



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

**502 Bardshar Road
Sandusky OH 44870**

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**Sunday, March 30, 2025
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Service of Word and Prayer

Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us into a community of prayer.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession

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.

Opening Hymn: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

No. 807



Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

807



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb-en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



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.**

The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart.

If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,
and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Faith comes from what is heard,
and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

(Romans 10)

Prayer of the Day

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Hymn of the Month: The Peace of the Lord

No. 646



The Lord blesses
his people
with peace.

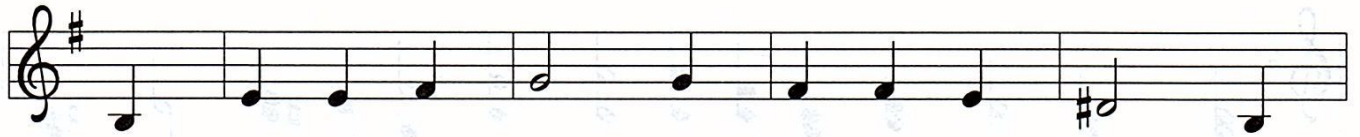
Psalm 29:11

The Peace of the Lord

COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

La paz del Señor

646



1 *La paz del Se - ñor, la paz del Se - ñor, la*
1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the



paz del Re - su - ci - ta - do: la paz del Se -
peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the



ñor a ti ya mí, a to - dos al - can - za -
Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's
Lord is a - mong us right now, so o - pen your - selves to re -
Lord kept with - in can - not live, so o - pen your - selves now to



rá; la paz del Se - ñor a ti ya
chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for
ceive it. The peace of the Lord is a - mong us right
share it. The peace of the Lord kept with - in can - not



mí, a to - dos al - can - za - rá.
me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.
now, so o - pen your - selves to re - ceive it.
live, so o - pen your - selves now to share it.

Word

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

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

⁹ The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 32

¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

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

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

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

⁵ 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.

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

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

⁸ **“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹ 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.”

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

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

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The Holy Gospel according to Luke,
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.]

² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

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

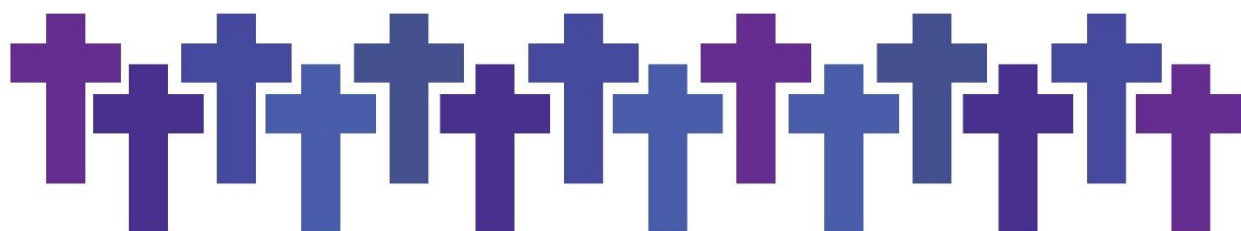
Children’s Message

Sermon

Pastor Jen Herrmann

Hymn of the Day: Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

No. 608



608 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain

watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come 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)

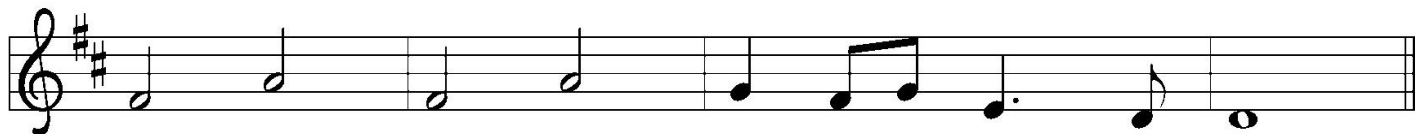
Offertory Song: Lord, Be Glorified

No. 744

Lord, Be Glorified



1 In my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
2 In our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
3 In your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
4 In your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;



in my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
in our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
in your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
in your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick

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Prayer:

The Holy Spirit prays with us and through us.

Offering Prayer

**On my own
What I have to give
Doesn't amount to much
In the light of all you have given to me
And in the face of so much need.**

**Put together as a congregation,
What we offer you here in love
Becomes more,
Not simply added together,
But somehow multiplied in its usefulness.**

**We ask you to bless our gifts
And with the addition of your blessing,
Just as it was with the loaves and fishes,
There is enough for all. Amen.**

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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion (*especially*). Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died (*especially*). We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **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

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

Closing Hymn: My Life Flows on in Endless Song

No. 703



My Life Flows On in Endless Song



1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God.

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AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

At 8:00...

Pastor:

Pastor Jen Herrmann

Lectors:

Carrie Wiedenheft

Usher:

Mark Wiedenheft & Rex Stierhoff

Acolyte:

Zane Warner

At 10:30...

Pastor:	Pastor Jen Herrmann
Lectors:	Cathy Wobser
Usher:	Ken Schenk & Bob Troike
Acolyte:	Malachi Herrmann
March Altar Care:	Pat Wiedenheft & Candy Beatty

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; The people of St. John, Union Corners, and their pastor Stacy Lauer-Scovanner; Luther Home of Mercy in Williston, serving people with developmental disabilities.

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 Mark, Tyler, Carlie, and Ryan Wiedenheft in honor of Carrie Wiedenheft's birthday.

THE MEMORIAL FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Greg Norman & Cindy Norman in memory of their mother, Mable Norman's birthday on April 2nd.

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.

ATTENDANCE

March 23rd: 42+22 = 71

Midday Lent Service March 26 = 22

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GOODNESS

March 16

General Fund: \$3,011.00

Building Improvements: \$385.00

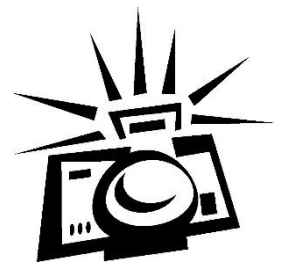


This Week at Trinity

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



Want to get that **special picture** while you're all dressed up and looking nice for Easter? Well, here's your chance! After each of the Easter worship services, come to the upstairs Gathering Area and get your picture taken. You'll even have the chance to add some fun props to your picture. 4x6 or 5x7 portraits are available. We look forward to seeing all those special smiles on Easter morning!



We're asking once again for support for the **ELCA World Hunger -- God's Global Barnyard** project by purchasing **CHICKS** to help those less fortunate around the world. When chicks mature, their eggs not only provide an ongoing supply of protein rich meals, but it can also help start a small business and generate a steady source of income.

For just \$5.00, you can purchase a chick. Your gift carries God's love to others, making a difference in lives. Go to the bulletin board in the office hallway and follow the instructions to help make a difference **ONE CHICK AT A TIME!**

A **FREE COMMUNITY DINNER** will take place on **Wednesday, April 9th** from 5:00 -- 6:00 pm at Grace Lutheran Church in Castalia. Delivery available for shut-ins; call 419-357-3672 for service. The menu is baked spaghetti, lettuce salad, roll & dessert.

On the **OFFERING ENVELOPES**, please remember to write your **donation amount** and ensure your name is clearly printed if not using an envelope with your assigned number. This will help our new secretary process the donations efficiently. Thank you in advance!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS 2024 must be directed by **March 31st**. Go to thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) find out if you have Choice Dollars to direct.

