

River of Grace



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
FEBRUARY 18-19, 2024



Trinity Lutheran Church

213 North Pennsylvania Ave. | Mason City, Iowa 50401 | 641-423-0536 | trinity-mc.org

First Sunday in Lent

February 17, 2024 - 5:00 p.m.

February 18, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

Livestream Worship Service/KCMR 97.9

Wandering Heart: "Jesus sought me"

This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves - a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

Looking at Peter's faith journey, the lyrics of "Come Thou Fount" came to mind. It's as if Peter himself wrote this song. And so, as we follow Peter's story, we will sing our way through Lent, binding our wandering hearts to God. This week we hear Jesus calling Peter to drop his nets and follow. What is the beginning of your faith story? When has God sought you out? Have you ever felt like your calling was pursuing—or chasing—you? Did you resist? Did you follow?

Welcome to Trinity! We are glad you're here. If you are new to Trinity Lutheran, please complete an informational card which can be found in the pews.

We love having small children in worship! Those needing a space to change or feed little ones are welcome to use the **Child Care Room** located next to the nursery. A **unstaffed nursery** is also available, located on the 2nd floor just outside the north sanctuary door (door under the stained glass window door).

Large print bulletins and listening devices are available from the ushers.

Activity Bags are available for children during worship. They are located in the narthex and at the front of the church. Please return them at the end of services.

Our Mission *We are called to share God's healing love through Christ's forgiveness and our personal servanthood.*

Serving in Worship This Weekend

Pastor	Dan Gerrietts Daniel Hanson
Organist	Teresa Jacobson
Cantor	9am Melissa Shallberg
Greeters	John and Mary Wicks
Coffee Fellowship	Mark LeDuc, Rog & Elli Koester
Scripture Readers	
5:00 p.m.	Sam Hunt
9:00 a.m.	Aubrey Otto
Technical Support	
9:00 a.m.	Reid Hendrikson, Ellen & Olivia Gansen
Worship Transportation	
	Randy & Becky Elsbernd
Ushers	
5:00 p.m.	Dave Guetzko John Barron
9:00 a.m.	Randy Johnson Roger Schlitter Randy Elsbernd Joe Blanchard

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

P In our scripture passage for today, we will read about Jesus calling Peter to be a disciple. In the story, Peter is in the presence of the Divine for quite some time before he realizes it. Jesus crawls into Peter's boat. He tells him to head toward deep water. Together, they let the nets down. And it is only when the boat threatens to sink, due to the extreme abundance of fish, that Peter turns to Jesus and truly sees who's in his boat.

Sometimes we miss what's right in front of us. Fortunately, Christ keeps crawling into our boats anyhow. So join me in the prayer of confession, not out of fear, but out of a desire to finally see who's right in front of us. Let us pray:

C Loving God,

You call us by name.

You join us in the deep waters of life.

You invite us to drop our nets and follow you,

and yet, more often than we'd like to admit, we are like Peter.

**Over and over again, we stand slack jawed and surprised
to find you in our midst.**

Forgive us for drowning out your voice with our own.

Forgive us for assuming that we can tackle deep waters by ourselves.

Forgive us for forgetting that you will never stop climbing into our boat.

Turn our hearts, our minds, and our spirits toward you,

for you are the Lord our God, and it is in your name that we pray.

Amen.

P Friends, Peter didn't exactly make a good first impression when Jesus got into his boat. He questioned dropping his nets, as they hadn't caught any fish all night. He was oblivious to who Christ was for quite some time, and once he realized the Divinity standing in his boat, he quickly deemed himself unworthy.

And even still, Jesus called Peter a disciple and a friend.

Church family, hear and believe this good news:

You can make a thousand bad impressions.

You can make every mistake in the book, roll your eyes, and assume you know better.

And even still, Christ forgives you, claims you, and continues to seek your heart.

That is the good news of the gospel. Rest, celebrate, and trust in that.

C Amen.

***Greeting**

P The grace and peace of God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

P Lord Jesus, you call us to follow you,
give us courage to live our commitment.
Teach us to go beyond our borders
following the river of your Grace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Children's Sermon (9:00am)

Pastor Dan Gerrietts

Psalm 25

L ¹To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

**C ²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

L ³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**C ⁴Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

L ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**C ⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

L ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness,
O LORD.

**C ⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

L ⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

**C ¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW pg 124

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the fifth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

*Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

P Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ²he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, ‘Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.’ ⁵Simon answered, ‘Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.’ ⁶When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, ‘Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!’ ⁹For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.’ ¹¹When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

***Affirmation of Faith**

P I believe in a God of abundance—

**C a God who sees possibilities where I cannot,
and who holds onto hope when I am at the end of my rope.**

P I believe in a God who comforts—

**C a God who says, “Do not be afraid;”
a God who joins me in life’s deep waters.**

P I believe in a God who invites—

**C a God who says, “Follow me,”
and, “You will be fishers of people.”**

P I believe in a God who seeks after me relentlessly and persistently—

**C a God of second chances and boundless mercy;
a God who calls us by name.**

We believe.

Help our unbelief.

In Christ’s name we pray.

Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

P Hear us O God.

C Your mercy is great.

***Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

MEAL

Announcements

Offering

Text to Give is available at Trinity!

Simply text the amount you wish to give to 833-412-0093.

Or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

Please note where your gifts should be directed towards.



Special Music (9:00 am)

Lead Me Lord

Trinity Choir

***Offertory**

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712 vs 1

*Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.*

***Offering Prayer**

P Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.
Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.
Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.
We pray this in your name.

C Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

ELW pg. 129

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 our thanks and praise.

***Words of Institution**

***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.

Communion

All who desire the presence and forgiveness of Christ that come in the sharing of this bread and wine are welcome to commune with us today. Usbers will direct you from the outside aisles to one of the stations in the front of the sanctuary, you will be kneeling at the rail. You will return to your seat by the center aisle. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.
If for any reason you are not comfortable participating in communion today, we invite you to come forward with your arms crossed over your chest to receive a blessing.

Lamb of God

ELW pg. 135

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.

Communion Hymn

*There in God's Garden
Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

ELW 342

ELW 338

Prayer after Communion

P Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C Amen.

SENDING

***Blessing**

P Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

ELW 335

***Sending**

P Go in peace, following Christ's way.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENT 2024



This Lent at Trinity, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer.

In Peter, we often see ourselves - a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

A **daily LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOK** is available to pick up they are located at the Welcome desk and by the church offices.

LENT COIN FOLDERS have been mailed. All gifts benefit Trinity's ongoing ministry in our community. To make your gift online, go to trinity-mc.org/give. Additional folders can be found at the Welcome Desk and by the office windows.

Second Sunday in Lent

February 24-25, 2024

Wandering Heart:

"Rescue me from danger"

MATTHEW 14:22-33 | Jesus calls Simon Peter to walk on water.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 9-10, 2024

Wandering Heart:

"I'm fixed upon it"

MATTHEW 16:21-23 | Jesus scolds Peter after he questions Jesus' mission and calling.

Third Sunday in Lent

March 2-3, 2024

Wandering Heart:

"Praise the mount"

MATTHEW 16:13-20 | Simon Peter calls Jesus the Messiah, and Jesus gives him the name Peter.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 16-17, 2024

Wandering Heart: "Teach me"

MATTHEW 18:15-22 | Jesus tells Peter to forgive seventy-seven times.

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

1:30 and 6:30 p.m. in the Gathering Space

Join us for a service of music, scripture, journaling and small group discussions.

Lent Dinners are from 6-6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall—all donations from the meals will support Trinity Youth attending the national youth gathering this summer.

WANDERING HEART LENT RETREAT—Saturday, February 24 | 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Take a deeper dive into the life of Peter with this hands on event. Wandering Heart Lent Retreat starts with a large group activity and then invites you to wander where your heart leads to explore a variety of interactive stations that each tell a story about Peter's journey with Jesus. Opportunity for reflection, creativity, and physical activity will be offered. All ages and abilities are welcome to attend but children must be accompanied by an adult. Please sign up by Thursday, February 22.

Altar Flowers are given by **Bob and JoAnn Mason** in honor of their 46th Wedding Anniversary.

Bulletin Cover Art is sponsored by **Harlan and Marge Baack** for the blessings of Lent.

The bulletin cover is "River of Grace" by Lisle Gwynn Garity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Blood Pressure Checks—Sunday, Feb. 18th from 10-10:30 a.m. in the Gathering Space.

90th Birthday Card Shower for Henry Kalke! If you would like to send a greeting, memory or a joke—please send it to: 12 6th St. NE, Nora Springs, IA 50458

Rejoicing Spirits

Wednesday, February 21 | 5:00 PM | Fellowship Hall
Rejoicing Spirits is inclusive of all ages and abilities as we connect with God and one another—through camp style music, interactive skit, and prayer. Following the worship service, enjoy pizza and root beer floats for a free-will donation.

Pickleball—Thursday, February 22

2:00-3:00 PM | St. John's Episcopal Church

120 1st St NE Use entrance on the east side.

Join us for a fun game of pickleball in the fellowship hall of St. John's Episcopal Church. Balls and paddles provided. Beginners are welcome. Limited to first eight people that sign up. To sign up, please call the church office at 641-423-0536 or see the bulletin board by the church offices.

Riverside Bible Camp

All Trinity members and their friends receive a subsidy to attend camp, however, the registration policy has changed and is new for 2024. Information sheets detailing everything you need to know are available in the gathering space today, outside the church office, and on our web site. If you have any questions, contact Marty Greder, Trinity Director of Education.

Scholarship Applications

Scholarship applications and re-applications for the 2023-2024 school year are available to pick up outside the church office. Forms are available on Trinity's website at trinity-mc.org/college-scholarships/. Applications must be turned in to the church office by March 1, 2024.

TLC OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- **Worship Greeter** – Greet worshippers as they enter the building for weekend and midweek services. Volunteer position. Contact the office.
- **Usher** – Distribute bulletins, welcome, collect of-fering, usher people for communion. Volunteer position. Contact the office.
- **Worship Transportation** – Assist Region 2 Transit driver in picking up those needing a ride to Sunday worship. Volunteer position. Contact the office
- **Community Kitchen Volunteers**—Trinity provides volunteers to help prepare and serve meals at the Community Kitchen, *either the 1st Monday of each month from 9-1:00 and the 4th Wednesday of each month from 4-6:30 p.m.* See the bulletin boards by the church office.
- **Help at Affordables**—Trinity provides volunteers to help sort donated clothing at Affordables on the **2nd Wednesday of each month from 9-11:00 a.m.**

For more worship serving opportunities, go to trinity-mc.org/worship-volunteers

Cancer Support Group

Wednesday, February 21 | 2:00 PM Room 300 & Zoom
Individuals currently treating cancer or those who are in remission, along with family and loved ones, are encouraged to attend. The facilitators are cancer survivors Roger Schlitter and Linda Stine. If you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom, please visit trinity-mc.org/cancer-support-group to fill out the Zoom registration form. Or contact Becky Elsbernd at becky.elsbernd@trinity-mc.org

Game Day in Ames for Grades 7-12

Saturday, February 24 | 12:00 PM / Trinity Parking Lot
We will load up the bus and head to Ames! Perfect Games has laser tag, bowling, arcade games and more! We will do it all and eat pizza. Cost is \$30 and scholarships are available. Friends are welcome. You must email carol.dettmer@trinity-mc.org or kristian.carlson@trinity-mc.org by **February 18** if you want a spot and you will be emailed a waiver to complete.

Easter Food Project

The Ministries Committee is asking for monetary donations from the Congregation in order to provide local, less fortunate individuals or families with a healthy Easter meal to enjoy. A donation of \$35 will feed a household of up to four people, \$70 will feed a household of eight people, and so forth.

Give online or in-person! Envelopes are available at the church office or Welcome Desk. Funds will be collected through March 17.

If you know of someone who could benefit from receiving an Easter box, please call the church office. The deadline for submission of recipients is March 10. You can also help by signing up to deliver food bags to recipients on Saturday, March 23, please contact the church office.

All God's Children Gotta Write

February 20, 27 | 10:00-11:00 AM / Trinity Library
Would you like to create your own poems, hymns, parables, stories and essays? No writing experience is needed for this informal, interactive gathering. Led by Mary Lynn Oertel.

Donations for Mission Jamaica

Trinity's 2024 MJ Team is gathering donations for Westhaven Children's Home in Jamaica. Donations can be left in the main office cabinet near the East Entrance. To make a cash donation toward these items, mark your envelope/check with "Mission Jamaica." Thank you!

Requested Items

- t-shirts, blouses, dresses, jeans, dress pants, underwear and bras
- sheets (twin, double and crib), pillowcases
- bibs, towels, kitchen towels, shower curtains
- scrubs for caregivers (all sizes), heavy duty cleaning gloves, examination gloves (medium & large)
- diapers (adult medium, children stages 4 & 5), diaper rash cream, deodorants, disposable razors
- Vaseline, toothpaste & toothbrushes

2024 Flower Calendar and Bulletin Calendar

If you'd like to honor a loved one, remember a birthday and/or an anniversary please sign up. Both calendars are located on the bulletin board next to the church office. Altar Flowers are \$45 and Bulletins are \$25

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, February 19

- 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer (Rm. 322)
- 9:00 a.m. Quilt Workshop (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 p.m. Trinity Bronze Bell Choir (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts

Tuesday, February 20

- 8-9:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (Gathering Space)
- 10:00 a.m. All God's Children Gotta Write (Library)
- 10:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry (Rm. 307)
- Noon Staff Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. Adult Ministry Cabinet (Rm. 300)
- 4:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Comm. (F.H.)
- 4:15 p.m. NordKor Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm.)
- 5:00 p.m. Education Committee (Rm. 307)
- Ministries Committee (Gathering Space)
- Generosity Committee (Rm. 300)

Wednesday, February 21

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study (Library)
- 10:30 a.m. Walk to Better Health (3rd Fl.-Rm. 319)
- 1:30 p.m. Lent Worship Service** (Gathering Space)
- 2:00 p.m. Cancer Support Group (Rm. 300)
- 5:00 p.m. Rejoicing Spirits Worship Service (F.H.)
- 6:00 p.m. Lent Supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 p.m. Lent Worship Service** (Gathering Space)
- 7:15 p.m. Choir Practice (Choir Rm.)

Thursday, February 22

- 8:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (Gathering Space)
- 7:00 p.m. Una Vocis Rehearsal

Saturday, February 24

- 9-11:00 a.m. Wandering Hearts: Lent Retreat**
- Noon-6:00 p.m. Game Day in Ames (7-12th Graders)
- 5:00 p.m. Worship Service**

Sunday, February 25

- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service**
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service**
- 6:30 p.m. Mission Jamaica Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)

Walking to Better Health - Wednesdays in February

|10:30 AM | New Location 3rd Floor Sunday School Wing—Rm. 319 We will walk in place with easy-to-follow moves using a DVD workout which is high energy and loads of fun!