



March 1, 2017
Holy Communion
Imposition of Ashes

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Pam Illick, Pastor



Welcome to this somber but profound time of worship. We enter into Lent trusting in the God who created us from dust and claims us as his precious sons and daughters. If you are a visitor, please sign the guest register at the rear of the sanctuary and please join us for worship again. We have a transport chair available to members and guests when needed. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in today's readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

Lutherans believe that the bread and wine of Holy Communion are signs given by God that Christ is fully present among us. We invite you to participate in receiving this miraculous presence. If you are unable to receive either the bread or the wine, be assured that even in the words, Christ is present to you. You are welcome to come to the Table to be fed and nurtured with us.

(Communion record cards are available in the pew racks.)

GATHERING

The assembly gathers in silence.

Please stand as you are able.

GREETING

- ☐** The Lord be with you.
- ☑** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐** Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and

forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1–2, 12–17

Because of the coming Day of the Lord, the prophet Joel calls the people to a community lament. The repentant community reminds God of his gracious character and asks God to spare the people, lest the nations doubt God's power to save.

L A reading from Joel.

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 —
²a 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.
¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
 return to me with all your heart,
 with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing.
Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and relents from punishing.
¹⁴Who 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?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sanctify a fast;
 call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.
¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"

P Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 51:10-12



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
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SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships. Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.

☒ A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians

Chapter 5

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Chapter 6

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see — we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

☒ Word of God., word of life.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.

☒ The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Be Thou My Vision* (ELW 793)

INVITATION TO LENT

P Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

CONFESSION OF SIN

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Most holy and merciful God,

C we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,
by our own fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

P We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have frustrated your Holy Spirit.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Our poor stewardship shown through waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

P Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

C Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

People may come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes.

The presiding minister marks the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

After those who desire ashes have received them, all remain seated, and the minister continues.

- P** Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
C **that we may show forth your glory in the world.**
P By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
C **bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**
P Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
C **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(Assembly stands.)*

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

A brief silence.

- A** We pray for the church. Turn it toward you, loving God, and unite it in a desire to live for you alone. Hear us, O God.
C **Your mercy is great.**
- A** Sustain in us a willing spirit to care for the earth and all that lives on it, knowing that we are stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God.
C **Your mercy is great.**
- A** We pray for the nations. Let no leader put an obstacle in the way of those seeking your justice, peace, and love. Hear us, O God.
C **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Let your light break forth and shine on those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Let your healing spring up quickly. We pray especially for . . . Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

- A** Guide this assembly constantly back to your word, your holy meal, and the unfailing waters of baptism. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

- A** We give thanks for the lives of the faithful departed who have returned to the dust and thus to you. Inspire us by their examples of holy living. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

- P** To you, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERTORY *(Please stand as you are able)*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -

nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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OFFERING PRAYER

A Merciful God,

C 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.

DIALOGUE

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.

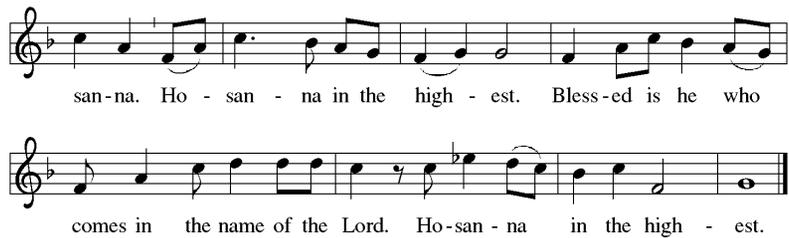
PREFACE

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
 that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
 al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.
 You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the
 pas - chal feast. that re - newed in the gift of ban - ism.
 we may come to the full - ness of your grace.
 And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
 we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- ☐ Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was handed over,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
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 risen.
Christ will come again.

- ☐ O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

☑ Come, Holy Spirit.

- ☐ Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

☑ Come, Holy Spirit.

- ☐ With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

☑ Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

- ☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

- ☐ Return to God with all your heart.
Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

Communicants will proceed up the center aisle at the direction of the ushers. If you wish to receive the wine from the pouring chalice, please pick up an individual cup from the table at the head of the aisle. After receiving the bread from the pastor, proceed to the pouring chalice or the common cup to receive the wine.

Return to your seat by the side aisle.

If you prefer to receive a blessing, come forward with your arms crossed over your chest. If you would like to have communion brought to your seat, please indicate your wish to one of the ushers, and the pastor come to you.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



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



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



sin of the world; grant us peace.

TABLE BLESSING *(The assembly stands.)*

- ☐ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve us in eternal life.

☑ **Amen.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

- ☐ Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

SENDING

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.**

DISMISSAL

- ☐ Go in peace. Share God's message of love through your words and actions with others

☑ **We will. Thanks be to God!**

DEPART IN SILENCE

Worship is ended; our service begins.

- SERVING TONIGHT -

Pastor Pam Illick Presiding Minister
Terry Eberly..... Assisting Minister
June Ecker..... Lector
Brenda Rice, Jenny Rice, Rhonda Rice..... Musicians
Carolyn and Earl Duffey Altar Care



We will continue our observance of Lent with Evening Prayer each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:00. Invite a friend and join us for this time of quiet worship in the middle of the week.



- March 5-11 -

Sunday..... 9:30 a.m. - Children’s Class & Adult Forum
Sunday..... 10:45 a.m. - Holy Communion
Sunday..... 12:15 p.m. - Lunch Bunch at Rolling Mill Restaurant
Tuesday 6:30 p.m. - Daisy Scouts
Tuesday 7:00 p.m. - Faith Study
Wednesday..... 1:00 p.m. - Brown Bag Lunch Group
Wednesday..... 6:30 p.m. - Evening Prayer
Wednesday..... 7:00 p.m. - Creative Christian Ladies
Thursday..... 10:00 a.m. - Parlor Talk at Parlor House
Thursday..... 1:30-3:00 p.m. - Thursday in the Subway
Thursday..... 6:30 p.m. - Congregation Council
Friday 6:00 p.m. - Dinner at Monterey Pass Pub & Eatery



Remember to write the name(s) of persons for whom prayer is needed on the pad in the rear of the church! The names will be included in the Intercessory Prayers this evening. If you forget to put someone’s name on the list, there is an opportunity to say the name during the prayers.

St. Luke’s Lutheran Church in Scotland has invited us to attend a **Lenten Retreat** called “How I Long to Love You: Contemplating the Mysteries of Passiontide”. The retreat will be led by Sisters Thelma and Jo Anne from the Tau Hermitage.

The event will take place on Saturday, March 4, 8:30 a.m.—noon at St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2695 Luther Drive, Chambersburg To register, call the office 717-261-1213

If you are interested and would like to carpool, please contact Pastor Pam (I have room for 4 people in addition to myself.)

Children’s Sunday School - every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Social Room!! Open to all children. Join us and give it a **Whirl**.

Adult Forum meets at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday in the first floor meeting room. Our current topic of discussion is the book *Bad Girls of the Bible*. Join us and find out who they were and what they did.

Faith Study: *If You Want to Walk on Water, You’ve Got to Get Out of the Boat* You are invited to go for a walk. God has invited lots of people throughout time to walk: Moses leading the people out of Egypt, the disciples on the walk to Emmaus, and perhaps the most famous walk of all time: Peter’s walk on the water. God continues to call us, just like Peter, to step out in faith and walk on the water. The 6 sessions of this course will help you learn the skills of water-walking: discerning God’s call, transcending fear, risking faith, managing failure, and trusting God. Come on! Step out of the boat and join us!!! The **Tuesday Night Group** will continue with Session 4 on Tuesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. and the **Brown Bag Lunch Group** will continue on Wednesday, March 8 at 1 p.m.

Thursday in the Subway at Walmart is every Thursday afternoon from 1:30 to 3:00. Pastor Pam is available to anyone who is seeking prayer or someone to talk to. The invitation extends to our people here at TELC to stop by too. Please pray that this ministry will help TELC to take Jesus into the world.

Have Mercy on Us

Across the world, church doors stand open in the middle of the week and we come. There is silence, strange and awkward. For a few short moments the frenetic tasks and worries of this world flutter to the ground before God, the God who sees in secret.

This day God grieves over us as a parent over a willful child. In word, in silence, in poignant sign and symbol we know God's deepest desire for us to return to that for which we were created. Yet the limits of our humanity are sealed in the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We have fallen short, disappointed. Adam and Eve, first to hear these words in the Garden of Eden, lead the procession beneath the sign of the cross.

It is not our God alone who longs for our coming of age. This day we join all creation, with groans too deep for words, in our desire for the dominion of God to be a tangible reality, right now, both in our most secret places and in this world of great good and great evil.

"Have mercy on me, O God" (Ps. 51:1). The psalmist echoes our own secret prayer prompted by our own gray and anxious days that are lived out in this gray and anxious time. Throughout centuries of devotion, this prayer has been the great equalizer of the sure-footed and the frightened, the powerful and the powerless. Open and vulnerable, we join the psalmist's plea for re-formation, that God would return us to that for which we were born.

Lent is bittersweet as a parent's love for a child. Through ash and flame, word and silence, disappointment and longing, God grieves over us and then offers the supreme sacrifice. How can we not live a larger life, give our lives away for the love of God's waiting world?

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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- Our Mission -

The mission of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rouzerville, Pennsylvania is to build, strengthen, and increase our faith community to better love and serve God – and the world community – with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



- Our Vision -

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a flourishing, Spirit-filled, Christ-centered home for all.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.