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February 26, 2023

**~~~~First Sunday in Lent Trinity Lutheran Church**

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*We’re glad you are here! You’ve come to a place where you can experience a real God with real grace for your real life, a place where you can connect with our Savior and His people! If you’re a guest with us today, we consider it a privilege to have you with us and hope you’ll come again. Please share your name with us by signing the Connect Card in the Trinity Today in your bulletin. Please include your address, phone number, and email. If you have any questions about the service or need assistance with anything, please don’t hesitate to ask one of our ushers for help!*

**DEAR PARENTS:** Out of all the responsibilities parents have in raising their children, leading them to know and connect with Jesus for life is the most important. We know it can sometimes be a challenge, but we commend and thank you for what you do when you bring your kids to church. Your family is a vital part of our community gathered in worship. If you need it, we have “busy” bags to help keep your young children occupied during the service. The bags are located near both entrances to the sanctuary. We also have a staffed nursery for children *ages 4 and under* if there is a need to take your child out of the sanctuary. It is located on the front left-hand side of the sanctuary.

**WIRELESS HEARING ASSIST HEADSETS** are available in the back of the sanctuary if you need assistance with hearing during worship. Feel free to ask an usher for one at any time.

**FREE PARKING:** Everyone is welcome to park on Sunday morning, free of charge, in the Best Park Parking Lot (directly across Washington Avenue from Trinity’s Campus).

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**Our mission: Connecting people to Christ for life.**

**Our vision: experience : connect : reflect**

**www.TrinityMemphis.org**

**TrinityMemphis**

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**Please be sure to keep your copy of Trinity Today!**

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**THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR (HOLY COMMUNION)**

In Holy Communion (Lord’s Supper), we believe and joyfully confess that, as Jesus Himself says, He gives us His true body and blood to eat and drink with the bread and wine! We call this the “Real Presence.” Jesus gives this gift of Himself to us to forgive our sins, strengthen our faith and our union with Him, and strengthen our unity with one another as His Church (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Our Lord invites to His table baptized Christians who trust in Him alone for forgiveness and salvation, who trust His Words that He is present and offering forgiveness and grace in the Sacrament, who repent of all sin, who forgive others as He forgives us, and who are able to “examine” themselves (1 Corinthians 11:28) regarding these things.

As we share in Christ’s body and blood together, the Bible says we also confess the Gospel and our unity in it (1 Corinthians 11:26). Because of this, we practice “Close Communion.” This means that those who commune together do so with the intent of being united in the faith we confess and in our life together. We want everyone to partake of the Lord’s Supper. Because we desire everyone who communes at Trinity to do so in the unity that our Lord intends and to receive the fullness of the gifts He offers (1 Corinthians 11:27-30), we lovingly ask any who have not yet been instructed in the faith of Scripture, who have doubts about the church’s teachings, or who have united themselves in membership to a church that is not in fellowship with the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod to first speak with the pastor about communing.

If you are a Christian but are not receiving Communion, we invite and welcome you to the Lord’s altar for a blessing. Please cross your arms to indicate you have come for a blessing.

We offer both individual and common cup. If you are unable to come to the front easily, please let the pastor or one of the ushers know. The pastor will bring the Sacrament to you at your seat. We encourage parents to bring your non-communing children for a blessing.

**For Good Health** – We ask everyone to please observe social distancing in accordance with your own comfort level as well as that of the people around you. Please take your worship bulletins with you when you leave. Wash hands and/or use hand sanitizer regularly.

First Sunday in Lent

**As We Gather**

“*X* marks the spot” is a reminder that a cross, whether on a treasure map or on a police investigation site outline, has a special meaning. It indicates what is at the center and is of greatest importance. In the Small Catechism, Dr. Martin Luther directs Christian people to make the sign of the cross to begin their day, as he writes, “In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross” (*LSB*, p. 327). He commends the same sacred action at the close of the day, writing, “In the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross” (*LSB*, p. 327). The purpose of making the sign of the cross, whether at home or in conjunction with our worship, is to indicate that all our lives are marked by the redeeming action of our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross for us and for our salvation. It is a most blessed sign!

Welcome and Announcements

Please note that during portions of the service where there are responsive speaking parts, P=Pastor, A=Assistant, and **C=Congregation.**

LSB = Lutheran Service Book (burgundy hymnal)

Prelude

Please stand

Opening Hymn *O Love, How Deep LSB 544*

**Invocation** Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

Invocation comes from the Latin “to call upon.” The words “In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” are spoken at the beginning of the service and remind us of our baptism.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

**Opening Sentences** *Psalm 43:3–4, 5b; 61:1–2a*

P Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer;

C **from the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is faint.**

P Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me;

C **let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling!**

P Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,

C **and I will praise You with the lyre, O God, my God.**

P Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him,

C **my salvation and my God.**

**Confession and Absolution**

P Let us make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

C **Merciful Father, our Lord and King, we are sinful people. We have inherited the legacy of original sin from our first parents, Adam and Eve, who disobeyed You in Eden. We are by nature sinful and unclean. In our daily lives we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our lives that each day we may grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.**

P God is gracious and forgiving. He has shown His merciful power in ways that renew, restore, and heal. To those who come to Him with repentant and contrite hearts, our Lord says, “Fear not!” and promises pardon, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

C **Amen.**

T Service of the Word T

Kyrie *~ Lord, Have Mercy Mark 10:47*

The Kyrie is Greek for “Kyrie eleison” which means “Lord, have mercy”.

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Collect is a brief prayer that is connected to a theme in the Scripture readings for the day.

P The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading Genesis 3:1-21

*1Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.*

*He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” 2And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” 4But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. 5For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. 7Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.*

*8And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” 10And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” 11He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” 12The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” 13Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”*

*14The Lord God said to the serpent,*

*“Because you have done this,  
 cursed are you above all livestock  
 and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
 and dust you shall eat  
 all the days of your life.  
15I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
 and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
 and you shall bruise his heel.”*

*16To the woman he said,*

*“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;  
 in pain you shall bring forth children.  
Your desire shall be for your husband,  
 and he shall rule over you.”*

*17And to Adam he said,*

*“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife  
 and have eaten of the tree  
of which I commanded you,  
 ‘You shall not eat of it,’  
cursed is the ground because of you;  
 in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;  
18thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;  
 and you shall eat the plants of the field.  
19By the sweat of your face  
 you shall eat bread,  
till you return to the ground,  
 for out of it you were taken;  
for you are dust,  
 and to dust you shall return.”*

*20The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. 21And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.*

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Romans 5:12-19

*12Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— 13for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. 14Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.*

*15But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. 16And the free gift is not like the result of that one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. 17If, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.*

*18Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. 19For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.*

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Holy Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C Glory be to You, O Lord.

*1Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” 4But he answered, “It is written,*

*“‘Man shall not live by bread alone,  
 but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”*

*5Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple 6and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,*

*“‘He will command his angels concerning you,’*

*and*

*“‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
 lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”*

*7Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 8Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,*

*“‘You shall worship the Lord your God  
 and him only shall you serve.’”*

*11Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.*

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Children’s Message

Hymn *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God LSB 657*

Sermon Rev. Michael Croom

Please stand

**Apostles’ Creed**

*This is one of the Christian Church’s ancient statements of faith. The faith we confess in the Creed connects us to one another and Christians past and present.*

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life T everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church *[1 Timothy 2:1-4]*

P As we begin our observance of Lent, Lord, we pray, “Lead us not into temptation.” Assure us that You are with us in every place, and defend us from the assaults of the evil one. Help us to treasure the cross in our hearts as it reveals Your loving purpose, and enable us to show our thankfulness for our full salvation in lives that are wholly given to Your service. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Support and ever defend Your Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Strengthen Your faithful people through the Word that is able to make us wise unto salvation. Grant us every blessing through the Holy Sacraments, making us perfect in love and in all good works, especially to those of the household of faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant Your wisdom and heavenly grace to all pastors and to those who hold office or discharge responsibility in Your Church that, by their devoted service, faith may be nurtured and Your kingdom increase. We pray for officers of congregations and all those who serve in groups and on committees and individually where the tasks completed are often visible only to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into a world that is dark and often hostile, send the light of Your truth. Raise up faithful and courageous servants of Christ to advance the Gospel both at home in urban, suburban, and rural settings, and also in distant lands around the globe. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Preserve our nation in justice and honor that we may lead safe and peaceable lives. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, especially the president and congress, the governosr and legislatures of these states, and to all those who make, administer, and judge our laws. Help them to serve the people in their areas of responsibility according to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P By Your Word and Holy Spirit, comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, *[especially…]*. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and grant to all with special needs a full measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. Enable us to be instruments of care according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.

C **Amen.**

**Sharing of the Peace** *Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3*

P Peace be with you.

C **And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord saying, “Peace be with you,” or “The peace of the Lord be with you,” as a testimony to our oneness in Christ.*

Please be seated

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

*A Stewardship thought from LCMS:* ***Matthew 4:7 – “Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written...’”*** *Jesus defeats Satan in our place, not by using His power as God, but by His perfect obedience in His perfect humanity. Jesus defeats Satan not by miracles, but by quoting the Scriptures and living according to them. This should cause us great joy for two reasons. First, we see Jesus win the victory for us. Second, here Jesus shows us how to stand in that victory: on the Word of God alone.*

**"Cross" Reference** *Apology to the Augsburg Confession XXIV 56*

P There are numerous references to the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Lutheran Confessions. These documents present the truth of our faith in Jesus, the ultimate sacrifice for sin that brings us reconciliation with God for time and eternity. In the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, a document that expands on previous expressions of the beliefs of Lutherans, it is written, “In the Old Testament, sacrifices did not merit reconciliation, except as a picture (for they merited civil reconciliation), but they illustrated the coming sacrifice. This means that Christ is the only sacrifice applied on behalf of the sins of others. Therefore, in the New Testament, no sacrifice is left to be applied for the sins of others, except the one sacrifice of Christ upon the cross.”

The cross of Jesus Christ is frequently called “the tree” in Lenten hymns—as it is in “Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted.” This classic Passiontide hymn, written in Ireland by writer Thomas Kelly in the nineteenth century, underscores the theme of the sacrifice of Jesus on our behalf.

**Offertory ~** *Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted LSB 451 (verse 1)*

*Please stand*

T Service of the Sacrament T

If you are visiting with us today, please take a moment to read the statement regarding the Sacrament of the Altar (Holy Communion) on page two of this bulletin and in Spanish on page fourteen.

Preface

The Preface (and Proper Preface) are the opening words to the Communion portion of the service. They express greeting in the Lord and great thanksgiving and praise to God.

P The Lord be with you. 2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts. [Colossians 3:1]

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [Psalm 136]

C It is good and right so to do.

Lord’s Prayer Matthew 6:9–13

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord *Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25*

Pax Domini *~ “The Peace of the Lord”* John 20:19

Pax Domini is Latin for “the peace of the Lord.”

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei *~ Lamb of God* John 1:29

Agnus Dei is Latin for “Lamb of God,” the words used by John the Baptist to describe Jesus as the sacrifice for our sins.

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Please be seated

Communion Distribution

All who desire to commune at the rail will commune first. Those communing in the “continuous” format will follow.

Distribution Hymns

*O Christ, You Walked the Road LSB 424*

*If God Himself Be for Me LSB 724*

*Lamb of God, Fair and Holy LSB 434*

Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus LSB 529

Please stand

**Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated

An Observance of Black History Month by Members of Trinity

Hymn *Were You There LSB 456*

Please stand

Benediction Numbers 6:24-26

The Benediction is a blessing from the Lord, spoken by the pastor at the end of   
the service.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn *O Lord, throughout These Forty Days LSB 417*

The Dismissal

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

T Go in Peace, Serve the Lord T

**Readings for Sunday, March 4, 2023**

Old Testament: Genesis 12:1-9

Epistle: Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

Holy Gospel: John 3:1-17

**Acknowledgments**

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**EL SACRAMENTO DEL ALTAR (SANTA COMUNIÓN)**

Amorosamente le invitamos, a que hablen primero con el pastor acerca de la comunión antes de pasar. Si deseas recibir la bendición puedes pasar con tus brazos cruzados sobre el pecho en señal de bendición, es una alegría para nosotros compartir la bendición contigo e invitarte a estudiar para participar de este don celestial.

En la Santa Cena (Cena del Señor), creemos y confesamos con alegría que, como Jesús mismo dice, ¡Él nos da Su verdadero cuerpo y sangre para comer y beber con el pan y el vino! Llamamos a esto la "Presencia Real." Jesús nos da este don de sí mismo para perdonar nuestros pecados, fortalecer nuestra fe y nuestra unión con Él, y fortalecer nuestra unidad unos con otros como Su Iglesia (Mateo 26:26-28; Marcos 14:22-24; Lucas 22:19-20; 1 Corintios 11:17-34; 1 Corintios 10:16-17). Nuestro Señor invita a Su mesa a los cristianos bautizados que confían sólo en Él para el perdón y la salvación, que confían en Sus Palabras, que Él está presente y ofrece perdón y gracia en el Sacramento, que se arrepienten de todo pecado, que perdonan a los demás como Él nos perdona, y que son capaces de "examinarse" ellos mismos (1 Corintios 11:28) con respecto a estas cosas.

Al compartir el cuerpo y la sangre de Cristo juntos, la Biblia dice que también confesamos el Evangelio y nuestra unidad en él (1 Corintios 11:26). Debido a esto, practicamos la "Comunión Cerrada." Esto significa que aquellos que comulgan juntos lo hacen con la intención de estar unidos en la fe que confesamos y en nuestra vida, juntos. Queremos que todos compartamos de la Cena del Señor. Porque deseamos que todos los que comulgan en la iglesia Trinity lo hagan en la unidad que nuestro Señor enseña y reciban la plenitud de los dones que Él ofrece (1 Corintios 11:27-30), amorosamente le pedimos a cualquiera que aún no ha sido instruido en la fe de las Escrituras, que tiene dudas sobre las enseñanzas de la iglesia, o que tiene su membresía en una iglesia que no está en comunión con la Iglesia Luterana-Sínodo de Missouri LCMS, que hable primero con el pastor acerca de la comunión.

Ofrecemos tanto copa común como copas individuales. Si usted es cristiano pero no está recibiendo la Comunión, lo invitamos y le damos la bienvenida al altar del Señor para una bendición. Por favor, crucen los brazos sobre su pecho para indicar que han venido para una bendición.

Actualmente, sólo ofrecemos una copa individual. Si no puede ir hasta el frente fácilmente, por favor hágaselo saber al pastor o a uno de los ujieres. El pastor les traerá el Sacramento a usted en su asiento. Animamos a los padres a traer a sus hijos no comulgantes para una bendición.

**Para Una Buena Salud** - les pedimos a todos que mantengan distanciamiento social de acuerdo con su propio nivel de comodidad y el de las personas que lo rodean. Por favor lleve sus boletines de adoración con usted cuando se vaya. Lávese las manos y/o use desinfectante para manos regularmente.