

Trinity Lutheran Church
Created to Praise
March 15, 2026
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

140 N 7th Ave
West Bend, WI
262-334-2125

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

As part of your personal devotions, you may use this prayer throughout the coming week.

L: O God of all,

C: it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ELW p76

TRINITY WELCOME

L: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

"I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice."

— Abraham Lincoln

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

— Martin Luther King Jr

CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand as you are able)

L: God of goodness, God of grace,

C: bless us with your presence

L: God of hope, God of love,

C: bless us with your mercy

L: God of the present, God of the future,

C: bless us with vision to see your will.

L: God of truth, God of justice,

C: grant us discipline to follow your way

L: Jesus opens the eyes of the blind and reveals God's works among us.

C: With grateful hearts and living hope, we come to worship the Lord.

PRAISE SONG

“People of Hope”

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning, a 'Fine' marking, and a '3rd time to Coda' instruction. The lyrics are: 'We are peo - ple of hope a - live in the mys - t'ry, grow - ing in faith, learn - ing to love. We are peo - ple of hope through - out all of his - t'ry, held by the one who will nev - er let go. We are dead in our striv - ing for wealth and for might We are what God has made us, cre - a - ted in Christ but God, rich in mer - cy, has loved us to life. We are for jus - tice and mer - cy to be our way of life. We are In the jour - ney ev - 'ry day we're led by the Word, saved by grace. We are'.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: God of light,

C: we confess that we do not always see clearly. We overlook your work among us, cling to what is familiar, and fail to show mercy to those around us. We remain blind to the needs of our neighbors and slow to show the mercy you show us. Forgive us, renew us, and open our eyes to your presence. Amen.

Assurance

L: The light of Christ shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. By grace, you are forgiven and called to live in the light. **Amen.**

RESPONSE

“Grace Alone”

1. Ev - 'ry pro - mise we can make, ev - 'ry prayer and step of faith,
2. Ev - 'ry soul we long to reach, ev - 'ry heart we hope to teach,
Ev - 'ry dif - f'rence we will make is on - ly by His grace.
Ev - 'ry - where we share His peace is on - ly by His grace.
Ev - 'ry moun - tain we will climb, ev - 'ry ray of hope we shine,
Ev - 'ry lov - ing word we say, ev - 'ry tear we wipe a - way,
Ev - 'ry bless - ing left be - hind is on - ly by His
Ev - 'ry sor - row turned to praise is on - ly by His
grace. Grace a - lone which God sup - plies, strength un - known He will pro
vide. Christ in us, our Cor - ner - stone, we will go forth in grace a
- lone. lone. We will go forth in grace a - lone.

(You may be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Robb Kosky

WORD

P: God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

The first reading is Psalm 23

- ¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
- ² The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
- ³ You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- ⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

The second reading is Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ 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.

P: Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

The Gospel

John 9:1-41

P: The holy gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ 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, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ 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?” ⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹ 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.” ¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ 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.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ 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.”

¹⁸ 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 ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ 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.” ²² 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. ²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴ 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.” ²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷ 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?” ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his

disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹ 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.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹ 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 Response:

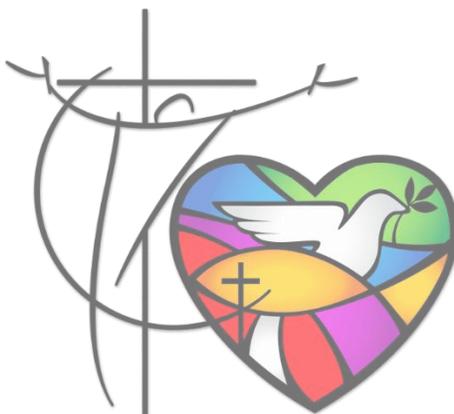
P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(You may be seated)

MESSAGE

Pastor Robb Kosky



MESSAGE RESPONSE

“God’s Love Will Hold Us”

Chorus



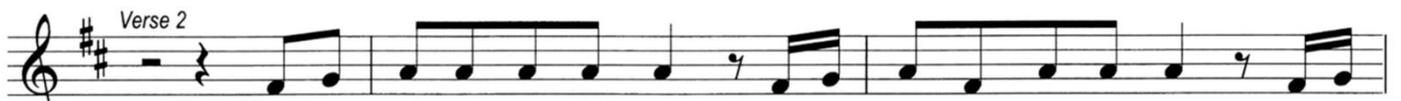
No mat-ter what to-mor - row brings, (God's love will hold us.)
Sing last phrase 3X at end of song.

Verse 1



1. When it's all been said and done, and the time has fin -'ly come to ac-
cept the thing that's hard-est to ac -cept, when the ta -ble has been cleared but the
sad-ness and the fear get so heav-y that it's ea - sy to for-get: *Chorus*

Verse 2



2. When the time is draw-ing near to con -front the things we fear; yet our
cer -tain -ty and cour-age start to fade, if some-how we feel be-trayed, and we're
an -xious and a -fraid, and we're pray - ing, "Does it have to be this way?" *Chorus*

Verse 3



3. When our strength is all but gone, and we're bare-ly hold-ing on, let's re-
mem -ber God is hold-ing on to us. We'll be giv -en what we need to en-
dure the pain and grief e -ven when our doubts feel strong - er than our trust. *Chorus*

THE PRAYERS (Please stand as you are able)

P: Reconciled by God’s mercy and sustained by God’s presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

(Each petition ends: “Hear us O God”. The congregation responds: “Your mercy is great”)

P: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C: Amen.

MEAL

P: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



THE OFFERING *(You may be seated)*

Please remember that your offerings of money, time and talents enable Trinity to “share the love and promise of God” through its ministries.

Offering Prayer *(Please stand as you are able)*

P: Let us pray. O God,

C: maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation.

You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen

THE COMMUNION SENTENCES

P: We come again to the table to be made new. The cup of love and the bread of life have been given to us to share together so we can walk in the light of Christ.

C: We come to his table, rejoicing in his mercy.

P: The Lord is our shepherd; we shall not want.

C: He prepares a feast for us, and our cups overflow.

P: The light of the world has come to those in darkness.

C: We receive the bread of life and the cup of salvation with glad hearts.

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: “Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy. All are welcome.

THE DISTRIBUTION *(You may be seated)*

All who celebrate Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to commune today.

*When you receive the bread, you may either dip the wafer
in the first chalice of wine or the second chalice of grape juice*

Please indicate to the pastor if you need a gluten free wafer.

(We also have celiac friendly individually packaged wafer/wine in the first pew.)

COMMUNION SONGS

"All Are Welcome"

All are wel - come friend and stran - ger at the ban - quet
of the Sav - ior All are wel - come All are wel - come here.

1. From the wo - man who comes cry - ing
2. From the ones who feel for and got ten
3. Go in - to the streets and cit - ies

leav - ing tears at Je - sus' feet
those who sense farms at their and place is gone
to the the farms and fam - i - lies

To the man who knows the right way
To the ones who live in hun - ger
Tell a - bout the sple - did ta - ble

but here can you - not be - see
God's mer - cy.

"Light the Fire"

The musical score is written on ten staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first two staves contain the verse, the third is the start of the chorus, and the remaining seven staves complete the chorus. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests.

I stand to praise You but I fall on my knees. My
spi - rit is hun - gry but my flesh is so weak.

Chorus
Light the fire in my soul fan the flame make me
whole Lord, You know where I've been so light the fire
in my heart a - gain.
I feel Your arms a - round me as the
pow'r of Your heal - ing be - gins You breathe new life right
through me like a might - y rush - ing wind. *Repeat chorus 2X*

“God Will See Us Through”

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "God Will See Us Through". It consists of seven staves of music in a treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a strong emphasis on the words "God will see us through".

In times of bro-ken-ness, in ev - 'ry wil - der-ness, God has seen us through.
Times when our strength was gone, some-how we car-ried on, God has seen us
through. Look be - hind and see through-out his - to - ry, God has nev - er let us
down. Lean a - head and trust God is guid - ing us, God is with us here right
now. God will see me through, God will see you through, God will see us through some-
how. Step by step we'll be. gi-ven all we need, God will see us through this now.

THE COMMUNION BLESSING (please stand as you are able)

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

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God of our salvation,

C: we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

P: God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

May we stand with those pushed into the shadows. Refuse the works of darkness and instead reveal the goodness of God in word and action.

C: Amen.

THE SENDING SONG

"I Will Trust In You"

1. When I can't see You, I
2. And when the dark - ness is
know You're here; When I can't feel You, I
clos - ing in, And I am run - ning a -
will not fear; I will trust in You and I
gainst the wind; I will trust in You and I
will not be a - fraid. And when the
will not be a - fraid. 'Cause when I'm
bat - tle is close at hand I know You're
stand - ing up - on that shore and all the
with me to help me stand; I will
bat - tles have gone be - fore, I will
trust in You and I will not be a - fraid
trust in You and I will not be a - fraid.
I will not be a - fraid. I will not be a -
fraid. I will trust in You, I will trust in You.

THE DISMISSAL

L: Go as bearers of Christ's light. Shine with truth, grace, mercy, and love.

C: Thanks be to God!

Please stay for a coffee hour following the worship service.

WE THANK OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Pastor: Pastor Robb Kosky

Worship Assistant: Lexi George

Reader: Howard Vrankin

Communion Set Up: Sue Kesy

Communion Servers:

Vocalists: Paul Anderson, Ruthann Dorn, Rick Gilbertson, Phil Pierce

Keyboard: Heather Peters

Ushers: Tom and Ardi Bergerud

Video: Greg Griffin **Audio:** Bryan Schlosser

Counters: Ron Hinzpeter, Alyssa Brockman

Coffee Hour:

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Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and Potawatomi people. As such, we wish to give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home. It is our sincere desire that this acknowledgement initiates an ongoing instructive, and constructive journey toward respect, truth and healing regarding colonialism, the church community, and inclusivity for all children of the Great Spirit. We commit ourselves as God's children to pray for our indigenous siblings, to pray for God's blessings on them and for strength for them and for us as we work together for justice, dignity, respect and peace for all the diverse people of the land.

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