

Trinity Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
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Oculi – Lent 3
March 12th -- anno Domini 2023

After the people of Israel heard the law from Mount Sinai, they wanted Moses to speak to them rather than God, because they would die if they heard the voice of God (Ex 20:19). God knew that no one could behold him in his bare majesty and live (Ex 33:20). And this is why he promised them a Prophet like Moses. God is a consuming fire. But we are sinful mortals. So God became a man in the person of his Son, just as he had promised when he said that the Seed of the woman would crush the head of the devil (Gen 3:15). We cannot approach God in any other way than through his Son, Jesus Christ, who claimed our flesh as his own, put himself under the same law given in thunder and terror on Mount Sinai, and suffered the torment and punishment we deserved.

The people of Israel said this after hearing the Ten Commandments proclaimed from Mount Sinai. The law revealed the curse of their hearts, and it struck terror into them. As Moses said to them, God is testing you so that you do not sin. In other words, God is afflicting you so that you might repent. This is the chief function of the law. But this is not God's chief function. That is why, while he sent Moses to give the law, he would reveal his pure grace and truth through Jesus Christ (John 1:17). God's proper work is to show mercy. But his love must be fulfilled. This new Prophet would therefore not abolish the law, but he would fulfill it (Matt 5:17). He would reveal himself to be the very God who not only gave them the law in loud thunder, but also fed them with the sweet manna in the wilderness. Jesus reveals himself to be the Prophet spoken of by Moses when he feeds the five thousand. Here is God in the flesh, helping and showing mercy on his unworthy creatures. He is not an earthly king or lawgiver. He is much greater than these. His reign excels beyond that of earthly kings who can only rule the body, and his works are greater than prophets who only give the law. He fulfills what all the kings of Judah could only hope in, if they actually feared God. He fulfills what all the prophets foretold when the Spirit gave them utterance. He fulfills all righteousness and salvation, and he thereby rules our hearts and minds with his grace.

DEAR VISITORS: As a congregation in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, Trinity practices **closed communion**, which means that we only commune those who are members in good standing of sister congregations and have been instructed in the Christian faith as it is summarized in Luther's Small Catechism. If you are a visitor and desire to commune at Trinity, **please speak to Pastor Preus before the service.**

The Order of Holy Communion
TLH p. 15

Hymn of Invocation ☞ *O Sinner, Come Thy Sin to Mourn* ELH #272 Insert
Stand for final stanza

Invocation, Confession & Absolution pg. 15
Please remain standing through the conclusion of the Collect of the Day.

Service of the Word

Introit

My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for He shall pluck my feet out | of the net.

Turn Yourself to me, and have mer- | cy on me,*
for I am desolate and af- | flicted. (*Psalms 25:15-16*)

To You, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.*
O my God, I trust in You; let me not | be ashamed;

**the troubles of my heart | have enlarged;*
bring me out of | my distresses!**

Look on my affliction | and my pain,*
and forgive | all my sins.

**Keep my soul, and de- | liver me;*
let me not be ashamed, for I put my | trust in You.** (*Psalms 25:1-2, 17-18, 20*)



Gloria Patri ☞ *Glory be to the Father* pg. 6

Kyrie ☞ *Lord, Have Mercy*
The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Lent.

Salutation & Collect of the Day

Sit

Old Testament Reading ☞ *Exodus 8:16-24*

¹⁶ "Tell Aaron," the LORD said to Moses: "'Hold out your staff and strike the dust on the ground, and it will change to gnats all over Egypt.'"

¹⁷They did that. Aaron held out the rod in his hand and struck the dust on the ground, and it changed to gnats on men and animals. All the dust on the ground everywhere in Egypt became gnats. ¹⁸The magicians with their secret powers tried likewise to produce gnats, and they couldn't do it. But there were gnats on men and animals. ¹⁹ "This is God's finger!" the magicians told Pharaoh. But Pharaoh continued to be stubborn and refused to listen to Moses and Aaron, as the LORD had said.

²⁰ "Get up early in the morning," the LORD told Moses, "go before Pharaoh — he's going out to the water. Tell him: 'The LORD says: Let My people go and serve Me. ²¹If you will not let My people go, I will send swarms of flies on you, on your servants, your people, and your homes. The homes of the Egyptians and the land they stand on will be full of flies. ²²On that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where My people live,

and let no flies come there, to show you that I am the LORD in the land .²³ I will distinguish between My people and yours. This sign will happen tomorrow.”

²⁴The LORD did as He said, and swarms of flies came into Pharaoh’s palace and the homes of his servants and all over Egypt, and they were ruining the land.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Arise, O LORD, do not let | man prevail;*

let the nations be judged | in Your sight.

When my ene- | mies turn back,*

they shall fall and perish at Your | presence. (Psalm 9:19, 3)



Epistle *↪ Ephesians 5:1-9*

¹As God’s dear children try to be like Him² and live in love as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

³Sexual sins, anything unclean, or greed shouldn’t even be mentioned among you. This is the right attitude for holy people. ⁴No shameful things, foolish talk, or coarse jokes! These aren’t proper. Instead give thanks. ⁵Be sure of this, that no one who is immoral, unclean, or greedy (a greedy person worships an idol) has any share in the kingdom of Christ, Who is God. ⁶Don’t let anyone fool you with meaningless words. These things bring God’s anger and punishment on those who don’t obey the truth. ⁷So don’t share their ways.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, ⁹since light produces everything good and righteous and true.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse

Unto You I lift | up my eyes,*

O You who dwell in the | heavens.

Behold, as the eyes of | servants*

look to the hand of their | masters.

So our eyes look to the | LORD our God,*
until He has mer- | cy on us.

Have mercy on | us, O LORD,*

Have mercy | on us! (Psalm 123:1–3)



Gospel ↻ *Luke 11:14-28*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹⁴He was driving out a demon who was speechless. When the demon had gone out, the speechless man spoke.

The people were amazed. ¹⁵But some of them said, "He drives out the demons with the help of Beelzebul, who rules over the demons." ¹⁶Others, meaning to test Him, demanded that He show them some miraculous sign from heaven.

¹⁷Knowing what they were thinking, He said to them, "If one part of any kingdom fights against another part, it loses its people, and one house falls on another. ¹⁸If Satan fights against himself, how can his kingdom stand? I say this because you say Beelzebul helps Me drive out the demons. ¹⁹But if Beelzebul helps Me drive out the demons, who helps your sons drive them out? That's why they'll be your judges. ²⁰But if God's finger helps Me drive out the demons, then God's kingdom has come to you.

²¹"When a strong man, completely armed, guards his palace, his property is not disturbed. ²²But when someone stronger than he attacks him and defeats him, he'll take away his whole armor, in which he trusted, and divide the plunder.

²³ "Anyone who is not with Me is against Me, and anyone who doesn't help Me gather, scatters.

²⁴ "When an unclean spirit comes out of a man, he goes through dry places looking for rest but doesn't find any. Then he says, 'I'll go back to the home I left.'

²⁵He comes and finds it swept and decorated. ²⁶Then he goes and takes home with him seven other spirits worse than himself, and they go in and live there. In the end that man is worse than he was before."

²⁷When Jesus said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and called out, "Blessed is the mother who bore You and nursed You."

²⁸"Yes," He said, "but blessed are those who continue to listen to God's Word and keep it."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

pg. 22

Sit

Hymn of the Day ↻ *Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You*

TLH #444

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

pg. 22

Sit

Gathering of the Offering

Stand to sing as the offerings are brought forward

*We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.*

Please complete the
Record of Fellowship in the
folder in your pew.

General Prayer

Litany

TLH #661

Service of the Sacrament

Preface & Proper Preface

pg. 24

Sanctus *☞ Holy, Holy, Holy*

pg. 26

Lord's Prayer

pg. 27

Words of Institution

Pax Domini *☞ Peace of the Lord*

pg. 27

Agnus Dei *☞ Lamb of God*

pg. 28

Sit – Guests are asked to please speak with the pastor before communing.

Hymns during Distribution

☞ Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

TLH #311

☞ Not All the Blood of Beasts

TLH #156

☞ In the Cross of Christ I Glory

TLH #354

Stand after the distribution

Nunc Dimittis *☞ Song of Simeon*

pg. 29

Thanksgiving & Collect

pg. 30

Salutation & Benedicamus

pg. 31

Benediction

pg. 31

Sit

Hymn to Depart *☞ O Little flock, fear Not the foe*

TLH #263

Silent Prayer

Ushers for today: Keith Rethemeyer, Charlie Scheer, Karson Eads

Next week: James Eads, Joseph Rethemeyer, Kyle Scheer,

Greeter for today: Larry Scheer

Next Week: Rick Tritch

Acolyte today: Jacob Preus

Midweek Lenten Service: Oscar Otten

Next Sunday: Alton Swann

Flower and Altar Care: **March:** Carolyn Scheer & Leah Preus

Lent/Easter Worship Schedule

Lenten Services @ 7:00 p.m. (March 15, 22, 29)

Palm Sunday – Confirmation 10:00 a.m. service (April 2)

Maundy Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. (April 6)

Good Friday @ 7:00 p.m. (April 7)

Easter Sunrise service at Camp Trinity 6:30 a.m.

Easter Sunday Divine Service – 10:00 a.m.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: Sue Finck, 13th

(Please email office@trinitynewhaven.com if your birthday or anniversary has not been listed or was incorrectly listed, so the records can be updated with correct information)

Prayer and Petitions: New Haven Care Center: Wilma Niewald. Homebound: Ray and LeeAnn Rohling, Barb Sunfield, Diana Scheer, Paul & Sue Laune; Missionaries: Rev. James May (missionary to Africa); Rev. David Preus (missionary to Romania); Michael & Naomi Ersland, Lutheran Bible Translators, Ghana. Luke Otten, Vicarage. Luther Classical College, St. Paul High School, Concordia, MO.

Wednesday School/Catechism Class: All children, preschool through confirmation age are welcome and encouraged to attend. Parents are also welcome. We meet after 3:00 p.m. for snacks and kickball. Our opening is at 3:45 p.m., and classes run until 5:00 p.m. We will conclude Wednesday School/Catechism Class with a brief Vespers service. All are invited to attend these. During Advent and Lent, the Vespers services will be at their regular time, 7:00 p.m.

ATTENTION YOUTH: Washington Circuit Monthly Youth Gathering at Camp Trinity on MARCH 19, 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Bible Study, Games, Food, bring friends. Youth in grade 6 through high school are welcome and encouraged to attend. We will continue reading and discussing *A Martyr's Faith in a Faithless World* by Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller. "Who your heroes are says a lot about you. 'We live in the shadows of our heroes. We look up to them. We try to live like them. Our heroes encourage and inspire us.' In *A Martyr's Faith in a Faithless World*, Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller urges readers to consider not only who their heroes are, but how those heroes shape them." **For all youth who received a copy of the book at the Winter Retreat, please bring it with you to the monthly meeting.**

Camp Trinity address: 439 Camp Trinity Drive, New Haven.

VBS 2nd Planning Meeting: March 26, 11:30 at Shepherd's Hall, Camp Trinity. Station Leaders should have a plan and materials list for their station ready to share with the group. Thrivent Members are asked to request Thrivent Action Cards to help with expenses for VBS. A collection will once again be taken at Easter Sunrise service for VBS. Anyone wanting to help with VBS in anyway please contact Ruth Rethemeyer at Camp Trinity (573)237-2072.

VBS Registration Letters went out to all of our members, please encourage your families with young children to register now before registration is made public on April 7th. VBS will fill up fast and we want our members to have a spot first.

ATTENTION YOUTH AND Adult drivers/helpers - Canvass Day and Easter Sunrise Set UP – April 7th meet at 8:00 a.m. at Camp Trinity, set up for Easter Sunrise service and Breakfast and then disperse by 9:00 to Canvass the town and countryside. Trinity Youth and any other youth wanting to join them will then reconvene at Trinity around 11:00 to do HWY 100 Trash pickup, followed by lunch at the Ice Cream Shop at noon.

Ladies Bible Class – Thursdays @ 1:30 in conference room. Study of 1st Corinthians.

Choir practice right after church 1st & 3rd Sunday– Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

If you have not been receiving email updates/announcements from Trinity, please email office@trinitynewhaven.com or give your email address to one of the ushers so you may be added to the list.

Weekly Sermons, Bulletins, and Devotions posted at www.trinitynewhaven.com.

Adult Bible Study - Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Study of Acts. All are invited to attend.

Ladies Bible Study – Thursdays @ 1:30 (1 Corinthians)

A Week-long devotion series by Pastor Preus is downloaded to website. Copies are also available on the Usher's stand.

Please send any **announcements** to office@trinitynewhaven.com.

Prayer requests can also be sent to the office email or directly to Pastor Preus.

The Large Catechism The Ten Commandments

(continued)

The Tenth Commandment

307 In whatever way such things happen, we must know that God does not wish that you deprive your neighbor of anything that belongs to him, so that he suffer the loss and you gratify your avarice with it, even if you could keep it honorably before the world; for it is a secret and insidious imposition practised under the hat, as we say, that it may not be observed. For although you go your way as if you had done no one any wrong, you have nevertheless injured your neighbor; and if it is not called stealing and cheating, yet it is called coveting your neighbor's property, that is, aiming at possession of it, enticing it away from him without his will, and being unwilling to see him enjoy what God has granted him. 308 And although the judge and every one must leave you in possession of it, yet God will not leave you therein: for He sees the deceitful heart and the malice of the world, which is sure to take an ell in addition where-ever you yield to her a finger's breadth, and at length public wrong and violence follow.

309 Therefore we allow these commandments to remain in their ordinary meaning, that it is commanded, first, that we do not desire our neighbor's damage, nor even assist, nor give occasion for it, but gladly wish and leave him what he has, and, besides, advance and preserve for him what may be for his profit and service, as we should wish to be treated. 310 Thus these commandments are especially directed against envy and miserable avarice, God wishing to remove all causes and sources whence arises everything by which we do injury to our neighbor, and therefore He expresses it in plain words: Thou shalt not covet, etc. For He would especially have the heart pure, although we shall never attain to that as long as we live here; so that this commandment will remain, like all the rest, one that will constantly accuse us and show how godly we are in the sight of God! *(Continued next week)*