

LORD's Day Service – February 25, 2024 – Second Sunday of Lent

Preparation for Worship: *Isaiah 33:1, 14-16, 20-22*

Entrance – God Calls Us into His presence; we respond with praise

* *Entrance Hymn* Songbook, #16
Blessed City Heavenly Salem

* *Call to Worship* Psalm 88:1-2, 6-9

Minister: Grace, mercy and peace be with you, from God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen!

Minister: Our help is in the Name of the Lord!

Congregation: Who made heaven and earth!

Minister: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Congregation: And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

* *Hymn* Psalter, #5B
O Jehovah, Hear My Words

Purification - God Cleanses Us; we confess our sins to Him

Call to Confession Psalm 51:5-8

Hymn of Confession Trinity Hymnal, #409
Before Thee, God, Who Knowest All

Let us kneel before the Lord our God and corporately confess our sins unto Him.

We acknowledge our wickedness, O LORD, and the iniquity of our fathers, for we have sinned against You. Do not abhor us, for Your Name's sake; Do not disgrace the throne of Your glory. Remember, do not break Your covenant with us, O LORD our God. Therefore, we will wait for You. For Jesus' sake, have mercy upon us. We ask this in His Name. Amen! (from Jer 14:20-22) *(Silent prayer)*

Assurance of Pardon

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of His Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God! Our sins are forgiven in Jesus' name. AMEN!

Ascension - God Consecrates us by His Word; we listen & offer ourselves to Him

Minister: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

Congregation: It is proper and right to do so!

Minister: Truly it is proper, right and our bound duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; Who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by Whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto Him Who died for us and rose again. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the host of heaven and with Your Church on earth, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You, singing:

* *Sanctus* Songbook, #79

* *Hymn* Psalter, #22C
Be Not Far Off, For Grief Is Near

Let us pray: **O God, Whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all Who have gone astray from Your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word, Jesus Christ Your Son; Who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen!**

Old Testament Lesson Zechariah 8:14-17
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Epistle Lesson James 4:4-12
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

* *Gospel Lesson* Matthew 7:1-5; John 7:17-24
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon "A Strong Rebuke of Speaking Evil of One Another"

Hymn Psalter, #35C
False Witnesses Against Me Stood

* *Dedication of Tithes & Offerings*

Prayers of the Church Petitions & the Lord's Prayer

Peace - God Communes with us; we eat with joy at His Table

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper 1 Corinthians 11:23-34; 10:14-17

We Confess Our Faith in the Triune, Incarnate God

* Hymn

Songbook, front pocket
The Day Is Past and Gone

Dismissal - God Commissions & Blesses Us; we go out to serve Him

- * *The Lord's Commission of Us* Ephesians 4:29, 31
- * *We Receive God's Blessing, His Good Word to Us* 2 Thessalonians 3:16
- * *We bless the Lord, lifting hands and voices to Him* Psalter, #72D

Announcements

LORD'S SUPPER

We observe Communion, or the Lord's Supper, weekly in our midst.

We believe it is worthily received by those who:

1. Have been baptized in the name of the Triune God (Matt 28:18-20);
2. Do profess faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel (Ro 10:9-10);
3. Do live in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit and endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Jesus Christ (Gal 5:16-26); and
4. Are communing members in good standing in an evangelical church (1 Cor 10:1-6)

If these things are all true, we rejoice with you and invite you to commune with us at the Lord's Supper. If any of these are not true of you, we ask that you refrain. We invite you to speak to one of the Elders if you have doubts or questions regarding any of these beliefs, or if you are interested in learning more about Trinity.

Though collections are not ordinarily taken during a service, giving is a vital element of worship. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the wood box on the rear wall of the sanctuary.
(2 Corinthians 9:6-11)



Trinity Presbyterian Church, CREC
224 N Hine Ave, Waukesha, WI
(262) 894-8768
www.trinitypresbyterianwi.org

Teaching Elder: Jeff Pennington (262/894-8768)

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| Ruling Elder: Kelly Dykema (414/708-8607) | Deacon: Jim Hummel (262/250-1606) |
| Ruling Elder: Adam Lombardo (414/241-6376) | Deacon: Paul Leskinen (262/349-5075) |
| Ruling Elder: Sam Pennington (262/225-1272) | Deacon: Gino Palazzini (970/571-3614) |
| Ruling Elder: Shane Peterson (414/400-3656) | Deacon: Steve Reich (262/646-2881) |



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The simple, unadorned cross reminds us of God the Son's climactic act of service for humanity. He allowed his arms to be stretched out on the cross bar, and with his feet they were nailed to the tree. Thus, he voluntarily gave himself up to death for the sins of his people. Paul tells us that the Gospel is *"the message of the cross...to us who are being saved is the power of God"* (1 Co 1:18).

The color used in the sanctuary in anticipation of Easter is purple or violet. These colors symbolize both the pain and suffering leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus as well as the suffering of humanity and the world under sin. But purple is also the color of royalty, and so anticipates through the suffering and death of Jesus the coming resurrection and hope of newness that will be celebrated in the Resurrection on Easter Sunday.