



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

527 Washington Street
Reading, PA 19601
(610) 374-4861
www.trinityreading.org

✦ ✦ ✦

Masks are welcomed,
but no longer required.

Vaccinations are highly
recommended.

Please maintain
appropriate distancing
between households and
use hand sanitizer.

✦ ✦ ✦

All are invited to join us at
the Lord's table for Holy
Communion.

✦ ✦ ✦

Our AED machine is
mounted on the wall in
the stairway near the
baptismal font.

✦ ✦ ✦

Please silence your
cell phone.



Trinity Lutheran Church
is recognized by
Reconciling Works as a
"Reconciling in Christ"
Congregation which
welcomes all LGBTQ+
persons into all facets of
congregational life.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM

MARCH 19, 2023

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.



You are invited to use this page for personal prayer and reflection.

Congregational words are in bold print.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Herzlich tut mich verlangen (My heart is filled with longing)

Johannes Brahms

CHORAL GATHERING - ELW 811 - On My Heart Imprint Your Image - see page 3

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
✠ one God, who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Please kneel or remain seated.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life.

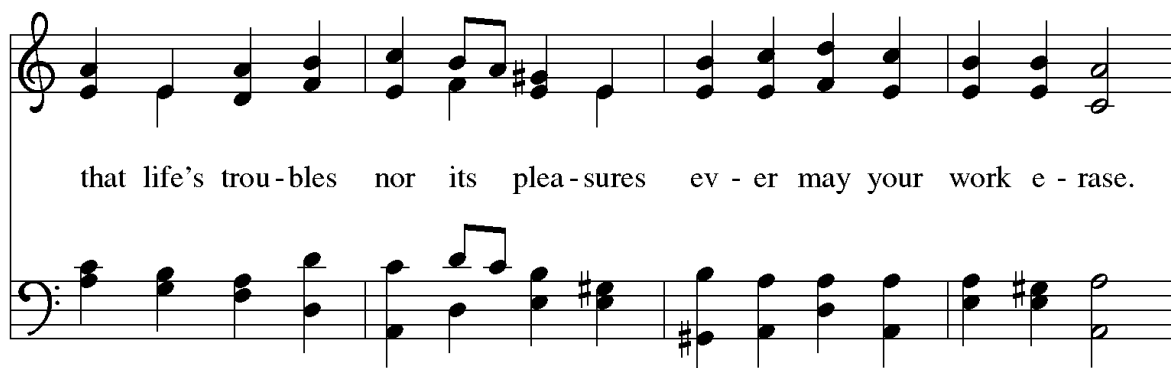
This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ✠ forgives you in Christ's name,
and revives you in the Spirit's power.

Amen

CHORAL GATHERING - ELW 811 - On My Heart Imprint Your Image



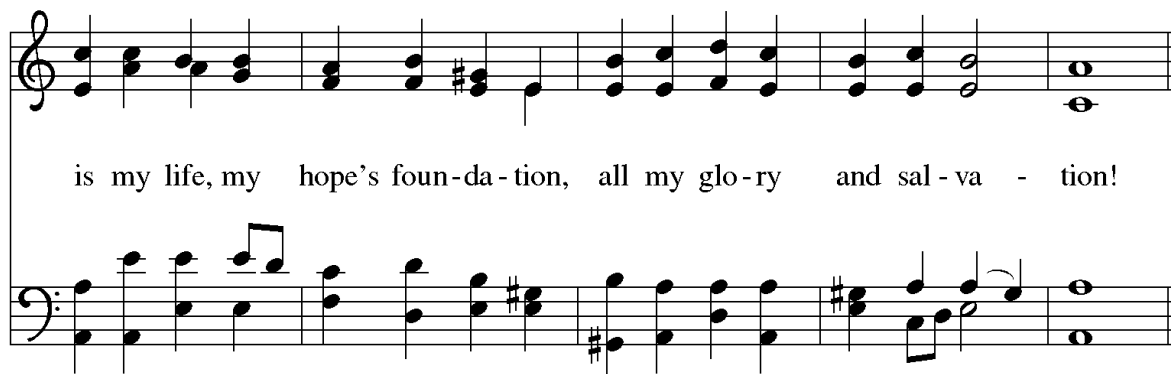
On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, king of grace,



that life's trou - bles nor its plea - sures ev - er may your work e - rase.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,

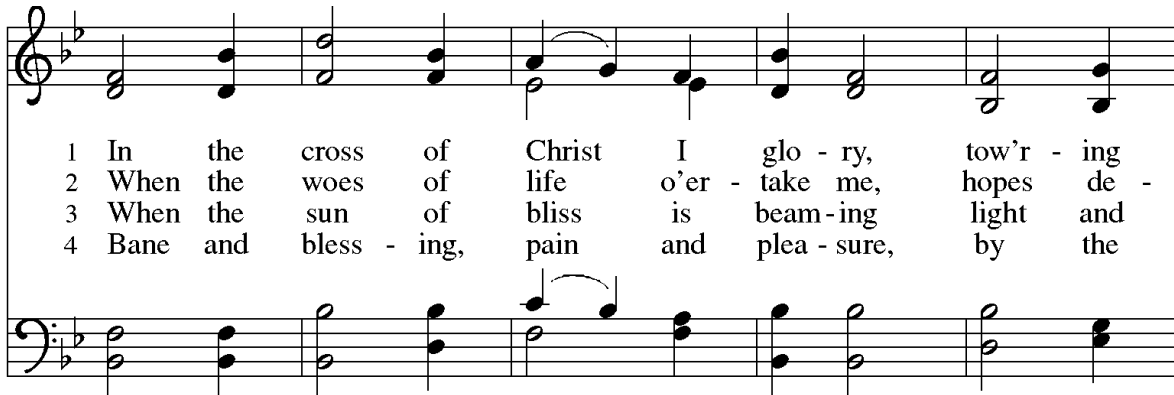


is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, all my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.
Music: DER AM KREUZ, Johann B. König, 1691–1758

Please stand in body or spirit.

GATHERING SONG - ELW 324 - In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



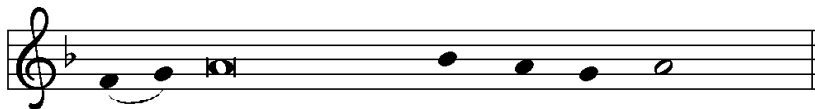
sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872
Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815-1867

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE - Mixed Ensemble, cantors



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



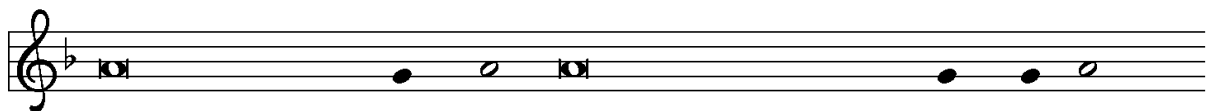
Lord, have mer - cy.



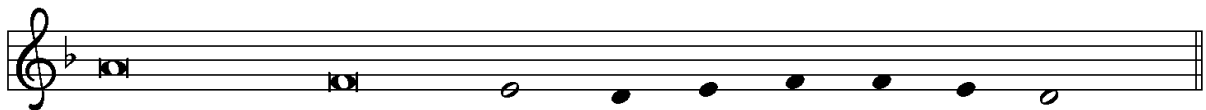
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



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 ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer 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

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Be seated.

FIRST READING - 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the Lord, designating David as the Lord's chosen successor to Saul.

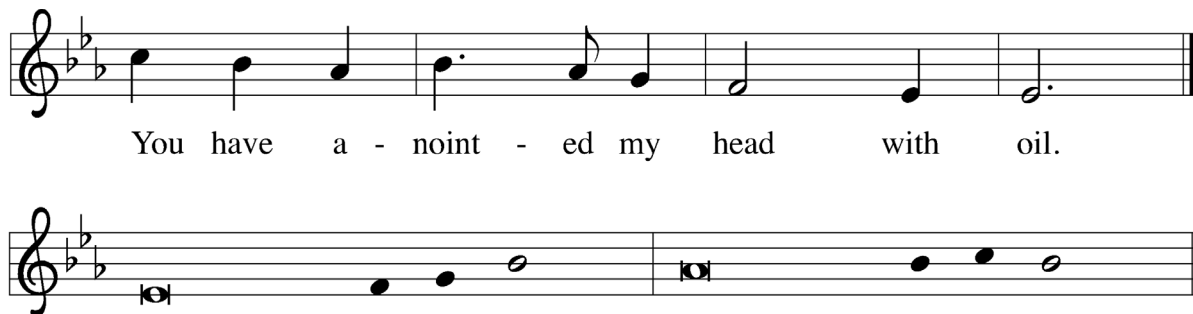
After the reading:

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

The choir introduces the refrain. The congregation repeats the refrain and sings the refrain where indicated.
The congregation and choir chant the psalm in unison.



The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

**The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

You restore my | soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me. *Refrain***

**You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. *Refrain***

Reprinted from Psalter for Worship, copyright 2007 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

SECOND READING - Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

After the reading:

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

TEACHING TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Please stand in body or spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The acclamation will be sung by all before and after the proper verse.



Jesus says, I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will have the light of life. (John 8:12)

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

SERMON

Please stand in body or spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY - ELW 793 - Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Please kneel or be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

After a brief silence each petition concludes:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

After the final petition:

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen

Please stand in body or spirit.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet one another and then be seated.

OFFERTORY

Like a Lamb

Mary Kay Beall

Mixed Ensemble Sandra Sittler, piano

Like a lamb He goes to slaughter, like a lamb...so meek, so still.

Like a lamb He goes to slaughter...on a cross to do His Father's will.

Like a lamb for sin atoning, like a lamb He pays the price.

Like a lamb, for sin atoning on a cross, a perfect sacrifice.

Like a lamb, His life is forfeit. Like a lamb, He bears our shame.

Like a lamb, His life is forfeit on a cross, He calls His Father's name.

Like a lamb, laid on the altar...like a lamb, His fate is sealed.

Like a lamb, laid on the altar...on a cross, God's wondrous love revealed, on a cross,

God's perfect love revealed; all for us, a Father's love revealed.

Please stand in body or spirit.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

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 in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you,...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

O God...Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself...Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Cantor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

Be seated.

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. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

Following the direction of the usher, approach the altar, maintaining a safe distance between households. Please ask your server if you need a gluten-free wafer or prefer grape juice. If you would like time for prayer after receiving the elements, please feel free to step to the side railing. As you return to your seat, place your empty glass in the corner tray. Those not partaking of communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to approach the altar for communion, inform the usher and the sacrament will be brought to you.

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Herzliebster Jesu, was hast du verbrochen (Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended)

Mark C. Jones

After all have received Communion, please stand in body or spirit.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Embodied God,
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love.

Amen

BLESSING

God the giver of love,
† Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen

SENDING HYMN - ELW 768 - Lead Me, Guide Me - see page 16

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

There is no postlude. Please stay and meditate or leave the church in silence.

† † †

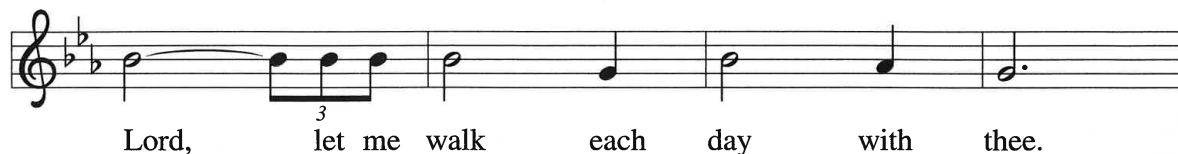
SENDING HYMN - ELW 768 - Lead Me, Guide Me

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;



for if you lead me, I can - not stray.




Lord, let me walk each day with thee.



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.



1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,
3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,



to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.
be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.
I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.



Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.
I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.
Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

Refrain



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris Akers, 1922-1995

Music: Doris Akers

Text and music © 1953 Doris Akers, admin. Unichappell Music, Inc.

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

Irregular

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Leaders in Today's Liturgy: March 19, 2023 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

Presiding and Preaching: Pr. Drew Neidig

Lector: Annie Harlin

Assisting Minister: Dcs. Deborah Graf

Greeter: Pam Wasmuth

Minister of Music: Karen S. Eddinger

Ushers: Anita Dolak and Raye Watson

Altar Guild: Michael Faust, Linda Grim, Erica Hofmann,
Darryl Jeffries, Amy Litvinov and Doris Strobel

Communion Assistant: Steve Welz

Today's altar flowers are sponsored by Sherri, Tony, Ali & Meg Sacco in loving memory of Charles & Grace Weiser

We thank David Strobel for choosing hymns for our Lenten worship services

Immediate prayer requests: Gerald Wagner, Pr. Elton Richards, Pr. Rick Chaveas, Cathy Manning, Harry Feinauer, Jonathan Bloom (friend of Jenn Smith), Elizabeth (Bette) Ashton (Christine Motley's grandmother), Micah Long, Megan Zobian

Ongoing prayer requests: Jenn Smith, Christopher Drayer, Dar Unger, Darryl Jeffries, David Strobel, Bishop Christopher DeForest, John Kirby, Dick Evans, Ed Harlin, Luther Route, Walter Schur, John Bornhofen. David Unruh (brother of Ralph Unruh), Doris (friend of Pat McMahan), Jim Hofmann (brother of Steve Hofmann), Dave Regar (friend of Barbara Ketchum), Celia Cosentino (friend of Jane Zobian), John Matern (father of Deaconess Deborah), Leonard Smith (father of Andrew Smith), Ruth Adam (friend of Graf family), the Sawyer family, and Tina Koch (friend of Jenn Smith)

Trinity households in prayer: Kathleen Wright; Amy Young; Megan Souders-Zobian and David, Ben & Jane Zobian; Gary & Nancy Zweig; and Diana & Gholam Ahmadi

Prepare for Worship March 26: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

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Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm/Passion Sunday - April 2 - 9:00 AM palm procession and prayer walk; 10:00 AM worship

Maundy Thursday - Thursday, April 6 - 7:00 PM

Good Friday - Friday, April 7 - 12:05 PM in the Nave

Easter Sunday - April 9 - 10:00 AM

Sunday Forum March 26, 9 AM in the auditorium – Technology and You: Matt Mellen and Jenn Smith will answer your top questions about technology on your phones, tablets or computers. Share your questions in advance by using one of the forms in the narthex.

Lent Giving Projects: We are collecting financial gifts for Heart for Home's LightHouse Women and Children's Center. And our neighbors in Common Ground Recovery Community need men's clothes of all sizes and **travel-sized** containers of personal care items. Please bring all toiletry gifts to the narthex and leave clothing gifts on the stage in the auditorium.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, March 19

- 9:00 AM: Sunday Forum (Auditorium)
- 9:00 AM: Sunday School (Nursery)
- 10:00 AM: Worship (Nave)
- 11:15 AM: Coffee & Conversation (Hintz Room)
- 11:15 AM: Mixed Ensemble (Nave)
- 2:00 PM: Common Ground Worship and Meal

Monday, March 20

- 9:45 AM: Program Staff Meeting

Tuesday, March 21

- 9:15 AM: Full Staff Meeting (Hintz Room)
- 11:00 AM: Pericope/Text Study for Preachers (Conference Room)
- 2:00 PM: Boundaries Workshop (Auditorium)
- 6:00 PM: Sacred Ground (Christ Episcopal)

Wednesday, March 22

- 12:05 PM: Lent Worship (Chapel)
- 1:00 PM: Trinity Knitters & Crocheters (Hintz Room)
- 6:30 PM: Trinity Ringers (Nave)
- 7:00 PM: Lent Worship with Common Ground (5 Wyomissing Blvd.)
- 7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal (Hintz Room)

Thursday, March 23

- 6:30 PM: FFA Committee Meeting (Sittler Home)

Sunday, March 26

- 9:00 AM: Sunday Forum (Auditorium)
- 9:00 AM: Sunday School (Nursery)
- 10:00 AM: Worship (Nave)
- 11:15 AM: Coffee & Conversation (Hintz Room)
- 11:15 AM: Mixed Ensemble (Bard House)
- 2:00 PM: Common Ground Worship and Meal

Broadcast Schedule for March

All of our programs listed below can be watched on Comcast Channel 190, Reading Hospital Channel 80, online at www.trinityreading.org, on our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/trinitylutheranchurch. Trinity's Sunday morning worship is also live streamed via Facebook and YouTube. You may log on to either platform on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM and worship at the same time as the in-person congregation.

Sundays

- 6:00 PM World Views: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- 6:30 PM Music From Trinity: Derrick Thompson, baritone and Jeffrey Lentz, collaborative pianist
- 7:00 PM Trinity Worship Service

Wednesdays

- 4:00 PM Trinity Worship Service
- 5:00 PM Music From Trinity: Derrick Thompson, baritone and Jeffrey Lentz, collaborative pianist
- 5:30 PM World Views: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



Church office hours are 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Monday through Thursday.