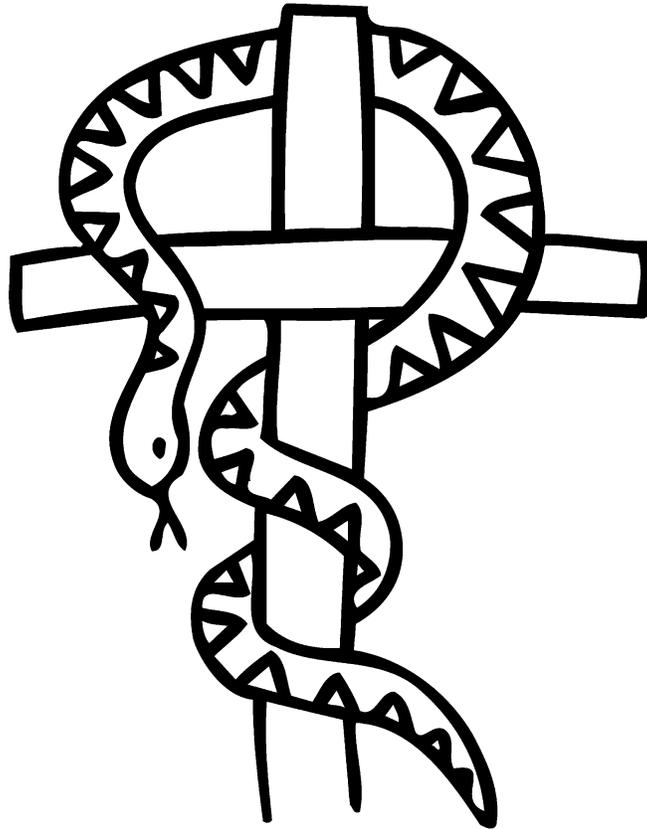


*Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
of South Newstead
March 1, 2026*



During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

**PRELUDE – WELCOME –
ANNOUNCEMENTS – PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

ALL: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sins to God and one another.

**ALL: We confess to you, most loving God,
the sins that both bind and scatter us.**

We have knowingly believed dishonest words.

We have questioned your gracious power again and again.

We have given into temptation. We have acted out of fear, placing blame on others yet holding ourselves apart. In our disbelief and confusion we have hurt our neighbors and ourselves. Gather us back to you.

Forgive us, free us, and make us whole for the sake of your son Jesus Christ. Amen.

L: Friends, beloved of God,

Jesus came not to condemn the world but that all might be saved through him. In the name of † Christ your sins are forgiven. May God unbind your guilt and shame, lead you by the Spirit, and bring you to wholeness in abundant life. **ALL: Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: What Wondrous Love is This – Green Book: 385

What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
 Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.
 Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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GREETING:

L: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



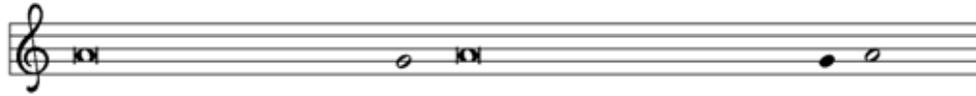
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

L: Let us pray, Living God,

we come looking for signs of your heavenly kingdom.

When certainty binds our spirits, astonish us and confound our expectations. Bring us through water and Spirit to trust that you speak of what you know;

Birth us into the mystery that you desire to give all eternal life. In Jesus' name we pray. **ALL: Amen.**

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

L: ¹ The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

^{4a} So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

L: The word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God**

PSALM 121

L: ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?

**ALL:² My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

L: ³ The Lord will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**ALL:⁴ Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

L: ⁵ the Lord watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

**ALL:⁶ the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

L: ⁷ The Lord will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.

**ALL:⁸ The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth
forevermore.**

SECOND READING: Romans: 4:1-5, 13-17

L: ¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

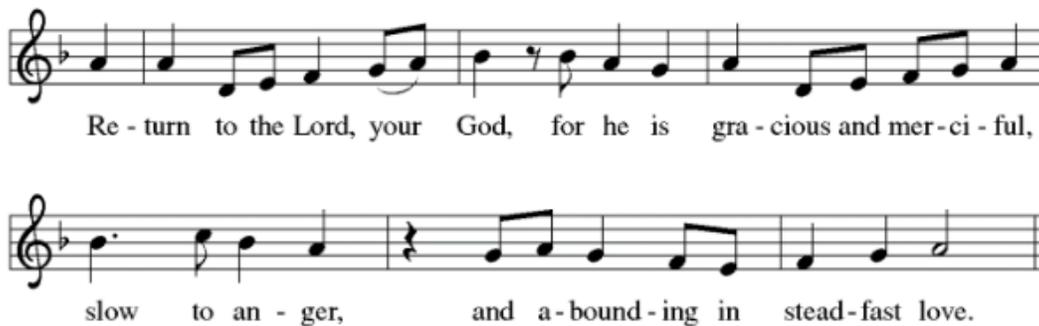
¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L: The word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Please stand if you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

L: ¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in

him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON: Pastor David Ellis

**HYMN OF THE DAY: Lift High the Cross –
Green Book: 377**

Please stand as you are able

NICENE CREED

L: L: We are God's people. Joining together, let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed:

ALL: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Reconciled by God’s mercy and sustained by God’s presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

Faithful One, you renew us by grace. As you have inspired faith through the work of church artists and hymnwriters throughout the ages, give your church the means to praise your beauty

today. Guide both Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Newstead and Zion Lutheran Church of Gasport. Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

L: Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect conservationists, scientists, and all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

L: Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person and lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace. Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

L: Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss (*especially...*). Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

L: Guiding One, you watch over our going out and coming in. Bless newcomers and new members in this assembly, and accompany those who have recently left this community to journey elsewhere. Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for our beloved who have died, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

L: And merciful one, hear us now as we lift up to you anything else on our hearts and minds in this time of silent prayer.

A moment for silent prayer.

Merciful God,

ALL: receive our prayer.

L: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

ALL: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

ALL: And also with you.

*You are invited to greet your neighbors
with a sign of Christ's peace.*

Please be seated

OFFERING

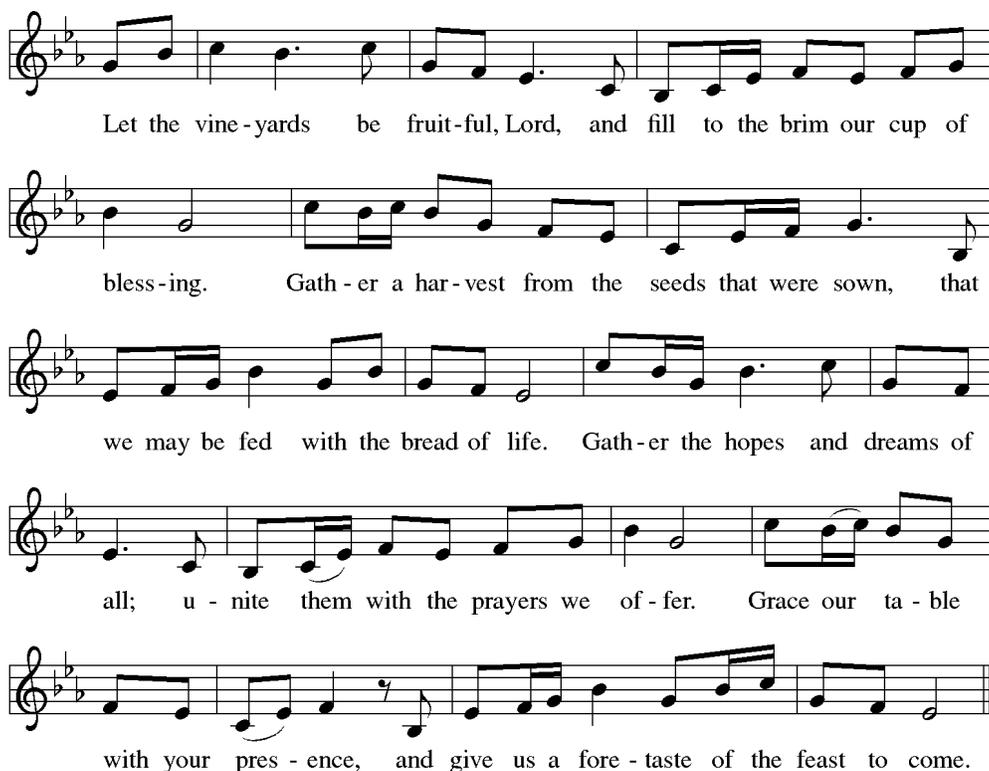


SCAN ME

Any financial gifts you wish to give towards the ministry of Trinity may be placed in the offering plate as it is passed around or at the rear of the sanctuary. You may also give your offering online using the QR code provided or go to trinitysouthnewstead.org/give. We give thanks for your sharing of your offerings this and every day.

Please stand as you are able

OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray together, O God, maker of heaven and earth,

ALL: your steadfast love embraces all creation.

**You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.**

**Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,**

who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

L: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Please be seated

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

The minister will give instruction on the distribution of communion.

COMMUNION HYMN: Lamb Of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN: Chief of the Sinners though I Be – Green Book: 306

To be sung during the distribution of communion

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his blood for me,
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love! High - er than the heav'ns a - bove,
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part balm to heal the wound - ed heart,
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford by your Spir - it and your word!

died that I might live on high, lives that I might nev - er die.
 deep - er than the depths of sea, last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty.
 peace that flows from sin for - giv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
 all my wants to him are known, all my sor - rows are his own.
 When my way - ward heart would stray, keep me in the nar - row way;

As the branch is to the vine, I am his, and he is mine.
 Love that found me—won-drous thought—found me when I sought him not.
 faith and hope to walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.
 He sus - tains the hid - den life safe with him from earth - ly strife.
 grace in time of need sup - ply while I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1870
 Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

COMMUNION HYMN – *by request, if needed*
Please stand as you are able

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace. **ALL:**
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Let us pray together, Heavenly Father,

ALL: You have met us at this table with Christ's body and blood that we might rejoice together in the bread you provide and never be thirsty again. Send us now into the world as signs of your unbound presence, seeking the wholeness of the kingdom of God, and inviting all who hunger to come and see your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING

L: May God who seeks you by night and by day, in death and in life, open your senses to the mystery of God's grace, enfold you through water and Spirit in Christ's love, and give you confidence in the Spirit's power to unbind and grant new life. May the Holy Trinity, † Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Mother of us all, bless you now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN: Blessed Assurance –
Blue Book: 699**

Blessed Assurance

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
 Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, forgiven, whole and free.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

About Today's Readings:

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.

Gospel: John 3:1-17

A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

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Thank you to Julie Conshafter for filling in while David is on vacation!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Hold in Prayer:

To add someone to the prayer list in the bulletin/beacon, add them to the list in the back of the Sanctuary or contact the church office. If you would like your prayer concern to be shared through our One Call system, please call Sue Kidder at 716-542-2095.

We pray for healing, strength and patience for those we love going through difficult times:

Laura Pingitore
Jane Firestone
Lynn Aiosa
Rosemary Doyle
Nancy Guthrie and family
Mike Kropelin
Theresa (Jen's friend)
Erin Polkowski
Amanda Dehn
Harold Finger
Elizabeth Ewell

We pray for patience, strength and support for the families and friends of:

Ruth Folger
12-year-old Charlotte Main
Stephen Gregory

Weekly:

Choir rehearsal at 8:30am (resumes next week)
Sunday Worship at 9:30
Sunday School at 10:45
Bible Study: See list below

Food Pantry:

First Monday of the Month: setup @ 8am
First Tuesday of the month: distribution @ 8:30am

Council: March 10th, 2026 at 7:00pm

Office Info: Pastor Rick: Tuesdays 10:00-1:00 p.m. and by appointment

Tracy: Tuesdays: 9:30-2:30, Thursdays: remote. Call, text or email any time.
(Tracy will be away from March 1st – 5th)

Bible Study

Trinity is part of the NOEL (Niagara Orleans Ev. Lutherans) cluster of churches' Bible Study. Consider this your invitation to join, make new friends, and gain new insights into the Word and faith.

Pastor Rick, Pastor Craig, and Pastor Sohail lead this Bible Study, which is at 10 am Thursdays.

The location rotates among the NOEL churches:

3/5/26 – St. John's – 10213 Rosevelt Hwy, Lyndonville 14098

3/12/26 – Here at Trinity

3/19/26 - St. Peter – 1355 West Ave, Medina 14103

3/26/26 - Trinity Wolcottsville – 6369 Wolcottsville Rd. Akron

4/2/26 – NO bible study

First Bibles

As a part of our baptismal promise to "place in their hands the holy scriptures," Trinity offers a first Bible program for children in grades 3 and up. Families would gather for a first Bible class, have some fun homework to do, and then Trinity would present children their new study Bible during a worship service. Please see Pastor Rick by **March 8th** if you want your child to be a part of this program. Our class will be later in March, with the presentation of Bibles happening later in April.

Sign up for Altar Care

We're starting a new Altar Care ministry and we need your help. Please sign up in the narthex if you're willing and able to care for our altar for a month at a time, starting with March. Responsibilities would include setup and cleanup of communion each week; and as needed filling candles with oil, changing paraments and setting up for baptisms. No experience necessary: we will train you. See Pastor or Donna if you have any questions.

Flower Orders

Flower order forms are available now in the narthex. Please be sure to have yours in by **March 15th** so we get our order in on time. Setup will be April 4th – call, email or text Tracy if you can be here to help so we can plan. 716-579-3612

Lenten Soup Supper

The Lenten Soup supper at Trinity is on **March 11th**. A sign up sheet will be posted on March 1st – please take a look. We need 4 different soups (each on to feed 18-20 people), desserts and French or Italian bread. We are asking for your help on this – chicken noodle, vegetable, something creamy or chili. Desserts can be something simple like Timbits, brownies or cookies, or whatever you like. Thanks for all your help!

Lent 2026
Loving
Responses

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16



March 4th
2nd Wednesday in Lent
**Lake Chautauqua
Lutheran Center**

March 11th
3rd Wednesday in Lent
**Foodlink
and Pantries**



March 18th
4th Wednesday in Lent
**Upstate New York SYNOD
and ELCA**

March 25th
5th Wednesday in Lent
**South Asian
Worshiping Community**

Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

1 Peter 4:8-10

**February 25th
First Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
Zion Lutheran Church
4447 Central Ave, Gasport,
NY 14067
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by Zion**

**March 4th
Second Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
Trinity Lutheran Church (W)
6369 Wolcottsville Rd, Akron,
NY 14001
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by Trinity Wolcottsville**

**March 11th
Third Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
Trinity Lutheran Church (SN)
4809 S Newstead Road, Akron,
NY 14001
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by Trinity South Newstead**

**March 18th
Fourth Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
St. Peter Lutheran Church
1355 West Ave, Medina,
NY 14103
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by St. John's**

**March 25th
Fifth Wednesday in Lent
Soup Supper
Presentation and Devotions
First English Lutheran Church
185 Locust St. Lockport,
NY 14094
6:30-8:00 pm
Hosted by First English**

**April 2nd
Maunday Thursday
Agape Feast
Pot Luck Supper & Worship
Zion Lutheran Church
4447 Central Ave, Gasport,
NY 14067
6:30 - 8:00 pm**

WI-FI: To access our community wifi, go to 'Trinity Guest' on your device, and then when prompted, enter the password:
BeABeacon

***Trinity Lutheran Evangelical Church of South Newstead
4809 S. Newstead Rd.
Akron, NY 14001
716-542-9828***

Trinitysouthnewstead.org

trinitysouthnewstead@gmail.com