

Trinity Lutheran Church

March 23,
2025

Third Sunday
In Lent

217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN

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Office Hours
Mon-Thurs
9am - 3pm

Ministers
Every member

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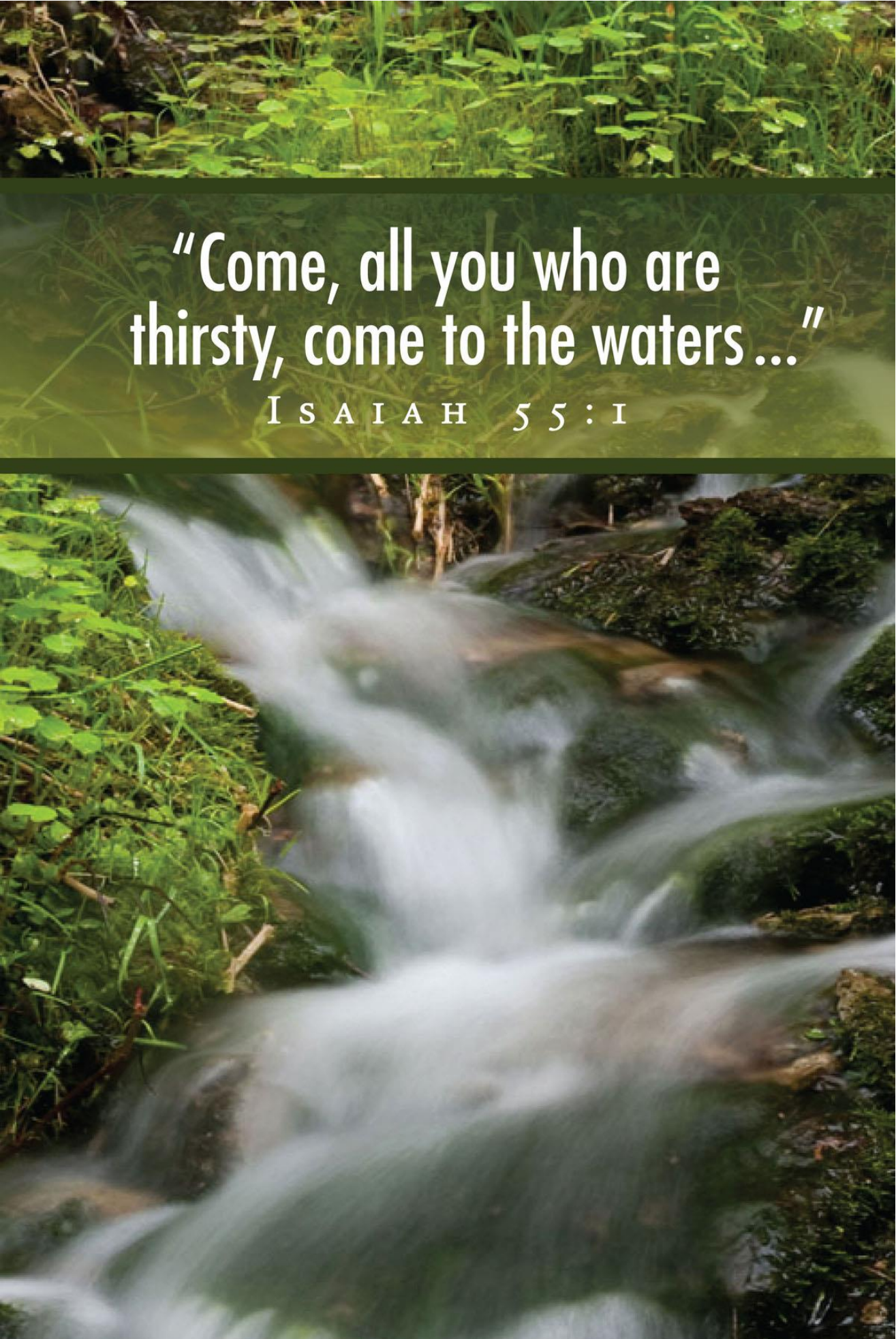
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Custodian
Pat Lowther



"Come, all you who are
thirsty, come to the waters..."

I S A I A H 5 5 : 1

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT SERVICE OF THE WORD



9:00 AM MARCH 23, 2025

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: *The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Lent is a season of repentance. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!*

PRELUDE/ PARISH NOTICES/ RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new. **Amen.**

In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

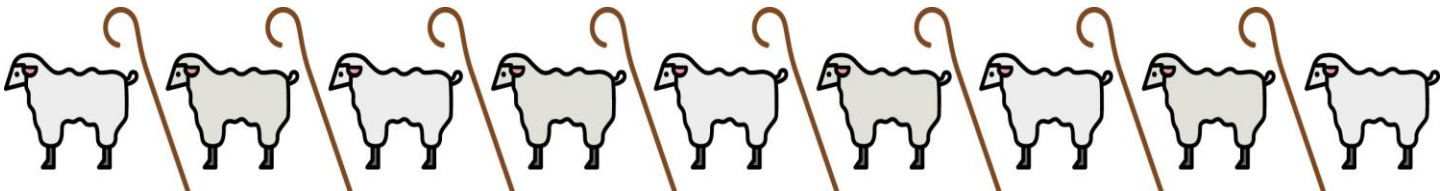
Silence is kept for reflection.

God at the margins,

We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way.

We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen.

Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of † Christ, leading you from death into life. **Amen.**





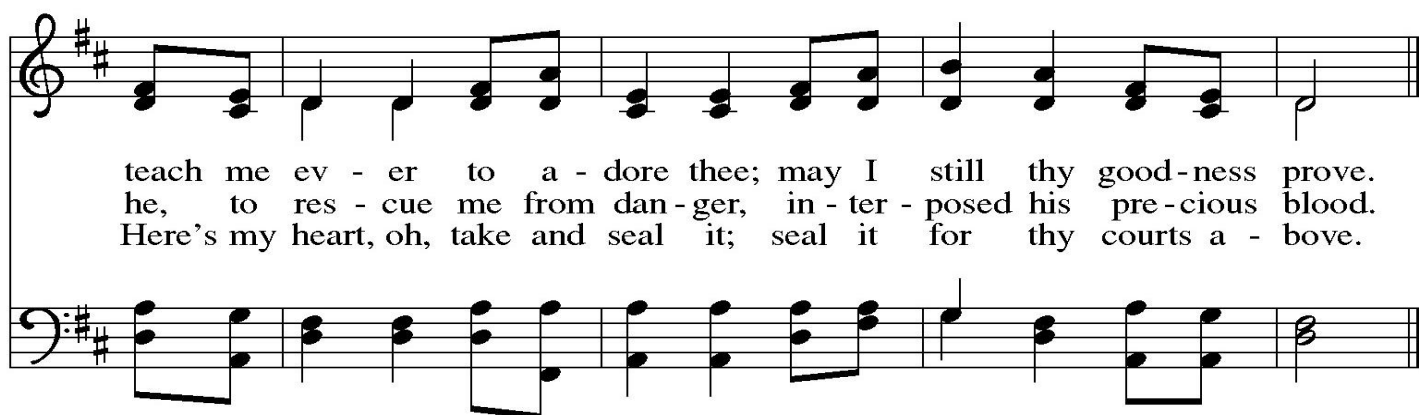
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

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

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, 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

Isaiah 55:1-9

The first reading is in Isaiah chapter 55, verses 1 - 9. To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to the Lord will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

The second reading is in 1 Corinthians chapter 10, verses 1 - 13. Paul uses images from Hebrew story and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"



"IF IT BEARS
FRUIT NEXT
YEAR, FINE!
IF NOT,
THEN CUT
IT DOWN."
LUKE 13:9, NIV

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

SERMON

Pastor Dave Nissen

D A/C# Bm D/A G A7sus A7

1. As the deer pant-eth for the wa-ter, so my soul long-eth af - ter
 2. You're my friend and You are my broth-er e-ven though You— are a
 3. I want You more than gold or sil-ver, on-ly You can— sat - is -

D2 D A/C# Bm D/A

Thee. You a - lone are my heart's de-sire,— and I
 King. I love You more than an - y oth-er, so much
 fy. You a - lone are the real joy-giv-er and the

G A7sus D Bm Bm/A

long more to wor - ship Thee. You a - lone are my
 ap - ple of my eye.

G D2/F# G Bm/F# Em F#sus F#

strength, my shield; To You a - lone may my spir - it yield.

D A/C# Bm D/A G A7sus D

You a - lone are my heart's de-sire,— and I long to wor - ship Thee.

CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

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 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.**

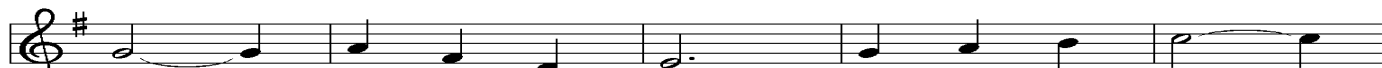
OFFERTORY

Christ Be Our Light

ELW 715



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



hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



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

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. **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

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

ELW# 324

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

DISMISSAL

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

Our Thanks To All Who Serve The Body Of Christ

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship	Wednesday 7:00 pm Worship
Accompanist	Mary Mulry	Pastor Dave
Acolyte	Michal Pool	Audee Darnell
Readers	Mike Petersen	Kenley Jenseon
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen	***
Greeters	Rose Wall, Connie Johnson	***
Ushers	Mark Miller, Doug Domeier	Jon Hansen, Braylon Nelson
Altar Guild	Judy Johnson, Joleen Dittbenner	



EASTER PLANTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ORDER: If you would like a plant in memory or in honor of a loved one(s) you may now place your order by signing-up in the church office. There is a nice variety of plants to choose from to brighten our sanctuary on Easter morning, which you are welcomed to take home with you after the 9:00 am Easter service. The deadline for your order is *April 1st*.

Envelopes for 2025 St John's Auxiliary are now in the narthex. \$5 suggested. Please put your name on the envelope. Place in offering or leave in office. If you are interested in helping residents with Bingo please let me know. We host bingo when there is a fifth Friday in the month. Thank you! Trinity representative, Judy Weedman, 507-227-1659. Thank you!



The Living Lutheran Magazine is again being published quarterly. Please sign up in the office if you would like your family to receive a quarterly copy. It will be sent free of charge to members who wish to subscribe through the Church. Thank you.



Thank you to the ten ladies who participated Saturday, March 15th in National Quilting Day at Trinity to help others with Lutheran World Relief. Tied quilts and fleece blankets will be sent to help people in need in our country and around the world. God bless our workers and all who receive these quilts and blankets. Join the ladies on Monday mornings at 9 AM as they continue with this good work. All are Welcome!

Darlene Brummund, President of Trinity's WELCA





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

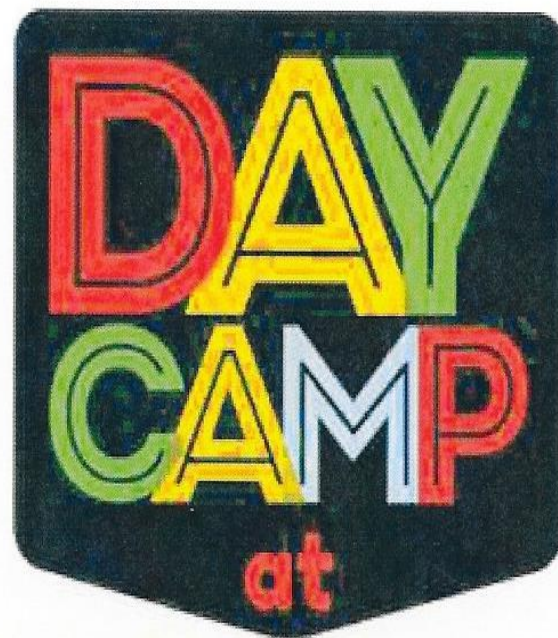
**Meals are served from 5:30 pm – 6:15 pm each Wednesday
Cost for the meal is a Free Will Offering**

March 26th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Property

April 2nd: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Evangelism and Stewardship

April 9th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Lay Ministry & Fellowship





Trinity Lutheran Church Sleepy Eye June 9-12th

**Discover fun, friendship, and faith
through exciting activities, Bible
stories, and outdoor adventures.**

Who: Prek-6th Grade

When: Prek-kindergarten 9:00am-12:30

1st-6th grade 9:00am-2:30pm

Cost: \$40 per child this includes Registration, Lunch, Snack, and t-shirt
Please complete the attached form.

Faith that
OVERFLOWS



SLEEPY EYE COMMUNITY THEATER PRESENTS

BROADWAY & BREWS

LOCAL CRAFT BEER AND LOCAL TALENT COME TOGETHER FOR
A NIGHT OF MUSICAL MAGIC

FEATURING SONGS FROM



APRIL 10 & 11 AT SEBC

PORK CHOP DINNER @ 6:30 | SHOW @ 7:00

ONLY 50 DINNER THEATER TICKETS PER NIGHT!
SCAN THE CODE TO PURCHASE:





MN Food Share
MARCH CAMPAIGN

Sleepy Eye Food Shelf

**March 1 -
April 6,
2025**

feed Minnesota

March 1 – April 6, 2025 Sleepy Eye Area Food Shelf
Non-Perishable Food Drop Off Boxes: Schutz Family Foods, St. Mary’s Church,
Trinity Lutheran Church, and at Food Shelf-Only on Mondays 4-6 pm
Cash Donations - Send check to: Sleepy Eye Food Shelf PO Box 492 Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
Questions: Call Ann McCabe 507-794-4478 or Josie Rose 507-794-7130

Casey Albert Foundation
Margaret Rivers Fund

March 23, 2025

Return to the Lord.

THIRD
Sunday
in Lent

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 13:1-9	Parable of the fig tree
Monday	Psalms 63:1-8	Delight in God's presence
Tuesday	Isaiah 55:1-9	Seek the Lord
Wednesday	Ezekiel 18:25b-32	Repent and live
Thursday	Hosea 14:1-7	Return to the Lord
Friday	Luke 3:1-9	The fruit of repentance
Saturday	Psalms 34:11-22	Turn from evil and do good
Sunday	Luke 15:1-3,11b-32	Parable of the forgiving father



SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Turn to the Lord! He can still be found. Call out to God! He is near. Give up your crooked ways and your evil thoughts. Return to the Lord our God. He will be merciful and forgive your sins. Isaiah 55:6-7

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

O God, show us your mercy and love as we turn to you each day. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Mealtime is here, O what a spread! Thanks be to God, who gives us bread. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God satisfy your deepest needs. May God show you kindness and be your helper. Amen. (Psalm 63:3-7)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

Are you a patient or an impatient person? When is it hard to be patient?

Read Jesus' parable about the fig tree (Luke 13:6-8). Where do you see patience shown in this story? How is God patient with us?

Being forgiven is the heart of the grace and mercy of God. Talk about a time you have been forgiven.

DEVOTIONS

The theme of repentance runs through the Bible readings for this Sunday. God gives us the Ten Commandments to help us examine our thoughts, words, and actions. In your family devotion times this week, listen together to the Ten Commandments and talk about what they mean.

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not kill.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse, or their manservant, or their maidservant, or their cattle, or anything that is your neighbor's.

SERVICE

"Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters" (Isaiah 55:1-2). With this passage in mind, commit to drinking only water at home this week. Estimate what you will save and donate it to a worthy cause. Use this opportunity to reflect on God's gift of water and our new birth through the waters of baptism.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Repentance is above all else gaining a new mind, a new way of seeing things. Use Psalm 51:10 as a Lenten greeting with family and friends: One person says, "Create in me a clean heart, O God." The other responds, "and put a new and right spirit within me."

This can be done with a spirit of joy by doing a "high-five" as the words are exchanged.

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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





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.sleepyeyeonline.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:	110
Website	100
Bible Studies Attendance:	7+5=12
Church School	42
Weekly Giving: (5730.00 Needed)	\$9767.23
March Giving: (\$29,325.00 .Needed)	\$21,060.14
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$56,406.45



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 **Jane, Nicole, Krista, Trisha, Mark, Darlene, Sherry, Kali, Isak, Vivian, Kim, Pam, Pat, Trish, Beth, Harold, Sarah, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Darell, 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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Let them
turn *to the*
LORD

... for he
will freely
pardon.

Isaiah 55:7