

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG  
FEBRUARY 28, 2021 LENT 2

[540] 869-4019  
9:30AM

810 FAIRFAX STREET  
STEPHENS CITY, VA

## PRELUDE

*Aus Tiefer Not*

Gustav Merkel (1827-1885)

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Show us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG *v. 1 & 4* *The Glory of These Forty Days*



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -  
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing  
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered  
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in



brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,  
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's  
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.  
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.  
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862-1947, alt.  
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug. *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543  
Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*. © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

## 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



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **Christ, have mer - cy.**  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Sue Teal

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>13</sup>The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

## **GOSPEL: John 12:37-43**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

<sup>37</sup>Although he had performed so many signs in their presence, they did not believe in him. <sup>38</sup>This was to fulfill the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah:

"Lord, who has believed our message,  
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"

<sup>39</sup>And so they could not believe, because Isaiah also said,

<sup>40</sup>"He has blinded their eyes  
and hardened their heart,  
so that they might not look with their eyes,  
and understand with their heart and turn —  
and I would heal them."

<sup>41</sup>Isaiah said this because he saw his glory and spoke about him. <sup>42</sup>Nevertheless many, even of the authorities, believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they did not confess it, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue; <sup>43</sup>for they loved human glory more than the glory that comes from God.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*Shema Series #2 "With all Your Heart"*

Pastor JMe Lowden

## 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or grieving especially Theresa, Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Rodney, Yvonne, Carroll, Edwin, Ruby, Robert. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the efforts of teachers, healthcare professionals, first responders and all those who find themselves in harm's way, especially, John, Stacy, Mike, Liz, Dixie, David, Evan, Bill, Helen, Emily and James. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**VIRTUAL OFFERING** *If you have not already prepared your offering to mail to the church, please take a moment now to do so. This is also a time you may share your experiences with the Shema practice last week.*

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG *V. 1, 4*

## *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

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Toccata*

Giovanni Martini (1706-1786)

# TRENDING @ TRINITY

Those wishing to have communion elements for next Sunday's worship service, please call the office Monday and make arrangements to stop by during office hours of Monday-Thursday. 8AM-1PM

Each Wednesday in Lent at 7PM there will be a virtual worship service. Using the same phone numbers listed below for calling in to Sunday worship, use the following Meeting ID: 899 4797 0595 Passcode: 443220. **Use this log in information for all the Wednesday 7PM Lenten worship services.**

## **New Call to Worship phone and conference code effective February 28, 2021.**

Due to the difficulties with sound during *Call to Worship* set up an account with a different free service called "Free Conference Calling". According to this service, their focus is on telephone conferencing and not online conferencing. I hope this will work better for our *Call to Worship*." The new access information is Tele. # (not toll free) 1-971-224-6593 Conference Code: 423612 Dial the telephone number (like before, it's **not** a toll-free number, sorry) and then, at the prompt, enter the "conference code." Please make a note of this change. The other account will be closed. I look forward to Call to Worship with you Sunday, Feb. 28, at 11 a.m.

## **Living the Shema: Daily Devotion During Lent** using *Mark 12:29-30*:

"Hear, O *insert your name*: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength."

Take a moment at the beginning of the day when you are having breakfast to say the passage and pray that you will live according to the commandment that day. Then, at bedtime, take time to repeat the passage and to pray for forgiveness for the ways that you forgot to live the total love that is our response to a totally loving God. Rest in knowledge of God's promised forgiveness and awake to a new day to serve our Lord.

Write a few notes about how this practice affected your life this week and send your answers to Pastor JMe or be prepared to share them at the "Virtual Offering" on Sunday. Your witness will be an inspiration for others! (pastor@trinitychurchvirginia.org).

**Zoom to Worship**, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 0840 5981 Passcode: 321080

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89308405981?pwd=TDY0SkxiUWgvNHpUZDBHdGk0aWRqZz09>

Dial +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

at the prompt, enter Meeting ID: 893 0840 5981 Passcode: 321080

**Facebook Live:** you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account

<https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>

**Call to Worship new # and code** , *Every Sunday 11AM* Phone (**not toll free**) 1-971-224-6593  
Conference Code: 423612

Videos of the service are uploaded each week to Trinity's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIYPLbYZ1RE IZGJ9GDakIw>

**TAKE HOME NOTES FOR LENT 2 February 28, 2021 Shema Sermon Series**

“You Shall Love the Lord with all Your Heart.” Mark 12:30

Readings: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; John 12:37-43

**SERIES THEME SCRIPTURE:**

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

Mark 12:29-30

1. What does it mean to “love God with all your heart”? If possible, turn to someone near you and tell him or her what you think this means. In the space below, write down both your thoughts and those of your neighbor.
  
2. To the Ancient Hebrew there were three aspects to a being: the person's heart (mind/emotions), their breath (soul/life) and the body (strength). The Ancient Greeks add a fourth aspect: the \_\_\_\_\_.
  
3. The heart, in its moral significance in the O.T., includes the \_\_\_\_\_, the reason and the will.
  
4. In Genesis 17: 7, God tells \_\_\_\_\_: “I will establish my \_\_\_\_\_ between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting \_\_\_\_\_, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”
  
5. John 12:43 reports that the hearts of the religious authorities were \_\_\_\_\_, “for they loved human glory more than the glory that comes from God.”
  
6. “If you are not loving fully – and therefore caring for the health of- the organ that sustains your physical life, how can you be fully loving the God has given you life?” Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?

7. Suggestion for daily devotion during Lent: Take a moment at the beginning of the day when you are having breakfast to say the passage and pray that you will live according to the commandment that day. Then, at bedtime, take time to repeat the passage and to pray for forgiveness for the ways that you forgot to live the total love that is our response to a totally loving God. Write a few notes here about how this practice affected your life this week. Share what you have written with Pastor JMe ([pastor@trinitychurchvirginia.org](mailto:pastor@trinitychurchvirginia.org))

8. Read the information below. What are ways that both a “hardened” heart and a diseased heart prevent a person from loving God with her “whole heart”?

### “With All Your Heart”

The heart is one of the most important organs in the entire human body. It is really nothing more than a pump, composed of muscle which pumps blood throughout the body, beating approximately 72 times per minute of our lives. The heart pumps the blood, which carries all the vital materials which help our bodies function and removes the waste products that we do not need. For example, the brain requires oxygen and glucose, which, if not received continuously, will cause it to lose consciousness. Muscles need oxygen, glucose and amino acids, as well as the proper ratio of sodium, calcium and potassium salts in order to contract normally. The glands need sufficient supplies of raw materials from which to manufacture the specific secretions. If the heart ever ceases to pump blood the body begins to shut down and after a very short period of time will die.

(Fill in the blank answers: 2. Mind; 3. Emotions; 4. Abraham, Covenant;  
5. Hardened)