



Trinity Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
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Faithful Through the Years
Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Trinity Lutheran Church
“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

Judica (5th Sunday in Lent) ***March 22nd -- anno Domini 2026***

Judica means "Vindicate!" It is the first word of the Introit this morning, and it comes from Psalm 43:1-2, "Vindicate me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation; oh, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man! for You are the God of my strength." To be vindicated means to be proven right. It means that everything you have confessed has been proven true, and those who slandered you are silenced. The promise given to Abraham is despised by the world, but he still confessed according to God's promise, "The Lord will provide the lamb for the burnt offering." Indeed all those who trust with Abraham in God's promise in Christ are despised and thought to be fools. Yet even when he was told by God to sacrifice his only son, he knew that God would prove to be faithful. So we, with Abraham, pray for vindication.

Jesus would have prayed this Psalm as well. Even though Jesus was fully God -- the great *I AM* -- he humbled himself. He endured pain, suffering, sorrow, hunger, and loss, all with sinless obedience, so that he could live as our substitute under God's holy law. So in Jesus' perfect obedience to God he also entrusted himself completely to God. He did not tear down a mountain or lift the Temple off the ground in order to prove to the Jews who he really was. Rather, he depended upon nothing but the Word of God spoken through the Prophets. He knew that when he was lifted up as a the lamb provided for the burnt offering for sins, and when he was raised from the dead it was then that he would be proven to be who he said he was. So he entrusted himself to the will of his Father.

And when he was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father he was thereby vindicated by the Holy Spirit (1 Tim 3:16). He was shown to be the Lamb of God who truly did take away the sin of the world (John 1:29). He was shown to be the true God of Abraham -- our shield and great reward (Gen 15:1) -- through whom all the world is blessed. He was shown to be our righteousness, which we receive through faith.

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.**

offering?" ⁸ "God will provide Himself with a sheep for the burnt offering, my son," Abraham answered. And so both walked on together. ⁹When they came to the place God had mentioned, Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and laid him on the wood on the altar.

¹⁰As Abraham reached for the knife and took it in his hand to sacrifice his son, ¹¹the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Yes," he answered. ¹² "Don't lay your hands on the boy," He said, "and don't do anything to him. Now I know you fear God: you didn't refuse to give Me your only son."

¹³When Abraham looked around, he saw behind him a ram caught by his horns in a bush. So Abraham went and got the ram and sacrificed him as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴Abraham called that place The-LORD-Will-Provide. Today we still say, "On the mount of the LORD it will be provided."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



Gradual ↻

Deliver me, O LORD, from my | enemies;
teach me to | do Your will.*

He delivers me from my | enemies.*

You have delivered me from the | violent man. (Psalm 143:9–10, 18:48)

Epistle ↻ *Hebrews 9:11-15*

¹¹But Christ came as High Priest of the good things that have come; He went through that greater and more perfect tabernacle not made by human hands (that is, not a part of this created world). ¹²And He didn't use the blood of goats and calves but through His own blood He entered only once into the Holy of Holies and paid a price that frees us forever. ¹³Now, sprinkling the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a calf on unclean people makes them outwardly holy and clean. ¹⁴How much more will the blood of Christ, Who by the everlasting Spirit offered Himself without a spot to God, wash our consciences clean from dead works to worship the living God?

¹⁵And He is the Mediator of a new testament [covenant]. By dying He paid the ransom to free people from the sins under the first covenant, and those who are called are to receive the everlasting inheritance promised them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand



Verse

"Many a time they have afflicted me | from my youth,**
let Isra- | el now say—

"Many a time they have afflicted me | from my youth;*
yet they have not prevailed a- | gainst me."

The plowers plowed | on my back;*
they made their | furrows long.

The LORD is | righteous;*

He has cut in pieces the cords of the | wicked. (Psalm 129:1–4)

Gospel ↪ *John 8:46-59*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

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

⁴⁶Which of you can prove Me guilty of a sin? If I tell the truth, why don't you believe Me? ⁴⁷A child of God listens to what God says. You don't listen to Him because you're not God's children."

⁴⁸"Aren't we right," the Jews answered Him, "when we say you're a Samaritan and there's a demon in you?"

⁴⁹"There's no demon in Me," Jesus answered. "No, I honor My Father, but you dishonor Me. ⁵⁰I'm not trying to get glory for Myself. There's One Who wants Me to have it, and He's the judge. ⁵¹I tell you the truth, if you keep My Word, you will never see death."

⁵²"Now we know there's a demon in you," the Jews told Him. "Abraham died, and so did the prophets, but you say, 'If you keep My Word, you will never taste death.' ⁵³Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and the prophets died. Who do you think you are?"

⁵⁴"If I glorify Myself," Jesus said, "My glory is nothing. It is My Father Who glorifies Me, He of Whom you say, 'He's our God.' ⁵⁵You don't know Him, but I know Him. And if I would say I don't know Him, I'd be a liar like you. But I do know Him, and I observe His Word. ⁵⁶Your father Abraham was delighted to know of My day; he saw it and was glad."

⁵⁷"You're not fifty years old yet," the Jews said to Him, "and Abraham has seen you?"

⁵⁸"I tell you the truth," Jesus told them, "before Abraham ever was born, I am."

⁵⁹Then they picked up stones to throw at Him. But Jesus hid Himself and left the temple.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord

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

Nicene Creed

Sit

pg. 22

Hymn of the Day ↪ *I Leave All Things to God's Direction*

TLH #529

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

Sit

pg. 22

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

☞ *The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord*

TLH #163

☞ *There is a fountain filled with Blood*

TLH #157

☞ *Not All the Blood of Beasts*

TLH #156

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 ☞ *Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain*

TLH #149

Silent Prayer

Ushers for today: John Otten, Matthew Otten, David Otten, Adam Swann

Next week: Jeff Hoerstkamp, Luke Otten, Cory Swann

Greeter for today: Andrew Rethemeyer

Next Week: Larry Scheer

Acolyte today: Nolan Pelster

Midweek Lent: Tripp Cronin

Next Sunday: Robert Preus

Flower and Altar Care: March: Linda Kaskaden & Jennifer Trsek

Organist: Andrew Finck

Prayer and Petitions: Wayne Scheer and Sue Eads, health concerns. New Haven Care Center: Shirley Hawkins. Homebound:, Ray & LeeAnn Rohling, Diana Scheer, Paul & Sue Laune; Missionaries: Brandt Klawitter, mission work in Norway; Pastor James May (missionary to Africa); Rev. David Preus (missionary to Romania); Michael & Naomi

Ersland, Lutheran Bible Translators. Immanuel Lutheran School, Washington; Camp Trinity; Luther Classical College; Christ the King Lutheran High School.

Birthdays and Annivers: Joye Paker, 23rd, Keith Rethemeyer, 24th

(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)

Lent/Easter Worship Schedule

Lenten Services @ 2:00 pm or 7:00 pm (March 25th)

Palm Sunday – Confirmation Commemoration 10:00 a.m. service (March 29th)

Maundy Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. (April 2nd)

Good Friday @ 7:00 p.m. (April 3rd)

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

Easter Sunday Divine Service – 10:00 a.m. (April 5th)

VBS Planning Meeting - Today 12:00pm at Shepherd's Hall, Camp Trinity.

Palm Sunday, March 29th - There will be a dinner immediately after the church service. The church will be providing fried chicken, drinks, and dinnerware. Please bring a side or dessert.

Trinity Lutheran Church is having a **Confirmation Commemoration on Palm Sunday** as part of our 100th Anniversary celebration. We are recognizing and **celebrating our previous Confirmation Classes from Trinity** on March 29th, including yours. We cordially invite you to join us for our 10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday worship service and after-service a meal with fellowship, visiting old friends, and photo display. If you have your **confirmation photo**, please share with Linda Kaskadden.

Spring Clean Up 2026 at Camp Trinity, New Haven March 28th (8a.m.-4p.m.)

All are invited to the Annual Spring Clean - Up Day at Camp Trinity(439 Camp Trinity Drive, New Haven, MO). Breakfast will be served at 8 a.m., followed by devotions and various construction and clean-up projects throughout the camp grounds and buildings.

Lunch will be served at noon and the day will conclude at 4 p.m. If you can't commit to the whole time, join us when you are able. Please RSVP Camp Trinity (573)237-2072 or email camptrinity73@yahoo.com if you are able to attend so they can prepare enough food and projects. You are also welcome to bring along appropriate tools if you are able. Call for more information on the projects to be completed.

Parents of VBS Children and helpers: The children and youth (preschool-high school) of Trinity, Bethlehem, and Ebenezer are invited to sing at the upcoming Easter Sunrise Service. We will be singing *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*, during the offering. Please start practicing with them at home during your home devotions. We are also working on it during Sunday School, join in on the faith-filled fun. All donations collected at Easter Sunrise Service will be used for this summer's joint VBS at Camp Trinity. The Easter Sunrise Service will be at 6:30 a.m. at Camp Trinity.

VBS 2026, May 27-29 Wake, Awake: Watching for Jesus. We need our members, children and grandchildren to register for VBS. Youth and Adult volunteers need to register too. Letters have been mailed to many of our young families, youth and adult volunteers. If you didn't get one grab one off the bulletin board in the narthex. VBS will fill up fast and we want our members to have the opportunity to take part in this wonderful Christ Centered activity. Registration will be made public on April 3rd with the 700 door hangers that will be distributed throughout New Haven. VBS will fill up and we want our members to have a spot, but you need to register to make that happen. You may use this QR code with your phone to



register: <https://vbsmate.com/events/vbs2024CampTrinity/31566>

Grass cutting time is here once again. A volunteer sign-up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board in the vestibule. Volunteers, please pick out some dates and sign-up. If you are unable to cut personally, you can make a donation and some young volunteers will cut for you. See Roger Helling if you have questions.

Smalcald Articles Part II – Office and Work of Jesus

Article II - Of the Mass.

(Continued from last week)

26 And although the angels in heaven pray for us (as Christ Himself also does), as also do the saints on earth, and perhaps also in heaven, yet it does not follow thence that we should invoke and adore the angels and saints, and fast, hold festivals, celebrate Mass in their honor, make offerings, and establish churches, altars, divine worship, and in still other ways serve them, and regard them as helpers in need [as patrons and intercessors], and divide among them all kinds of help, and ascribe to each one a particular form of assistance, as the Papists teach and do. For this is idolatry, and such honor belongs alone to God. 27 For as a Christian and saint upon earth you can pray for me, not only in one, but in many necessities. But for this reason I am not obliged to adore and invoke you, and celebrate festivals, fast, make oblations, hold masses for your honor [and worship], and put my faith in you for my salvation. I can in other ways indeed honor, love, and thank you in Christ. 28 If now such idolatrous honor were withdrawn from angels and departed saints, the remaining honor would be without harm and would quickly be forgotten. For when advantage and assistance, both bodily and spiritual, are no more to be expected, the saints will not be troubled [the worship of the saints will soon vanish], neither in their graves nor in heaven. For without a reward or out of pure love no one will much remember, or esteem, or honor them [bestow on them divine honor].

29 In short, the Mass itself and anything that proceeds from it, and anything that is attached to it, we cannot tolerate, but must condemn, in order that we may retain the holy Sacrament pure and certain, according to the institution of Christ, employed and received through faith. (Source: <https://bookofconcord.org/smalcald-articles/ii/of-the-mass/>)