

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and

...hope does not
disappoint us,
ROMANS 5:5, NRSV

because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. Romans 5:1-9, NRSV



Welcome to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and School.

We gather to worship the only God and Savior: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Lent opposites: helplessness and hope

March 8, 2026

Lent 3

The church season of Lent presents us with opposites that affect our entire existence.

Helplessness and hope are opposites. When we take an honest look at ourselves, we realize how helpless we sinners truly are. When we take an in-depth look at Christ and his death, we rediscover God's love, a love that fills us with hope.

Today's 8:00 a.m. worship is broadcast live on YouTube. The YouTube link can be found at the church's website:

- holytrinity.church

After the service, the recording can be accessed at the same YouTube site.

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Remain seated.

P: Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

C: And also to you.

RESPONSIVE VERSES FOR LENT

P: In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.

C: Always be prepared to give an answer for the hope that you have.

P: Though we do not see Jesus now, we believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy;

C: we are receiving the goal of faith, the salvation of souls.

P: We know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that we were redeemed,

C: but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

P: Christ died for sins once for all,

C: the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring us to God.

P: He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,

C: that we might die to sins and live for righteousness.

P: Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

C: Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

P: The God of all grace, who called us to his eternal glory in Christ, will restore us and make us strong, firm and steadfast.

C: To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

P: Let us pray.

God of all grace, you raised Christ from the dead and glorified him. Our faith and hope are in you. Help us, as strangers in this world, to stay away from sinful desires and to be holy as you are holy. Inspire us to love each other deeply. Provide us the strength to use whatever gifts you give us to serve others, so that in all things you may be praised through Jesus Christ.

C: To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 550 Lamb of God



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love they cru - ci - fied, they laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died: the hum - ble King they named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain



O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the



ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre - cious



blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson — Exodus 17:1-7

The entire Israelite community left the Wilderness of Sin, moving from one place to the next according to the LORD's command. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So the people complained to Moses, "Give us water to drink."

"Why are you complaining to me?" Moses replied to them. "Why are you testing the LORD?"

But the people thirsted there for water and grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you ever bring us up from Egypt to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"

Then Moses cried out to the LORD, "What should I do with these people? In a little while they will stone me!"

The LORD answered Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you. Take the staff you struck the Nile with in your hand and go. I am going to stand there in front of you on the rock at Horeb; when you hit the rock, water will come out of it and the people will drink." Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. He named the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites complained, and because they tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95 *The soloist sings the words in italics.*

Leader

1 *Come now, and lift up your hearts and sing, en - ter the courts of the*
 2 *Know that the LORD is a might - y God, rul - er su - preme in the*
 3 *He has cre - at - ed the depths be - low; his own - hands made the*
 4 *Come, let us bow down and wor - ship him; kneel in the pres - ence of*

All

King of kings. Come now, and lift up your hearts and sing,
realms a - bove; Know that the LORD is a might - y God,
beau - teous land; He has cre - at - ed the depths be - low;
God the LORD. Come, let us bow down and wor - ship him;

Leader

en - ter the courts of the King of kings. Come and re - joice in his
rul - er su - preme in the realms a - bove; He is the LORD of the
his own - hands made the beau - teous land; Gen - tle and kind, the good
kneel in the pres - ence of God the LORD. If you will hear - en and

won - drous works; thank him and praise him with joy - ous psalm.
depths be - low; he is the strength of the moun - tains high.
shep - herd he; we are the sheep of his pas - ture land.
heed his Word, you shall be glad and your hearts re - joice.

Refrain

All

Come now, and lift up your hearts and sing,

en - ter the courts of the King of kings.

Second Lesson—Romans 5:1-8

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have also obtained access through him by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we boast in the hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, because we know

that affliction produces endurance, endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. This hope will not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

For while we were still helpless, at the right time, Christ died for the ungodly. For rarely will someone die for a just person — though for a good person perhaps someone might even dare to die. But God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

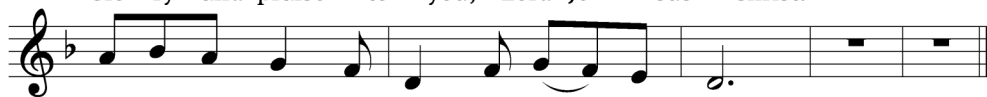
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Refrain

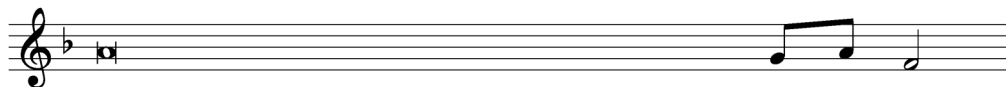


Glo - ry and praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

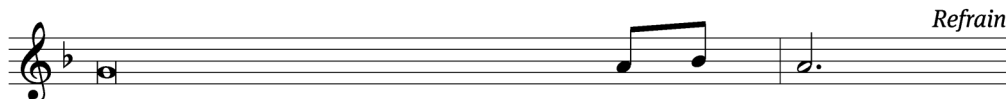


Glo - ry and praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ.

Tone



Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirst - y a - gain,



but whoever drinks the water I give them will nev - er thirst.”

Gospel — John 4:5-26

So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar near the property that Jacob had given his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, worn out from his journey, sat down at the well. It was about noon.

A woman of Samaria came to draw water.

“Give me a drink,” Jesus said to her, because his disciples had gone into town to buy food.

“How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” she asked him. For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.

Jesus answered, “If you knew the gift of God, and who is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would ask him, and he would give you living water.”

“Sir,” said the woman, “you don’t even have a bucket, and the well is deep. So where do you get this ‘living water’? You aren’t greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and livestock.”

Jesus said, “Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again. In fact, the water I will give him will become a well of water springing up in him for eternal life.”

“Sir,” the woman said to him, “give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and come here to draw water.”

“Go call your husband,” he told her, “and come back here.”

“I don’t have a husband,” she answered.

“You have correctly said, ‘I don’t have a husband,’” Jesus said. “For you’ve had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.”

“Sir,” the woman replied, “I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem.”

Jesus told her, “Believe me, woman, an hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know. We worship what we do know, because salvation is from the Jews. But an hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and in truth. Yes, the Father wants such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and in truth.”

The woman said to him, “I know that the Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

Jesus told her, "I, the one speaking to you, am he."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

Hymn 404 Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing in your ho - ly
2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion fas - ci - nate my
3 If the world my heart en - tic - es with the broad and
4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me by your wounds, Lord,
5 O my God, my rock and tow - er, grant that in your



wounds I find, ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing pains of
sin - ful mind, let me think a - bout your pas - sion, and new
eas - y road, with se - duc - tive, sin - ful vic - es, let me
is made whole; when I'm weak, your cross re - vives me, grant - ing
death I trust, know - ing death has lost its pow - er since you



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in
cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,
weigh the aw - ful load you were will - ing to en - dure.
new life to my soul. Yes, your com - fort ren - ders sweet
crushed it in the dust. Sav - ior, let your ag - o - ny



tempt my treach - 'rous heart to sin, show the per - il,
let me then be on my guard, say - ing, "Christ for
Help me flee all thoughts im - pure, mas - ter - ing each
ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet; for your all - a -
ev - er help and com - fort me; when I die be



and from sin - ning keep me ere its first be - gin - ning.
me was wound - ed," that the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.
wild temp - ta - tion, calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.
ton - ing pas - sion has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.
my pro - tec - tion, light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

Sermon—Romans 5:1-8
Lent opposites: helplessness and hope

OFFERING

We give in deep appreciation for Christ's sacrifice on our behalf. We give our offerings regularly and generously in proportion to what we have to support the work of telling the gospel through our church and school.

You may place your offering in the plates or use Online Giving.

The QR code at right will also take you to the giving site.

Thank you for your offerings.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Relieve our troubled consciences, dear Father, from the guilt of sin and fear of judgment. Help us not to lose courage because of our sinful and guilty lives; rather, give us the confidence that your mercy is higher and broader and stronger than all our being. Teach us, dear Father, that, like Peter, we must sink whenever we take our eyes from your Son. Lift from our souls the burden of sin, that with joyful hearts we may do and endure all things and live and die fully confident of your mercy. Fill us with a sense of grace, that we may gladly forgive all those who harm us. Protect us from becoming proud over all our doing and busyness. Help all people to know your mercy, especially those who are struggling with death or who are tempted to despair. Comfort them, and give them your peace.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private prayers.

Silent prayer.

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT

Christian Questions

(These are taken from the questions on pages 295-296 in the hymnal.)

P: Do you believe that you are a sinner?

C: Yes, I believe that I am a sinner.

P: How do you know this?

C: I know this from the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.

P: Are you sorry for your sins?

C: Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

P: What have you deserved from God because of your sins?

C: I deserve his wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.

P: Are you convinced that you are saved?

C: Yes, such is my confidence.

P: In whom do you trust?

C: I trust in my dear Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Son of God, true God and true man.

P: What has Christ done for you that you trust in him?

C: He died for me and shed his blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

P: How do you know this?

C: I know this from the holy gospel and from the words of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,



heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Christian Questions (continued)

P: Do you believe that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?

C: Yes, I believe it.

P: What moves you to believe this?

C: I am moved to believe this by the words of Christ, "Take and eat; this is my body...Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant."

P: What does Christ want you to do when you eat his body and drink his blood in the Lord's Supper?

C: Christ wants me to remember and proclaim his death and the pouring out of his blood as he taught me: "Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: Finally, why do you desire to receive Holy Communion?

C: I desire to do this so that I learn to believe that Christ out of great love died for *my* sins and that I also learn from him to love God and my neighbor.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

Holy Trinity offers the Lord's Supper to communicant members of our congregation (and congregations in WELS and ELS). If you are not a communicant member and are interested in going through a course of study to prepare for receiving the Lord's Supper here, please speak with the pastor. He is glad to speak with you.

Distribution Hymn 663 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

(See page 17 & 18)

P: Thank you, dear Savior, for nourishing our faith with the Sacrament of your body and blood. Lift our hearts with your forgiveness, renew our confidence in your grace, empower our love for others, and lead us to long for the eternal banquet of heaven.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Hymn 584 Jesus Loves Me

1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.
2 Je - sus loves me! He who died heav-en's gates to o - pen wide.



Lit - tle ones to him be - long; they are weak, but he is strong.
 He will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Minister: Pastor Bart Brauer

Accompanist: Joanna Grassell

Soloist: Hoby Brauer

Acknowledgements

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Sunday Education

Sunday education for all begins at 9:15 a.m.

Easter breakfast

To make the Easter breakfast possible we need your help with food donations. See the weekly email or the poster on the bulletin board to see what food we need and to sign up.

Call meeting

There will be a call meeting on March 22 after second service to call a 4th-grade teacher.

Bake sale—March 15

We're looking for bakers and buyers! Please have your baked items to the church kitchen on Saturday, March 14, between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to be packaged and priced. Proceeds will be used for Easter breakfast and kitchen items.

Ladies group

The ladies group will meet on Saturday, March 14, at 9:00 a.m. to plan upcoming events, and to package items for the bake sale. All ladies are invited.

Men's retreat

The men's retreat will be April 24-26 at a new venue in Gig Harbor. See the poster in the entryway near the restrooms for more information.

ELHS annual auction

Evergreen's annual auction will be on April 18 at 5:00 p.m. at their campus in Tacoma. See the weekly email for more information on tickets and donations.

This week at Holy Trinity

Today 11:45 a.m. Choir rehearsal
Wednesday..... 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible study
Wednesday..... 5:30 p.m. Lent supper
Wednesday..... 6:30 p.m. Lent service
Saturday 9:00 a.m. Ladies group
Sunday 9:00 a.m. Bake sale
Sunday 11:45 a.m. Choir rehearsal

Holy Week and Easter schedule

- Maundy Thursday (April 2)—7:00 p.m. with communion
 - Good Friday (April 3)—7:00 p.m.
 - Easter dawn service (April 5)—6:30 a.m.
 - Easter breakfast—7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
 - Easter day service—9:30 a.m.



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness; leave be -
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, and with
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure nei - ther
 4 Now I kneel be - fore you low - ly, filled with



hind all gloom and sad - ness. Come in - to the day - light's
 lov - ing rev - 'rence greet him, for with words of life im -
 cost nor pain will mea - sure, but the price - less gifts of
 joy most deep and ho - ly, as with trem - bling awe and



splen - dor; there with joy your prais - es ren - der
 mor - tal he is knock - ing at your por - tal.
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
 won - der on your might - y work I pon - der,



un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed has this won - drous
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore him, say - ing, as you
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, naught would buy the
 by such mys - ter - y sur - round - ed, depths that no one



sup - per found - ed. He, though reign - ing high and
 there a - dore him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
 ev - er sound - ed. None may dare to pierce un -



ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 ceive you, that I nev - er - more will leave you.
 riv - en, and his blood, for you once giv - en.
 bid - den se - crets that with you are hid - den.

- 5 Human reason, though it ponders,
cannot fathom these great wonders,
that Christ's body must be boundless
since the souls it feeds are countless,
and that he his blood is giving
with the wine we are receiving.
These great mysteries unsounded
are by God alone expounded.
- 6 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
you have left your throne in heaven
on the cross for me to languish
and to die in bitter anguish,
to forgo all joy and gladness
and to shed your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise you with thanksgiving.
- 7 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
Jesus, friend of friends most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring,
fount of life, my soul inspiring:
at your feet I cry, my maker,
let me be a fit partaker
of this blessed food from heaven
for our good, your glory, given.
- 8 Jesus, Lord of life in heaven,
help me when this meal is given
to receive it for my blessing
as I come, my sins confessing.
In this supper let me measure,
Lord, how deep is your love's treasure,
that, as I on earth have eaten,
I may be your guest in heaven.