

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET
STEPHENS CITY, VA

[540] 869-4019
9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG
FEBRUARY 12, 2023 EPIPHANY 6



Image: Embrace #42 by Carol Aust. Copyright © Carol Aust. All rights reserved. Used by permission of the artist.

PRELUDE

Dokezza

Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

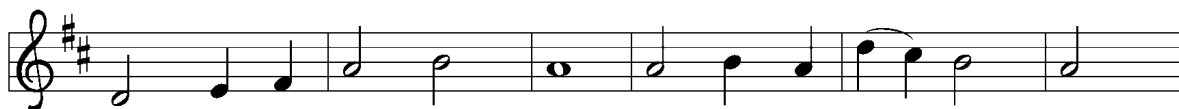
In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. **Amen**

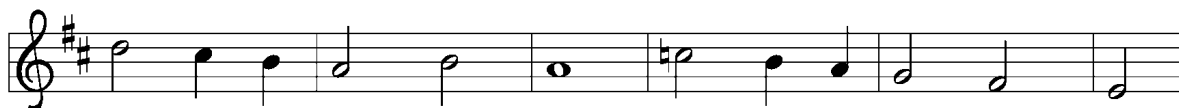
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
 2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
 3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
 4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
 shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
 no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890

Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Music from *The English Hymnal*, outside the USA © 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



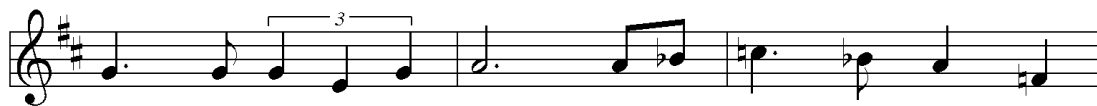
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

continued

☩ Glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God in the high - est;
 glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.
 ① For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,
 ② you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho- ly
 Spir- it, in the glo- ry of God the Fa- ther, A - men.
 ☩ Glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God in the high - est;
 glo- ry to God, glo- ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth,
 and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The children are invited to leave with their teachers for Sunday School.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Anne Vermillion

A reading from Deuteronomy.

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today

that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 119:1-8 *read responsively*

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!

²**Happy are they who observe his decrees
and seek him with all their hearts!**

³Who never do any wrong,
but always walk in his ways.

⁴**You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.**

⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!

⁶**Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.**

⁷I will thank you with an unfeigned heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.

⁸**I will keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

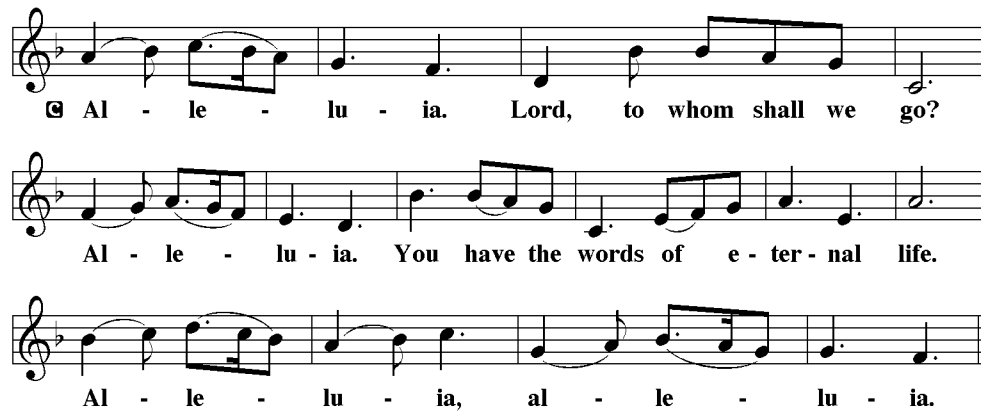
A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:21-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor JMe Lowden



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
 let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear.
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

THE PRAYERS

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Nourish your creation. Accompany all who plant and water. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible especially Russia, Ukraine, Haiti, and Myanmar, empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Nurture all in need especially Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Nikki, Phyllis, Alice, Barbara, Jeff, Dan and others we name now (*worshippers may add names silently or aloud*). Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give

courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Other prayers may be offered now.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

A Story for All People Dori Collins

Trinity Choir



Offering is an act of worship that shows our gratitude to God for all that we are and have in our lives. The offering today will provide support for the ministries of Trinity both locally and in the world around us. You may provide your offering in person, use the adjacent QR Code or send it by mail. We thank you for sharing not only your monetary gifts but also your gifts of time and talent to further our mission to share Jesus' love in worship, fellowship, hospitality, and community, doing God's work with our hands.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,

who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,

who preached good news to the poor,

and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
that by this Holy Communion we may know
the unity we share with all your people
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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

Those communing from home, have your package ready to open, but do not consume the elements until the pastor acknowledges those at home and says: "Take and eat. The body and blood of Christ given and shed for you." Then you may partake.

COMMUNION HYMN



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, grant us peace.

Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



Refrain

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his Grace. **Amen**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. **Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

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

CLOSING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

WOV 721



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.
4 "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."
Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh

Text © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Celebration

Thomas Chesterton

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TRENDING @ TRINITY

Welcome to SouperBowl Sunday! Thank you to those who have brought in canned soup to replenish the pantry shelves. Everyone is invited to the parish hall following worship this morning for hot soup and refreshments.

Did you notice? Trinity now offers eGiving. In just seconds you can make your weekly offering or make a special gift to the church. In addition to the QR code in the bulletin each week, there is a "Contribute" button on our website, and a link in the bottom of each weekly email along with the links to the Sunday bulletins and services.

At the Congregation Council retreat on February 4, your council officers were elected as follows: President: Roger Wickboldt; Vice President: Anne Vermillion; Secretary: Mistie McPadalin, Treasurer: Mark Greene.

The Lutheran Church Women (LCW) invite all women, especially new and prospective church members, to join them for lunch here at Trinity on Tuesday, February 14 at 11:30. This is a good opportunity to learn about the group and meet some of the women of Trinity.

Sewing for the Savior will meet at 9:30AM Tuesday in room 204. Anyone who enjoys hand sewing is welcome.

Next Sunday the Noisy Offering will be collected and then be donated to the Evans Home. "The Henry & William Evans Home for Children provides a loving, nurturing home for children who are homeless or in a family crisis. This is a home where children who are in desperate circumstances are given a chance to not only be safe and secure, but to thrive in all that life has to offer. Since 1949, the Evans Home has welcomed more than 500 children, under a variety of circumstances, and positively affected their lives - and in turn their communities.

The Evans Home is one of the few residential children's homes left in Virginia and its existence is vital to our community. However, 100% of the annual budget requires donations from you and other generous community partners and private donors in order to keep the doors open. They do not spend money on fund raising or marketing activities, and as a result, 92.5% of all contributions go directly to care of the children! It is a 501 c(3) charitable organization.

It is ultimately the long-term dream to reach a \$10 Million endowment so that this home will likely be forever-sustainable and not reliant on the volatile political environments and constant fundraising for sustainability. This may seem like an impossible task, but by working together as a community, we might hope to someday realize this dream." *(taken from the home's website)*

Those interested in becoming a member of Trinity are invited to an orientation brunch this coming Saturday at 10AM in the parish hall. Please speak to Pastor JMe if you plan to attend.

February 21 is Shrove Tuesday. In case you didn't get your pancake fix yesterday, join us at 5:30 that evening for the revived Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.



Wednesday February 22 is **Ash Wednesday**. Trinity will offer two services that day, at noon and 7PM. That is also the evening of the **community meal** So, come for dinner and stay for worship. Those interested in volunteering with the community meal preparation, serving or clean up the sign-up list is on the bulletin board in the parish hall. The menu is fish, mac and cheese, broccoli, and dessert.

On Wednesdays in Lent Trinity will have a soup supper at 5:30 followed by a service of compline, or night prayers. Please mark your calendar and plan to journey through Lent here at Trinity.

On Sundays in Lent Pastor will lead a special study of the Psalms and looking at how God calls us to respond to hunger in the world.



Anyone who needs a "God's Work Our Hands" t-shirt: we will be placing an order soon. There are order forms on the table in the Narthex. Please complete the form, attach your payment and either place it in the offering plate or return to the church office as soon as possible. We need a minimum order of 10 shirts to have Trinity's name on the back. These shirts are worn at all Trinity events in which we interact with the community – the Community Meal, Yard Sales, Craft Sales, service project days, etc... You are also welcome to wear them any time anywhere you go and spread the word about Trinity doing God's work in the world.

Are you a member of Thrivent, the Lutheran financial services company? If so, please let Pastor JMe know. "As a financial services organization that has generosity at its core, it invests in more than just portfolios—they invest in our communities. As a not-for-profit organization and Fortune 500 company, we offer access to a full suite of charitable giving options, volunteer programs, and partnerships with causes like Habitat for Humanity. When we team up together, we go further." (*taken from Thrivent's website*)

A graphic with a sunset background, a sun on the left, and a tree on the right. The text is overlaid on the image.

Lenten Faith

ELCA World Hunger's **40 DAYS of Giving**

Sundays following worship, Feb 26-March 26.

Learning from the Psalms how God calls us to respond to hunger in the world.

