

For Freedom
Christ has set us free;
stand firm therefore,
and do not submit again
to a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1, ESV



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 *Trinity is a member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (www.clclutheran.org)*



March 14, 2026

The Fourth Week in Lent

Serving Us Today

Organist: Kathy Conway

Greeter: Laurie White

We Enter God's House and Prepare for Worship

Pre-service Meditation: *Psalm 42*

Pre-service Prayer:

LORD God, thank You for the full forgiveness of my sins which is a pure gift from Your grace. Open my heart to hear Your Word and cause that Word to work deeply within my heart. Strengthen my faith. Equip me to do the work You have called me to do. Accept my praise and hear my prayers. Amen.

Order of Worship (Worship Supplement, p. 22)

*When the congregation is asked to stand, please do so only if you are able.
You may remain seated if standing is difficult.*

Welcome to Worship

Opening Prayer

Hymn: 145 — Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

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

Congregation (speaks): **Amen**

L: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C: **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

L: Let us pray.

C: **Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

L: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

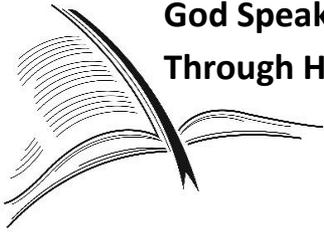
C (speaks): **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

L: The Lord be with you.

C (speaks): **And with Your spirit.**

L: Let us pray...

C (speaks): **Amen!**



God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 42

The psalmist asks a question that may not be far from our own hearts: “Why are you cast down my soul?” The answer and solution is, “Hope in God” in whom is our salvation and who is the source of every blessing.

*As a deer pants for flowing streams,
so pants my soul for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.
When shall I come and appear before God?
My tears have been my food
day and night,
while they say to me all the day long,
“Where is your God?”
These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I would go with the throng
and lead them in procession to the house of God
with glad shouts and songs of praise,
a multitude keeping festival.
Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my salvation and my God.
My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.*

*Deep calls to deep
at the roar of your waterfalls;
all your breakers and your waves
have gone over me.
By day the LORD commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.
I say to God, my rock:
“Why have you forgotten me?
Why do I go mourning
because of the oppression of the enemy?”
As with a deadly wound in my bones,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me all the day long,
“Where is your God?”
Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my salvation and my God.*

Epistle Lesson: Romans 6:19-23

The apostle Paul contrasts our natural slavery to sin with the freedom we have in Christ Jesus, joyfully making us bond servants to God. We earn sin. God gives life.

I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 26:59-66

In the Jewish Council, Jesus was convicted for the truth--a truth wrongfully pronounced as blasphemy.

Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.'" And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death."

Confession of Faith: The Apostolic 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.

Hymn: 159 - Go to Dark Gethsemane

The Sermon

Text: *Galatians 4:21-23, 28-5:1*

Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise.

Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman. For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

“YOU’RE AN ISAAC, NOT AN ISHMAEL!”

- I. Born of God’s promise, not man’s plan.
- II. Heir of eternal life, not a castaway.
- III. Made free by Christ, not enslaved to the Law

Cong. (sings): **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

Hymn: 364 — How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

Benediction (Leader)

C (speaks): **Amen!**

Hymn: 54 -- Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Silent Prayer

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Welcome to Worship at Trinity! to all who have gathered for worship this morning. We especially welcome guests and visitors—please sign our guest book in the north entry. We look forward to having you worship with us again!

Thank-offerings may be left in the offering plate in the back of the church or mailed to the church. Electronic donations may be made via the link for “online offering” at the bottom of the home page on our website (Spokanelutheran.com)



Prayer List: Jackie Steger, Bertie Hein & Family, Dave & Ariel Smith, Joyce Miller, Donna Zarling, CLC pastoral vacancies



This Week's Schedule

(If the Lord wills we shall do this or that)

Today

9:15 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday

6:00 p.m. ILC Tour Choir livestream @ Gethsemane

Wednesday

1:30 p.m. Midweek Worship @ Gethsemane

6:30 p.m. Midweek Worship @ Gethsemane

Next Saturday (March 21)

9:15 a.m. Bible Class (**Words with Big Meanings**)

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:30 a.m. Church Council, Ladies Guild

News & Notes

It Is Finished

Wednesday Lenten Worship

Text: Zechariah 6:9-13

Theme: The Kingly Priest

Thank You! to Charles Maguire for leading the Bible Study and worship service this morning. We appreciate his service in sharing the gospel!

Pastor Eichstadt will, Lord-willing, be returning to town this evening.

Tour Choir Watch Party @ Gethsemane: The Immanuel Lutheran College Tour Choir concert from Redeemer, Cheyenne, WY will be streamed for a watch party at Gethsemane in the fellowship hall. All are welcome to attend. The concert begins at 6:00 p.m.



YOUTH GATHERING on Saturday, March 21. The current plan is to meet at Jeff Karnitz's home (917 N. Woodward #1) beginning at 6:00 p.m. (arriving late is ok, come when you are able). It's a game night and more. This event is open for anyone in high school through college-age. If you plan to attend, please let Mr. Karnitz know

(jeff.karnitz@gethsemanecl.org). If you have any questions, check with Jeff Karnitz or Pastor E.



News from around the Church of the Lutheran Confession

CLC Officer and Board Nominations: All voting members of CLC Congregations are able to nominate candidates for election as synod officers and board members at this summer's Convention. Nominations can be made through March 31, 2026. To nominate, go to clclutheran.net/nominations. If you have any questions or need assistance in making nominations, please ask Pastor E.

Pray for Laborers--Current locations that are in need of pastor-trained men:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Our Redeemer, Red Wing | 2. Living Hope, Appleton |
| 3. Trinity, Spokane | 4. Holy Cross, Phoenix |
| 5. St. Paul's, Austin | 6. St. Luke's, Lemmon |
| 7. Grace, Fridley | 8. Messiah, Eau Claire (3rd pastor) |

CLC YOUTH CAMP 2026: CLC Youth Camp (entering grades 6-9) seeks to provide an uplifting week-long experience of fellowship and fun in Christ for children of many ages. From kids entering 6th grade through 9th grade, our Christian staff is there to make it a memorable week for all. **Cost:** \$180 per camper / **Dates:** June 14-20, 2026 /

Location: Immanuel Lutheran Campus, Eau Claire, WI. There is also Pre-Camp (entering grades K-5). This is a day camp from 8 am to 11:30 am. **Cost:** \$75 per camper / **Dates:** June 14-20, 2026 / **Time:** 8:00 to 11:30 A.M. **Location:** Immanuel Lutheran Academic Center
Registration for camp and pre-camp opens on March 21, 2026. For more information and registration links go to:
<https://youthcampclc.wixsite.com/camp>

Our Response to God's Love At Jesus' Feet

"But Mary sat at Jesus' feet and heard His Word"

(Luke 10:38)

February 28

Attendance: Bible Class - 6 / Worship - 28

Offerings: \$1,525

(\$1485 General Fund, \$20 MDF, \$20 Kinship)



March Cleaners

Sanctuary: Poffenroth / **North Entry:** Kenkman
Basement: Helke



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