# Trinity Lutheran Church

March 19, 2023 Fourth Sunday In Lent

217 Brackenridge Southwest Sleepy Eye, MN

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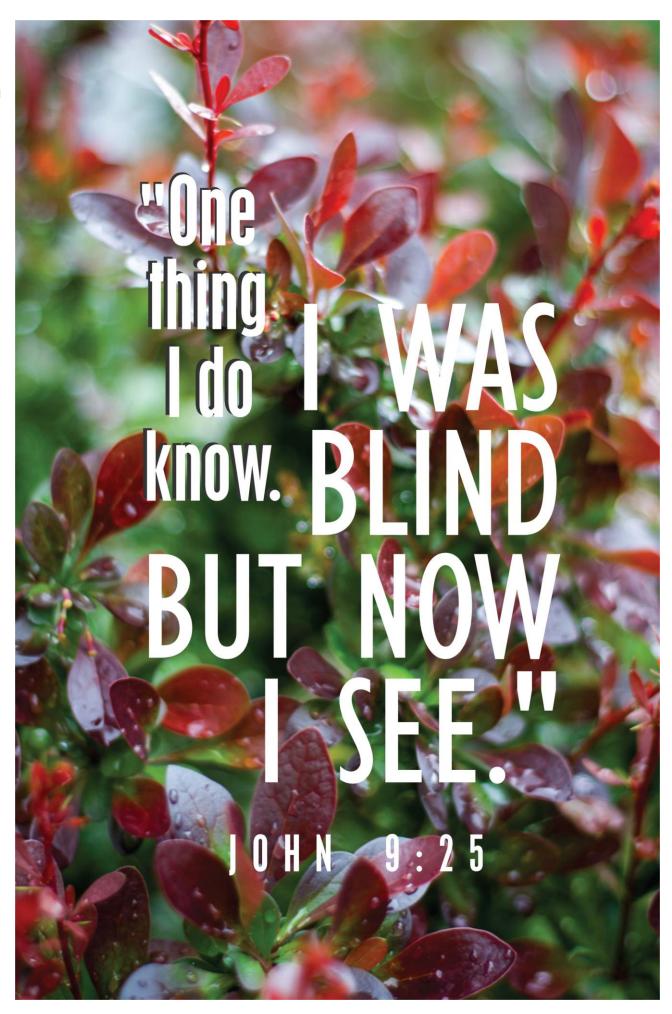
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#### FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT HOLY COMMUNION



# 9:00 AM MARCH 19, 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. 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** ... Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

#### 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.

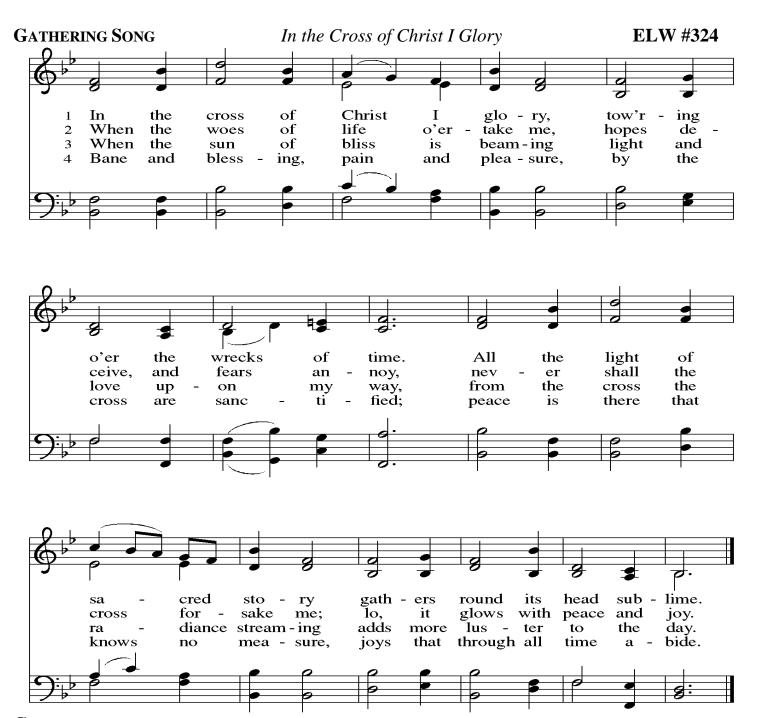
#### Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

## Receive good news:

God turns to you in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of  $\pm$  Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you. **Amen.** 





#### **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 God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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.** 





## **WORD**

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 16: 1-13

The First Reading is from 1 Samuel, Chapter 16, verses 1-13.

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

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

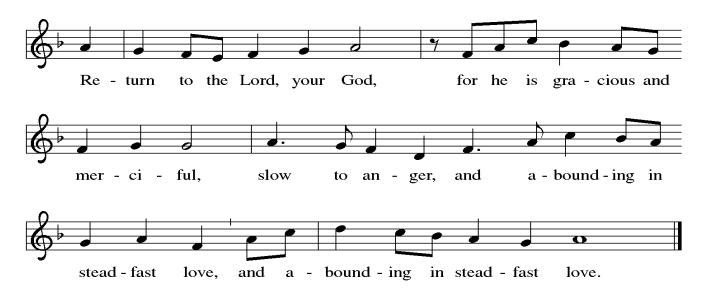
SECOND READING Ephesians 5:8-14

The Second Reading is from Ephesians chapter 5, verses 8-14.

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light — for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

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

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

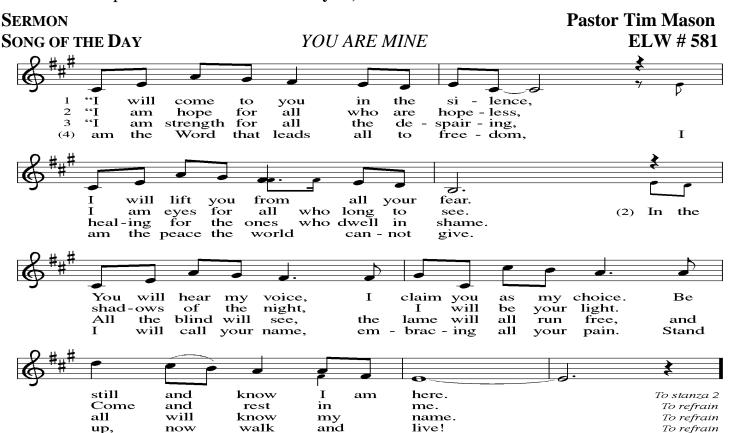
They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

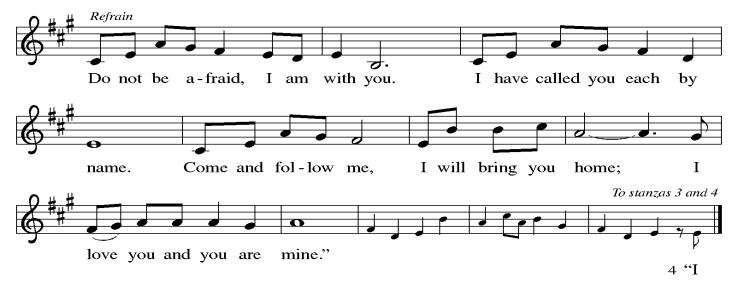
The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

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





#### **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 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)

## **MEAL**

#### **THANKSGIVING**

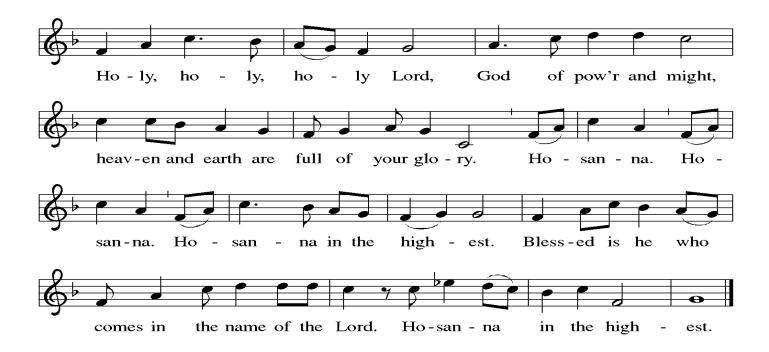
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. As so with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





#### THE WORDS OF INSTITUION

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

**DISTRIBUTION** 

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come and be filled with light and life.

#### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.** 

(THE USHERS BRING UP THE OFFERING)

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray... Loving God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, **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.





#### **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 Sunday Worship	6:45 pm Lenten Worship
Accompanist	Mary Mulry	Mary Mulry
Acolytes	Megan Sellner	Riley Krenz
Reader	Larry Baumgardt	Blaine Arneson
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen	Russ Sorensen
Greeters	Rose Wall	Brayden Heiderscheidt, Kaden Braun
Ushers	Mark Miller, Mike Petersen	Jon Hansen, Brayden Heiderscheidt, Kaden Braun
Altar Guild	Joleen Dittbenner	·



**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 24th.



The well enjoyed Progressive Supper is BACK! Please mark your calendars for Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>, to join in an evening filled with fellowship, fun, and great food. We are in need of 4 hosts to open their homes for this event. Please contact Ashley Fischer at 507-766-2647 if you are willing to be a host. Watch for more details on time and cost in future church publications. A sign-up sheet is in the church office.

What is the Progressive Supper? Attendees will travel by car to enjoy each course of the meal at 4 different homes. Attendees will be asked to provide a dish for one of the four courses.

**Are you ready for SPRING?** Come and enjoy a day filled with fresh tulips, a parade and many other events highlighting Dutch heritage. Trinity Fellowship Board and Sleepy Eye Community Ed have teamed up to attend the Tulip Festival in Orange City IA, Thursday, May 18. Motor Coach is \$30 with food on your own. Spots are limited so please sign up early. Registration deadline is May 7<sup>th</sup>. Sign up sheet and additional information is in the church office or you can contact the Community Ed office at 794-7873.





The Gideon Ministry wants to thank Trinity Lutheran Church for having us report what the Ministry is doing and the generous gifts of donations of dollars for Bibles to be placed in the hands of many in need of God's word. Thanks for using the opportunity of "Winning Men and Women and Boys and Girls to the Lord Jesus Christ" with your gifts. The Challenge by Speaker Dave, of \$1000. was exceeded, so \$1000. will be added, by Gideons.

Brothers in Christ, Speaker, Dave Milbrath and Trinity's Representative, Russ Sorensen, Sleepy Eye / Hector Gideon Camp

Great Thanks for all the prayers and help following my illness. I could feel the love. Thank you also to Pastor Tim who helped so much at the hospital. Trinity is truly my family.





## **Darlene Brummund**

**SOUP SUPPERS ARE BACK FOR LENT!** Four choices of Soup along with bread will be served beginning at 5:30 on Wednesdays in March. 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!

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.





March is Trinity's month to deliver Meals on Wheels. Lee Johnson is our driver and needs help! If you are available around 11:00 am and are interested, please call Lee at 507 276-3515. Thanks!



#### **OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT**

"As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world."

#### Your Help is Needed!

The WELCA women of Trinity have chosen to collect items needed for Personal Care Kits as a Lenten project. These kits will be sent to Lutheran World Relief to be used by people in need throughout the world. Kits are sent to Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. Our organization has recently sent quilts, personal care & baby care kits to Turkey to help the victims of the recent earthquake.

You can contribute by helping provide any of the items needed to make personal care kits or by making a monetary donation to our WELCA group to be used to purchase the items needed.

There will be a display in the Narthex of items used to make the kits and a basket to place your donated items. Monetary gifts should be placed in a marked envelope and left in the church office.

These kits are a simple way to offer comfort to those suffering and express love to our neighbors in need. Thank You.

#### Items needed:

Light-weight bath-size towel. Dark colors are recommended

4 oz bath-size bars of soap, any brand, in the original wrapping

Adult-size toothbrush in the original packaging

Sturdy combs

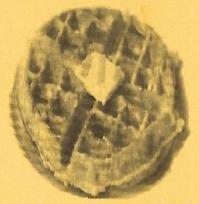
Metal nail clippers

Some important guidelines are: New items only please. Lightweight towels are easier to hand wash and air dry along with being less expensive to ship and store. Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages, U.S. flags, patriotic or military symbols, including camouflage. These items are shipped around the world and we do not want to create problems for the people using them. Thank you for your understanding.

**Sleepy Eye Lions Club** 

# Dad's Belgian Waffle Brunch

Sunday, March 19th, 2023 8:30 am to 12:30 pm Snow date: March 26th



# 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



your local food shelf

Feb 27 – April 9, 2023 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 Ouestions: Call Ann McCabe 507-794-4478 or Josie Rose 507-794-7130



# God has shown his love for the whole world by giving us Jesus as our Savior.

#### **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 3:1-17 For God so loved the world

Monday Numbers 21:4-9 The bronze snake
Tuesday John 7:53–8:11 Jesus does not condemn
Wednesday Romans 8:1-10 There is now no condemnation

Thursday 1 John 4:7-21 God is love

Friday 1 John 5:1-12 Faith in the Son of God Saturday Psalm 128 God promises life

Sunday John 4:5-42 Jesus and the woman at the well



#### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16

#### SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

God, thank you for showing us your great love through Jesus. Make our lives signs of your love to those around us. Amen. Mealtime Prayer:

Lord God, thank you for these gifts before us, signs of your great love. As we are filled with food, fill us also with love for others. Amen. A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord watch over your life and keep you from all harm. May he keep you safe in your coming and your going, now and always.

#### CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- · What makes you feel loved?
- What has God done to show his love for us? What does it mean to you that God loves you?
- How is God's love like human love? How is it different?

#### **DEVOTIONS**

God loves the world, the whole world! Find a world map or a globe. In your home devotional times this week, share what you know about different parts of the world. Each day, pray for the people in a different part of the world, that they would know God's love, and come to know and follow Jesus as their Savior.

### **SERVICE**

The Old Testament Lectionary Reading for Sunday, March 16th tells of how God called Abram to leave his home country and his relatives to live in a new land (Genesis 12:1). In our world today, there are many people who are forced out of their home countries by war or other hardships. Visit the websites <a href="www.refugeesinternational.org">www.refugeesinternational.org</a> and <a href="www.unhcr.org">www.unhcr.org</a> to find out more about displaced people. Talk about the challenges and difficulties facing refugees. Plan to make a donation to an organization, like the Red Cross, that works to assist refugees.

#### **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**

When speaking to Nicodemus, Jesus said that he would be "lifted up" just as "Moses lifted up the snake in the desert" (John 3:14; see also Numbers 21:4-9). For this week's symbol, wrap a pipe cleaner, representing the bronze snake, around a wooden stick, representing the cross of Christ. Say this prayer together:

Heavenly Father, your Son Jesus was lifted up on a cross to save us from the sickness of sin. Thank you for your great love for the whole world! Amen.

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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 <u>secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org</u> or call the office at 507 794-5051. Leave a message. TRINITY'S WEBPAGE Send an email to the church office at <u>secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org</u> 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 <a href="https://www.sleepyeyeonline.com">www.sleepyeyeonline.com</a> 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:	123
Weekly Giving: (5730.00 Needed)	\$2899.00
March Giving:	\$9513.87
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$45,097.40
Needed to meet budget to Date	\$63,030,00

# **This Week's Prayer Concerns**

<u>Pray for the Church</u>...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...

<u>Pray for our World</u>...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, Chris, Kathy, 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.

<u>Pray for the beloved</u>... 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....

<u>Pray for all families...</u> 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...

<u>Pray for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces</u> <u>and those far from home</u>...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...

<u>Pray for the missionaries of our church (ELCA)...</u>that they proclaim their witness of the Gospel throughout the world.

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