

TRINITY LOWER EAST SIDE LUTHERAN PARISH



THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 15, 2026 + 11:00 A.M.

Welcome to worship!

We are so pleased to have you with us this morning for worship, and we believe that your presence among us more fully completes our community.

Trinity Lower East Side Lutheran Parish is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a denomination of 2.7 million members in 8,400 congregations who welcome people of all genders and sexual orientations into membership and ministry and are enthusiastically ecumenical. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation that fully welcomes and affirms LGBTQIA+ people and works to erase all discrimination against them. We grieve over the systemic racism of our society and are committed to the work of dismantling it.

We welcome everyone into membership regardless of race, economic means, married/single status, sexual orientation, or gender expression and/or identity. Whoever you are, whatever your identities, whoever you love, and wherever you are on your journey of life and faith, you are welcome here!

Please silence all mobile devices. Two single stall, all-gender restrooms are located in the Community Room on the first floor. A changing table for infants is available.

If you're visiting us this morning and would like to keep in touch,

- Add your name and contact information to the guest book on the Welcome Table at the sanctuary entrance.
- Follow us on social media:
 - Facebook: @TrinityLES
 - Youtube: @trinitylowereastsideluther2220 (including livestreams of worship)
 - Instagram: @TrinityLES.NYC
 - Follow our feeding ministry @TrinitySAFH on all platforms

Our Schedule:

Mon – Fri: 11:00am, Soup Kitchen; 12:30pm, Food Pantry
Mon: 7:00pm, “Valley of the Dolls” NA Group
Wed: 7:30pm, STP Creative Foundation
Thurs: 7:30pm, “Clean and Dry” AA Group
Sun: 11:00am, Worship Service
6:00pm “Unity” NA Group

Those Who Serve:

Pastor: The Rev. William Kroeze
(pastor@trinitylowereastside.org)
Pastoral Intern: Vicar Nicolas Paulson-Moe
(vicar@trinitylowereastside.org)
Pianist: Paul Staroba
Choir Director: Alex Lawrence
Administrator: Gillian Fox Orwoll
(office@trinitylowereastside.org)

Our Outreach:

To carry out our ministry of deed, Trinity LES has a separately incorporated non-profit program, **Trinity's Services And Food for the Homeless** (also known as SAFH, pronounced “safe”) which operates a soup kitchen, food pantry, and offers connections to other services. Between 150-250 meals are served each day, and around 30-40 families are given groceries from our pantry Monday through Friday. Volunteers are always needed. Visit safhnyc.org for more information.

+ Gathering +

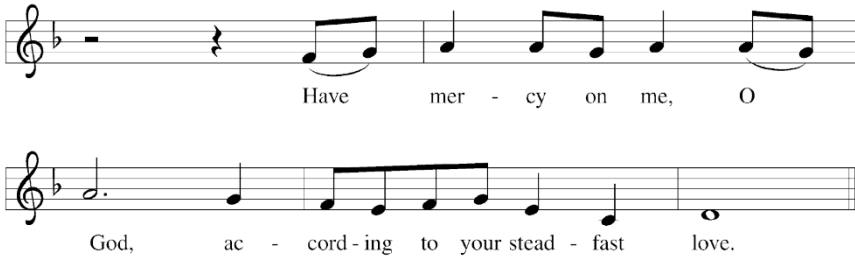
PRESERVICE MUSIC

Please stand at the ringing of the bell

PRAYER OF LAMENT

Gracious God, by day and night we pour out our prayer to you.
We are crying out for justice, yearning for what is right, longing for your peace.
Come quickly to help us, O God; save those who call upon your name.

The assembly sings this refrain, and continues humming the final note as the Presider continues:



Have mer - cy on me, O
God, ac - cord - ing to your stead - fast love.

The image shows two lines of musical notation in G major (one flat). The first line contains the melody for the words "Have mercy on me, O". The second line contains the melody for the words "God, according to your steadfast love." The melody is simple and melodic, with a final note that is held as a hum.

We are surrounded by hateful violence and senseless killing...
We feel the suffering, sorrow, and shame of the oppressed...
In the midst of plenty, your children cry out for bread...
We fear that justice will again be delayed or denied...
We see your creation destroyed by carelessness and greed...
We recognize patterns of privilege and systems of discrimination...

The refrain is sung

Gracious God, keep us working and praying for the day when your justice will roll down like waters, and your righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
Replenish our strength and stir up our hope as we look for signs of your coming reign. And fill us with the peace that passes understanding – the deep peace of Jesus Christ our Savior, in whose holy name we pray.

The refrain is sung

Refrain

Kwa - ke Ye - su na - si - ma - ma, ndi - ye
Here on Je - sus Christ I will stand. He's the

mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma. Ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la -
sol - id rock of my life. He's the sol - id rock of my

ma, ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma.
life. He's the sol - id rock of my life.

1 There's no oth - er place I can hide till the
2 It is not the work of my hands that has
3 When my days on this earth are done, and I

storm that rag - es sub - sides. My voice cries to God from the
washed a - way all my sins. I'm re - deemed, and all of my
stand at God's ho - ly throne, my heart will not have an - y

Refrain

flood, and I'm saved be - cause of his blood.
days, Je - sus Christ will be my heart's praise.
fear; in Christ's righ - teous - ness I am here.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ | *La gracia de nuestro Señor Jesucristo*,
the Love of God | *el amor de Dios*,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit | *y la comunión del Espíritu Santo*
be with you all. | *sean con ustedes*.

And also with you. | *Y también contigo*.

KYRIE

Refrain sung by all, verse sung by soloist.

Lord have mer - cy Christ have mer - cy; Lord have mer - cy
on us; Lord have mer - cy; Christ have mer - cy;
Lord have mer - cy on us.

Verse 1:

In a world that's broken, we pray for peace that's lasting.
For the strength to care for the hungry and the poor.
Let us band together with truth and grace and justice,
In unity of spirit, we lift to you in prayer...

Verse 2:

We pray your holy spirit, may bring our lives abundance
That we may feel your nearness in our work, our rest, our play.
For your watchful presence over family, friends, and neighbors.
With a loving spirit, we lift to you in prayer...

Verse 3:

Bless this holy dwelling and all who come to worship.
May we receive your guidance in the water and the Word.
Let us all be nourished by your precious blood and body.
With a reverent spirit, we lift to you in prayer...

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death.

Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit,

that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

Amen

+ Word +

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴ Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and

the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹ Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’

¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring

you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit

within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 130

The refrain is sung first by the cantor, then by all.

The verses are sung responsively.



I wait for you, O LORD; in your word is my hope.

Psalm 130:5

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

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Out [|] of the depths

I cry to [|] you, O LORD;

O LORD, [|] hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my [|] supplication.

If you were to keep watch [|] over sins,

O LORD, [|] who could stand?

Yet with you [|] is forgiveness,

in order that you [|] may be feared. Refrain

I wait for you, O LORD; [|] my soul waits;

in your word [|] is my hope.

**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch [|] for the morning,
more than those who keep watch [|] for the morning.**

O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is [|] steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plen- [|] teous redemption.

For the LORD shall [|] redeem Israel

from [|] all their sins. Refrain

SECOND READING

Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot,⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit

of Christ does not belong to him.¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

The acclamation is sung before and after the reading of the Gospel.

Oh, God we are turn - ing, turn - ing to hear you,
show us your mer - cy and kind - ness
Slow to an - ger and rich in bless - ing, your
love leads us out of the dark - ness Oh,
Je - sus we turn to you

The holy gospel according to Saint John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus

told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told

her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

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

SERMON

A period of silence for reflection follows introduced and concluded by the ringing of a bell.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Tree Of Life and Awesome Mystery, stanzas 1-3

ELW 334

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence,
let us pray for the world and its needs.

The following response is sung throughout the prayers as indicated:



Ya - ra - bba ssa - la - mi am - ter a - lay - na ssa - lam,
Let your peace rain up - on us, O liv - ing God of . . . peace.



ya - ra - bba ssa - la - mi im la' qu - lu - ba - na ssa - lam.
Let your peace rain up - on us, Lord, fill our hearts . . with your peace.

We pray for the church. Grant life and peace to all who gather in your name.
Breathe into us so that we may share your message of forgiveness,
hope, and love.

We pray for creation. Renew landscapes that have dried up,
prosper the work of those who restore homes and habitats after natural disasters,
and sustain places where biodiversity thrives.

We pray for the nations. Unbind leaders trapped by fear to act boldly for justice,
free all who live in places of war and violence,
and guide refugees and asylum seekers to safety. **Response**

We pray for all people in need. Take away the stone of poverty that weighs down so
many. Console any who weep and heal all who are sick, especially those we name aloud
before you now or in the silence of our hearts.

We pray for this assembly. Ready the hearts and spirits of all preparing to be baptized.
Deepen our wonder at the mystery of your resurrection and life.

We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith.
Give us faith to trust in your power to redeem and save,
and bring us up from our graves to life in you. **Response**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.
Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ Meal +

OFFERING

An offering is collected to support the work of the church in our community and the world. Gifts may also be made online at www.trinitylowereastsideside.org/give as one-time or recurring contributions or on Venmo using the QR code.

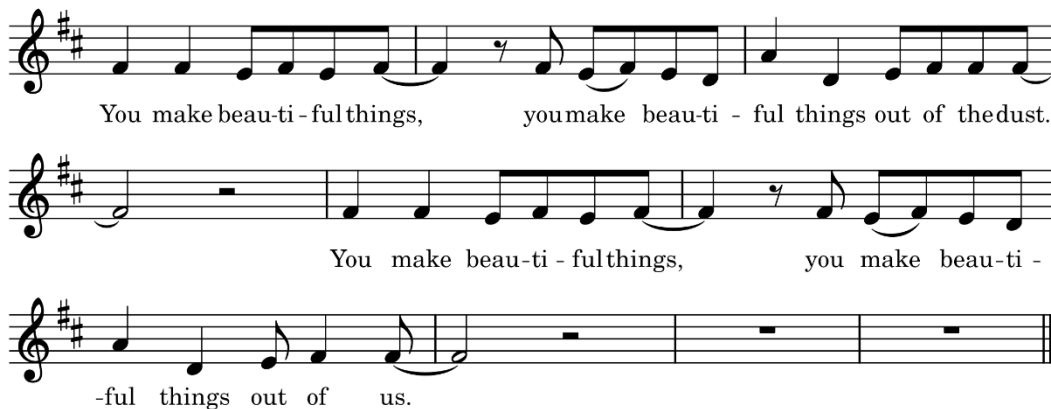


venmo

AT THE PRESENTATION

Beautiful Things

ACS 925



You make beau-ti-ful things, you make beau-ti - ful things out of the dust.

You make beau-ti - ful things, you make beau-ti -

-ful things out of us.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.

You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



♩ The Lord be with you. ♪ And al - so with you.



♩ Lift up your hearts. ♪ We lift them to the Lord.

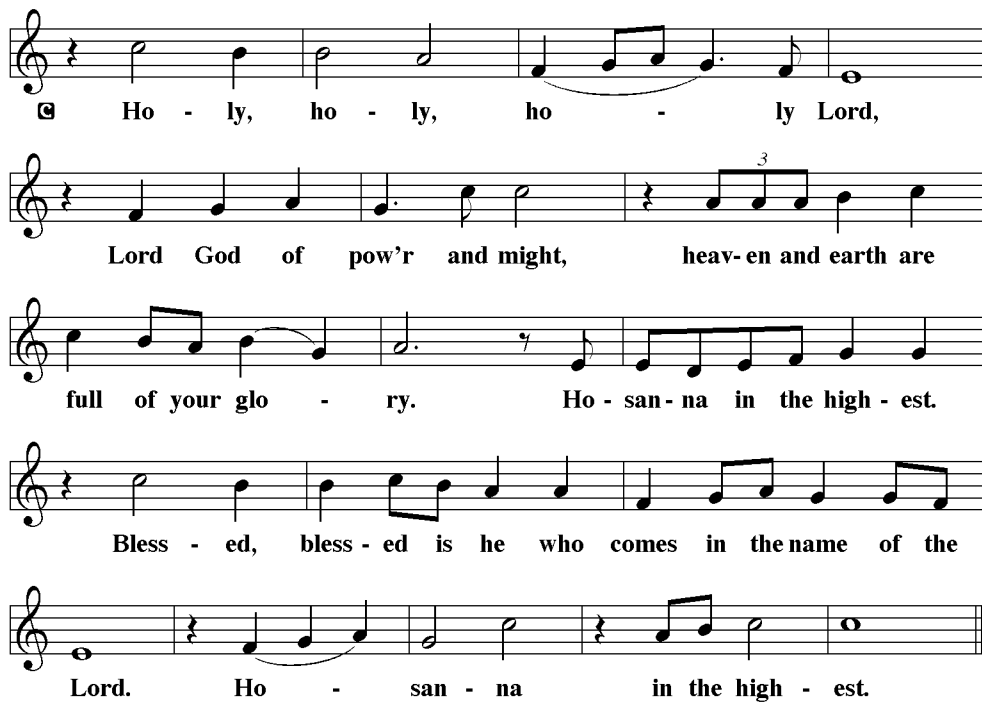


♩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



♪ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... Here the presiding minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding: ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



The presiding minister continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which includes the following responses:

... with this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



☐ Christ has died. Christ is ris - en.
Christ will come a - gain.

... Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

... We praise you, O God, blessed and Holy Trinity, now and forever.



☐ A - men, a - men, a - men.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

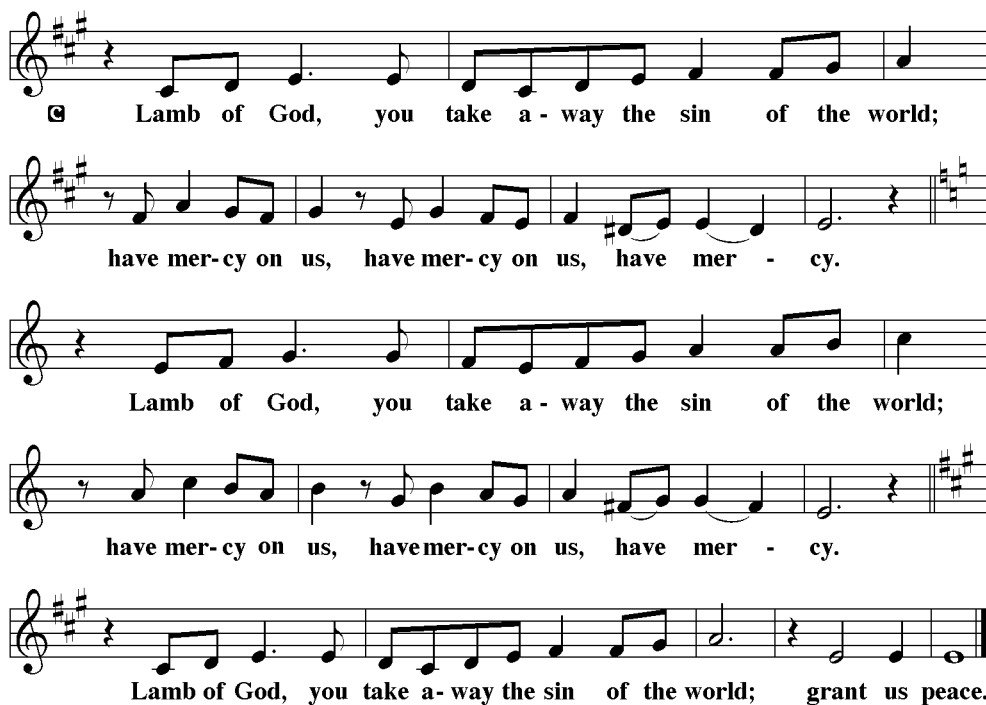
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu reino.
Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra
como en el cielo.

Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas
como también nosotros
perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación
y líbranos del mal.

Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder y tuya es la gloria, ahora
y siempre. Amén.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table.
Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table to receive communion. Wafers are low gluten. The silver chalice contains wine and the ceramic chalice contains grape juice. During Communion the assembly sings:

Part I



Come to the ta - ble, come to the ta - ble.

Part II



Come one, come all. Come one, come all.



All is now read - y, come one and all. Come, oh, come.



Come one, come all. Come one, come all.

Text: Jennifer Baker-Trinity, b. 1976
 Music: INVITATION, Jennifer Baker-Trinity
 Text and music © 2017 Augsburg Fortress

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
 God of our salvation,
 we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
 reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
 Through the body and blood of your Son,
 may we become Christ's body in the world,
 bearing witness to your love for all creation,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

+ Sending +

BENEDICTION

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
+ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

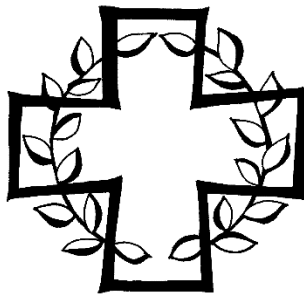
Jesus is a Rock

ELW 333

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ journeys with you.

Thanks be to God.



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS



Help enrich our experience of the joy of Christ's Resurrection this Easter with contributions toward our flowers and decorations. Contributions may be made in memory of loved ones who have died, or in honor of an individual, family, or cause. Access the dedication form using the QR code to the left.

UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES

We're thrilled to welcome our kids back from Christmas break for Sunday School TODAY! Upcoming Sunday School sessions through the end of the year are:

- March 22, April 12, April 26, May 10, May 24, June 7

FOOD AND FAITH: LENTEN SMALL GROUPS, WEDNESDAYS IN LENT AT 7:00 PM

Across cultures and religious traditions, humans have long recognized the powerful intersection of food, community, and spirituality. This small group will explore the place of food in scripture and the ministry of Jesus; the ways food builds community and erases divisions; and how food can be justly and equitably produced and distributed.

Led by Pastor Will Kroeze and Vicar Nick Paulson-Moe, with special guests. Followed by Evening Prayer at 8:00pm.

HOLY WEEK AT TRINITY

PALM SUNDAY: MARCH 29 AT 11:00 A.M.

We gather at the General Slocum Fountain in Tompkins Square Park (through the brick pavilion) and process to the church with palms. Liturgy includes a dramatic reading of the St. Matthew Passion.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: APRIL 2 AT 7:00 P.M.

Dinner Church, remembering Christ's Last Supper within the context of a communal meal, as was done by the first generations of Christians. To help us plan, please sign up in advance if you are planning on joining us!

GOOD FRIDAY: APRIL 3 AT 7:00 P.M.

Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday, with reading of the St. John Passion and special music

EASTER SUNDAY: APRIL 5 AT 11:00 A.M.

Festival Eucharist followed by a special coffee hour and Easter egg hunt for kids.

BEACHES: THE MUSICAL – APRIL 17

Join us as we head to Broadway, to see the premier of *Beaches, A New Musical on Broadway*, featuring our very own Paul Staroba as the Music Director. We will be going Friday April 17th. Tickets are \$69. The show is at the Majestic Theatre on 44th Street and 8th Avenue. We have 12 seats reserved! Email Gillian (office@trinitylowereastside.org) if you'd like us to save you a seat.

About the show: *Beaches, A New Musical*, based on the best-selling novel that became the blockbuster film, brings to the stage one of the most iconic friendships in popular culture. This sweeping, emotional, and joy-filled new musical follows the vivacious Cee Cee and elegant Bertie, who meet as children and become fast friends. From pen-pals to roommates to romantic rivals, Cee Cee and Bertie's oil-and-water friendship perseveres over the course of 30 years through even the most tragic trials. With a touching vulnerability, *Beaches* exemplifies the triumph of the human spirit and the bonds of friendship.

OFFICIAL NOTICE: SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON APRIL 19

The Church Council has called a special congregational meeting to be held on Sunday, April 19 immediately after worship. The only business to be conducted will be the adoption of required amendments to Trinity's constitution to align with updates to the ELCA's Model Constitution for Congregations adopted by the 2025 Churchwide Assembly, and the adoption of an amendment changing the length of term for officers from (5) five years to (3) three years, and the adoption of a bylaw instituting term limits of (3) three years for church council members. The proposed amendments and bylaw are available for members to review in advance of the meeting.

LITURGICAL ILLUSTRATIONS FOR LENT BY JOSH BRENNAN

Throughout the season of Lent, parishioner Josh Brennan will be creating liturgical illustrations for each week's bulletin, with his interpretations of the meaning of each day's scriptural images. We're grateful for Josh offering his creativity in this way, and hope that these images will be meaningful for you in your Lenten journey!