



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

**502 Bardshar Road
Sandusky OH 44870**

419-626-0204

trinityelcasandusky@gmail.com

**Sunday, February 23th, 2025
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany**

Service of Word and Prayer

Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us into a community of prayer.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.
Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In ✝ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.


Amen.

Opening Hymn: Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

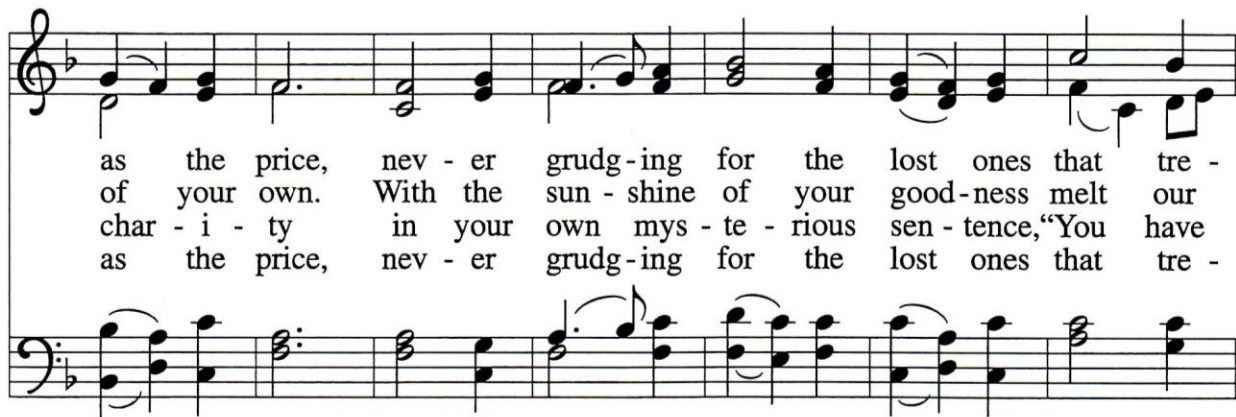
No. 707

GLORY TO GOD!

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



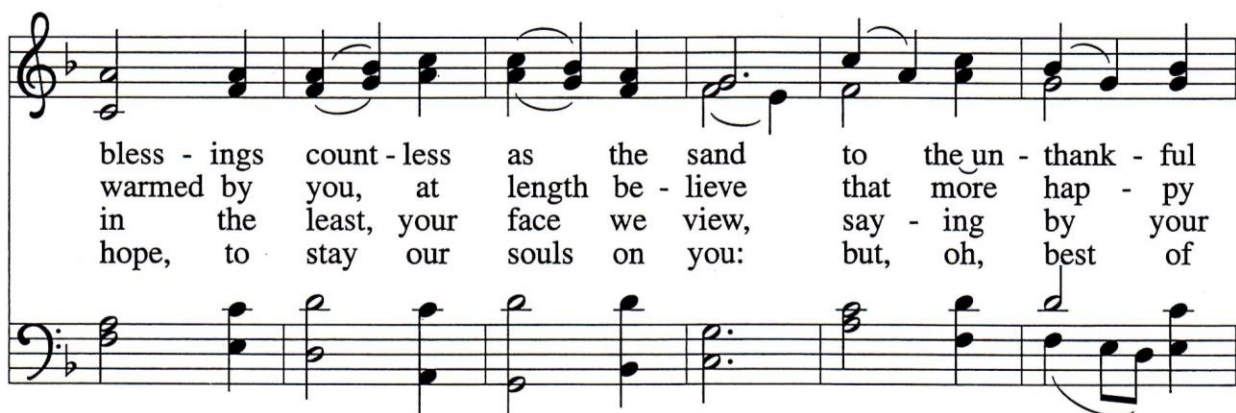
1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,
 3 Won-drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest
 4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood



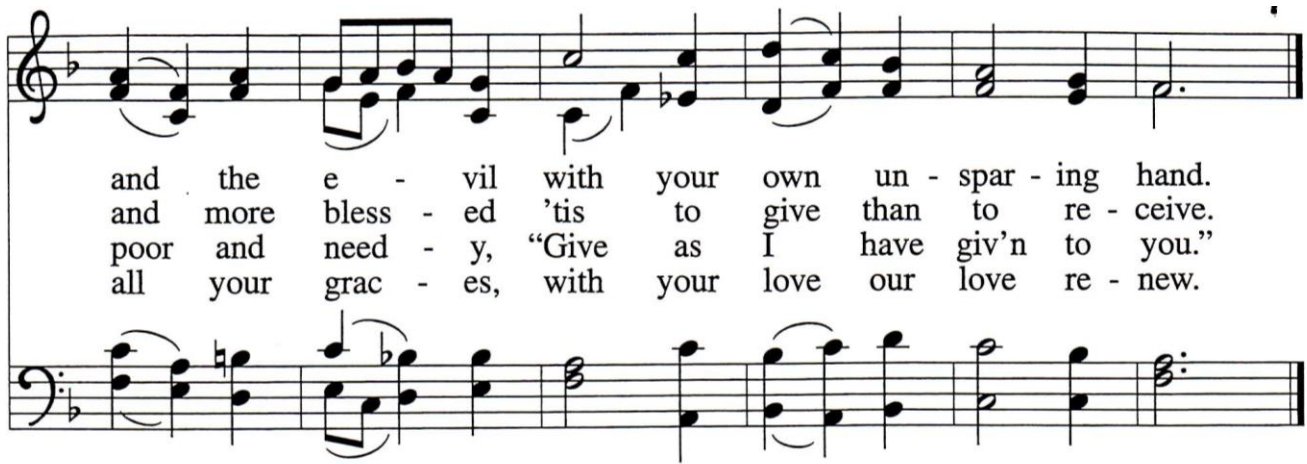
as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -
 of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our
 char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have
 as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -



men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en
 thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,
 done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—
 men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,



bles - sings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
 warmed by you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py
 in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your
 hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of



Greeting

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds, and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

In the beginning was the Word,
And the Word was with God,
And the Word was God.

In the Word was life,
And the life was the light of all people.

The Word became flesh and lived among us,
And we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

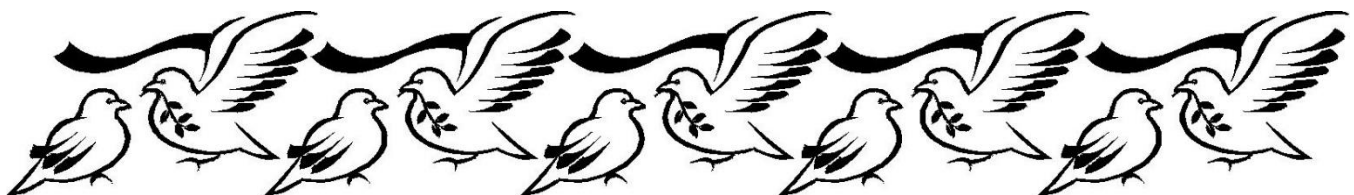
Prayer of the Day

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn of the Month: Build Us Up, Lord

No. 670



Build Us Up, Lord

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
 2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our

us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
 lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our

ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
 doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.

Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
 Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us

guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
 bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us

world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
 sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

Refrain

Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in
 faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your
 word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952
 Music: BUILD US UP, Mark Glaeser and Donna Hanna
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Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, silence, reflection, and song.

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11,15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 37:1-11, 39-40

Do not be provoked by evildoers;

do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

² **For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**

³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴ **Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart’s desire.**

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.

⁶ **The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

³⁹ **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰ You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they
seek refuge.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

The gospel according to Luke,

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Sermon

Pastor Jen Herrmann

Hymn of the Day: Build A Longer Table

No.1062

1062

Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Thanksgiving for the Word:

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.

Offertory (Usher please bring the offering to the altar)

Offertory Song: We are an Offering

No. 692

We Are an Offering

692

The musical score is written on six staves in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. It features various rhythmic patterns including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) on the first, third, and sixth staves. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Prayer:

The Holy Spirit prays with us and through us.

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.

In Christ Jesus we meet the God who knows our weakness
and bears the wounds of the world.
Therefore, let us be bold as we pray,
trusting that God draws near to those in any kind of need.

Silent Prayer

Prayers of Intercession

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**



As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities (*other ministries may be named*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us (*especially Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna*). May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God

✝ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Spirit, Open My Heart

No. 1043



1043

Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's



2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my



3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and



goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and



friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.



deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.



day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

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AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

At 8:00...

Pastor:	Pastor Jen Herrmann
Lectors:	Guy Miller
Usher:	Greg Norman & Brad Stierhoff
Acolyte:	Drew Killingsworth

At 10:30...

Pastor:	Pastor Jen Herrmann
Lectors:	Cathy Wobser
Usher:	Denny Sessler & Bonnie Lieb
Acolyte:	Malachi Herrmann

February Altar Care:	Linda Gantz & Cindy Norman
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PRAYER CONCERNS

To all affected by the war in Israel and Ukraine; for all directly or indirectly effected by the California wildfires;
FAITH members, including, Laura Allen;
Law enforcement officers of the greater Sandusky area; the people of St. John, Bellevue, and their pastor, Beth Wesphal.

Pastor Jen can be contacted at 419-822-7630 or jen.herrmann@gmail.com

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Pat and Larry Wiedenheft in memory of Alice & Bob Bertsch's 78th anniversary on February 18th; in memory of Bob's birthday on February 27th.

DONATIONS TO OUR "PENNY JUG" support the global relief and habilitation efforts of ELCA World Hunger, a mission of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

THIS MORNING'S LOOSE CASH OFFERING (money not in an envelope or given without other designation) benefits Lutheran Disaster Response. **LOOSE CHECKS** will support our Current Expenses Fund unless designated otherwise on the check memo line.

ATTENDANCE

February 16th: N/A; worship cancelled due to inclement weather

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GOODNESS

February 16th :N/A; worship cancelled due to inclement weather

This Week at Trinity

TODAY	Service of Word & Prayer Sunday School	8:00 am & 10:30 am 9:15 am
WEDNESDAY	AA/NA Women Only “We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.)	9:00 am 7:00 pm
SATURDAY	“We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.)	11:00 am
MONDAY	Dartball Playoffs	



Margaretta Elementary School is in need of supplies for the remainder of the school year. The following items have been requested: glue sticks, white glue bottles, highlighters, and sticky notes. A basket in the hallway is placed for your school supply contributions. We'll be collecting through **Sunday, March 16th**. Your help with this project is greatly appreciated!

We kindly ask that **food and beverages** are consumed in the **upstairs gathering room only**. Carrying them throughout the church can cause a hazardous risk of spilling. Thanks for your help and understanding!

Sunday, March 2nd will be a **MARDI GRAS** theme! Wear purple, green, or gold and come enjoy king cake style cupcakes in the gathering area after each service. Some of the cupcakes will contain the traditional plastic baby.



The sign-up for the PB&J EVENT on Sunday, March 9th has begun. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the office, for both events or just one. **Family and friends are welcome as well! Starting at 1pm,** Courtney Orshoski will give a presentation about her recent mission trip to Burundi Africa. Courtney was baptized and confirmed at Trinity. She currently is an active member of the Chapel where she is involved with leading youth groups.

Following the presentation, we'll continue with a PB&J afternoon of fun! **Popcorn, Bingo, and Jesus!** We'll furnish the popcorn and bottled water, and you may B.Y.O.B. (bring your own beverage). To enhance the fun, please bring a white elephant gift or a new gift, around \$1.00. A bingo receives a prize. An official bingo dealer, Jay Brisker – member Bonnie Lieb's brother – will lead the game.

LENT

MARCH & APRIL 2025

05

WED

ASH WEDNESDAY
11 AM WORSHIP WITH LUNCH FOLLOWING
7 PM WORSHIP

12

WED

LENT #1 "THE TREES OF EDEN"
11 AM @ TRINITY

19

WED

LENT #2 "TREES OF THE FIELD"
11 AM @ TRINITY

26

WED

LENT #3 "SYCAMORE TREE"
11 AM @ TRINITY

02

WED

LENT #4 "FIG TREE"
11 AM @ TRINITY

09

WED

LENT #5 "TREE OF SALVATION"
11 AM @ TRINITY