

# Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, March 26, 2023 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

## This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

### Sunday, March 26

Personal Hygiene Products Appeal continues  
Fifth Grade Blessing & Presentation of Study Bibles  
Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.  
First Communion Reception, 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Rejoice Worship (Rejoice band), 9:15 a.m.  
Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday School, 9:20 a.m.  
Heart-to-Heart, 10:30 a.m.  
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.  
Lenten Virtual Bible Study & Yoga, 8 p.m.

### Monday, March 27

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.  
Beyond Belief Band Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.  
Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

### Tuesday, March 28

Council on Aging, 7:30 a.m.  
Lenten Grace Group, 9:30 a.m.  
LWR Quilters, 10:30 a.m.  
Lenten Grace Group, noon  
GriefShare, 2 p.m.  
Stephen Ministry Continuing Education, 6:30 p.m.  
Lenten Grace Group, 7 p.m.  
Tuesday Book Club, 7 p.m.  
Interfaith Seder at Temple Emanuel, 7 p.m.  
Stephen Ministry Peer Support Group, 7:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 29

Lenten Grace Group, 10:30 a.m.  
Lenten Grace Group, 5 p.m.  
Lenten Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m.  
Lenten Midweek Worship, 6:30 p.m.  
Pack 3015 Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

### Thursday, March 30

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m.  
Resound Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.  
Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

### Friday, March 31

Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

### Sunday, April 2

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion  
Personal Hygiene Products Appeal continues  
Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.  
Rejoice Worship (Beyond Belief band), 9:15 a.m.  
Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday School, 9:20 a.m.  
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.  
Trinity Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal, noon  
Lenten Virtual Bible Study & Yoga, 8 p.m.

## Assisting in Worship This Morning

### 8:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Chris and Beth Van Meter  
Lector: Marcia Schaner  
Communion Assistants: Marcia Schaner,  
Gloria Von der Heide  
Ushers: Bob Carwell, Bill and Meri Leidel  
Acolyte: Isaac Johnson

### 9:15 a.m.

Rejoice band leading worship  
Sacristans: Kim Hysell  
Lector: Kathy Noble  
Communion Assistants: Kim Hysell, Kathy Noble  
Ushers: Brad & Pam Burkle, Bill Bush,  
Tim Lundgren, Karen Nagle, Pat Radloff  
Acolyte: Daniel Ahrens, Layla Lothschutz

### 10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Gwyneth Hoeksema  
Sacristan: Lois McCardell  
Lector: Sue Coates  
Communion Assistants: Jim Coates, Laura Norton  
Ushers: Jenn Becker, Kara Day, Gene Gunderson,  
Carol Hendricks, David Kuecherer,  
Chris Kutschinski, Jordan Wiseman  
Acolytes: Oscar Heaford

Bread Baker: Kelli Basher

## Trinity Members in Our Prayers

We pray for **Trinity members in times of illness, hospitalization, rehabilitation and recovery**: Sue Bailey, Lisa Barkema, Don Barsema, Bob Beaudry, Krysta Billock, Jim and Sue Boyse, Bill Brock, Pat Bruin, Ellie Buggeln, Cheryl Bushman, Mike Danielski, Donna Erickson, Ruth Ann Evans, Diane Field, Mark Hahn, Beth Hall, Bob Heine, Callan Hughes, Carol Huttenga, Patricia Johnson, Roy Lamprich, Marilyn Leese, Jane Legault, Kristin Linkfield, Ken Lown, Tess Lundgren, Judy Mallen, Tom Mannisto, Rebecca Mattison, Gail Mazurek, Marcia McClimans, Carolyn McCready, Jill McKinney, Stephanie McLeod, Marilyn Mellema, Charmayne Mulligan, Jo Murphy, Craig Mutch, Bertie Nelson, Jesse Platt, Dorothy Postema, Rick Radke, Jacqueline Riegling, Denny Rosen, Marian Schaible, Chas Schaner, Chris Schomberg, Lee Schomberg, Luanna Seyffert, Michael Smith, Patricia Stevens, Dale Volkerding, John Walls, Fred and Kathy Wilcox, Robert Williams, Marge Willman, Rick and Michelle Wolner, David Young, Kay Zeaman, Kathryn Zielinski and Cindy Zientarski.

We also lift up **Trinity families mourning the loss of loved ones**: Kelli and John Basher, George Bauer, Jennifer Brown, Bill and Patricia Bruin, Jim and Sue Coates, Morgan and Jaci Cole, Jack Danielson, Julie Earhart, Pastor Donna Erickson, David and Pastor Kari Fast, Diane Field, Sharon Fourcha, Eric Gohlke, Keith Gohlke, Bob and Nanci Guigue, Jill and Curtis Hahn, Carol Hendricks, Linda Holm, Brad and Gayl Kessel, Mike and Molly King, Terry and Susan Knoll, Beth Krueger, Kent and Kristin Linkfield, Mark and Rebecca Mattison, Matt and Lisa Mead, Craig and Patti Mutch, Tammy Parat, Kris Racek, Bruce and Joyce Schlenderer, Doug and Joan Start, Linda Taffs, and Phillip Youngman.

We also lift up in prayer this week Pastor Kjersten Sullivan and the people of Trinity Lutheran Church in Battle Creek, partners with us in ministry North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

## Readings & Hymns for March 19

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

#848 Give to Our God Immortal Praise! (red book)  
#596 My Hope is Built on Nothing Less (red book)  
#769 If You But Trust in God to Guide You (red book)

MARCH 26, 2023  
FIFTH SUNDAY  
IN LENT



*Jesus weeps with us.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 11:1-45	The raising of Lazarus
Monday	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Valley of dry bones
Tuesday	Romans 8:6-11	Life in the Spirit
Wednesday	Hosea 11:1-9	God's love for God's people
Thursday	Isaiah 53:4-12	The suffering servant
Friday	Luke 19:41-44	Jesus weeps over Jerusalem
Saturday	Psalms 130	Trusting in the Lord in times of trouble
Sunday	Matthew 21:1-11	Jesus enters Jerusalem

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him [Lazarus]!"*  
John 11:35-36 (NRSV)

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, we are in awe of how you grieve with us and conquer sin and death so that we may experience eternal life through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for coming to us in Jesus, just as your constant love comes to us through this gift of food that gives us life each day. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May the steadfast love of God give you peace and joy through Christ our Lord.



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MARCH 26, 2023

### HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Jesus is a Rock in a  
Weary Land*



### WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- How do you find comfort when something bad happens?
- Jesus cried over Lazarus' death. How does crying help in times of sadness?

### DEVOTIONS



*Read:* John 11:1-45.

Jesus' divinity and humanity are on full display in this story. Jesus knows that Lazarus has died. Jesus goes to Bethany to bring Lazarus back to life. Jesus announces, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die" (vv. 25-26). Jesus has power over life and death yet he weeps. Jesus, fully divine is also fully human, and he experiences the pain and sadness of the final enemy, death itself. The Apostle Paul writes of flesh and Spirit in Romans 8. For Paul, the flesh is not an earthly matter. Flesh is the power of sin that turns us away from God. The Spirit brings life born of God. Both Paul and Jesus recognize the Holy Spirit and the power of sin and death that remain in our world and in our lives. Sin is not just a personal weakness. It is a power that needs to be vanquished. Because of this destructive power, Jesus weeps. Christ's victory over sin and death is our victory. Christ shares our tears over death, the final enemy to be conquered.

*Discuss:* How does believing in Jesus give you comfort during times of death and loss?

*Pray:* **Compassionate God, we give you our thanks and praise that in Jesus Christ you take on our humanity, weep with us, and give us hope by conquering sin and death. Amen.**

### SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you comfort someone who is going through tough times?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Lent is a period of forty days when we focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as we prepare for Easter. Almsgiving is the tradition or practice of giving money or food to those in need. This week decide where you will donate the money from the Almsgiving Box you have had in your home during Lent. Deliver the money to where it can be distributed to those in need.

*Pray:* **Loving God, we thank you for the blessings in our lives. Help us to be aware of those in need and give of our time, money, and care for others in response to your great love. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)