



God on Trial

A Lent Series

Lenten Midweek Meditation • March 26, 2025

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Current Series: God on Trial

The unbelieving world has always insisted upon putting God on trial. As our society becomes more secular, we Christians are increasingly aware of the many ways in which God – and his people – are judged. Temptations are many in this environment: treating unbelievers as enemies, retreating from the world, even questioning God ourselves. How do we live as people of God in this hostile world? We find our model – and our motivation – in Jesus. In this worship series, we return to the moments when God was literally on trial before men in the person of Christ. In these inspired episodes, we find forgiveness for us and all people, love for our enemies, strength for our faith, and courage to testify to the truth.

Today's Meditation: RESTRAINT

Acknowledgments

MINISTER: Pastor Matthew Moldstad (*Peace, North Mankato*)

ACCOMPANIST: Kellsie Wasser

VOCALIST: Mandi Russow

A/V TECH: Nicole Lehman

STREAMING TECH: Mandi Russow

BULLETIN SPONSOR: Gary & Judy Hopp

Prayer at the Close of Day from Christian Worship

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Confession and Absolution

In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden.
Amen.

**I confess that I am by nature sinful.
I am guilty of many sins.
I am distressed by the sins that trouble me.
For all this I am sorry. I pray for forgiveness.
Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.**

Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?
Yes, I believe.

By the authority of Christ, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Psalm 38B

Printed on the next page

Lord, Do Not Forsake Me

Psalm Prayer

Lord Jesus, my sin is more than I can bear. I thank you for bearing it for me when you suffered its consequences on the cross. Lead me, whenever I offend God's law, to confess my guilt to you. Then intercede for me with our Father in heaven, so that my many sins are forgiven.
Amen.

Passion History Reading

Meditation

Luke 22:47-53

⁴⁷While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸but Jesus asked him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

⁴⁹When Jesus’ followers saw what was going to happen, they said, “Lord, should we strike with our swords?” ⁵⁰And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.

⁵¹But Jesus answered, “No more of this!” And he touched the man’s ear and healed him.

⁵²Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs?

⁵³Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour—when darkness reigns.”

Offering

The members of Trinity Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord’s work in this community and throughout the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

*At this time, we ask both members and guests to fill out the **friendship register** found at the end of each pew.*

When you’ve written your information, please pass it to the next person until everyone has had a chance to sign it. Thank you for helping us serve you with the gospel!

Prayer

CW 228

Hear my prayer, O Lord;
listen to my cry.

Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings.

In righteousness I shall see you;
when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

O God our Father, by your mercy and might the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light. We place into your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper. To your great love and protection we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our sure defender; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

The almighty and merciful Lord—
the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit—
bless us and keep us.
Amen.

Hymn

794 Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow

LENTEN MIDWEEK MEDITATIONS



The unbelieving world has always insisted upon putting God on trial. As our society becomes more secular, we Christians are increasingly aware of the many ways in which God – and his people – are judged. Temptations are many in this environment: treating unbelievers as enemies, retreating from the world, even questioning God ourselves. How do we live as people of God in this hostile world? We find our model – and our motivation – in Jesus. Join us at **6:30 PM on the Wednesdays in Lent** as we return to the moments when God was literally on trial before men in the person of Christ. In these inspired episodes, we find forgiveness for us and all people, love for our enemies, strength for our faith, and courage to testify to the truth.

March 12	“Truth”	Pastor Jonathan Bourman	<i>St. Mark, Mankato</i>
March 19	“Testimony”	Pastor Ken Mellon	<i>St. Paul’s, North Mankato</i>
March 26	“Restraint”	Pastor Matthew Moldstad	<i>Peace, North Mankato</i>
April 2	“Misconceptions”	Pastor Luke Ulrich	<i>Mount Olive, Mankato</i>
April 9	“Sympathy”	Pastor Micah Plocher	<i>Trinity, Nicollet</i>

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SUPPERS

5:00-6:15 pm



March 5	Games & Gospel	Chili
March 12	3-8 th Grade	Tacos
March 19	K-2 nd Grade	Hot dogs
March 26	Helping Hands Group 3	Chicken Soup
April 2	Trinity Nicollet Teens	Pasta
April 9	Worship Choir	Sloppy Joes



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