



TRINITY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lent 4
Sunday, March 11, 2018

Pastor Daniel Witte

Welcome! May the grace of God give you peace and strength!

Theme of the service: In Christ, God gives the reverse of what we deserve.

Suggested silent prayer: Hymn 266, “Kyrie, God Father in Heaven Above”

(*Kyrie* [KEE-ri-ay] is Greek for “Lord,” *eleison* [ay-LAY-i-zone] for “have mercy”)

+ + +

WELS CONNECTION VIDEO

LITURGY

Common Service page 15 of CW

HYMN

(all sing— to the tune of CW 215)

- 1. A snake of bronze the prophet raised
Upon a pole, on high.
For he had prayed, and God be praised:
The snake-bit did not die.**
- 2. “Look upward in your dying hour,
And live,” still Moses cries,
While pointing to prodigious power,
When we lift up our eyes.**
- 3. High on the cross the Savior hung,
High in the heav’ns he reigns:
To him the sinful, serpent-stung,
Look, and they lose their pains.**

4. **When God's own Son is lifted up,
The perishing revive;
The hopeless see eternal hope,
The dying come alive!**

Stand

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.


C:  **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray; Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY (KYRIE)


C:  **Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.**

M: God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C:  **Amen.**

PRAISE AND PRAYER


M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C:  **Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,**

we glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For you only are holy; you only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C:  And al-so with you.

M: Let us pray.

M: Father, you so loved the world that you gave your One and Only Son into death for our sin. Take our lives, Lord, and use them to lift up your Son so that all will be drawn to him and find eternal life, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C:  **Amen.**

Be Seated

FIRST LESSON

Numbers 21:4–9

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”

⁶ Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived

PSALM 38 *(Please turn to page 81 in the front of the hymnal. On Sunday, north/left side sings the first half of the verses. South/right side sings the second half of each verse. All sing the refrains and “Glory be to the Father . . .”)*

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 2:1–10

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions— it is by grace you have been saved.

⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

¹⁰ For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.


VERSE

M: “God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Stand

GOSPEL

M: . . . in John chapter three, beginning at verse fourteen.

C:  **Glory be to you, O Lord!**

John 3:14–21


“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.

¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C:  Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be Seated for the children’s Gospel

HYMN 391

“God Loved the World So that He Gave”

SERMON

Psalm 38

PRESENT ALL YOUR PAIN

Stand

HYMN

(to the tune of CW 106)

1. **Lord, I ask you to be gentle,
Not to cause me undue strain,
For your hand lies heavy on me
And your arrows bring me pain!
How the weight of guilt I bear
Drives me headlong to despair!**

2. **When the friends whom I have trusted
Seem to turn on me with scorn,
When my heart is crushed with numbness
Until all day long I mourn,
Grief is mine no words can tell,
Anguish I cannot dispel.**

3. **So afraid my feet are slipping,
All to you I now confess:
Is my own sin not a factor
In the roots of my distress?
Savior, mercy! Hear me cry —
Lord, I ache for your reply.**

Be Seated

OFFERING & FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

M: Father, in love you sent your Son Jesus Christ down from your dazzling glory to bring light to our darkened world. Create true faith in those who love darkness that they may not be forever

lost but made alive through your powerful Word. Lord, in Christ you love the world:

C: Answer us, in your love.

M: Lord Jesus, in your love for all you had to be lifted up on the cross. Be patient with all who, like Nicodemus, are interested in you, but confused about how much they need you. Be merciful, too, to all who have been imprisoned for wrongdoing. Send them people who will speak to them the good news of their free forgiveness. In love you died for the world:

C: Answer us, in your love.

M: Holy Spirit, in love you raise us up with Christ in baptism, and in him you sustain our lives with the incomparable riches of his grace. Hold before the closing eyes of those near death the cross of Jesus, that the saving news of the death and resurrection of their Savior may comfort them. Grant them faith that they may yearn for the days of eternal life which soon will be theirs. To those who mourn the death of loved ones, grant courage and hope in the ultimate victory over death found only in Jesus. In love your every aim is to bring Christ to the world:

C: Answer us, in your love.

M: We pray for our brothers and sisters who are sick, weary, recovering, and lonely. Heal them. Help them. Lord, in Christ you love the world:

C: Answer us, in your love.

M: We pray for victims of kidnaping and terrorism, for the commanders of our armed forces and our brothers and sisters in Christ whom they lead, for medical personnel in war zones and those who bring humanitarian aid. Lord, end wars. Bring peace. Establish stable governments. Hear your children's cries. Dry their tears. Lord, in Christ you love the world:

C: Answer us, in your love.

M: That all the world and all angels may see that all we do is done through you, we pray, as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in Heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Be Seated

HYMN 365:1-2

“Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

Stand

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C:  Amen.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you....and (†) give you peace.

C:  Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN 365:3

“Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

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You are invited to join us for fellowship and Bible Class after our church service.

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A prayer for willing witnesses of the One and Only Son:

*Lord, lay some soul upon my heart, And love him through
my love,
And speak through me; give me a part In leading him
above.*

*Once crucified for me in shame, You died to set me free.
Help me to share your saving name, To love eternally.*

*When I get home and you I see, Your saints all 'round ap-
pear,
May someone weep while hugging me: 'Thanks for your
invite here.'*



Our Weekly Catechism Review Page

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house,” God demands. Why not? Naboth’s story shows us. King Ahab coveted Naboth’s inherited vineyard, but when he could not get it by legal means, he and his wife used false witnesses to have Naboth put to death. Ahab got the vineyard for his own, but in the end dogs licked up Ahab’s blood in the same spot where Naboth was stoned to death (*1 Kings 21*).



TRINITY NEWS

CEA CARNIVAL: Thanks to all who volunteered their time for the carnival last weekend and to all who donated items for the carnival as well! The teachers look forward to crafting a wish list for the next school year with the funds raised last Sunday. Also, Mr. Gumm is thankful that his hair will grow back eventually.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS: March 21 Games and Gospel will be serving Lasagna. If you haven't signed up already, please do. We are still in need of a *group* or *family* to host a soup supper on March 14th. Please consider this soon or we may not have one.

EASTER FOR FAMILIES: On Friday, March 16th, Easter for Families will again be offered starting at 6:00 pm. A light supper will be served, followed by crafts, singing and an Easter message. Please **sign up** on the bulletin board if you can come so those in charge know how to plan. Hope to see you!

EASTER LILY ENVELOPES can be found in the narthex. The deadline for ordering is soon approaching Sunday, March 18th. Each lily is \$10. The suppliers will also do tulips at \$10 each for a splash of color.

Easter Breakfast sign up: Please help us out Easter morning by signing up for breakfast items on the sign up in the Narthex. A number of people are needed for working also. Please help out!

THIS WEDNESDAY our guest preacher for our 7:00 p.m. service of Evening Prayer will be Vicar Zach Steinke .

BOOK FAIR: Our Spring book fair will be offered March 5–18 and will be set up in the narthex. It will offer gifts for confirmations, Easter gifts, Bibles, devotional books, etc . (Trinity's youth confirmation ceremony this year will be April 22.)

TRINITY OPEN HOUSE: We have one more open house coming up shortly: Tuesday, March 20, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. For details, please check with Joe Gumm, our principal, or Julie Schmudlach in our preschool.

Please invite others to find out more about Christ-centered education for eternity at Trinity.

MARCH FORWARD IN CHRIST'S are available in the Narthex for you to take.

TRINITY NEWS

MARCH GAMES AND GOSPEL EVENTS: Want a chance to express your inner Irish? Friday, March 16 you will have your chance! The Lutheran Ceili Orchestra is performing at Martin Luther College at 8pm on the eve of St. Patrick's Day. Come early for a shamrock shake! Also, add the 21st to your calendar and help us serve supper for lent. Both sign up sheets will be on the bulletin board.

MARCH IS FOOD SHELF MONTH: The St. Peter area food shelf is once again participating in the statewide, month-long campaign to restock the food shelf. Over 2,856 families were served last year. Please collect and leave items for the food shelf in the wooden box in the Narthex and entry way. Lists are available for what can be collected. Monetary contributions are also welcome. Checks can be made out to SPAF. Donna Lange is our contact person.

KENNY OTTO, who has mowed our cemetery lawn, trimmed, and done weed control, the past years would be willing to hand over the job to someone else. We sincerely thank him for a job well done throughout the years. For job details, duties and pay, please see head Trustee Jeff Gens or check with Lori in the church office.

LWMS: The LWMS (Lutheran Women's Missionary Society) Minnesota Valley Circuit will have its Spring Rally at Trinity Lutheran in Nicollet, MN, on **April 21st, 2018**, from 8 am to 12:15pm. Opening Devotion and Meeting start at 9 am and the Topic of the Day Presentation will begin at 10:35 am. The Speaker is Rev. Larry Schlomer, World Missions Administrator. Our Rally Theme is "*Where in the World is the WELS?*". The morning will also include a Bible Study and Election of officers. A Lunch will be served 12:15pm. All ladies of our congregation are invited to attend. There are often men in attendance also. There are 27 member congregations and 10 other nonmember congregations that also attend. Come join us in worship, fellowship, learning about our Mission Field and how we are reaching to the world.

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE is now accepting applications for one full-time Custodian . A comprehensive description of this position can be found at mlc-wels.edu/hr. Interested individuals should apply online. Applications will be accepted through 12:00 pm (noon) on Tuesday, March 20, 2018. Additional information and details can be obtained by contacting the Martin Luther College Human Resources Office at 507-354-8221.

OTHER TRINITY NEWS

MEN OF TRUTH: The 3rd Annual Men of Truth Conference, *Leadership in Your Walk of Faith*, will be held March 17th at the MLC Auditorium, 8am-2pm. Three featured speakers will explore the topics of Christian Leadership in the Church, Career and Family. Continental breakfast and lunch included. Register for the event at menoftruth.org. Early registration discount ends March 12th, (\$29 early, on-line registration, \$39 at the door).

Lent Vespers at MLC: On Wednesday, March 21, Martin Luther College will host its annual Lent Vespers service in the Chapel of the Christ at 7:30 pm. You can reflect on our Savior's suffering through a beautiful choral Passion setting in the context of worship. Bob Chilcott's St. John Passion will be performed by the Chorale, Männerchor, and Women's Choir of MLC, assisted by soloists Michael Marquardt, Jon Hermanson, Kathryn Wurster, and Adrian Smith. The service will also be streamed and archived at www.mlc-wels.edu.

MINNESOTA OWLS (ORGANIZATION OF WELS LUTHERAN SENIORS) will hold their annual spring rally at Martin Luther College on Monday, April 16. Registration and fellowship will be held in the Chapel of the Christ from 9:00 to 10:20. To register (\$10.00 fee includes lunch in the cafeteria) contact Dale Markgraf at demarkgraf@gmail.com.

WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY is June 26-29, 2018 in Bowling Green, Ohio. Registration is \$345 if you register by April 30th. After that it is \$370. For more information see the flier on the narthex bulletin board or the pamphlets on the table.

MVL ALSO INVITES YOU to its annual Booster Club auction on Sunday, March 18 in MVL's gymnasium. Doors will open at 11:00 a.m. with lunch available and time to view the selection of auction items.

MVL will be hosting an Open House and Registration at 6:30 pm on March 20th for all those interested in High School Christian Education

MVL'S SACRED CONCERT is March 28th at 7:00 pm in the gym.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 3:00 PM, CHAPEL OF THE CHRIST, MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE: The Summit Avenue Music Series presents solo pianist, Ralph Votapek in its final concert of the season. Votapek's early triumphs — as winner of the prestigious Naumburg Award and gold Medalist in the first Van Cliburn International Piano Competition — were an auspicious prelude to an even more remarkable career. In 2013 Mr. Votapek was awarded best foreign artist in recital by the Association of Argentine Music Critics. In May 2016 he returned to South America for the 25th time celebrating the 50th anniversary of his first tour there. Tickets are available in advance at the Chamber of Commerce, online at summitavenuemusic.com or at the door at \$13 for adults and \$5 for students.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday: Worship — 9:00 am
Bible Class & Sunday School — 10:30 am
Monday: Bible Study — 7:00 pm
Tuesday: Stewardship—7:00 pm
Wednesday: Bible study—9:00 am
Catechism—4:15 pm
Worship Choir—6:15 pm
NO Soup supper
Lenten service—7:00 pm
Thursday: Council meeting—7:00 pm
Friday: Trinity Chapel—8:00 am
Saturday: Worship — 5:30 pm



Our Response to God's Grace

Saturday attendance : 23

Sunday attendance:

Wednesday:

Operating (General Fund)	\$ 5690.79
Missions	\$ 741.00
MVL	\$ 245.00
Capital Fund	\$ 230.00
Electronic funds	\$ 1105.00
Organ Fund (total at \$4923.00)	\$ 20.00

Bulletin: Dean & Kathy Wels

Organist: Deb Witte

Special Thanks to our video coordinators and ushers, singers & greeters.



March 2018

TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN
NICOLLET, MN
PASTOR DANIEL WITTE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship Service 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 pm	7 pm—Bible Study	7 pm—Board of Ed.	9 am—Bible Study 4:30 pm—Catechism 5:30 pm—Lenten Supper 6:15—Worship Choir 7 pm—Evening Prayer 7 pm—Children Sing	1 1:30 pm—Ladies Guild	2	3 5:30 pm—Worship Service
4 Worship Service 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 pm CEA Carnival 11:30-2:30 pm	5 7 pm—Bible Study	6 7 pm—Elders	7 9 am—Bible Study 4:15 pm Catechism 5:30 pm—Lenten Supper 7 pm—Evening prayer	8	9 Luther Prep BB Tournament—NO School	10 5:30 pm—Worship Service
11 Worship Service 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 pm	12 3:05 pm—School Faculty meeting 7 pm—Bible Study	13 7 pm—Stewardship	14 9 am—Bible Study 4:15 pm Catechism 6:15—Worship Choir 7 pm—Evening prayer	15 7 pm—Council	16	17 5:30 pm—Worship Service
18 Worship Service 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 pm	19 7 pm—Bible Study	20	21 9 am—Bible Study 4:30 pm Catechism 5:30 pm—Lenten Supper 6:15—Worship Choir 7 pm—Evening prayer	22	23 7 pm—150th Anni- versary	24 5:30 pm—Worship Service
25 Worship Service 9:00 am Sunday School 10:30 pm	26 7 pm—Bible Study	27 6:30—Worship Choir 7 pm—Board of Ed	28 9 am—Bible Study 4:30 pm Catechism	29 7 pm Maundy Thursday/ Communion	30 7 pm Good Friday	31 NO Saturday Worship due to Easter