your offering which is deposited into Trinity's account the same day it is withdrawn from your account. It's a "hassle-free" way to give. Talk to Pat or Darlene if you are interested. Thank You.

### Last week at Trinity

Weekly Worship Attendance: 86  
Not Available

## This Week's Prayer Concerns

*Pray for the Church*...that the Holy Spirit would empower us to live in the image of God so that we would speak and act in every way bringing glory to God before all the nations and peoples with what we have been given...

*Pray for our World*...that pain of this Covid-19 pandemic, which has penetrated so many lives that your light Lord would help us to see your presence and that the Spirit would lead us to seek the truth and practice grace for all who are hurting...

*Pray for all who are ill, afflicted, or recovering*...that the Holy Spirit would give comfort and daily strength to **Sherry, Audrey, Kali, Jerry, Beth, Harold, OraDell, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Milo, Ed, Carlos, Dorothy, Story, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Julia Ann, Linette, Tammy, John, Tony, Ted, Connor, Kimora, and Mary Jo.**

*Pray for the beloved*... who now rest from their labors in God's mercy and for all who mourn the personal loss of loved ones ... that God would fill each one with the hope of our Lord's promise to bring us to a new heaven and earth where suffering, crying, pain and death will be no more....

*Pray for all families*... that the Holy Spirit would bring joy and spiritual growth to all who are separated from one another and each would be blessed with their safe return to us...

*Pray for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces and those far from home*...for **Brady Augustin** and his wife ...and for all of our military Veterans that the Holy Spirit would guard them in safety and keep their hearts stayed in Christ...

*Pray for the missionaries of our church (ELCA)*...that they proclaim their witness of the Gospel throughout the world.

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