

"Teach Me"



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 16-17, 2024



Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2024 - 5:00 p.m.

March 17, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

Livestream Worship Service/KCMR 97.9

Wandering Heart: "Teach 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.

This weekend we see a Peter who is hungry to learn. He asks a simple question expecting a straightforward answer: "How many times should I forgive?" But Jesus' math is not predictable—it's infinite.

Forgiveness is abundant; grace is not earned. In your own faith, do you wish for straightforward answers? Can you let go of black-and-white thinking and instead embrace the infinite colors of grace?

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).

Handicapped Seating is reserved in the pew located in front of the Technical booth.

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	Deb Nielsen
Cantor	Warren Torkelson
Greeters	Craig and Janet Miller
Coffee Fellowship	Ronda Smith, Jon & Mary Wicks
Communion Assistants	
5:00 p.m.	Amy Dodge, Kathy Nelson Mike Nelson
9:00 a.m.	Ken and Paula Zimmerman
Scripture Readers	
5:00 p.m.	Amy Dodge
9:00 a.m.	Paula Zimmerman
Technical Support	
9:00 a.m.	Leah Gerrietts, Maggie Gerrietts, Anni Shallberg
Worship Transportation	
	Travis Hesley, Lou Ann Rossler
Ushers	
5:00 p.m.	Bob Gentz, Derek Schlitter
9:00 a.m.	Brian Carlson, Mike Dutcher, Mark Lehmann, Ryan Marquardt

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

P Friends, when you study Peter’s story in scripture it’s almost impossible to ignore how much he loved to ask questions. He asks Jesus:

“What does the parable mean?”

“Where are you going?”

“How many times should we forgive?”

Like a tenacious toddler, Peter was full of questions, because Peter was eager to learn. I wish I was more like that. I still have so much to learn.

So friends, let’s be like Peter. Let’s return to Christ with the humility of a student as we pray together the prayer of confession.

Let this be a moment of learning. Let us pray:

C Holy God,

We long to be lifelong learners.

We long to approach you with curiosity and an open mind.

Instead, we often live as if we know best.

We forget that the disciples called you “Rabbi, Teacher.”

Forgive us for the times when we fail to be curious.

Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best.

Forgive us for the moments when we imagine that our learning is done and that we have all the answers.

Like Peter—who was brave enough to ask,

“How many times should we forgive?”—make us brave.

Spark a desire in us to learn, and may our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters. With hope and humility we pray.

Amen.

P Family of faith,

When Peter asked Jesus, “How many times should I forgive?”

Jesus responded with abundance.

That abundance exists for you as well.

No matter what you have done or left undone,

no matter what lessons you have learned or are still learning,

God’s abundant grace exists for you. God’s love will never run out.

So hear and rest in this good news:

You are forgiven.
You are loved.
You are invited to serve.
Thanks be to God!

C Amen.

***Gathering Hymn** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

ELW 807

***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 Holy God,
we pray today that you would teach us that forgiveness
is abundant and grace is not earned.
Teach us to embrace the infinite colors of grace.

C Amen

Children's Sermon (9:00am)

Pastor Daniel Hanson

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (*Read Responsively*)

L ¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good,
for God's mercy endures forever.

**C ² Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

L ³ gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

**C ¹⁷ Some were fools and took rebellious paths;
through their sins they were afflicted.**

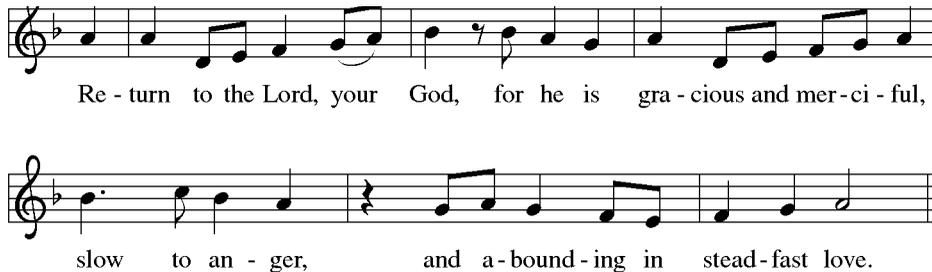
L ¹⁸ They loathed all manner of food
and drew near to death's door.

**C ¹⁹ Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord
and you delivered them from their distress.**

L ²⁰ You sent forth your word and healed them
and rescued them from the grave.

**C ²¹ Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.**

L ²² Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the eighteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

***Gospel: Matthew 18:15-22**

P ¹⁵ If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.

¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Hanson

Hymn of the Day

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

ELW 321

***Affirmation of Faith**

P We believe that questions are a building block of faith.

C “How many times should I forgive?”

“Jesus, where are you going?”

“What must I do to inherit eternal life?”

P We believe that humble curiosity can open our eyes.

C “Where does it hurt?”

“What do you need?”

“How can I help?”

P We believe that God is a teacher.

C “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”

“Here I am.”

“Send me.”

P We believe that faith invites our whole being to engage,

C with all our heart,

with all our mind,

with all our strength.

P We believe. Help our unbelief.

C 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

If Ye Love Me

Trinity Choir

by Thomas Talles

***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. Ushers 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

*Were You There
As The Grains of Wheat*

ELW 353

ELW 465

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

Farewell and Blessing for Kristian Carlson

***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**

Go My Children, with My Blessing

ELW 543

***Sending**

P Go in peace. Give grace and forgiveness.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are given in honor of **Marion Erickson's 92nd birthday** on March 21, given by her family.

Bulletin Cover Art is sponsored by **Harlan and Marge Baack** in honor of **Daryl Erickson and all those who serve as ushers.**

The bulletin cover is "Seventy-seven Times" by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Farewell Reception for Kristian Carlson

Sunday, March 17 | 10:00 AM / Gathering Space

Please come and help us celebrate Kristian as we send him off to his new call and as we give thanks for his leadership as our Youth Director.

Blood Pressure Checks—Sunday, March 17th from 10-10:30 a.m. in the Gathering Space.

Rejoicing Spirits

Wednesday, March 20 | 5:00 PM / Fellowship Hall

Rejoicing Spirits is inclusive of all ages and abilities as we connect with God and one another. Join us as we learn about Jesus' journey to the cross and beyond through camp-style music, an interactive skit, and prayer. Following the worship service, enjoy pizza and root beer floats for a free-will donation.

LUNCH AND LEARN | What's New in Healthcare?

Thursday, March 21 | Noon / Fellowship Hall

Chad Boore, Chief Operations Officer (COO) at MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center, will come to share about the changes and challenges in health care today. Soup and salad will be served for a free-will offering. Please call the church office to **sign up on the office bulletin board by March 19.**

Copies of **Christ in Our Home** for **April, May & June** are available to pick up by the office and welcome desk.

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

EASTER NEEDS

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. **We are planning on filling 120 Easter boxes and we need \$1,166.00 to complete** our food box requests.

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. *The need is great this year and your financial assistance is so appreciated!*

You can also help by signing up to deliver food bags to recipients on Saturday, March 23, please contact the church office.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 23 | 10:00 AM

All Children ages 0-10 years old are welcome to hunt for Easter eggs at Trinity on Saturday, March 23, from 10:00-11:00 AM. Please bring a basket and gather in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am for story time, crafts, and the Easter Egg Hunt!

Thank you to all who contributed candy for the Eggs! Your generosity is amazing!

Easter Garden & Memorials

Please see the sign-up sheets located by the church office—

if you would like to:

- Remember or honor a loved one with an Easter plant.
Plants can be purchased for \$15 each (Plant limit of 30).
- Remember or honor a loved one with an Easter memorial. You can also call in your request to the church office.

The Easter garden (and Easter memorial) deadline is **March 22.**

LENT 2024



During Lent, we have focused 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.

Palm/Passion Sunday – March 23-24

Wandering Heart:

“Songs of loudest praise”

JOHN 12:12-16 | Jesus rides into Jerusalem while people praise him.

PALM BRANCHES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED

Sunday School Students will sing and have a palm processional at the END of the 9am service and the beginning of the 10:30 service.

Maundy Thursday – March 28 (6:30 PM)

Wandering Heart: *“Streams of mercy”*

JOHN 13:1-20 | Jesus washes Peter’s feet.

Holy Communion will be celebrated

Good Friday CANTATA– March 29 (6:30 PM)

“Were you there?”

*Written by Pastor Larry Day
featuring Trinity Musicians*

Holy Saturday – March 30 (5:00 PM)

YOUTH LED WORSHIP SERVICE

Wandering Heart: *“And I hope”*

LUKE 24:1-12 | Peter runs to the empty tomb and learns Jesus is alive.

Easter Sunday – March 31 (9:00 & 10:30 AM)

WITH SPECIAL MUSIC AND BRASS

Wandering Heart: *“And I hope”*

LUKE 24:1-12 | Peter runs to the empty tomb and learns Jesus is alive.

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

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.

Meal for
Wednesday
March 20 will be
Pizza and Dessert

There is NO meal on March 27th during Holy Week

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE WILL RESUME ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Summer Camp 2024—Riverside Bible Camp

If you're entering Grade 3 in Fall 2024, you can go to Camp Riverside. Information is available at the church office, or contact Marty Greder, Education Dir., at 423-0536 or marty.greder@trinity-mc.org. *Trinity has a subsidy for a member and a friend, so register today!*

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 offering, usher people for communion. Volunteer position. Contact the office.
- **Readers** – Read the lessons for weekend services. Lessons provided a week prior to reading. Volunteer position. Contact the office.
- **Communion Servers**— Assist Pastors with Communion distribution during worship services. Training available. 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

CO-Ed Softball returns this Summer

There is a sign-up sheet outside the church office. Stephanie Johnson will be coaching. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Stephanie at 641-420-5301.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, March 18

9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer (Rm. 322)
9:00 a.m. Quilt Workshop (Rm. 300)
6:00 p.m. Trinity Bronze Bell Choir (Sanctuary)
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts

Tuesday, March 19

8-9:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (Gathering Space)
10:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry (Rm. 307)
Noon Staff Meeting
3:00 p.m. Adult Ministries Cabinet (Rm. 300)
4:00 p.m. Building & Grounds Comm. (Fellowship Hall)
4:15 p.m. NordKor Rehearsal (Choir Rm.)
5:00 p.m. Education Comm. (Rm. 307)
Ministries Comm. (Library)
6:00 p.m. Generosity Comm. (Rm. 300)
6:00 p.m. Youth & Family Comm. (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, March 20

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study (Library)
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 (Fellowship Hall)
5:15 p.m. Welcome to the Table (Rm. 208)
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, March 21

8:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (Gathering Space)
10:30 a.m. Clappers Bell Choir (Sanctuary)
Noon Lunch and Learn (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 p.m. Una Vocis Rehearsal

Friday, March 22

4-6:00 p.m. Easter Food Box Assembly (Gathering Space)

Saturday, March 23

9-11 a.m. Easter Food Box Deliveries
10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

5:00 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship Service
9:15-10:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

There is **NO** Sunday School on March 31