



TRINITY MERRILL LUTHERAN CHURCH

107 N. State St. Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-5482 | trinitymerrill.com

Reverend Scott Gustafson
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

March 22, 2026– 8:00AM D.S. 1
The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Pastor Scott Gustafson will be our Preacher today with Pastor Jonathan Chapa as our Liturgist and Ken Van De Zande as our Lector. Eileen Hass is our organist.

WELCOME AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN: *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

LSB 686



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -
4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter
love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
Bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I
How I'll sing Thy won - drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my
tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–90, alt. Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

- P Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

KYRIE

LSB 152

- P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P 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.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ² And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³ And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹ Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' ¹² Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 8:1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who

raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 11:1-45

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰ But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹ After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." ¹³ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his

feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴ And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him,

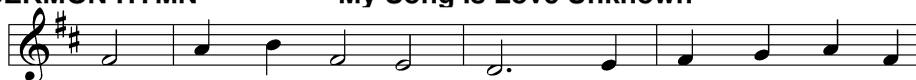
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

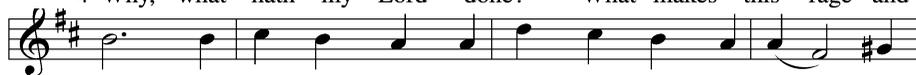
SERMON HYMN

"My Song Is Love Unknown"

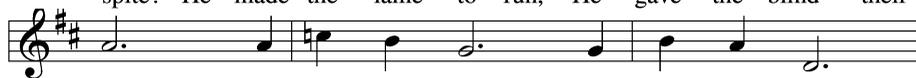
LSB 430 vs. 1-4



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
 Who at my need His life did spend!
 And for His death They thirst and cry.
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683 Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962 Text: Public domain Tune: © John Ireland Trust. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005698

SERMON

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

ATTENDANCE / CONNECT TIME & OFFERING *During this time, please sign the attendance book found in the pew or use your mobile device to fill out the Connect Card or submit prayer requests on our app or online at www.trinitymerrill.com/live. You can also visit our app or www.trinitymerrill.com/give to learn more about other ways to support the ministries at Trinity. (When filling out the attendance book, please include your last names and list the names of everyone in attendance in your family)*

OFFERTORY

LSB 159



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

‡ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ‡

PREFACE & PROPER PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

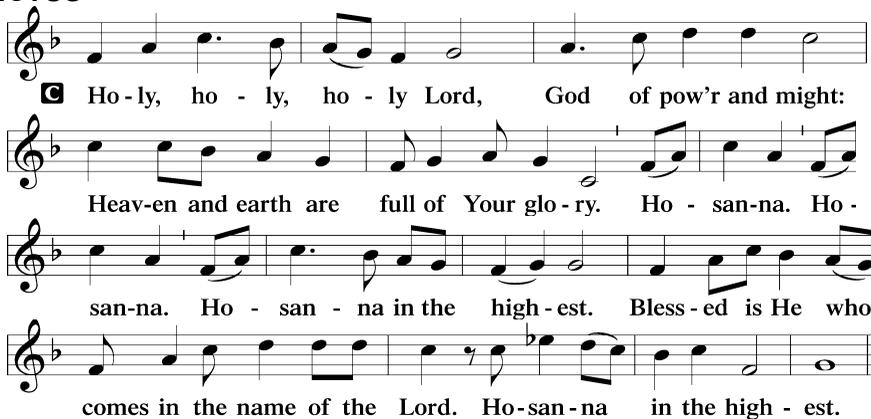
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **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.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

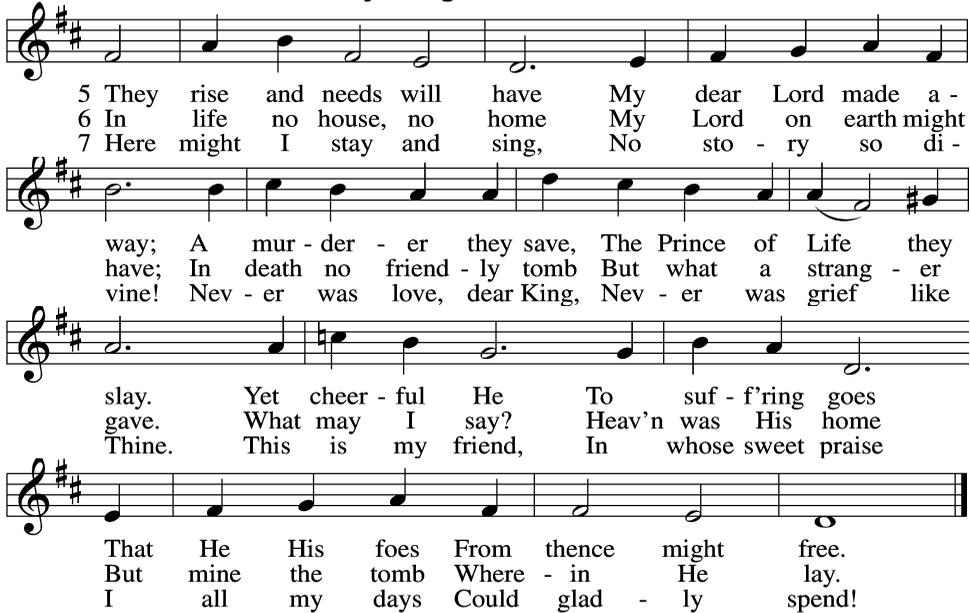
LSB 163

G 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.

DISTRIBUTION

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

LSB 430 vs. 5-7



5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -
 6 In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might
 7 Here might I stay and sing, No sto - ry so di -
 way; A mur - der - er they save, The Prince of Life they
 have; In death no friend - ly tomb But what a strang - er
 vine! Nev - er was love, dear King, Nev - er was grief like
 slay. Yet cheer - ful He To suf - f'ring goes
 gave. What may I say? Heav'n was His home
 Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
 That He His foes From thence might free.
 But mine the tomb Where - in He lay.
 I all my days Could glad - ly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683 Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962 Text: Public domain Tune: © John Ireland Trust. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005698

“If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death”

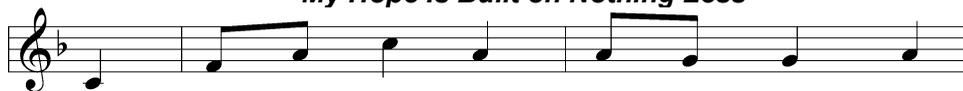
LSB 486 tune LSB 678

1. If Christ had not been raised from death
 Our faith would be in vain,
 Our preaching but a waste of breath,
 Our sin and guilt remain.
 But now the Lord is ris'n indeed;
 He rules in earth and heav'n:
 His Gospel meets a world of need—
 In Christ we are forgiv'n.
2. If Christ still lay within the tomb
 Then death would be the end,
 And we should face our final doom
 With neither guide nor friend.
 But now the Savior is raised up,
 So when a Christian dies
 We mourn, yet look to God in hope—
 In Christ the saints arise!
3. If Christ had not been truly raised
 His Church would live a lie;
 His name should nevermore be praised,
 His words deserve to die.
 But now our great Redeemer lives;
 Through Him we are restored;
 His Word endures, His Church revives
 In Christ, our risen Lord.

Text: Christopher M. Idle, 1938 Text: © 1985 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005698

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

LSB 576



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than
 2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I
 3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup -
 4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
 rest on His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
 port me in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly
 may I then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–68 Text and tune: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Be Still, My Soul”

LSB 752 vs. 3 & 4



3 Be still, my soul; though dear - est friends de - part And all is
4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on When we shall



dark - ened in this vale of tears; Then you will bet - ter know His
be for - ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



love, His heart, Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your
fear are gone, Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



fears. Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



From His own full - ness all He takes a - way.
All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

Text: Catharina Amalia Dorothea von Schlegel, 1697–1752; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt. Tune: Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

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Today's altar flowers are sponsored in.

SECRET PRAYER SUPPORT. Keep that name a SECRET until Easter time when you mail a signed card to him/her, revealing your identity. Galatians 6:2 asks us "to share each other's burdens." Let's practice that!

EASTER BREAKFAST - Continue with your Easter tradition of having Easter breakfast with us at church, or start a new one with your family! Enjoy Easter Breakfast at Trinity Church on Easter morning. Breakfast will be served from 7:00-10:30 and will include pancakes (regular, banana, chocolate chip, & blueberry) pure maple syrup, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon and some delicious sweets. Join us on Easter morning and bring the family. A Free Will Offering will be accepted.



Lenten Lunches are being served each Wednesday throughout Lent. Lunch will be served at 11:00 AM, following our 10:30 AM worship service. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a simple meal and meaningful conversation with fellow members.

Lenten Dinners are being served on Wednesday's during Lent. Dinner will be served from 5:00 PM until just before the 6:30 PM worship service, providing a convenient and welcoming time to gather before evening worship. Please let us plan your dinner before service. Come join us.

Maundy Thursday (April 2)

Services are 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM w/ Holy Communion

The 1:00 PM service can be heard on the 730 AM and 96.3 FM dial on your radio at 6:00 PM

8:00 PM Service will be First Communion for our Confirmands

Good Friday (April 3)

Services are 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM

The 1:00 PM service can be heard on the 730 AM and 96.3 FM dial on your radio at 6:00 PM

Easter Sunday (April 5)

Services are 6:00, 7:30, 9:00 AM (Traditional) - 10:30 AM (Contemporary)

All with Holy Communion

The 6:00 AM service can be heard live on the 730 AM and 96.3 FM dial on your radio and the 9:00 service will be broadcast at 10:30 AM