



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
 292 Orange St., New Haven, CT  
 TrinityLutheranNH.org – (203) 787-6521  
 Service of Holy Communion—*Lutheran Book of Worship*, Setting I  
 The Second Sunday in Lent, March 1, 2026  
 In-Person at 10:15 am & Live at Facebook.com/TrinityLutheranNH

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

The Almighty and merciful God grant unto you, being penitent, pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of his Holy Spirit.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** *"The God of Abraham Praise"* **LBW No. 544, vs. 1-4, 11**

## The God of Abraham Praise



1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;  
 2 The God of A-br'ham praise, at whose su - preme com - mand  
 3 The God of A-br'ham praise, whose all - suf - fi - cient grace  
 4 He by him - self has sworn; I on his oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love.  
 from earth I rise and seek the joys at his right hand.  
 shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.  
 I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.



Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;  
 I all on earth for - sake— its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—  
 He deigns to call me friend; he calls him - self my God!  
 I shall be - hold his face; I shall his pow'r a - dore,



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.  
 and him my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.  
 And he shall save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.  
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for - ev - er - more.

11 The whole triumphant host  
 give thanks to God on high.  
 "Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"  
 they ever cry.  
 Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine!  
 I join the heav'nly lays:  
 all might and majesty are thine  
 and endless praise!

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799, alt.  
 Music: YIGDAL, Hebrew, arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751–1797

### APOSTOLIC 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.**

### KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Let us pray...

Eternal God, it is your glory always to have mercy. Bring back all who have erred and strayed from your ways; lead them again to embrace in faith the truth of your Word and to hold it fast; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

### **FIRST LESSON: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose: that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 121**

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes | to the hills;\*

from where is my | help to come?

<sup>2</sup> **My help comes | from the Lord,\***

**the maker of heav- | en and earth.**

<sup>3</sup> He will not let your | foot be moved\*

and he who watches over you will not | fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup> **Behold, he who keeps watch | over Israel\***

**shall neither slum- | ber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup> the Lord himself watches | over you;\*

the Lord is your shade at | your right hand,

<sup>6</sup> **so that the sun shall not strike | you by day,\***

**nor the | moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup> The Lord shall preserve you | from all evil;\*

it is he who shall | keep you safe.

**<sup>8</sup> The Lord shall watch over your going out and your | coming in,\*  
from this time forth for- | evermore.**

**Gloria Patri (chanted after the psalm)**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the / Holy Spirit;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore-/ ver. Amen**

## **SECOND LESSON: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting his promises.*

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
and abounding in steadfast love.**

## **GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Nicodemus visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.*

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.'

<sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know

where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”  
<sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

<sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY: "God Loved the World" LBW No. 292

### God Loved the World



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
 3 If you are sick, if death is near, this truth your  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all



Son, the lost to save, that all who would in him be -  
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in Christ a -  
 trou - bled heart can cheer; Christ Je - sus saves your soul from  
 sins which you have done, and jus - ti - fied by Je - sus'



lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
 blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.  
 Music: DIE HELLE SONN LEUCHT, Melchior Vulpius, c. 1560–1615

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SERMON

## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

### **THE PRAYERS**

D: In our prayers today and this week, please remember: [prayer list]. We also invite your own petitions either aloud or silently in your hearts.

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, you so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Let the wind of your Holy Spirit blow through the Church, making your people to be born anew every day from above. And fill this congregation called Trinity with your Spirit, that we may be instruments of Jesus' love to those who need it most. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give teachable minds and humble hearts to leaders of the nations, and to those who govern and guide us. Make them watchful and protective toward those entrusted to their care, and lead them in paths of justice and righteousness. Be the guard and shield of those in our military, and of all who give of themselves for the sake of serving others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Watch over everyone who endures pain, sorrow, fear, loneliness, or despair. Be a shade and shelter from all that afflicts them; give hope to their hearts, health to their bodies, and unshakable faith to their souls. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the eternal life you have given to those who have died believing in you. Keep us steadfast in the faith you once granted to Abraham and Sarah, to Nicodemus, and to all of your people of every time and place. And, at the last, bring us safely into your loving presence, where together we will enjoy eternal life with you forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

## **INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL**

### **PEACE**

**OFFERING** *The ushers collect the offering. You can also give electronically through our website, Facebook page, or by [clicking here](#).*

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "A Right Spirit" Stephan Casurella

**OFFERTORY:** "What Shall I Render"

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

D: Let us pray...

Merciful Father,

**We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

### **LAMB OF GOD**

**THE COMMUNION** *To all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord, are baptized, and confess Jesus' real presence in the Holy Communion, we invite you to join us in the Holy Eucharist. At the usher's invitation you may come forward to kneel or stand at the altar rail. Please take an empty individual cup from the tray and bring it with you to the*

*rail. The host wafer will be placed into your open hands to eat. Your cup will be filled from the pouring chalice, take and drink. Individual cups filled with non-alcoholic grape juice are also available, please point to receive one. Sealed pre-consecrated Communion packages are also available. Please remain at the altar rail until all have finished and a blessing is given.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS: LBW Nos. 305, 309**

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: "Create in Me"**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

D: Let us pray...

Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN: "All My Hope on God Is Founded" WOV (Blue) No. 782**

- 1 All my hope on God is founded  
who will all my trust renew,  
who through change and chance will guide me,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown, God alone,  
call my heart to be thine own.
- 2 Mortal pride and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray our trust;  
what with care and toil we fashion,  
tow'r and temple, fall to dust.  
But thy pow'r, hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tow'r.
- 3 Great thy goodness, e'er enduring;  
deep thy wisdom, passing thought;  
splendor, light, and life attend thee,  
beauty springing out of naught.  
Evermore from thy store  
newborn worlds rise and adore.

- 4 Still from earth to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of God's own Son.  
Christ doth call one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

### **DISMISSAL**

D: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**



TRINITY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*To joyfully share God's Word and Sacrament in order to  
serve our Greater New Haven neighbors with the love of Christ.*