

Trinity Lutheran Church

March 27,
2022

Fourth Sunday
in Lent

217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN

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10am –3pm

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*So if
anyone is in Christ,*



*there is
a new creation*

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT SERVICE OF THE WORD

Fourth
Sunday
in Lent



9:00 AM MARCH 27TH, 2022

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 Library immediately following our Sunday worship.*

GATHERING

WE PREPARE... *The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!*

PRELUDE/ PARISH NOTICES/ RINGING OF THE BELL

A WORD FROM PARISH NURSE, CINDY STEFFL...

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.**

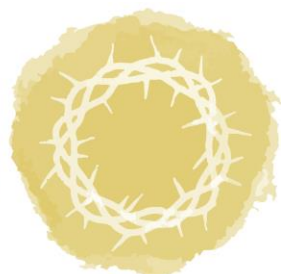
Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

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 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

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SPECIAL THANKS TODAY

(WILL THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH COME FORWARD)

We thank both Julia Coulson and Maren Sellner for their dedication and years of service to the Sunday School Children and Youth of Trinity. They have been a blessing to the entire Congregation of Trinity and we wish them well as they follow different paths of God's work.

INSTALLATION OF JACLYN NESSETT

After prayerful deliberation, Trinity has appointed Jaclyn Nessett to serve in the position of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry Coordinator.

Our Lord Jesus, who came among us as a servant, calls us to faith and a life of loving service to our neighbor. You stand among us as one called to render a particular service, a gift from God to inspire us to study, teach and learn from God's Word.

Reading from Romans 12:4-8...

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Jaclyn, will you assume this ministry in the confidence that it comes from God?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and with the Confessions of the Lutheran church?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Trusting in God's care, will you seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills, and adorn the gospel of Jesus Christ with a godly life?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them. **Amen.**

Let us pray:

Almighty and ever-living God, as you called apostles and evangelists, prophets and teachers to instruct, comfort, admonish, and care for us, so you have called Jaclyn to fulfill guiding this congregation in our learning your Word. Fill her with wisdom and patience, with love and faithfulness to your Word, so that with gladness she would guide, lead and teach your people to grow in Christ. **AMEN.**

Children's
Message



*I see the love of God in you;
the Light of Christ come shining through;
and I am blessed to be with you,
oh holy child of God.*

WORD

FIRST READING

Joshua 5:9-12

The first reading is in Joshua chapter 5, verses 9 - 12.

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

SECOND READING

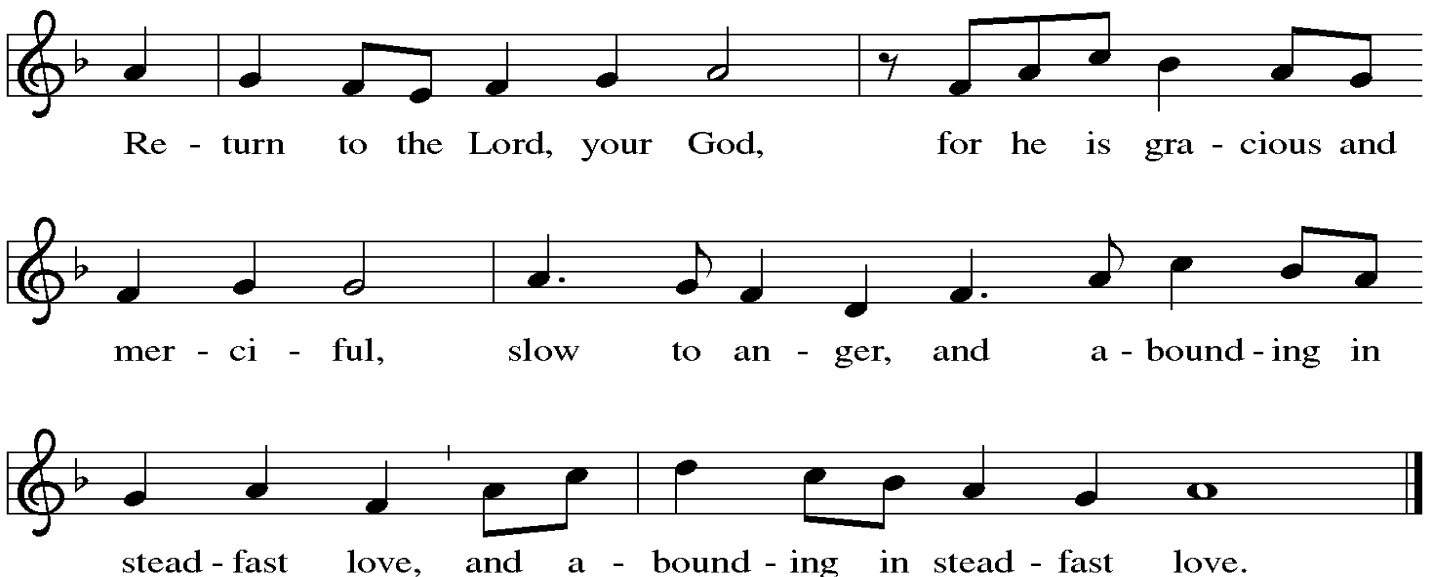
2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The second reading is in 2 Corinthians chapter 5, verses 16 - 21.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL**Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 15th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

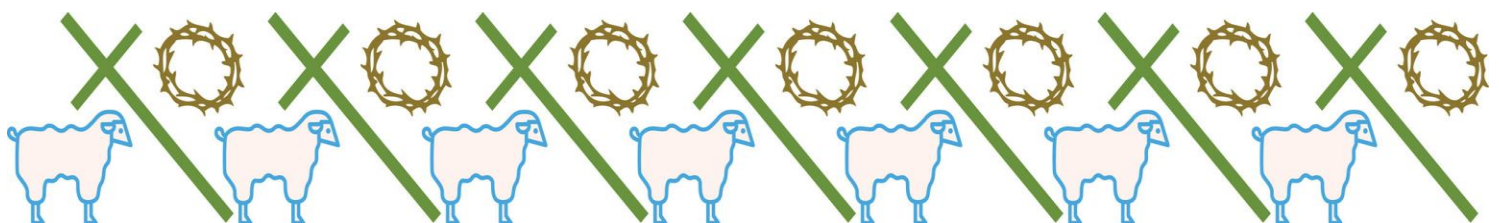
Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe — the best one — and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON**Pastor Tim Mason**

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain
 watch - ing for you and for me. "Come home, come home!
 mer - cies for you and for me? Come home, come home!
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!"

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,
 Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

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

GATHERING OUR OFFERING

(The offering is brought forward)

PRAYERS

Merciful God.....receive our prayer.

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. 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

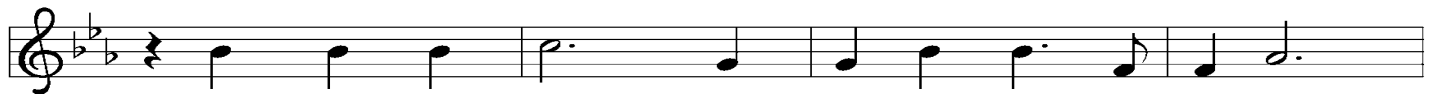
This is Our Song



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



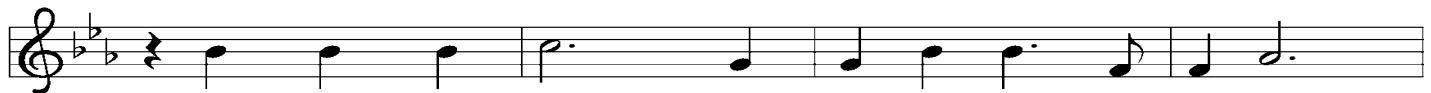
a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
my - self I give you; let your will be done.

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	Mary Mulry
Acolyte	Jacob Mellen	Hunter Mertz
Readers	Terry Newgord	***
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen	Russ Sorensen
Greeters	Rose Wall & Connie Johnson	***
Ushers	Mike Peterson & Mark Miller	Jon Hansen
Altar Guild	Sara Sellner and Beth Klein	

Blood Pressure Checks are available in the Narthex with Cindy.

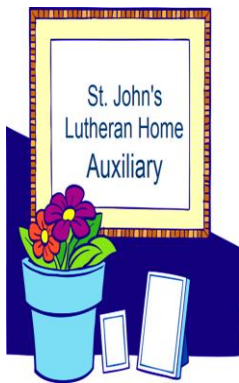


**Lenten
Suppers**

SOUP SUPPERS ARE BACK FOR LENT! Four choices of Soup along with bread will be served from 5:30-6:30. Lenten Worship will begin at 7:00pm. The Boards will serve the meal. Please join us for fellowship and Worship!

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!



OUR 2022 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS UNDERWAY. Membership is \$5 and greatly appreciated. Envelopes are available in the narthex. Please put your name on an envelope with donation inside, and place the envelope in the offering plate or leave it in the office.

This year Trinity is hosting Bingo on the fifth Friday of the months of April, July, September and December. The Home asks for two volunteers to assist. We will also be hosting the May 12th Birthday Party. We are asked to provide entertainment, two volunteers, and \$25 for cake and ice cream.

Thank you from St John's Home!

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*.



Quarter Folders are designated for camp scholarships to help 15 young people attend Green Lake Bible Camp this summer. Please help our children experience this wonderful opportunity of faith.



Jaclyn Nessett's new position replaces the former positions of Director of Christian Education, formerly held by Julia Coulson, and Youth Director, formerly held by Maren Sellner. We thank both Julia and Maren for their dedication and years of service in those positions. Please direct questions regarding Christian education and youth events to Jaclyn: youth@trinitysleepyeye.org or 507 217-1197.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE EASTERN EUROPE CRISIS RESPONSE

MARCH 2022

ELCA.org/disaster

On Feb. 24, Russian forces invaded Ukraine, launching land, sea and air attacks. Airports are now shut, and few railway lines are operational. Civilians fleeing the violence are heading toward Ukraine's western districts and such neighboring countries as Poland, Moldova, Slovakia, Romania and Hungary. Hundreds of thousands of people are seeking refuge in neighboring countries. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter, basic necessities and pastoral care.

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits.

Your gifts designated for "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people impacted by conflict in the region.

.....
Yes, I want to help!

- ☐ Lutheran Disaster Response: Eastern Europe Crisis Response \$_____IDG0103
☐ Lutheran Disaster Response: Where needed most \$_____DDG0010

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Give through your congregation or make your check out to
Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gifts Processing Center,
P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009** and write "Eastern Europe Crisis
Response" or "Where needed most" on your check's memo line.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

March 27, 2022

God forgives our sins, and we forgive one another.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 15:1-3,11b-32	Parable of the forgiving father
Monday	Psalm 32	The blessing of forgiveness
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	The ministry of reconciliation
Wednesday	Genesis 45:25—46:30	Jacob sees his son Joseph again
Thursday	Luke 15:1-7	The parable of the lost sheep
Friday	Romans 5:6-11	Reconciled to God
Saturday	Psalm 73	It is good to be near the Lord
Sunday	John 12:1-8	Mary anoints Jesus at Bethany

Fourth
Sunday
in Lent



SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But we should be glad and celebrate! Your brother was dead, but he is now alive. He was lost and has now been found.

Luke 15:32

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

O God, help us to give your message of peace to others so that they may be brought back to you. Amen. (2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

Mealttime Prayer:

God in Heaven, you give us so much that we don't deserve. Please give us one more thing: thankful hearts! Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of grace and mercy continue to clothe you with the power of forgiveness and new life. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

Talk about a time when you forgave someone. How did you feel?

Jesus told a parable about a prodigal son. How do you think the son felt when his father welcomed him back?

In what ways is God like the forgiving father?

DEVOTIONS

As part of your home devotions this week, read the parable of the prodigal son (aka "Forgiving Father") found in Luke 15:11-32. If you have younger children, you may wish to act out the story. Discuss the feelings and responses of each of the main characters (younger son, father, older son) in the parable. What is Jesus trying to say to us through these characters?

SERVICE

How does your congregation welcome newcomers or visitors? Talk to your pastor or a church staff member about ways you can be involved in helping newcomers and visitors feel more at home. Think about how you, as a household, can show God's welcome to people who are new to your church.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

When the younger son returned home, his father held a feast to welcome him back. Do you have a tradition of offering hospitality to others in your home? Extend a dinner invitation to a newcomer in your congregation or neighborhood. Give roles to each person in your household in preparing for or cleaning up after the meal, to make your visitor/s feel welcome.

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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

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@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. *Please pick up your statements and envelopes in your mailbox. Thank You!*

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 **Judy, Beth, Harold, Sue, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Dylan, Emma, Ed, Story, Tina, Tammy, Ethan, Robyn, David, Carmen, Julia Ann, Linette, Tammy, John, Tony, Ted, Connor, Sue, Ed, 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 (Donna Augustin's son stationed in Italy)...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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