



**ASH  
WEDNESDAY**

**February 18, 2026**



**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.

### **The Meaning of Ash Wednesday**

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the Christian's 40-day journey with the Lord to the cross and tomb, preparing for the celebration of Easter. The 40 days are reminiscent of several biblical events: Jesus' fast at the beginning of his ministry; Moses' stay on Mount Sinai at the giving of the Law; Elijah's fast on his way to the mountain of God.

Ash Wednesday begins the Christian's Lenten journey with a reminder of our mortality and a call to repentance. The ancient practice of imposing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful gives Ash Wednesday its name. The church father Tertullian (AD 160-215) writes of the practice as a public expression of repentance and of our human frailty that stands in need of Christ. The ashes remind us forcefully of our need for redeeming grace as they recall words from the rite for Christian burial: "...earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust..." words that will someday be spoken over all of us. The imposition of ashes has never been an exclusively Roman Catholic practice and today is observed widely by many Christian branches.

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

**Pastor:** Pastor Kieth Kuschel

# We Come into the Presence of God

## PASTOR'S GREETING AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

**Prayer Before Worship** – Lord Jesus, thank You for giving me the opportunity to spend some time with You to review how important is it that one Man had to die for the people.

*Stand*

**M:** Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

**C:** **the light no darkness can overcome.**

**M:** Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

**C:** **and the day is almost over.**

**M:** Be our light and scatter the darkness,

**C:** **and hear our evening hymn of praise.**

## **HYMN:** 98, Jesus, I Will Ponder Now (*Verses 1-4*)



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On your ho - ly  
2 Make me see your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af -  
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see your  
4 If my sins give me a - larm And my con - science



pas - sion; With your Spir - it me en - dow  
flic - tion, Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness  
pas - sion, But its cause to me make known  
grieve me, Let your cross my fear dis - arm;



For such med - i - ta - tion. Grant that I in love  
And your cru - ci - fix - ion; Make me see how scourge  
And its ter - mi - na - tion. Ah! I al - so and  
Peace of con - science give me. Help me see for - give -

*(Continued on Next Page)*



and faith May the im - age cher - ish Of your suf -  
and rod, Spear and nails did wound you, How for them  
my sin Wrought your deep af - flic - tion; This in - deed  
ness won By your ho - ly pas - sion. If for me



f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.  
you died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned you.  
the cause has been Of your cru - ci - fix - ion.  
he slays his Son, God must have com - pas - sion!

Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: JESU KREUZ, LEIDEN UND PEIN (76 76 D Trochaic) Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615, alt.

**M:** Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*Be Seated*

**HYMN: 98, Jesus, I Will Ponder Now (Verses 5-6)**



5 Grant that I your pas - sion view With re - pent - ant



By un - ho - ly liv - ing. How could I re - fuse



to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful pleas - ure Since for me



God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out meas - ure?

6 Graciously my faith renew;  
Help me bear my crosses,  
Learning humbleness from you,  
Peace mid pain and losses.  
May I give you love for love!  
Hear me, O my Savior,  
That I may in heav'n above  
Sing your praise forever.

Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: JESU KREUZ, LEIDEN UND PEIN (76 76 D Trochaic) Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615, alt.

**M:** Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

### ISAIAH 59:12-20

*We acknowledge our sinfulness (ashes = repentance), the destructive consequences of sin, sin's offense to God, and God's righteous anger against sinners. But we also know that the LORD is our Redeemer.*

<sup>2</sup> For our offenses are many in your sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our iniquities: <sup>13</sup> rebellion and treachery against the Lord, turning our backs on our God, inciting revolt and oppression, uttering lies our hearts have conceived.

<sup>14</sup> So justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter. <sup>15</sup> Truth is nowhere to be found, and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey. The Lord looked and was displeased that there was no justice. <sup>16</sup> He saw that there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm achieved salvation for him, and his own righteousness sustained him.

<sup>17</sup> He put on righteousness as his breastplate, and the helmet of salvation on his head; he put on the garments of vengeance and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak. <sup>18</sup> According to what they have done, so will he repay wrath to his enemies and retribution to his foes; he will repay the islands their due. <sup>19</sup> From the west, people will fear the name of the Lord, and from the rising of the sun, they will revere his glory. For he will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the Lord drives along. <sup>20</sup> "The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the Lord.

M: Lord God, grant us your Holy Spirit that we may hear and believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here and hereafter; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

## EPISTLE LESSON

### 2 CORINTHIANS 5:20 - 6:2

*Jesus took our sins on Himself and gives us holiness. When the Holy Spirit leads us to believe that, it is the day of our salvation.*

<sup>20</sup> We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 6:1 As God's co-workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. <sup>2</sup> For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

## HYMN: 113, Upon the Cross Extended



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed, See, world, your Lord sus -  
2 How God at our trans - gres - sion To an - ger gives ex -  
3 'Tis I who should be smit - ten, My doom should here be  
4 A crown of thorns you're wear - ing, My shame and scorn you're  
5 Your cords of love, my Sav - ior, Bind me to you for -



pend - ed; Your Sav - ior yields his breath. The Prince of  
pres - sion, How loud his thun - ders roll, How fear - ful -  
writ - ten: Bound hand and foot in hell. The fet - ters  
bear - ing That I might ran - somed be. My bonds - man,  
ev - er; I am no long - er mine. To you I



life from heav - en Him - self has free - ly giv - en  
ly he smites him, How sore - ly he re - quites him—  
and the scourg - ing, The floods a - round you surg - ing,  
ev - er will - ing, My place with pa - tience fill - ing,  
glad - ly ten - der All that my life can ren - der



To shame and blows and bit - ter death.  
All this your suf - f'rings teach my soul.  
'Tis I who have de - served them well.  
From sin and guilt has made me free.  
And all I have to you re - sign.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.

Tune: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN (776 778) Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517, alt.

## SERMON TEXT

### MARK 10:32-34

<sup>32</sup> They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him. <sup>33</sup> “We are going up to Jerusalem,” he said, “and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, <sup>34</sup> who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise.”

**Theme:** Jesus was resolved to die

1. Jesus went to Jerusalem willingly and knowingly
2. Jesus went because he loved us

HYMN: 117, O Dearest Jesus (*Verses 1-5*)



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law have you bro - ken  
2 They crown your head with thorns, they smite, they scourge you;  
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?  
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!  
5 The sin - less Son of God must die in sad - ness;



That such sharp sen - tence should on you be spo - ken?  
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge you;  
It is my sins for which you, Lord, must lan - guish;  
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;  
The sin - ful child of man may live in glad - ness;



Of what great crime have you to make con -  
They give you gall to drink, they still de -  
Yes, all the wrath, the woe that you in -  
The Mas - ter pays the debt his ser - vants  
We for - feit - ed our lives, yet are ac -



fes - sion— What dark trans - gres - sion?  
cry you; They cru - ci - fy you.  
her - it, This I do mer - it.  
owe him, Who would not know him.  
quit - ted— God is com - mit - ted.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1-4, 6-7, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 5, alt.

Tune: HERZLIEBSTER JESU (11 11 11 5) Johann Crüger, 1598–1662.

**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

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:

**C: Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:

**C: Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:

**C: Thanks be to God.**

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

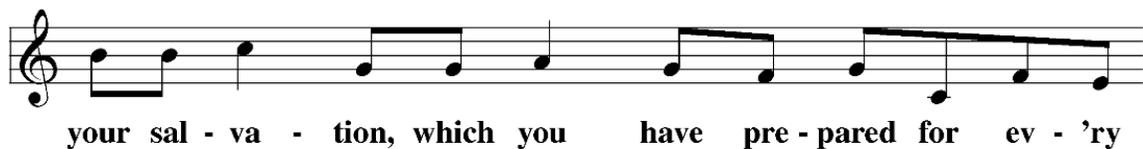
**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are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

## PRAYER FOR PEACE

**M:** Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## SONG OF SIMEON



## BLESSING

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

**C:** Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN 117, O Dearest Jesus (*Verses 6-7*)**

6 I'll think upon your mercy without ceasing,  
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;  
To do your will shall be my sole endeavor  
Henceforth forever.

7 And when, dear Lord, before your throne in heaven  
To me the crown of joy at last is given,  
Where sweetest hymns your saints forever raise you,  
I too shall praise you.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1-4, 6-7, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 5, alt.

Tune: HERZLIEBSTER JESU (11 11 11 5) Johann Crüger, 1598–1662.

## Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

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

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

**Pastor Kieth Kuschel 262-765-2328**

**k1bernard2k@hotmail.com**

### Lenten Suppers

Each Wednesdays of Lent, potluck suppers will start in the Fellowship Hall at 6, followed by short devotions around 6:30. Everyone is welcome!

**Trinity's Sunday School Service Project** -- Throughout February, our Sunday school students are collecting items to help expectant moms experiencing challenges. We will donate these items to the Birthright of Woodbridge organization to distribute to new moms who face difficulties such as few resources, no support system, or even pressure to have an abortion. Let's support these brave women who have chosen life for their babies despite their individual challenges!

Items needed include: diapers (size NB-4), blankets, bibs, burp cloths, baby towels and washcloths, baby clothing (NEW clothes size NB-12mo; gently used size 3-12mo also accepted), and baby toiletries (diaper cream, baby wipes, baby powder, baby shampoo, etc). There will be a collection bin for your donations in the narthex for the entire month of February.

### Volunteers Needed to provide snacks for our Sunday School and Fellowship Hour!

If you're able to bless our community with simple treats, please sign up on the sheet posted on the Sunday School bulletin board located in the large fellowship and adult Sunday School room. Your contributions help make our time together even more welcoming and enjoyable—thank you for supporting our fellowship!

**Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:45am** The next series is “your Questions; Scripture’s Answers”, based on the book by Prof. John Brug. We’ll start out with how God gave us His Bible, look at a few puzzling parts of the Bible, then go into adiaphora (if you don’t know, you need to come), and a few other questions.

### Wine and Word Bible Study – February 19th

The Wine and Word Bible Study is **studying the book of EXODUS** and 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 7-8:30 pm. Those who wish can bring a bottle of wine (or other drink of choice) and a 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.

## **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 Steven Douglas. If you have any questions or are not getting the emails for Sign-Up Genius, please email [worship@trinityofwoodbridge.org](mailto:worship@trinityofwoodbridge.org). You can also scan this code to sign up:



**Trinity's Little Free Library** is one of our church's most effective tools for reaching out to our neighborhood. Many families in the area around Trinity regularly visit our LFL for books and shelf-stable food items, especially those who are experiencing food scarcity. Particularly useful are canned or boxed foods that do not require additional ingredients besides water to prepare. Books are always welcome, too, of course! If the shelves happen to be full, there is a donation bin for overflow items in the Fellowship Hall beside the door to the hallway.

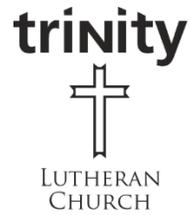
## **Small Choir**

Trinity's choir sings about 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 Bev Ohlendorf know.

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

If you are a confirmed member of Trinity, Pastor would be happy to commune you at home, or anywhere else you would like to meet. Just contact him at [k1bernard2k@hotmail.com](mailto:k1bernard2k@hotmail.com) with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.

**It is the mission of**



**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.