

Trinity Lutheran Church

February 22nd,
2026

First Sunday
In Lent

**217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN**

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sleepyeye.org](http://www.trinitysleepyeye.org)

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Office Hours
Mon-Thurs
9am -3pm

Ministers
Every member

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David Nissen
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Pastor @
trinitysleepyeye.org

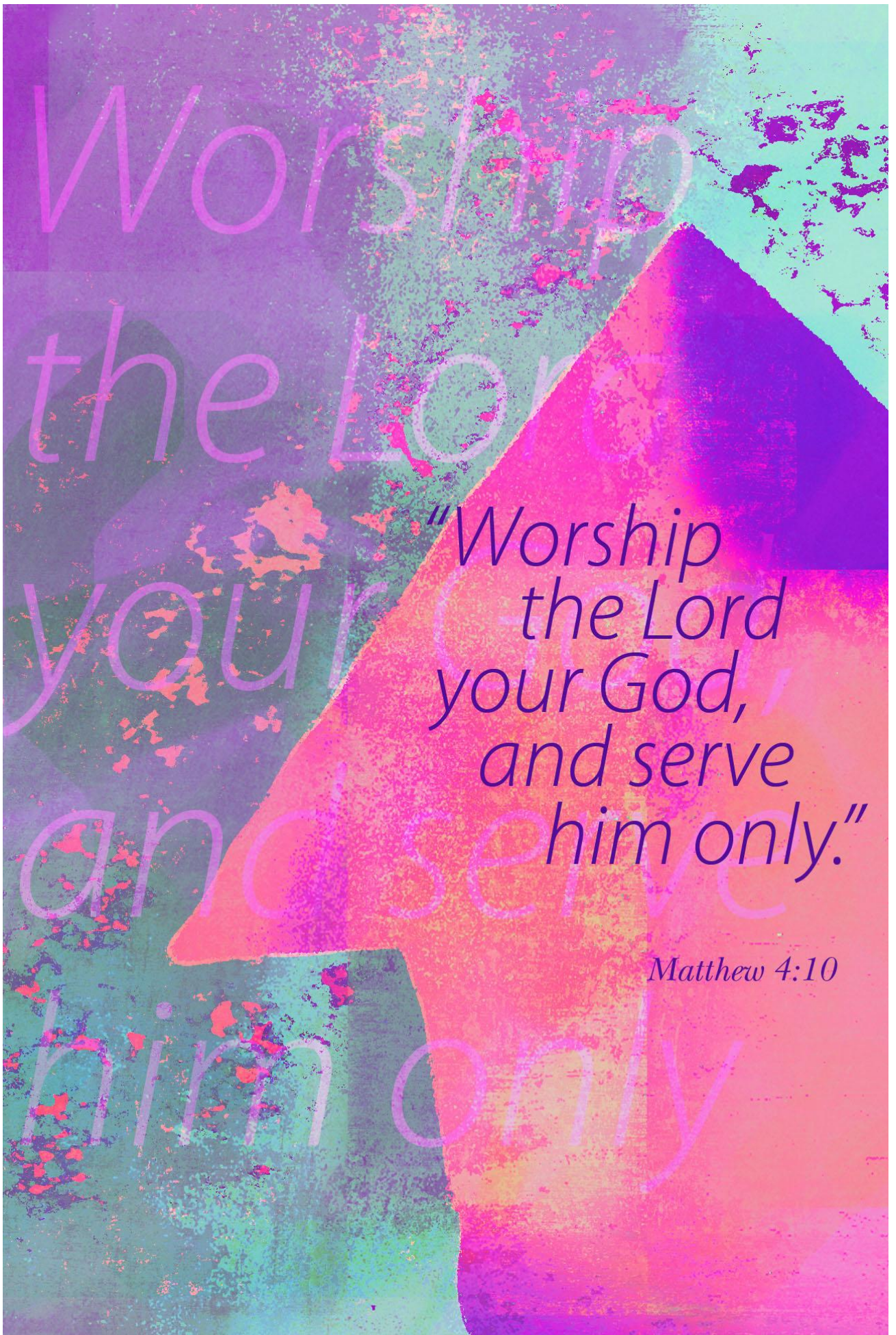
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*“Worship
the Lord
your God,
and serve
him only.”*

Matthew 4:10

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT SERVICE OF THE WORD



9:00 AM FEBRUARY 22ND, 2026

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. May the gospel of the Lord inspire and fill you with the Spirit! Fellowship & refreshments are available in the Narthex and Library immediately following our Sunday worship.*

GATHERING

WE PREPARE *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. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.*

RINGING OF THE BELL / PARISH NOTICE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the ✠ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Source of all life,

we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ✠ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**





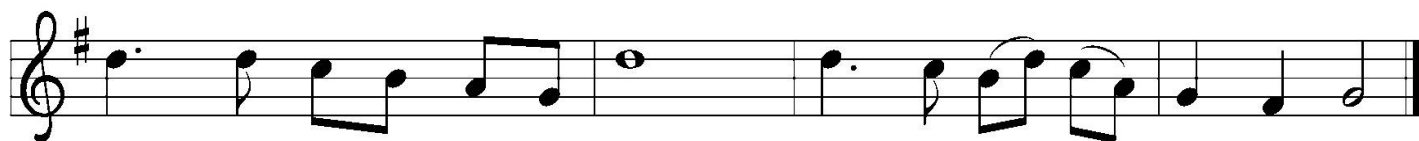
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

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

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

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

The first reading is in Genesis chapter 2, verses 15-17 and chapter 3 verses 1-7. Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

Chapter 2

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."

Chapter 3

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.**

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

The second reading is in Romans chapter 5, verses 12-19. Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

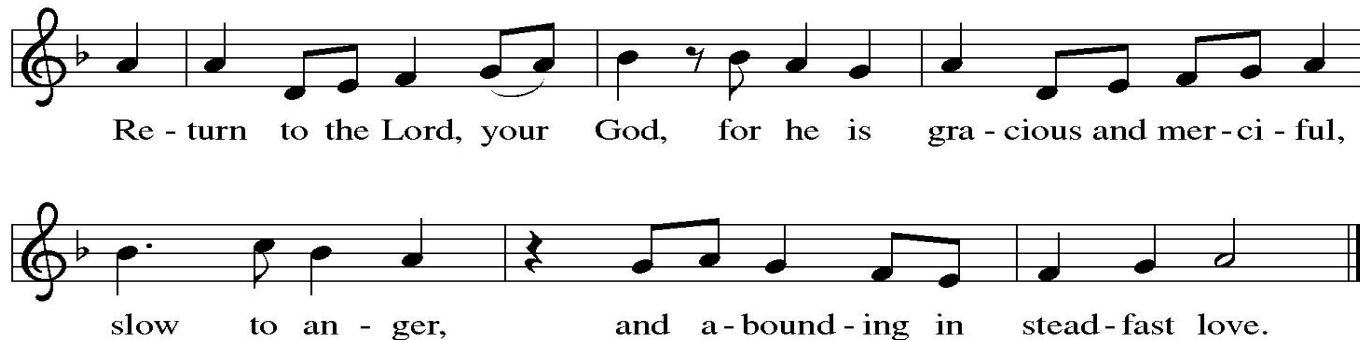
Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned — sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 4th 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,

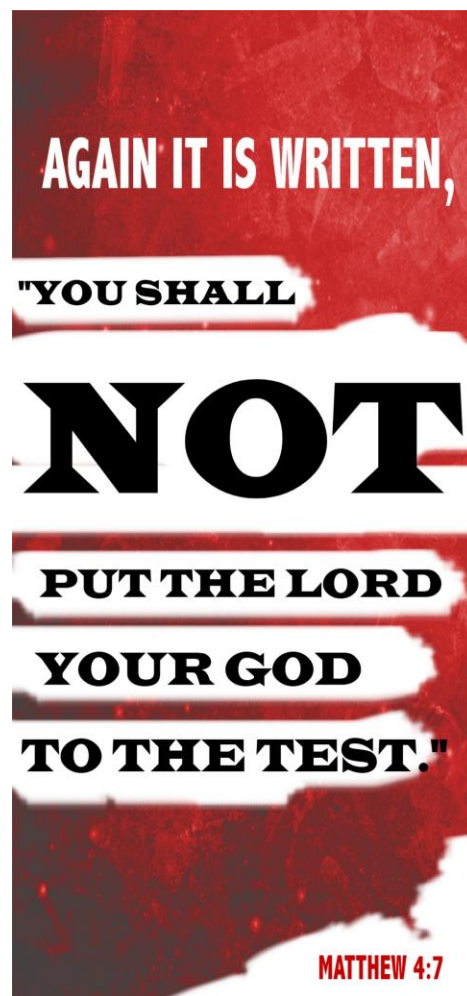
'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

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

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

MESSAGE

Pastor Dave Nissen





1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

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**

THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: respond after Lord, God of grace,



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

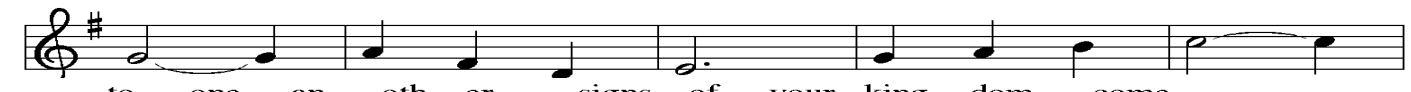
OFFERTORY

Christ Be Our Light

ELW 715



5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

(The Ushers bring up the offering)

OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heaven, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **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


The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land


ELW #333

Refrain - All




Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a
wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a
wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

Leader or All




1 No one can do like Je - sus, not a
2 When Je - sus was on earth, the . .
3 Yon - der comes my Sav - ior, him . .



mum - bling word he said; he went walk - ing down to Laz -
flesh was ver - y weak; . . he took a towel and gird -
whom I love so well; . . he has the palm of vic -

Refrain



- a - rus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.
ed him - self and he washed his dis - ci - ples' feet.
- to - ry and the keys of death and hell.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE



Our Thanks to All Who Serve the Body of Christ

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship	7:00 pm Wednesday
Accompanist	Mary Mulry	Pastor Dave
Acolyte	AuDee Darnell	Jaxon Peterson
Readers	Sarah Lendt	Levi Johnson
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen	Russ Sorensen
Greeters	Brian & Carol Polesky	Brian & Carol Polesky
Ushers	Eric & Juliann Wahlborg	Eric & Juliann Wahlborg
Altar Guild	Joleen Dittbenner	

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Altar Guild is seeking additional members. Duties include light cleaning, setting up & cleaning up following communion services, handling floral arrangements, refilling candles, changing colors and other similar weekly tasks. For more information, please contact Joleen Dittbenner or leave your name and number in church office. Thank you.



The lakeside service is being planned for July 27. Camping at the lake is available, but sites fill up fast. If you are interested, you can make your reservations now for that weekend with the City of Sleepy Eye.

Lenten Services Wednesdays at Noon & Evenings at 7:00 Lenten Suppers at 5:30-6:30



Be KIND.
EPHESIANS 4:32, NIV

SERVE
others. 

1 PETER 4:10, NIV

HONOR
Christ the Lord. 

1 PETER 3:15, ESV



The Boards of Trinity cordially invite you to join us for supper each week before the evening service at 7:00 and Church School at 6:00.

We are raising funds to support Summer Church Camp with the help of Thrivent Action Teams

**Meals are served from 5:30 pm – 6:15 pm each Wednesday
Cost for the meal is a Free Will Offering**

**February 25th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Youth**

**March 4th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Social Ministries**

**March 11th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Property**

**March 18th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Evangelism and Stewardship**

**March 25th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Lay Ministry & Fellowship**

February 22nd, 2026

When we are tempted to sin,
God's Word gives us strength and help.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Matthew 4:1-11	The temptation of Jesus
Monday	Deuteronomy 8:1-9	We do not live on bread alone
Tuesday	Deuteronomy 6:13-19	Do not test the Lord
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Warnings about temptation
Thursday	Galatians 6:1-10	Watch yourself!
Friday	Hebrews 4:14-16	Christ was tempted as we are
Saturday	Psalms 38:9-12; 17:22	Confessing our sin
Sunday	John 3:1-17	For God so loved the world



First
Sunday
in Lent

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

**“People do not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”** Matthew 4:4 (TNIV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week: Lord God, give us a hunger for your Word, the Bread of Life. Amen. (Matthew 4:4)

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, thank you for giving us daily bread. Make us hungry not only for food, but for your Word, the true source of life. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus bring you peace when you are afraid. May you listen to him and look to him, now and always. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you felt tempted in some way.
- How was Jesus tempted by the Devil in the desert? How did he respond?
- What can we do as Christians to help resist temptation? What can we learn from Jesus' responses?

DEVOTIONS

Jesus says that our life depends not only on eating food, but on every word that God speaks. This week, connect God's word with your bodily eating by beginning each meal with a short Bible reading. Ask those in your household to choose a favorite Bible verse to be read on a particular day of the week. If possible, display these verses on placemats for all your household to see.

SERVICE

Genesis 2:15 says that God put Adam in the Garden of Eden to “work it and take care of it.” Volunteer some time as a household to assist a neighbor with their gardening or outside cleaning, or help maintain your church grounds or a local recreation area.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The season of Lent begins with Jesus in the wilderness and journeys toward the cross and the tomb. Make up a “wilderness box” as a Lenten feature for your meal table or home devotional area. Line the inside of a shoebox with plastic. Fill most of the box with soil and then put a layer of sand over the top. For each week of Lent, you will be able to add a different symbol to the box. This week, add some small stones to symbolize Jesus' temptation to turn stones into bread.

Say this prayer together:

Lord Jesus, when you were tempted in the wilderness you did not give in. Please help us to be strong when we are tempted. Thank you for going all the way to the cross for us. Amen.



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@trinitysleepyeye.org or call the office at 507 794-5051. Leave a message.

TRINITY'S WEBPAGE Send an email to the church office at secretary@trinitysleepyeye.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.sleepyeyonline.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:	69
Website	64
Bible Studies Attendance:	5+6=11
Confirmation	58
Weekly Giving: (5730.00 Needed)	not available



Thrivent members are reminded to direct their Choice Dollars each year any time after April 1st of the year!

This Week's Prayer Concerns

Pray for Trinity...that the Holy Spirit would keep our Trinity family united as we continue in worship and in helping others as we are able ...

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 **Nicole, Dave, Susie, Gary, Jane, Mark, Sherry, Kali, Isak, Vivian, Kim, Pam, Pat, Beth, Harold, Rita, Paul, Ray, Lorinda, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Duane, Milo, Ed, Carlo, Dorothy, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, 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 compassion and mercy to all who are separated from one another and each would give way to mercy, love and reconciliation...

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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