



*A man had a fig tree planted in  
his vineyard; and he came  
looking for fruit on it ...*

LUKE 13:6, NRSV

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**1186 Jason Drive, Greencastle, PA**

**TLC Renuws**

We want to be a congregation who continues:

Trusting God

Loving and Connecting with God and one another

Reaching out to all God's children



**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**March 23, 2025 10:15 AM**

**Rev. Denise Horn – Interim Pastor**  
**Ministers to the World – Congregation of Trinity Lutheran**  
**Mission – To Share Christ in Word and Deed**  
**Office Phone – 717-597-9348**

## WE WELCOME ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE THIS DAY!

- If you are visiting with us, we are honored by your presence. If you are seeking a church home, please contact the Pastor.
  - Holy Communion is celebrated in this morning's worship. All are welcome to the table. Young children should follow the practice of their home congregation.
  - The Worship Service will be available on You Tube and the Website after the service.
  - Congregational responses are in bold.
- \* *Please stand*

### Welcome, Announcements, Opening Prayer

## GATHERING

### Prelude

*That's Why We Praise Him* (CCLI #2823825)

*Tommy Walker © 1999 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Songs; WeMobile Music*

### \*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.**

**We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.**

**Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

*As the Deer* (CCLI #2823825)

*Martin Nystrom © 1984 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing*

**\*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.**

**\*Prayer of the Day:** We pray together: **Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Lesson – Isaiah 55:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Hear, everyone who thirsts;

come to the waters;

and you who have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

<sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread

and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

<sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> Now you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,

for he has glorified you.

- <sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;
- <sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- <sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
- <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 63:1-8** (Read responsively)

<sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land  
where there is no water.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,  
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

<sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is better than life itself;  
my lips shall give you praise.

<sup>4</sup> **So will I bless you as long as I live  
and lift up my hands in your name.**

<sup>5</sup> My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

<sup>6</sup> **when I remember you upon my bed,  
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

<sup>7</sup> For you have been my helper,  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

<sup>8</sup> **My whole being clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.**

**Second Lesson – 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were  
all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into  
Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all  
drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed



perish just as they did.”

<sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the man working the vineyard, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ <sup>8</sup> He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Children’s Message**

### **Sermon**

*Don Swart*

**Time of Silence:** *At our best Trinity is passionate about God. We respond to God’s love becoming still, closing our eyes and opening our heart spaces to God’s presence.*

### **\*Hymn**

*Come To Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty (ELW #777)*

### **\*Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

**\*Prayers of the Church -** *(Each petition ends with “God in your mercy,”. The Congregation responds “receive our prayer.”)*

### **\*Sign of Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** *(If you are joining us on Facebook, please share Christ's peace with one another in the comments.)*

**MEAL** *You are invited to come forward for the traditional distribution of Communion or if you prefer, take a prepackaged kit available from the Usher and remain seated. The Pastor will give instructions to you prior to communing the Assistants.*

### **\*Offertory**

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **\*Dialogue**

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.**

### **\*Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### \*Words of Institution

Last week we celebrated Communion together, blessing the bread and cup we share today. 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.

### \*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.**

### Invitation to Communion

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

**Pew Communion:** *Those who wish to commune from their seats using the prepackaged kits please open them now. Take and eat and drink, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.*



## **Assistants Commune Communion**

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

Communion Hymns:

### *Thank You Jesus for the Blood* (CCLI #2823825)

*Bryan McCleery | Charity Gayle | David Gentiles | Elisha Albright Hoffman | John Hart Stockton | Ryan Kennedy | Steven Musso © 2021 Centricity Music Publishing; Brother Gayle Hymnal; Come Up Kings Publishing; ComissionMusic; McCleery MSC; Steven Musso Music; Watershed Worship Publishing*

### *O the Blood of Jesus* (Public Domain)

### *Son of Suffering* (CCLI #2823825)

*Aaron Moses | David Funk | Matt Redman | Nate Moore  
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### **\*Table Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

### **\*Post Communion Prayer**

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **\*Benediction**

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✚ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### **\*Sending Hymn**

*Remember and Rejoice* (ELW #454)

### **\*Sending for Service**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**Thanks be to God!**

*Thank you to Don Swart for bringing the message today.*

### **SERVING TRINITY TODAY**

Director of Music – Sandra Wingert  
Assisting Minister – Ella Swart  
Communion Assistants – Darrell Swart and Wendy Hall  
Communion Cups – Josie Thomas  
Singers – Phyllis McCullough  
Usher – Norra Swart  
Greeter – Norra Swart  
IT Ministry – IT Team  
Communion Preparer – Charlie and Beth Ford  
Media Shout – Ivan Wingert

**TODAY WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Gust Barbuzanes, Marie Dean, Sue Deardorff, Mary Effisah, Terry and Laura Ellis, Shirley Freeman, Nancy Freshman, Sally Funk, Sue Gardenhour, Desarie Dean Gregory, Erma Horn, Pastor Martin Horn, Jake Johns, Tracy Loucks, Doug McCullough, Beth Miller, Lisa Peters, Don Swart, Bud and Donna Wolfe. *The prayer list will be purged at the end of the month. If you wish a name to be retained (other than homebound members) please call or email the office – 717-597-9348/ [tlcsecoffice@gmail.com](mailto:tlcsecoffice@gmail.com).*

Each week we also remember four members and friends of our congregation: Frank and Denise Nerenhausen; Ed and Nancy Osbaugh; Kristofer, Maddie, Rhett, Evalyn and Wyatt Palmer; Leah Porto.