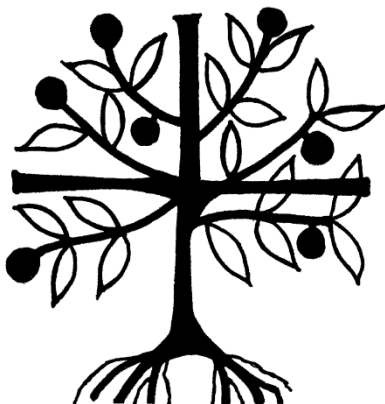


# Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

612 Water Street, Sparta, Wisconsin  
March 5, 2017 8:15 am and 10:30 am  
First Sunday of Lent



## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

\*Hymn: Bless Now, O God, The Journey

#326

## \*Psalm 32

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."

Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

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\* Symbol indicates a time when the congregation stands

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;**

**I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

<sup>10</sup>**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

### **\*Prayer**

Merciful God, day and night our sins are before us, and we can find no relief. We confess to you, O Lord, that we have strayed far from you and turned our backs on your love. Turns us again to you and lead us in the way of repentance, that, held in your mercy, we may always stay near you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **Special Music: Alleluia Choir**

**Reading: Genesis 15.1-6**

**Page 10 in the black pew Bible**

### **Sermon**

**Hymn: A Mighty Fortress**

**#504**

### **\*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 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**

**Pastor:** Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

**From the Assembly:** Holy God, lead your church on earth to do your will and strive for your kingdom. Teach us your ways and increase our understanding.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**From the Assembly:** Show us how to care for your creation and to treasure the fruits of your creating. Guide our actions and increase our commitment. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**From the Assembly:** Give knowledge and wisdom to all leaders throughout your world. Turn hardened hearts of stone toward your nourishing word and let the powerful become providers of daily bread. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**From the Assembly:** Rush to the aid of your people in times of distress. Send your peace and healing to those in need. *We pray especially for Adell Morton, Nolan Thesing, Sydney Haag (granddaughter of Kathy Haag), Sally Simpson (daughter of Dorothy Peterson), and Stefhanie Greenwell.* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**From the Assembly:** Guide those preparing for baptism, sponsors, and this whole assembly toward living into the promises made in baptism. Lead us to scripture, the holy supper, and toward your will for all creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**From the Assembly:** Accompany us on our Lenten journeys and inspire us by the witness of the saints who walked faithfully with you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**Pastor:** Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **\*Sharing of God's Peace**

**Offering** *For I have learned to be content, whatever the circumstances may be. I know now how to live when things are difficult and I know how to live when things are prosperous. In general and in particular I have learned the secret of eating well or going hungry of facing either plenty or poverty. I am ready for anything through the strength of the One who lives within me. Philippians 4:11-13*

**\*Offertory: We Give Thee but Thine Own**

**#686**

### **\*Offering Prayer**

Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives; that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

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**\*Holy, holy, holy Lord**

**page 181**

**\*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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**Communion:**

**During Communion: #808, 322**

**\*Prayer After Communion**

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*Blessing**

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

**\*Hymn: *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer***

**#618**

**\*Sending**

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Needed to meet budgeted mission - \$7,065.33**

**Simply Giving for 2/26 – 3/4 - \$3891.50**

**Attendance - Sunday, February 26 - 8:15 am - 109**

**Weekly Giving for February 19 - \$5317.97**

**Total Given – \$9209.47**

**10:30 am – 75**