

**Trinity
Lutheran
Church**

**March 10th
2024**

**Fourth Sunday
of Lent**

217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN

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Office Hours

Mon-Thurs
9am –3pm

Ministers

Every member

Interim Pastor

Grant Fischer
(320) 444-3517
ogfischer@gmail.

Parish Secretary

Darlene Brummund
507 276-8013

Financial

Secretary
Pat Stevermer
794-7112

Organist /

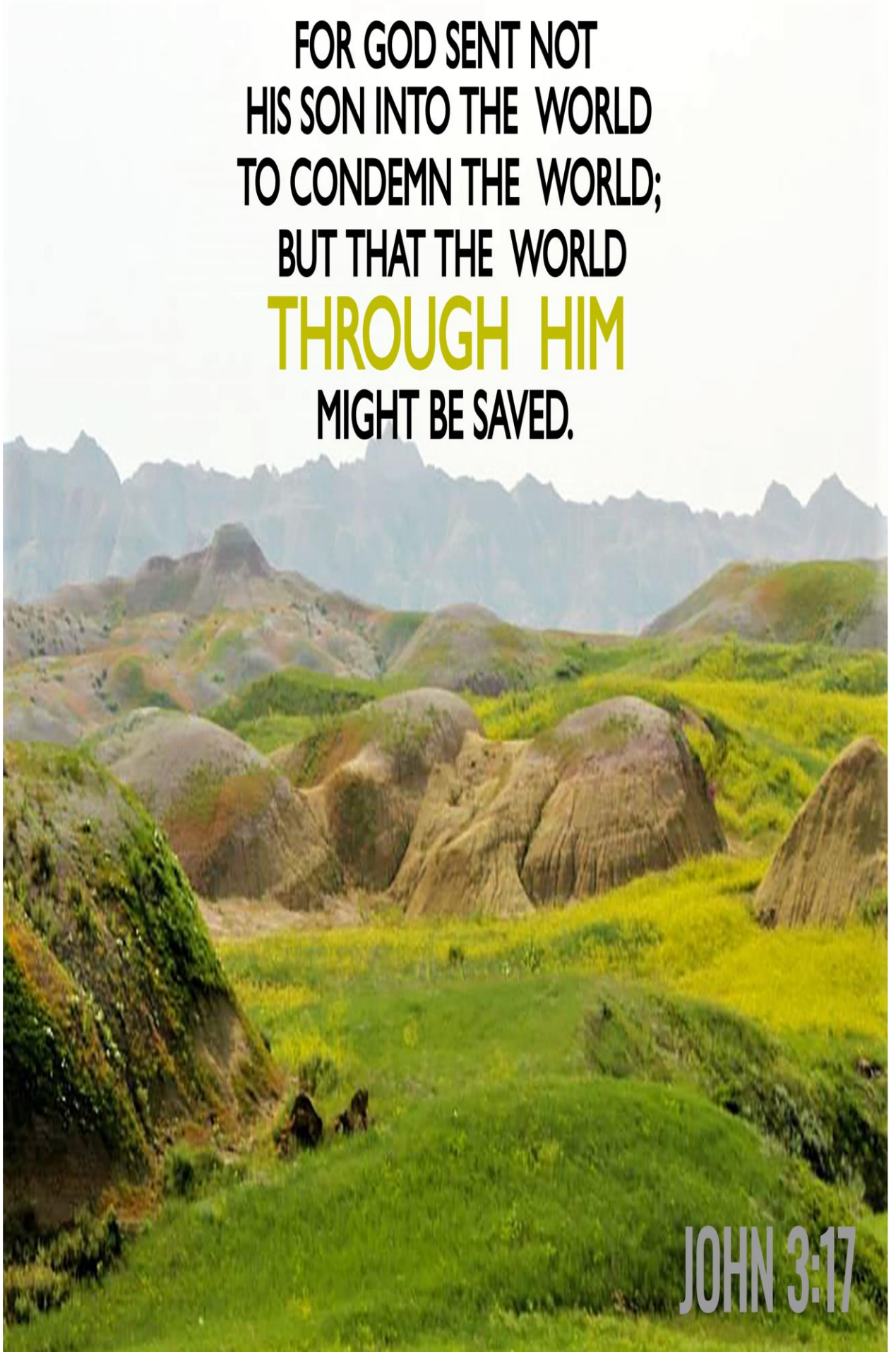
Choir Director
Mary Mulry
794-3768

Custodian

Pat Lowther

FOR GOD SENT NOT
HIS SON INTO THE WORLD
TO CONDEMN THE WORLD;
BUT THAT THE WORLD
THROUGH HIM
MIGHT BE SAVED.

JOHN 3:17



**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
SERVICE OF THE WORD
“GOD’S RADICAL LOVE, LIVED OUR EVERY DAY”**

Fourth
Sunday
in Lent



Sunday, March 10th, 2024 9:00 A.M.

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WELCOMES ALL who enter this house of worship! May God bless you as we offer to God our service of worship today. If you are visiting, we pray God’s blessing upon you today as your presence is a blessing to this assembly. Please sign the *Friendship Pad* as it is passed down your row during the time of offering.

WORSHIP AIDS

ACTIVITY BAGS for young children are on a stand at the rear of church; please return after services. Thanks.
LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE. Please ask the usher.

GATHERING

WE PREPARE: *The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today’s gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.*

PARISH NOTICES /RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

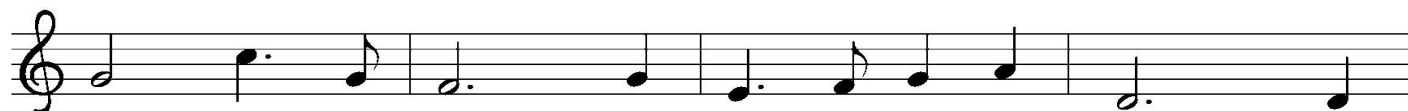
we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✝ Jesus Christ.
Amen.



TRINITY CHOIR



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

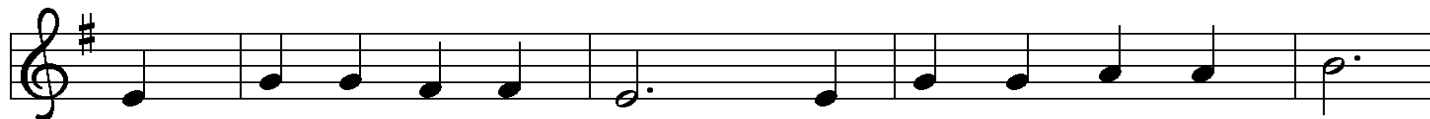


our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

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.**

KYRIE

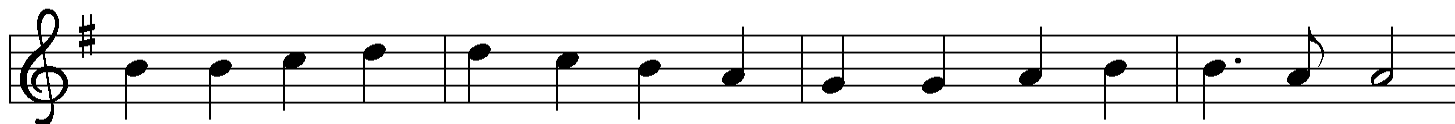


1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

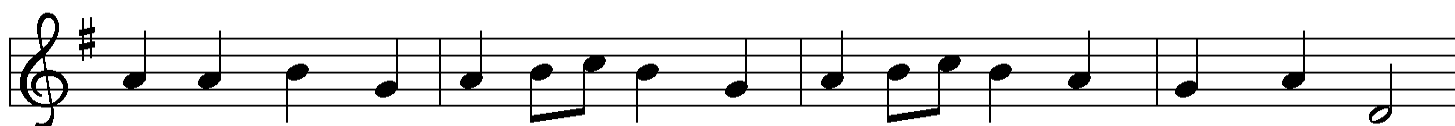
CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

RESPONSIVE PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,

gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.
They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.

Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress.

You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them¹ from the grave.

Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.

Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with¹ shouts of joy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect 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.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4-9

The first reading is in Numbers chapter 21, verses 4-9. Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:1-10

The second reading is in Ephesians chapter 2, verses 1-10. "While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives."

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

John 3:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 3rd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."



The Gospel of the Lord.

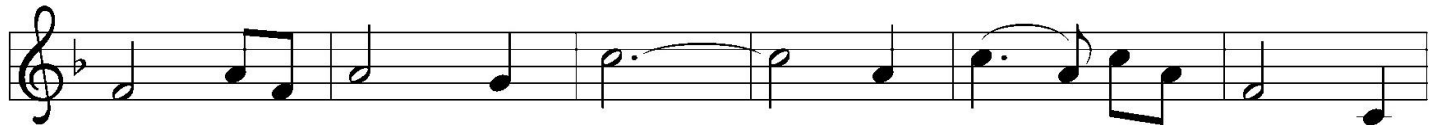
Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Grant Fischer



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

THANKSGIVING

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.**

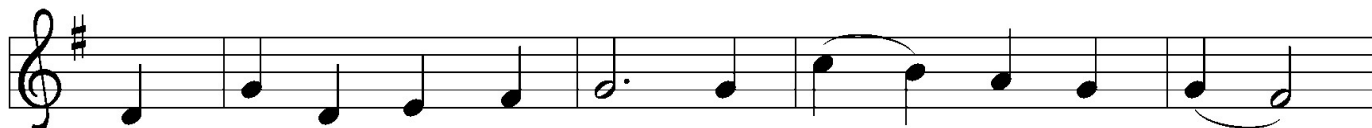
I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

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



- 1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
 3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
 4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
 to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.
 what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

(THE USHERS BRING UP THE OFFERING)

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray.

Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us pray:

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.

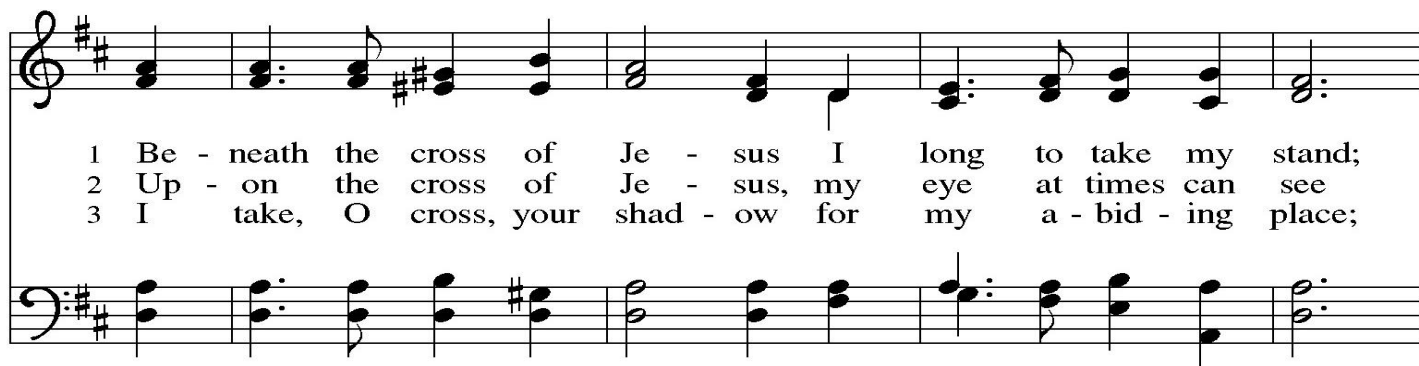
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**





1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me,
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE THE BODY OF CHRIST

SUNDAY	9:00 am Sunday Worship	6:30 pm Wednesday Worship
Accompanist	Mary Mulry	Cindy Anderson
Acolytes	Carson Uecker	Hayden Domeier
Readers	Karen Voge	Kelsie Ladd
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen	Russ Sorensen
Greeters	Connie Johnson	Gavin Fischer & Blaine Arneson
Ushers	Mark Miller and Doug Domeier	Jon Hansen, Riley Voigt and Kenley Jensen
Altar Guild	Beth Klein and Sara Sellner	



The Boards of Trinity cordially invite you to join us for supper each week before the evening service and Church School at 6:30.

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 13th: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert
Evangelism and Stewardship Child Friendly Option

All Wednesday Lenten service offerings are designated for the **General Fund**. Quarter folders and/or film canisters are available to fill with coins. The **Lenten quarter folders** as well as the **Lenten supper donations** have been designated for Green Lake Bible Camp Scholarships. Please donate. Camp is costly.



Thank You



EASTER PLANTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR ORDER: If you would like to share flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one(s) please sign-up in the church office. There are a variety of flowers to choose from that will brighten the sanctuary on Easter morning. You are welcome to take your potted flowers home with you after the 9:00 am Easter service. The deadline for getting your order in is **March 17th**.

“Breaking Bread Together” will be held at the Lions Club Waffle Brunch next Sunday. Let’s support this wonderful group of people as they work to raise funds to support Sleepy Eye! Join us at 11:00 PM at the Waffle Feed! Talk to Russ Sorensen for tickets or you can purchase them at the door.

Sleepy Eye Lions Club

Dad's Belgian Waffle Brunch

Sunday, March 17th, 2024
8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Snow date: March 24th



ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
WAFFLES, SAUSAGES, FLAVORED SYRUPS,
SUGAR-FREE SYRUP AVAILABLE AND
WHIPPED TOPPINGS, COFFEE, MILK & WATER

- ~ Adults (at the door) \$10.00
(In Advance) \$9.00
- ~ Children 6-11 (at the door) \$6.00
(In Advance) \$5.00
- ~ Under 6 FREE
- ~ Take-outs available

Tickets available at the
Elementary Public School Office,
First Security Agency
or from any Lions member.

Sleepy Eye Public School Cafeteria
Use Elementary Wing Doors

Sponsored by Sleepy Eye Lions Club
Proceeds go to Lions Community Projects and
Minnesota Lions Eye Bank - In honor of Lion Bridget Hillesheim, Sleepy Eye Lions

March 10, 2024

Lent is a time to reflect on God's saving love.

Fourth
Sunday
in Lent



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	John 3:14-21	God so loved the world
Monday	1 John 4:7-17	God is love
Tuesday	Romans 8:1-11	No condemnation
Wednesday	1 John 5:5-15	Eternal life through the Son
Thursday	Galatians 2:15-21	Saved through faith in Christ
Friday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	By this gospel you are saved
Saturday	Isaiah 12:1-6	Thanks to God, our Savior
Sunday	John 12:20-33	The grain of wheat that dies

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die. John 3:16

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, thank you for being God's light in our lives. Thank you for all you have done in us and through us. Amen. (John 3:19-21)

Mealtime Prayer:

Each meal we eat is a reminder of your love. Thank you, God! Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you always know how much God loves you, and have life with God forever. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you felt really loved. What happened to make you feel that way?
- The Bible tells us that God is love. How have you seen God's love for the world?
- In what ways do you experience God's love for *you*?

DEVOTIONS

To help you think about God's love this week, draw and cut out a large heart shape from a sheet of poster paper. Attach a piece of ribbon or string so that the heart can be strung up on a wall in your home. As you go through the week, spend time by completing this statement: "*Today God showed me love by....*" Write all your household responses on the heart and watch as it fills up with signs of God's care for you!

SERVICE

Numbers 21:4-9 records that God sent snakes among the people of Israel to punish them for speaking against him. But after Moses prayed for the people, God directed Moses to make a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. When anyone who had been bitten looked at the snake, they were healed. In modern times, the symbol of a snake or a serpent on a pole is associated with medicine and health care. This week, plan an act of thanks and appreciation for a doctor, nurse, or medical worker in your community. Make a point of praying for them throughout the week.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

This week, light four purple candles on your "crown of thorns" wreath. Read John 3:14-16. Then say this prayer together: Lord Jesus, thank you for allowing yourself to be lifted up on a cross so that we could be healed of our sins. May your love overflow in our lives this Lent. Amen.

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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

He asked them,

**"But
who
do you
say
that I
am?"**

Mark 8:29

