



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*please stand as you are able)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God, we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: out of love for the world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

HYMN:

"Oh, Love, How Deep" (vv.1-4)

#322

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

LITANY

For these forty days, we journey with Jesus down the Lenten path. As we gather, we seek to experience the ways Christ's embodied life demonstrates God's love for us.

We come with hearts open to learn.

We will listen to stories of Jesus' life and of God's people, because they teach us how God calls us to live in the world.

We come to learn from the stories of God's ancient people, Christ's life, and the church.

We will engage through our senses with the power and mystery of the world God made, because this exploration calls us into wonder.

We come to learn through the prophets.

We will light candles to remind each other of the fullness of Christ's presence with us in our worship and in our world.

We come to learn how to better see and reflect the light of Christ.

We will pray as Jesus taught us and send each other back into daily life with a deeper connection to the life and love of Jesus.

We come to learn how to live more fully in the embodied image of God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you call us to pray and trust. When worries and troubles eat away our hope, strength our faith. When our community mourns, grant us the compassion to weep together. When all seems lost, show us that your blessings still abound, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: Joel 1:1-4, 13-15;2:1-2, 12-14, 18-19, 25-32

^{1:1} The word of the Lord that came to Joel son of Pethuel: ² Hear this, O elders; give ear, all inhabitants of the land! Has such a thing happened in your days or in the days of your ancestors? ³ Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation. ⁴ What the cutting locust left, the swarming locust has eaten; what the swarming locust left, the hopping locust has eaten; and what the hopping locust left, the destroying locust has eaten. ¹³ Put on sackcloth and lament, you priests; wail, you ministers of the altar. Come, pass the night in sackcloth, you ministers of my God! Grain offering and drink offering are withheld from the house of your God. ¹⁴ Consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly. Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land to the house of the Lord your God, and cry out to the Lord. ¹⁵ Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is near, and as destruction from the Almighty it comes. ^{2:1} Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near— ² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains, a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. ¹² Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ¹⁴ Who knows whether he will not turn and relent and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God? ¹⁸ Then the Lord became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. ¹⁹ In response to his people the Lord said: “I am sending you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a mockery among the nations. ²⁵ I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army that I sent against you. ²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁸ Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. ²⁹ Even on the male and female slaves, in those days I will pour out my spirit. ³⁰ I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. ³¹ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. ³² Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved, for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

Response: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

HYMN:

“Day by Day”

#790

APOSTLE'S CREED (p. 105)

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 OF THE PEOPLE

Response: Let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

LORD'S PRAYER (p. 145)

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.

OFFERING HYMN:

"As the Grains of Wheat"

#465

(offering plates are located on the table at the back of the sanctuary)

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to share those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and give you peace. **Amen.**

HYMN

"Christ, Be Our Light"

#715

SENDING

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

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Lenten Midweek Wednesdays

*Turning the World Around:
Majoring in the Minor Prophets*

Suppers – 5:30 p.m. | Worship (In Person and Online) – 6:30 p.m.

Wed., Mar 12th – “Joel”

Guest Preacher: Pr. Diane Krumm, Trinity Lutheran

Wed., Mar 19th – “Amos”

Guest Preacher: Pr. Jamie Desai, Faith Lutheran

Wed., March 26th – “Malachi”

Preacher: Pr. Nicholas

Wed., April 2nd – “Habakkuk”

Preacher: Pr. Rich

Wed., April 9th – “Zechariah”

Preacher: Pr. Nicholas

Sundays in Lent

Where is the Spirit leading you this Lent?

Lent I – Sunday, March 9th

Lent II – Sunday, March 16th

Lent III – Sunday, March 23rd

Lent IV – Sunday, March 30th

Lent V – Sunday, April 6th

Palm/Passion Sunday – Sunday, April 13th