



Trinity Lutheran Church
Saturday, February 21, 2026
1st Week of Lent
Jesus Raises Lazarus

*Indicates please stand as you are able

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"The Love of Jesus Medley"

Bradbury, Gilbert, Kaiser
arr. Mark Hayes

©1981 Harold Flammer Music CCLI #3127353

GATHER

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

P: God of Justice,
God of Compassion,
God of Sacred and Scandalous ways,
We have so much still to learn.

By your grace, we have come to know love more deeply –

C: **its mess, its complexity, its stubborn and tender truths transform us more each day.**

P: Through fires that refine and valleys of death, you have guided us.

C: **You draw us into the heart of Wisdom,**

P: Saving us from the lies of destruction.

C: **Turning us towards hope that liberates.**

P: But still, O God, we struggle to trust in you..

And so, when we are afraid. Or hurt. Or weary...

We betray the very One who brought us thus far.

C: **We confess, we still shame Jesus, when he turns over tables.**

P: We confess, we still condemn Jesus, when he breaks the rules to which we are loyal.

C: **We confess, while Jesus is torn from the arms of his mother by ICE,**

P: killed by his own lovers – so afraid of desiring trans women,

C: **and sitting lonely on the street with no family to welcome them home,**

P: our loyalties are often elsewhere.

C: **Our priorities are not your own.**

P: Search our hearts, O God, and see if there is any fear within us.
C: **Meet us there with your good news that sets the captives free.**
P: Forgive us from the harm we have done as we seek to harm no more.

(pause in silent prayer)

P: Beloveds, God does not abandon us to the systems that destroy.
C: **God does not bind us to our regrets.**
P: Or forever hold us to what we once believed.
C: **God says, come and follow!**
P: Know forgiveness and sin no more.
C: **Love abounds. And Justice shall be manifest!**
P: Wherever new life is desired,
C: **may the peace of Christ be welcomed among us.**
P: Thanks be to God who leads us on paths of resurrection.

'Enfleshed'

GATHERING SONG

"O, The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"

Samuel Trevor Francis
& Thomas John Williams
Public Domain

1. O the deep deep love of Jesus
Vast unmeasured boundless free
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me

Underneath me all around me
Is the current of Thy love
Leading onward leading homeward
To my glorious rest above

2. O the deep deep love of Jesus
Spread His praise from shore to shore
How He loveth ever loveth
Changeth never nevermore
How He watches o'er His loved ones
Died to call them all His own
How for them He intercedeth
Watches over them from the throne

3. O the deep deep love of Jesus
Love of every love the best
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing
'Tis a haven sweet of rest
O the deep deep love of Jesus
'Tis a heaven of heavens to me
And it lifts me up to glory
For it lifts me up to Thee

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of new life, As Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, renew and restore us to new life, leaving in the grave all that prevents us from loving you fully. Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & OFFERING

Pastor Rick

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 11:1-44

The good news according to John 11

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having 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 trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." 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. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him.³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”³⁵ Jesus began to weep.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 have kept this man from dying?”³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because 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 looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

L: The gospel of God.

C: Praise be to God.

SERMON

Pastor Rick

SONG OF THE DAY

“Be Not Afraid”

Bob Dufford

©1975, 1978, Robert J. Dufford, SJ and OCP OL#80666

You shall cross the barren desert
 But you shall not die of thirst
 You shall wander far in safety
 Though you do not know the way
 You shall speak your words to foreign men
 And they will understand
 You shall see the face of God and live

Be not afraid
 I go before you always
 Come, follow me and I will give you rest

If you pass through raging waters in the sea
You shall not drown
If you walk amid the burning flames
You shall not be harmed
If you stand before the power of hell
And death is at your side
Know that I am with you through it all

Be not afraid
I go before you always
Come, follow me and I will give you rest

And blessed are your poor
For the kingdom shall be theirs
Blest are you that weep and mourn
For one day you shall laugh
And if wicked men insult and hate you
All because of me
Blessed, blessed are you

Be not afraid
I go before you always
Come, follow me and I will give you rest

CREED

We believe in you, O God, who spoke all life into being, author of heaven and earth, architect of time, quilter of the cosmos. You shape our bodies from the dust of the ground, and by your breath we are given life.

We believe in you, O God, who became incarnate in Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh, truly divine and truly human. You lived among us to reveal your justice, died among us to break the bonds of sin and death, and were raised among us to bring abundant life.

We believe in you, O God, who transforms us by the Holy Spirit, draws us into community, moves us to action, and inspires us to hope against hope. You breathe new life into a fallen world and equip us to proclaim the good news of resurrecting love. All thanks and praise to you, O God, our beginning and our end. Amen.

From siblings in Christ at *Reconciling Works*, 2026.

PRAYERS

P: Hear us, O God.

C: **Sung Response:**

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING

*If you have a monetary offering, please place in the plate as you leave worship today,
or use this code to give electronically.*



OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Come to our gathering and receive our offerings. Be with us in this place and listen to our stories. Sit beside each one of us and be warmed by the fire. See our dancing and listen to our singing. Teach us new steps, new tunes, and new words.

C: **Amen.**

MEAL

***A COMMUNION PRAYER (MARY REMEMBERS HER SON) ***

P: Five bullets and a hundred lashes on my son's body;
I greet you still, *The Lord be with you.*

C: **And also with you.**

P: Five bullets and a hundred more they stopped his heart and cancelled my own,
I bid you still, *lift up your hearts.*

C: **We lift them up to God.**

P: Five times and hundred more I ask God if it is still right to give God thanks and praise.

They asked him, "Are you who they say you are?" He told the truth. Upon him the anger of Rome and their obsession with their peace and their order rained from their whips and fired from their guns. They have killed my son.

For they have forgotten the God who has breathed upon us the breath of Life; they have forgotten the One who gave life when they took his life away.

On the night that my son was to be given up for betrayal, desertion and death, he took bread from the plate gave it to me and said,

C: **"Take this and eat."**

P: And then he gave me something to drink and said,

C: **"Take this and drink."**

P: Breathe upon these gifts now, O God, your breath of life so we may remember again how to live.

For as often as you eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we will remember Jesus and all the sons who have been taken away from their mothers. We will remember the daughters who have been snatched from their homes. We will remember.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 112

Creator God, in heaven, holy be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION

"Eat This Bread"

ELW #472

W: Taizé Community

M: Jacques Berthier

©1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Pub OL#00891

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these gifts that we have received sustain us and sustain the people in their struggle. May these gifts give us courage to stand in solidarity with those who have been persecuted. May these gifts bless us with strength to fight, so that peace may be actualized in our communities. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

L: Oh God, may we receive your blessing, through sharing your blessings beyond borders. May we receive gifts, from those who carry nothing. May we recognize you, in people we don't know. And may we all find a safe home and peace in you, who had no place to lay your head.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

"His Kingdom Now is Come"

Brian Nhira, Isaac Wardell,
Leslie Jordan, Lorenzo Baylor & Paul Zach
©2020 Integrity Worship Music CCLI #7158500

1. The light shines (the light shines) in the darkness (in the darkness)
and the darkness cannot overcome (x2)

Refrain

Behold, Behold,
His Kingdom Now is Come!

2. The valleys (the valleys) will be lifted (will be lifted)
and the mountains will be brought down low (x2)

Refrain

Behold, Behold,
His Kingdom Now is Come!

3. Hear the voice cry, (hear the voice cry), from the highway, (from the highway),
"Make way for the Prince of Peace!" (won't you make way for the Prince of Peace?)

Refrain

Behold, Behold,
His Kingdom Now is Come!

4. God of Justice, (God of Justice), righteous Judge, (righteous Judge)
 behold, behold, behold
Our defender, (Our defender), Prince of Peace, (Prince of Peace),
 behold, behold, behold
Father to the fatherless, (Father to the fatherless),
 our strong deliverer, (our strong deliverer),
 behold, behold, behold
He's troubling the water (He's troubling the water)
and we're marching through

Refrain

Behold, Behold,
His Kingdom Now is Come!

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Prayer List

Members

Jill Rose
Pastor Paul Schairer
Mary Ann Armstrong
Marilyn Hartig
Polly Sersen
Tim Anderson
Eric Biedermann
Jean Purath
Mary Ann Miller
Barb Klamann
Shirley Garvin
Madyson Hopkins

Friends & Family

Mourning for Rev. Jesse Jackson

Tae, family of Clinton Ellerbe
Amy Oduor, daughter of Clinton Ellerbe
Joe Burt, brother-in-law of Clinton Ellerbe
Deborah Stinnett, friend of Dan Merz
Steve Eulberg, friend of Jim & Margaret Frye
Jules Webb, daughter of Martha Webb
Marilu Ritzman, friend of Rob & Aida Schmidt
Douglas Hardie, friend of Rob & Aida Schmidt
Jennifer & Dale Barnett, friends of Marilyn Morrissey
Susie Kragmeier, daughter of Kate Stieben
Beth Barnett, daughter of Carolyn & Eric Biedermann
Erin Slocum, daughter of Patty & Don Heyse

To all who gather: We are Reconciling in Christ, which means we strive to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and to work for racial equity and to commit to anti-racist work.

We welcome believers, seekers, and the curious, regardless of religious background. God makes no distinction based on race; ethnicity; immigration status; economic status; physical, mental, or developmental circumstances; or other life circumstances. God loves and welcomes all people. Therefore, we welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

From Pastor Rick: This community affirms its welcome by accepting me in this place. Diagnosed with Huntington's (HD), my progressing symptoms and neurodiversity are displayed publicly. The uncontrolled movements (chorea) may limit my functionality, or appear in other ways; yet, it is an opportunity to learn and love alongside one another. HD is part of me, but I am not defined by the diagnosis. As for all of us, I am defined as child of God.

Guests and Visitors: All are invited to receive the gluten free bread and wine of Holy Communion (juice is also available). Your offering is your presence in worship. Please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate as you leave. Don't forget your 'Sweet Treat' plate from the welcome desk!

Worship Note: The red hymnal *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) page numbers are found in the front while song numbers are in the back. If you have any questions about worship or Trinity, our clergy or welcome table hosts are happy to help.

Parents and Caregivers: God's children of all ages are welcome in worship. If helpful, please use the Family Break Room outside the worship space or a "Worship Activity Bag" - available near the welcome table. On Sunday, if needed, we offer a fully trained Nursery; staffed by Tiffany K. and Zoe K.

Special needs: Hearing-assistance devices are available during our services. Holy Communion can also be brought to the seats of those who are unable to come forward. Our Welcome Table Hosts can help with any of these special needs.

In Ministry Today

Worship Assistant: Vicki Volbrecht
Communion Prep:
Welcome Table Host:
Fellowship Host:
Prayer Writer: Ronda Simmons
Bread Baker: Dan Merz
Flower Arrangement: Volunteers from
St Paul's Episcopal

Trinity's Clergy Leader:

Pastor Rick Reiten & Pastor Kaari Nieuwlandt

Trinity's Staff:

Carrie Hansen	Music Coord. & Organist
Tessa Espinosa	Chancel Choir Director
Clinton Ellerbe	Saturday Worship Leader
Austin Naylor	Bells of Trinity Director
Brenda Harju	TLC Preschool Director
Brenda Moore	Financial Manager
Deana Andrist	Office Administrator
Amanda Backsen	Director of Communications & Volunteer Coord.
Claire Pickerel	AV Technician
Jennifer Reeve	Shared Children's Minister
Tiffany Klijewski	Nursery Coord.
Zoe Klamann	Shared Nursery Attendant

Staff Emails are available on our website

Coming Up:

Wednesdays, Mar 4, 11, 18 & 25

6 pm Lenten Service & 6:30 pm Soup Suppers

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Savings Starts

Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

Monday (February 23)

12 pm Sermon Discussion-Fireside
12p JOY Luncheon
6:30 pm (5) NoCo Male Spirituality

Tuesday (February 24)

5:30 pm JET Eco/Justice-Room 2

Wednesday (February 25)

5:15 pm Bells of Trinity-Room 1
6 pm Lenten Taize Service
6:30 pm Lenten Soup Supper
6:45 pm Chancel Choir-Choir Room

Thursday (February 26)

9:30 pm Bible Study-Room 2
3-5 pm Spanish Class-Room 2
6 pm Chapter 2 Readers-Fireside
7 pm Immigration Soc Justice-Zoom

Friday (February 27)

10 am Quilting-Room 2

Saturday (February 28)

5 pm Saturday Worship

Sunday (March 1) 2nd Week of Lent

9 am Adult Forum-Room 2
9 am Confirmation-Room 8
9 am Sunday School-Room 3
9 am Youth Group-Room 6
10:30 am Worship & Baptism of Arden Dickson
11:30 am Fellowship
11:35 am Faith Formation-Fireside
3 pm Installation of Pastor Kaari Nieuwlandt

To watch a recorded service, go to <https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranFC>

Or visit our website and click on "To view recorded services click HERE!"

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Therefore, we welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

So, how can you learn more about Trinity?

Visit our website at www.trinitylutheranfc.org

Consider joining us for worship or one of our ministry events.

Contact one of our clergy for a chat.

We believe we are not a complete community, and that God is calling new people to join us and to find their place at Trinity.

We invite you join us on the journey of faith!

Saturdays at 5p.m. (Livestreamed & Recorded for Viewing)

Sundays 10:30 a.m. (Livestreamed & Recorded for Viewing)

Trinity is a welcoming faith community living together in God's love to share the joy of Jesus Christ.

Trinity Lutheran Church

301 E. Stuart St., Fort Collins, CO 80525 (970) 482-1226

Website: www.trinitylutheranfc.org email: office@trinitylutheranfc.org

TLC Preschool - 221-9852



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Liturgy: "Liturgies from Below: Praying with People at the Ends of the World, 2011"