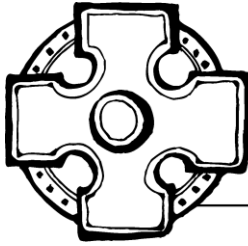




*Jesus is the Stronger One*

**March 12, 2023**



# The Third Sunday In Lent

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**Welcome!** Thank you for joining us for worship! In our service we receive God's grace through his Word and sacraments. As he works to strengthen our faith in Jesus, we respond to his goodness with our prayers, praise, and offerings. We are glad to be here and glad that you have joined us today!

- Restrooms are located in the main hallway, narthex, and back classrooms.
- If you wish to step out of the service to calm your child, please feel welcome to use the Fellowship Hall or the Toddler Sunday School Room (located in the back-corner classroom of the building, connected to the Fellowship Hall). Both of these rooms have televisions showing the worship service. Also, please do not hesitate to ask an usher or any member if you need help locating anything. We want to make you feel welcome.

## **Serving the Lord and Serving Us:**

**Pastor:** Paul Jenkins

**Usher: 8:30:** Steve Proksch, Matthew Mund

**11:00:** Lawrence Kovaciny

**Jr. Usher: 8:30:** Patrick Proksch

**11:00:** Hannelore Ayala

**Keyboard: 8:30:** Sandee Clay

**11:00** Matt Popelier

**Livestream Producer:** Jack Proksch

**Today's Focus:** Jesus frees us from our enemies' control; in freedom we make room for Jesus in our hearts and leave no quarter for darkness. Our worship follows *Service of the Word*.

# We Come into the Presence of God

## MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

*This is an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart and prepare for the joy of worshipping your God.*

## OPENING HYMN: 221, "Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word We are gath - ered  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est  
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light from Light, from  
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, Praise to you and



all to hear you. Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed Till your Spir - it breaks our night  
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;  
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we your Word may trust,



Now to seek and love and fear you, By your teach - ings,  
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to  
Help us by your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry your  
Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -



sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.  
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.  
peo - ple rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.  
low must wan - der, Till we sing your prais - es yon - der.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84, st. 1-3; *Geistreiches Gesang-Büchlein*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1-3, alt.; unknown, st. 4, alt.

Tune: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER (78 78 88) Johann R. Ahle, 1625–73, alt.

*Stand*

## INVOCATION

Minister: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

## OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics placed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*BE SEATED*

# THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON

### 2 SAMUEL 22:1-7

*David praised the Lord for saving him from all his enemies. We do, too.*

David spoke the words of this song to the LORD on the day when the LORD had delivered him from the grasp of all his enemies, even from the grasp of Saul. <sup>2</sup> He said:

The LORD is my rocky cliff,  
my stronghold, and my deliverer.

<sup>3</sup> My God is my rock. I take refuge in him.  
He is my shield and the horn of my salvation,  
my high fortress, my refuge, and my savior.  
You save me from violence.

<sup>4</sup> I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise,  
and I am saved from my enemies.

<sup>5</sup> The waves of death swirled around me.  
Floodwaters of destruction rolled over me.

<sup>6</sup> The ropes of the grave wrapped around me.  
The traps of death threatened me.

<sup>7</sup> In my distress I called to the LORD.  
To my God I cried out.  
He heard my voice from his temple.  
My cry for help reached his ears.

## PSALM OF THE DAY: 73

*Read Responsively*

M: I am always with you, O LORD;

**C: you hold me by my right hand.**

M: You guide me with your counsel,

**C: and afterward you will take me into glory.**

M: Whom have I in heaven but you?

**C: And earth has nothing I desire besides you.**

*(Continued on Next Page)*

M: My flesh and my heart may fail,

**C: but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.**

## SECOND LESSON

### **Ephesians 5:1-9**

*Those whom Christ has freed from the darkness walk in the light and leave evil behind.*

Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children. <sup>2</sup> And walk in love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

<sup>3</sup> But do not let sexual immorality, any kind of impurity, or greed even be mentioned among you, as is proper for saints. <sup>4</sup> Obscenity, foolish talk, and coarse joking are also out of place. Instead, give thanks. <sup>5</sup> Certainly you are aware of this: No immoral, impure, or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ, who is God. <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words. It is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup> So do not share in what they do.

<sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, <sup>9</sup> for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. Alleluia! (*John 3:14-15*)

*STAND*

## **GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT**

### **Luke 11:14-26**

Jesus drove out a demon, which was mute. After the demon had gone out, the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowds were amazed. <sup>15</sup> But some of them said, "He drives out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons." <sup>16</sup> Others were testing him by demanding of him a sign from heaven. <sup>17</sup> But he knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is destroyed. And a house divided against itself falls. <sup>18</sup> If Satan is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? You say that I drive out demons by Beelzebul. <sup>19</sup> But if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons drive them out? So they will be your judges. <sup>20</sup> Yet if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

<sup>21</sup> "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. <sup>22</sup> But when someone stronger attacks him and defeats him, he takes away that man's full armor, in which he had trusted, and divides up his plunder.

<sup>23</sup> "The one who is not with me is against me. The one who does not gather with me scatters. <sup>24</sup> When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places, seeking rest, but does not find any. Then it says, 'I will return to my house, the one I left.' <sup>25</sup> When it returns, it finds the house swept and put in order. <sup>26</sup> Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they go in and dwell there. The last condition of that man becomes worse than the first."

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

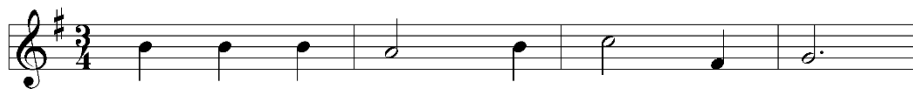
**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*BE SEATED*

**Children's Sermon: "Who's Stronger?"**



## HYMN OF THE DAY: 373, "O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"



1 O Je - sus, King most won - der - ful,  
2 When once you vis - it dark - ened hearts,  
3 O Je - sus, Light of all be - low,  
4 May ev - 'ry heart con - fess your name,  
5 Oh, may our tongues for - ev - er bless



O Maj - es - ty re - nowned, O Con - quer - or in -  
Then truth be - gins to shine, Then earth - ly van - i -  
O Fount of life and fire, Sur - pass - ing all the  
For - ev - er you a - dore, En - kin - dled with the  
And hon - or you a - lone, And may we in our



vin - ci - ble, In whom all joys are found,  
ty de - parts, Then kin - dles love di - vine.  
joys we know, All that we can de - sire,  
Spir - it's flame To love you more and more.  
lives ex - press The im - age of your own!

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153, abr.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.  
Tune: ST. AGNES (CM) John B. Dykes, 1823–76.

## SERMON

**TEXT:** Luke 11:14-26

**THEME:** Jesus is the Stronger One

*STAND*

## **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*

## **OFFERING**

*Please take a moment to sign the friendship register found in your pew.*

*The members of Trinity make joyful offerings to support this church's ministry. A portion of our offerings is also used for the training of future pastors and teachers, and the worldwide mission work carried out by our fellowship, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Our guests are under no obligation to give, but any gifts freely given are welcome and will be put to work in service to God's kingdom.*

*STAND*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Heavenly Father, because of our sins, we justly deserve to suffer both your curse during our time on earth and your condemnation eternally in hell. But we plead for your mercy, because your Son Jesus suffered the punishment our sin deserved. For his sake, you have forgiven our sins and cleansed us from all unrighteousness. Now, trusting that he will intercede for us, we dare to ask for your blessing.

Mercifully provide whatever each of us may need for body and life. Protect us and those we love from all danger. Maintain good government among us, and bless all those in authority with integrity and wisdom. Defend us from the devil and the world, which would lure us back into the way that leads to eternal death. Destroy in us the desires that are contrary to your will. Comfort the persecuted, the depressed, the ill, and the dying with the assurance that nothing can separate us from your love.

Strengthen our faith by the Word of your forgiveness. Grant that we may praise you, our merciful God, by showing mercy to others in all their needs.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer*

M: We commit to your care our bodies and souls and all things, because you have purchased us to be your own with the sacrifice of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us from all temptation, and bestow on us the gift of your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

*Be Seated*

## CLOSING HYMN: 379, "Amazing Grace – How Sweet the Sound"



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound—  
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me;  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares  
 4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years,



That saved a wretch like me! I  
 His Word my hope se - cures. He  
 I have al - read - y come; 'Tis  
 Bright shin - ing as the sun, We've



once was lost but now am found,  
 will my shield and por - tion be  
 grace has brought me safe thus far,  
 no less days to sing God's praise



Was blind but now I see.  
 As long as life en - dures.  
 And grace will lead me home.  
 Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, st. 1-3, abr.; John P. Rees, 19th century, st. 4.  
 Tune: NEW BRITAIN (CM) *Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1829, alt.

## Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

**Pastor Paul Jenkins:** [revpauljenkins@yahoo.com](mailto:revpauljenkins@yahoo.com), (309) 433-5807

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Find us online at [www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org](http://www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge](http://www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge)

### Lenten Suppers

During the remaining Wednesdays of Lent (March 15, 22, and 29), we will have potluck suppers. Doors will open at 5:30, with supper at 6:00 and a brief Lent devotion at 6:30. Beverages, tableware and silverware will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass if you can. But even if you can't, please come anyway!

### Trinity's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Trinity's Easter Egg Hunt outreach event for our neighborhood will be on Saturday, April 1, at 2pm. Besides showing kindness, the Egg Hunt also gives us the chance to invite families from around Trinity to Holy Week worship and Vacation Bible School.

Here's how you can help: Throughout the month of March, bring donations of small, individually wrapped Easter candy and plastic eggs to the Fellowship Hall. If you'd rather give a cash donation to pastor and have him buy stuff on your behalf, that works too.

Also, on the day of the hunt a little volunteer help is needed to staff the Welcome Table where VBS and Easter worship invitations will be distributed; also a little help laying out the eggs (around noon) and cleaning up afterward (around 2:30) would be great. If you can help, please speak to pastor. Thank you!

### Trinity Book Club - March 25

Join the Trinity Book Club at Rachel Kovaciny's house on Saturday, March 25, to discuss *Jane of Austin* by Hillary Manton Lodge. We'll start the discussion at 9:30am. Please let Rachel know if you plan to attend.

### Voters' Meeting – March 26

Trinity's next quarterly voters' meeting will be held online Sunday, March 26 at 1:30pm. A zoom link and agenda will be coming to voters' inboxes from President Steve Proksch.

### Small Choir

Trinity's small choir sings once a month during Worship. Anyone is welcome to join! We'll sing hymns from our hymnal, Christian Worship. If you are interested in joining, please let John or Erika Ohlendorf know.

## **Church-Wide Yard Sale – April 15**

Our annual church-wide yard sale will be held Saturday, April 15! Start your spring cleaning off right by bringing us all your unwanted clothing, shoes, toys, housewares, small appliances, books, etc. Beginning after Sunday school (11 am) on Sunday, April 2, you can drop off your donations in the big classroom (next to Pastor's office). Please, NO large appliances or other large items.

We'll need some volunteers to help sort those items before the yard sale, to help set up the yard sale the morning of April 15, and to help take any unsold items to the thrift stores at 11am on April 15. Let Rachel Kovaciny know if you are willing and able to help with any of those. (Rain date is Saturday, April 22.)

As always, all money raised at the yard sale will go straight into the Sunday school's mission offering, which supports the Kids C.A.R.E. ministries organized by our synod.

## **Wine and Word Bible Study – On Break Until Thursday, 4/20**

The Wine and Word Bible Study meets at the home of Bruce and Dawn Knox. Their home is located just 5 minutes from the church in Old Bridge Estates. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays from 7-8:30pm. We are studying the book of Revelation with Larry Kovaciny as our guide. Those who wish can bring a bottle of wine and small bite appetizer. Come and join us whether you drink wine or not! Contact Dawn at 703-615-9320 or [dawn.f.knox@gmail.com](mailto:dawn.f.knox@gmail.com) to RSVP.

## **February Attendance**

Sunday February 5: Worship 30 + 30 = 60; Bible class 21

Sunday, February 12: 32 + 35 = 67; 26

Sunday, February 19: 37 + 32 = 69; 20

Ash Wednesday, February 22 = 40

Sunday, February 26: 37 + 31 = 68; 19

## **Youth Activities Coming This Summer**

Camp Chi Rho will take place July 24-28, 2023. The location is moving from Elk Neck, MD to Shenandoah River State Park. This new location is more centralized and has more comfortable accommodations (A/C cabin rooms) while still maintaining the possibility to tent camp. And, who can pass up the world class finishing in the Shenandoah River? The cost will be roughly \$25 a night. Camp Chi Rho is for kids finishing grades 4-8. Kids finishing grades 9-12 can attend as "counselors." For more information, please visit [campchirho.org](http://campchirho.org).

The next regional youth rally, for students finishing grades 8-12, is planned for July 10-13, 2023 at Slippery Rock University (50 minutes north of Pittsburgh). The overall theme will center on relationships (with God, with others, and with ourselves). More detailed information will be available in the coming months.

## **Help Needed with New Mover Welcome Packages**

Each month Trinity delivers welcome care packages to new residents in our nearby neighborhood. We have a dedicated but small crew undertaking this project. If you would like to help, either providing care packages or delivering them, please speak to pastor. We are trying to make friends, inviting contact with as many new neighbors as possible, but need more help. Thank you for considering.

## **Ushers and Usher Assistants Needed**

A sign-up sheet is sent via email through Sign-up Genius. You are welcome to fill in as many Sundays as you are available. If you would like to become part of the regular rotation of ushers, or even just fill in once in a while when needed, please speak to Worship Elder Matt Popelier. If you are not getting the emails for Sign-Up Genius, please email [admin@trinityofwoodbridge.org](mailto:admin@trinityofwoodbridge.org)

## **Our Little Free Library**

Our Little Free Library always welcomes donations of books and food! If the library outside is full, you can place donations in the white plastic bin in the Fellowship Hall right beside the door to the hallway.

## **Lord's Supper Available to All Members**

If you are a confirmed member of Trinity and waiting to return to the sanctuary for worship, Pastor would be happy to commune you at home, or anywhere else you would like to meet. Just contact him at (309) 433-5807 or [revpauljenkins@yahoo.com](mailto:revpauljenkins@yahoo.com) with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work

**It is the mission of**

**trinity**



LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

**to glorify God**

by growing in His Word and by going with His Word

to Woodbridge and to the world.



Trinity Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.