Trinity Lutheran Church



March 9, 2025 First Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE: You Raise Me Up (R. Lovland/B. Graham)

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome to this gathering place.

Friend and stranger, saint and sinner in all who gather here.

Come with hope or hesitation; come with joy or yearning;

All who hunger, all who thirst for life in all its fullness.

Generous God and generous Savior touch us through your Spirit.

CELTIC BLESSING

May your mornings bring joy

And your evenings bring peace.

May your troubles grow less As your blessings increase.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG: Be Thou My Vision (ELW 793)



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. Therefore let us confess our sin with every confidence that we will be lifted up.

We pray together.

Holy One, we confess to you and to each other that we are tired and weighed down by the mistakes we have made, even in our closest relationships with our friends, our spouses, and our partners. We give this burden to you, mindful of Jesus' promise that he will give us rest.

We trust in you. Amen.

Friends, hear the good news of our faith:

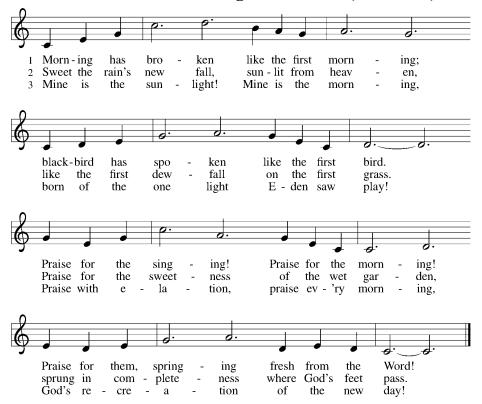
God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, showing compassion to all.

Forgiven and freed, let us rise up with joy and share our peace with one another. **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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: Morning Has Broken (ELW 556)



CELTIC BLESSING

May you always have...

A sunbeam to warm you,

Good luck to charm you,

And a sheltering angel so nothing can harm you...

Laughter to cheer you,

Faithful friends near you,

And whenever you pray, heaven to hear you.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Matthew 1:18-24

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us."

²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16

- You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—
- ² you will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my stronghold, my God in who I put my trust."
- ⁹ Because you have made the Lord your refuge,

And the Most High your habitation,

- ¹⁰ no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.
- ¹¹ For God will give the angels charge over you, To guard you in all your ways.
- ¹² Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.
- ¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
- ¹⁴ I will deliver those who cling to me;

I will uphold them, because they know my name.

- ¹⁵ They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
- ¹⁶With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

FIRST READING: John 11:17-44

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for vou." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing (ELW 807)

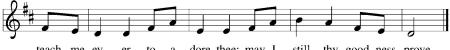


- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb en e zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be;





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.

CELTIC AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we trust; and, in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness, to live in freedom of forgiveness and the power of the spirit of love, and the company of the faithful so to be the church, for the glory of God.

Amen.

BLESSINGS AND THE PRAYER OF ST. PATRICK

May green be the grass you walk on.

May blue be the skies above you.

May pure be the joys that surround you.

May true be the hearts that love you.

God's might to uphold you.

God's wisdom to guide you.

God's eye to look before you.

God's ear to hear you.

God's word to speak for you.

God's hand to guard you.

May gladness wash away every disappointment.

May joy dissolve every sorrow.

May every wound bring wisdom and may every trial bring triumph.

And with each passing day,

may you live more abundantly than the day before.

The strength of God pilot us.

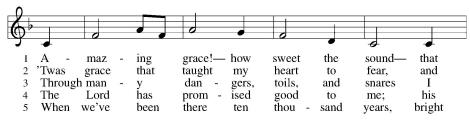
The wisdom of God instruct us.

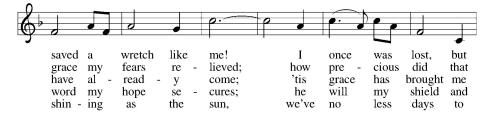
The hand of God protect us.

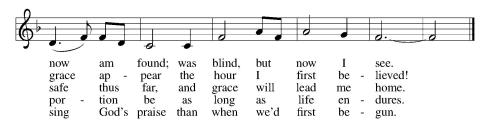
The word of God direct us.

BLESSINGS AND PRAYER SONG:

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (ELW 779)







PEACE

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Please place offering in one of the Bulletin Stand offering plates at the end of worship as you leave the church.

OFFERTORY: In Christ Alone (S. Townend/K. Getty)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Receive, O God our Creator, the offerings which we make to you of what you have given us from your creation, so that by the power of your grace these holy mysteries may sanctify our present life and bring us to everlasting joy. Amen.

THE GREAT 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, for you have brought forth bread from the earth. Blessed are you, O God, for you have created the fruit of the vine.

In the beginning you watered the earth that all life may be nourished by your goodness. You gave to your servant Sarah bread to strengthen her family on their journey and wine to make them glad. You called Moses and his people out of bondage and refreshed them with food in the wilderness.

And here at your table you offer us bread and wine for the journey to nourish us, your beloved children.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to join in the gift of Holy Communion. White grape juice is available, and altar bread is gluten-free. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION:

Come All You Vagabonds (S. Townend/M. Edwards/P. Baggaley)

Will You Come and Follow Me (ELW 798)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us thank God together,

awakened by the Spirit's breath, to grow, to glory, to dance, and to praise Christ,

by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, world without end. Amen.

BLESSING

Christ as a light illumine and guide us

Christ as a shield overshadow us

Christ under me, Christ over me

Christ beside me, on my left and my right

This day be within and without us lowly and meek, yet all powerful

Christ under me, Christ over me

Christ beside me, on my left and my right.

Be in the heart of each to whom we speak

in the mouth of each who speaks to us

Christ under me, Christ over me

Christ beside me, on my left and my right.

May the light of Jesus

shine ever brighter in our hearts,

that with all the saints in light

we may shine forth as lights in the world.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING SONG: Canticle of the Turning (ELW 723)



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

CELTIC BLESSING

May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again, may

God

hold you in the hollow of His hand.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: We're Marching to Zion (I. Watts/R. Lowry)

Serving in Worship

TODAY — Mar 9, 2025

Altar: James Apronti
Reader: James Apronti
Communion Assistant:
James Apronti
Fellowship: OPEN

NEXT SUNDAY — Mar 16, 2025

Altar: James Apronti Reader: Jiwon Han Preacher: Thom Edgar Fellowship: Belinda & James Apronti

Trinity Happenings:

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|------------------|-------------------|---|
| Sun, Mar 9: | 9:00am | Lenten Worship w/ the Band "2nd Chance to Love" |
| | 9:00am 10:15am | Sunday School behind Gruver Rm Fellowship in Gruver Rm |
| | 10.134111 | · |
| Mon, Mar 10: | 9:00am | Becoming in Gruver Rm |
| | 10:00am | Jackie Bath Funeral |
| Tue, Mar 11: | 6:00pm | Church Council in Gruver Rm |
| Wed, Mar 12: | 10:00am 6:30pm | Women's Study in Gruver Rm Lenten Worship w/ S. Barrett "2nd Chance to Dream" |
| Thu, Mar 13: | 11:45am | MUGG Campus Meeting @ Rendezvous Café |
| Sun, Mar 16: | 9:00am | Lenten Worship "2nd Chance to Forgive" |
| | 10:15am | Fellowship in Gruver Rm |
| Mon, Mar 17: | 9:00am | Becoming in Gruver Rm |
| Tue, Mar 18: | 5:30pm | TheologyPUB @ Coal Creek Downtown |
| Wed, Mar 19: | 10:00am 6:30pm | Women's Study in Gruver Rm NO Lenten Worship |
| Thu, Mar 20: | 11:45am | NO MUGG Campus Meeting |
| Sun, Mar 23: | 9:00am | Lenten Worship w/ T. Edgar "Second Chance to Welcome" |
| | 9:00am 10:15am | Sunday School behind Gruver Rm Fellowship in Gruver Rm |



365 2nd Chances Same God



LENT 2025: THE GOD OF SECOND CHANCES

As we journey through the Bible, we witness God continually offering humanity a second chance to start afresh. The story of the flood, though tragic, represents God's attempt to give humanity a second chance. In the Valley of Dry Bones, God renews the Israelites' hope and life after their exile in Babylon.

Jesus shares the parable of the Prodigal Son, the son who left his father and squandered his wealth. When he returns home, his father, instead of reprimanding him, embraces him with open arms and joyfully offers him a second chance.

Another profound example is the story of Peter, one of Jesus' disciples. Though Peter denies Jesus three times, Jesus later gives him the opportunity to reaffirm his love and commitment, restoring him to a position of trust.

God's act of ultimate grace was sending Jesus to live among us, to teach us, and to bring us back into a relationship with Him. Through His life, Jesus' healing stories went beyond physical restoration. His healing reintegrated people back into their communities and families. Lepers who were once isolated were given a second chance to live as God intended.

This grace culminates in the cross, where Jesus' sacrifice embraces all humanity, offering the world the second chance it cannot achieve on its own.

During Lent we will explore the theme of second chances, connecting them to the Bible's narrative.

QUESTIONS ABOUT GIVING? If you ever have any questions about your financial gifts to Trinity, please contact Trinity's financial secretary, Alison Lebeda, at alebeda@uwyo.edu. If you need an up-to-date statement of giving, please contact the church office.

2025 as of January 31

Income - \$22,715.01 **Expenses** - \$17,555.90

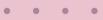


THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME OUT FOR SHROVE TUESDAY!

For the Campus Cabinet
WE RAISED OVER FIFTY DOLLARS

Councilman Larry: \$16 Pastor Nate: \$16 Office Lisa: \$18.77







TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

If you would like or need a visit from Pastor Nate please email or call!

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