

Blessed be
THE GOD AND FATHER
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
THE FATHER OF MERCIES AND
God of all comfort.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3, ESV





704 N. Wall Street / Spokane, WA 99205

spokanelutheran.com

Interim Pastor: Wayne C. Eichstadt

Office: (509) 926-3317 / **Cell:** (507) 380-1068 / pastor@gethsemaneclc.org

President: Dennis Lux

(509) 389—9349 / luxdenlin@gmail.com



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



March 21, 2026

The 5th Week of Lent

Serving Us Today

Organist: Kathy Conway

Greeters: Tom & Molly Bettinger

We Enter God's House and Prepare for Worship

Pre-service Meditation: *Psalm 69*

Pre-Service Prayer

Oh, draw me, Savior, e'er to Thee; so shall I run and never tire.
With gracious words still comfort me; Oh, be my Hope, my sole Desire.
Free me from every guilt and fear; no sin can harm when You are near.

In suffering be Your love my peace, in weakness be Your love my power;
And when the storms of life shall cease, O Jesus, in that final hour,
Oh, be my Rod and Staff and Guide and draw me safely to Thy side.

Amen. (TLH 349:5,7)

Order of Worship

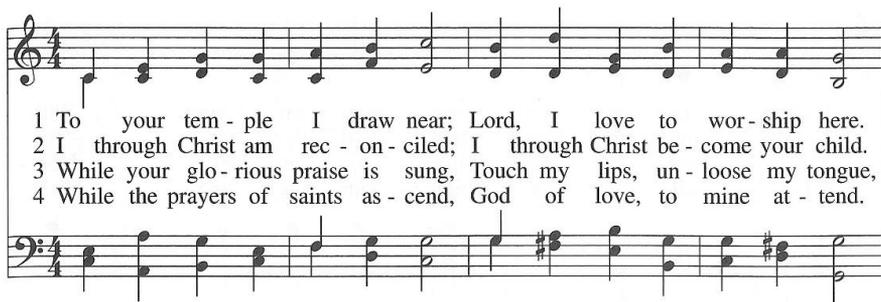
(Worship Supplement pp. 1ff)

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

Pre-Service Music

Welcome to Worship & Opening Prayer

Hymn: To Your Temple I Draw Near



1 To your tem - ple I draw near; Lord, I love to wor - ship here.
2 I through Christ am rec - on - ciled; I through Christ be - come your child.
3 While your glo - rious praise is sung, Touch my lips, un - loose my tongue,
4 While the prayers of saints as - cend, God of love, to mine at - tend.



Here are sac - ra - ment and Word; Here be - liev - ers meet their Lord.
Ab - ba, Fa - ther, give me grace In your courts to seek your face.
That my joy - ful soul may bless Christ the Lord, my right - eous - ness.
Hear me, for your Spir - it pleads; Hear, for Je - sus in - ter - cedes.

5 While I listen to your law,
Fill my soul with holy awe
Till your gospel brings to me
Life and immortality.

6 While your ministers proclaim
Peace and pardon in your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I
Hear you speaking from the sky.

7 From your house, when I return,
May my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say,
“I have walked with God today.”

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

Congregation (spoken): **Amen**

P: Beloved of God: 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: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P: 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 fellow believer called by Christ to serve among you 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 (spoken): **Amen.**

C (sings): **Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.**

(*WS2000* pp. 2-3)

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth.

Cong: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship You, we give you thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer (Pastor)

Congregation (speaks): **Amen**



God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 69:1-18

King David, the psalmist, knew his sin and sorrow all too well. He knew and experienced misery because of his sin, its guilt, its effect,

and the enemies around him. He also knew where to turn. He cried out to the LORD God for help and deliverance, comfort and hope.

Save me, O God!

For the waters have come up to my neck.

I sink in deep mire,

where there is no foothold;

I have come into deep waters,

and the flood sweeps over me.

I am weary with my crying out;

my throat is parched.

My eyes grow dim

with waiting for my God.

More in number than the hairs of my head

are those who hate me without cause;

mighty are those who would destroy me,

those who attack me with lies.

What I did not steal

must I now restore?

O God, you know my folly;

the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you.

Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me,

O Lord GOD of hosts;

let not those who seek you be brought to dishonor through me,

O God of Israel.

For it is for your sake that I have borne reproach,

that dishonor has covered my face.

I have become a stranger to my brothers,

an alien to my mother's sons.

*For zeal for your house has consumed me,
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me.
When I wept and humbled my soul with fasting,
it became my reproach.*

*When I made sackcloth my clothing,
I became a byword to them.*

*I am the talk of those who sit in the gate,
and the drunkards make songs about me.*

But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD.

*At an acceptable time, O God,
in the abundance of your steadfast love answer me in your saving
faithfulness.*

*Deliver me from sinking in the mire;
let me be delivered from my enemies
and from the deep waters.*

*Let not the flood sweep over me,
or the deep swallow me up,
or the pit close its mouth over me.*

*Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good;
according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.*

*Hide not your face from your servant,
for I am in distress; make haste to answer me.*

*Draw near to my soul, redeem me;
ransom me because of my enemies!*

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 69:30, 32, 34-36

Pastor: I will praise the name of God with a song;

Cong: I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

P: When the humble see it they will be glad;

C: you who seek God, let your hearts revive.

P: Let heaven and earth praise him,

C: the seas and everything that moves in them.

P: For God will save Zion and build up the cities of Judah,

C: and people shall dwell there and possess it;

P: the offspring of his servants shall inherit it,

C: and those who love his name shall dwell in it.

New Testament Lesson: John 8:31-47

The gospel's good news gives freedom from sin and its curse. It gives comfort as we face our sin's guilt and the sorrows that come from living in a sin-broken world. Apart from Jesus and His Word there is only slavery to sin and destruction.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave^[a] to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father." They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God." Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."

P: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and treasure it!

C (sings): Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



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: O God of Mercy, God of Might (next page)

AND YOU SHALL KNOW THE
TRUTH
AND THE
SHALL MAKE YOU FREE!
JOHN 8:32

O God of Mercy, God of Might

1 O God of mer - cy, God of might, In love and
 2 And Thou, who cam'st on earth to die That our lost
 3 Teach us the les - son Thou hast taught: To feel for
 4 All are re - deemed, both far and wide, Since Thou, O

pit - y in - fi - nite, Teach us, as ev - er
 world might live there - by, O hear us; for to
 those Thy blood hath bought, That ev - 'ry word and
 Lord, for all hast died. Grant us the will and

in Thy sight, To live our lives in Thee.
 Thee we cry, In hope, O Lord, to Thee.
 deed and thought May work a work for Thee.
 grace pro - vide To love them all in Thee!

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
 May we each other's burdens share;
 May we, where help is needed, there
 Give help as unto Thee!

6 And may Thy Holy Spirit move
 All those who live to live in love
 Till Thou shalt greet in heav'n above
 All those who live in Thee.

The Sermon

Text: 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any

affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

“You are Comfort-able”

I. You have a comfort to treasure

II. You have a role to play

Congregation (sings): Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold me with Your free Spirit.

Hymn: 364 – How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Benediction (Pastor)

C (spoken): **Amen.**

Hymn: 53 – Abide, O Dearest Jesus

Silent Prayer

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture references are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV®
Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.



Welcome! to all who have gathered for worship this morning.

Guest and Visitors, we invite you to sign our guest book. We look forward to having you worship with us again! Please speak to the members or pastor if you wish to learn more about the Gospel ministry at Trinity.



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)

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

11:45 a.m. Church Council & Women’s Circle



Wednesday

1:30 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship at Gethsemane

6:30 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship at Gethsemane

Saturday (March 28)

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

10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion

Greeter: Jeanne Helke



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

News & Notes

It Is Finished

Wednesday Lenten Worship

Text: *Zechariah 12:10-13*

Theme: Look at the One Who Was Pierced

Lord's Supper Shift in Schedule: The Church Council has decided to shift our monthly Communion schedule so that we will celebrate the Lord's Supper on the *last* Saturday of the month instead of the *first* Saturday of the month. This coincides with the same weekend as Gethsemane celebrates the Lord's Supper which the Council felt would make the sharing of services easier. With this in mind, The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in next Saturday's worship service (March 28).



Palm Sunday (Saturday), March 28, 10:30 a.m. Worship & Communion at Trinity (**live streamed**)

Palm Sunday, March 29, 9:00 a.m. Worship & Communion @ Gethsemane (**live streamed**)

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 6:30 p.m. devotion with Communion @ Gethsemane (**live streamed**)

Good Friday, April 3, Communion worship services:

1:30 p.m. @ Gethsemane

3:30 p.m. @ Trinity

6:30 p.m. @ Gethsemane (**live streamed**)

Easter Saturday, April 4 @ Trinity

9:00 a.m. Easter Brunch (No sign-up sheet, just bring a breakfast item)

10:30 a.m. Easter worship service (**live streamed**)

Easter Sunday, April 5 @ Gethsemane

9:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service @ Gethsemane (**live streamed**)

Brunch follows the worship service



Spring Clean-up at Trinity is scheduled for Sunday, April 12. April 19 is the make-up date if the weather does not permit the work on April 12.



News from around the Church of the Lutheran Confession

Call News: Pastor Rob Sauers of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL, has received the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ / Pastor Jonah Albrecht of Redemption Ev. Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA, and Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, has received the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI / Pastor Tom Naumann of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI, has returned the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ He has accepted the call to Grace Lutheran Church, Fridley, MN / Dr. Daniel Sullivan has accepted the call to serve as a professor at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary in Eau Claire, WI / Teacher Levi Schaller of Messiah Lutheran School, Hales Corners, WI, is considering the call to Redeemer Lutheran School, Cheyenne, WY / Teacher Lane Fischer of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran School, Mankato, MN, is considering the call to Faith Lutheran School, Markesan, WI / Teacher Noah Ohlmann of Grace Ev. Lutheran School, Valentine, NE, is considering the call to teach grades 3-4 and serve as associate principal at at Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI.

Appointment: Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, has accepted the call to serve as the Secretary of the Church of the Lutheran Confession through June 30th of 2026. Pastor Mayhew is filling out the two-year term of former CLC Secretary, Pastor Wayne Eichstadt. Previously, Pastor Eichstadt had accepted the appointment to serve as a member of the ILC Board of Regents. He is filling out the term of former ILC Regent board member, Pastor John Hein.

Pray for Laborers--Current pastoral vacancies:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Our Redeemer, Red Wing, MN | 2. Living Hope, Appleton, WI |
| 3. Trinity, Spokane, MN | 4. Holy Cross, Phoenix, AZ |
| 5. St. Paul's, Austin, MN | 6. St. Luke's, Lemmon, SD |
| 7. Mt. Zion, Detroit, MI | 8. Messiah, Eau Claire, WI (3rd pastor) |

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. From this website you can nominate online or print a pdf and email or mail your nominations. The Moderator will accept a list of nominations without the form as well.

ILC Dorm Supervisor: Jaqi Bredehoft will be resigning as girls dorm supervisor at the end of this school year. We thank her for her faithful service to the LORD and for being such a positive role model to our dorm students. ILC is accepting applicants for this position to begin the 2026-27 school year. This role is vital to our campus, given how dorm supervisors provide spiritual counsel and a fatherly or motherly role to those students who are living away from home. Females who are CLC members in good standing and are able and willing to fill this position may contact ILC President Daniel Schierenbeck (dan.schierenbeck@ilc.edu/660.864.9231) for more information about the responsibilities and compensation for this position. An application is available online at ilc.edu > Forms and

Applications > ILC Employment Application. Review of applications begins April 15.

CLC Financial Report - February 2026

Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2025	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 8 Months	Balance 2/28/2026
General Fund	0	776,079	814,057	843,400	(37,978)
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	1,337,504	1,109,755	1,183,360	227,749
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	99,143	26,291	30,499		94,935
ILC Building Projects	2,066,713	464,389	340		2,530,762
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	148,402	210,260	166,301		192,361
Kinship	169,472	160,334	146,281		183,525
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	2,503,796	636,735	635,316		2,505,215
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	101,689	130,883	181,101		51,471
EduK8 Fund	70,311	55,646	30,000		95,957
Reserve Fund	103,629	2,639	0		106,268
Auxiliary Funds Totals	\$5,263,155	\$1,687,177	\$1,189,838		\$5,760,494

General Fund – The General Fund fell behind in February and now sits at about (\$38,000), which is about \$20,000 less than last year.

ILC Operations – February resulted in revenue slightly larger than expenses, increasing the balance to about \$227,000.

Church Extension Fund – Year to date revenue consists of regular monthly payments received from congregations on loans they owe the CLC and a lump-sum payoff of one loan for a total of about \$406,000. Revenue also includes \$230,000 from increases in the market value of the investments. Disbursements include \$559,000 loaned to a member congregation for their building project and the \$40,000 payoff of an individual CEF loan.

Stephen R. Lentz, CLC Treasurer
Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

Our Response to God's Love At Jesus' Feet

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

(Luke 10:38)

March 7

Attendance: Bible Class - 5 / Worship - 25

Offerings: \$3281

(\$3261 General Fund, \$10 MDF, \$10 Kinship)

March 14

Attendance: Bible Class - 5 / Worship - 22

Offerings: \$615

(\$585 General Fund, \$15 MDF, \$15 Kinship)



March Cleaners

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

Basement: Helke

