

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET  
STEPHENS CITY, VA

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9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG  
FEBRUARY 18, 2024 *LENT 1*

## BLESSING OF ALTAR PARAMENTS

Sisters and brothers, today we give thanks to God and we seek God's blessing as we set apart these paraments to the glory of God.

Send your blessing on these paraments which we set apart today; may they adorn this house, show us the beauty of holiness, and so proclaim the glory of your majesty.

To you, O God, be all glory and honor through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## PRELUDE

*Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

## GREAT LITANY

ELW 238

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through 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 9:8-17

Marcie Stern

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.”

<sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10



<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,  
I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths. R**

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

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners | in your way. R**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies. R**

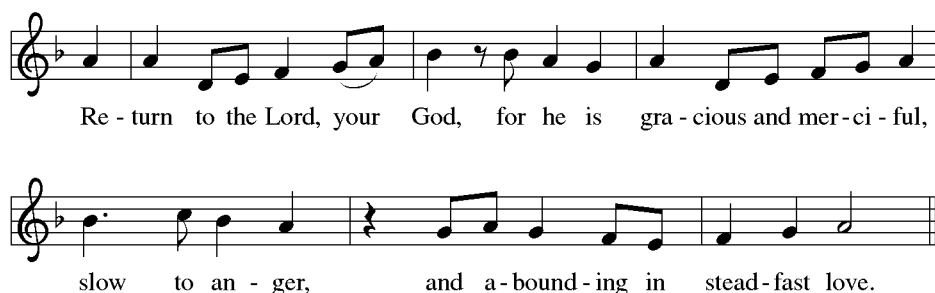
### SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22

A reading from 1 Peter.

<sup>18</sup>Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

The holy gospel according to Mark.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

<sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

<sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God,

<sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

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

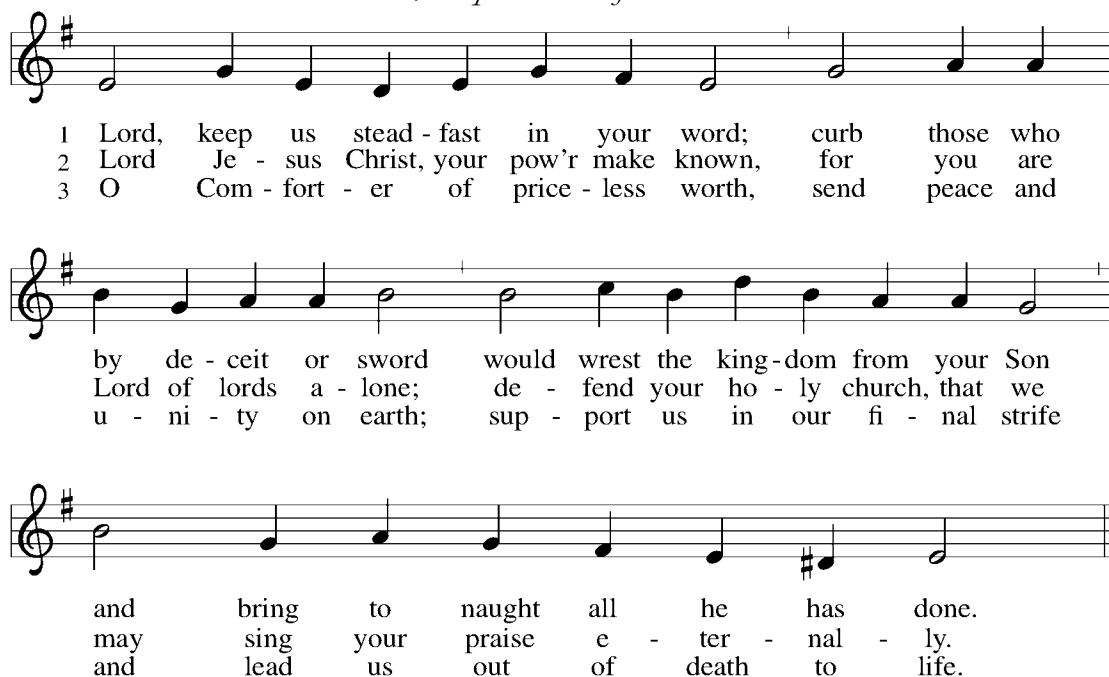
## SERMON

Pastor JMe Lowden

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*

ELW 517



## 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

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people especially that of Martin Luther, renewer of the church, whom we commemorate today. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and its inhabitants. Guide us as we rescue communities and creatures hurting from natural disasters. Help us to preserve species and habitats endangered by human carelessness and disregard. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our light, you know our weakness. Free all who govern from the temptations of power. Sustain all who work for human rights in every nation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our help, you care for your beloved children. Comfort all who are grieving, ill, afraid, in pain, or in despair especially Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Stephen, Christi, Juanita, Earl, Bobby, Tom, and Paula and others we name now (*worshippers many add names silently or aloud*). Remind us we are your hands as we feed hungry people living in food deserts and protect any at risk from exploitation and abuse. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Other prayers may be offered now.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**



## OFFERING & NOISY OFFERING

*In My Heart* setting by Alan Bullard (b.1947)

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, scan the QR code adjacent 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.*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.  
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me  
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,  
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948  
Music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through 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, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts

and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,

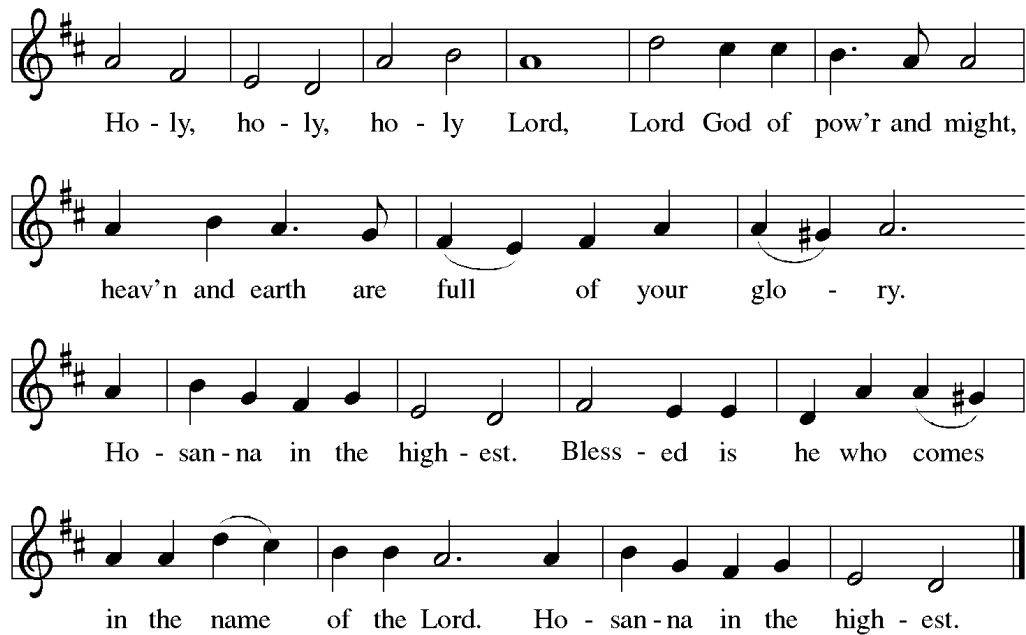
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,

we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

## 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.**

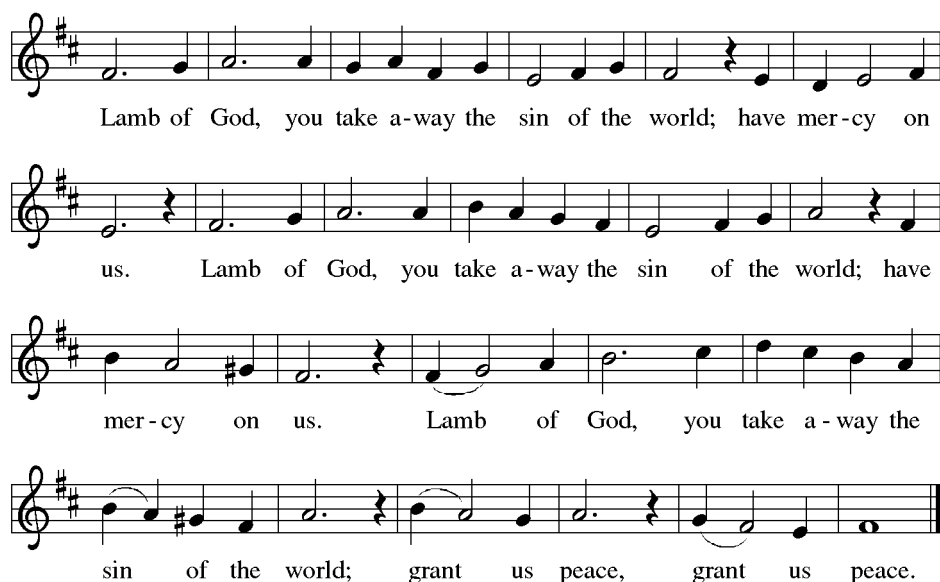
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*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 our Lord Jesus Christ is given and shed for you." Then you may partake.*

## COMMUNION SONG



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.

## SONGS DURING COMMUNION

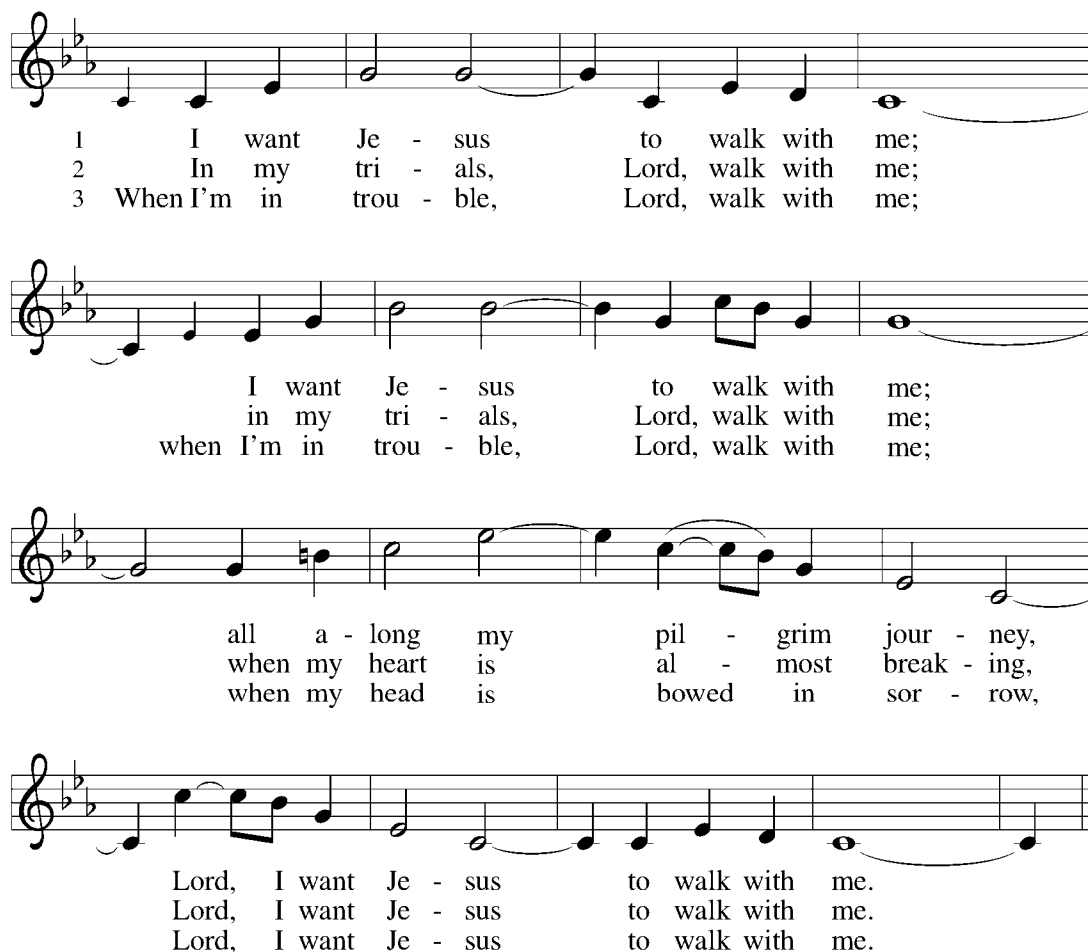
### *We Come to the Hungry Feast*

ELW 479



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.  
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased  
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,  
To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
and know-ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay  
not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943  
Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever  
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

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



## SENDING SONG

*O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

ELW 319



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you  
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your  
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and  
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance  
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your  
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -  
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.  
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Praise to the Holiest in the Height*

G.W. Cassler

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This week: Greeter: Marianne Watson ; Reader: Marcie Stern: Comm. Asst.: Carole Pfisterer  
Next week: Greeters: Diann Dailey; Reader: Bruce Everly; Comm. Asst.: Susan Scheulen

**Zoom to Worship**, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 898 8887 8840 Passcode: 458736 Dial 1-301-715-8592 US

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

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

# TRENDING @ TRINITY

This morning's Noisy Offering benefits the Evans Home for Children in Winchester. 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.

The church office will be closed tomorrow in observance of Presidents' Day.

Sewing for the Savior will meet this Tuesday at 9:30AM in room 204. This is a make up day since last week there was snow.

During Lent there will be a soup supper each Wednesday (except Feb 28, which will be the community meal) followed by a Taizé service at 7PM. Mark your calendars now and plan to participate.

Pick up your copy of the free Lenten devotional booklet in the Narthex.

Trinity is forming a new prayer ministry. This group will throughout the month, but especially on the 15th of the month...so we know that we are all praying together for those on the prayer list at church. These are private prayers, not public. We want to respect those wishing confidentiality. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry—or if you have a prayer request-- speak to Mistie McPadalin, Susan Scheulen or Pastor JMe.

March 2 Trinity will host a Community Pancake Breakfast with all proceeds going to the Building Fund. The original fund-raising goal is \$50,000. To date approximately \$24,000 has been donated. Please help spread the word about the Pancake Breakfast.

Food pantry donation request this month: soup, macaroni & cheese. Your donations are always most welcome; however, we do ask you remember a few important guidelines: no personal hygiene or other products unless specifically asked for; no opened products of any kind (this includes unopened items that are in an opened multipack), and please check expiration date and make sure it is at least one year away. The black bin for donations is located in the front stairwell.

The Community Meal will be Wed. February 28 at 5:30PM. Menu is hot dogs, chili, cornbread, salad, and dessert. The Lenten Taizé service will follow the meal at 7PM. Those wishing to assist by providing a portion of the meal, helping to set up, clean up or serve, will find a sign-up list in the parish hall. Financial contributions are always welcome, mark your check "community meal" and place it in the offering plate.

## Reversible paraments for Lent and Advent

This reversible set of paraments began with the realization that Advent and Lent are counted seasons. We know each year there will be four Sundays (weeks) in Advent and there will be 40 days (7 weeks) in Lent. We even use candles and light to help us count the time to Christmas, each week getting brighter.

When I met with representatives of the congregation we discussed the importance of hymns in worship. I also noted that I have witnessed this congregation work at balancing tradition and the necessity to change. The designs for these seasons reflects that.

The cross and lighted lamps are ancient and familiar symbols. I chose pieced cloth to represent congregational life: a whole made of many, and multiple expressions of the seasonal color. The pieced sections on the pulpit and lectern frontals are a technique I invented last year, which I call process and probability. The pieces of fabric are selected and positioned by at least two people. A throw of a dice limits the players options of what can be done to the fabric square. The small squares remind me of the days in a calendar.

On the altar frontal the squares of fabric represent notes on a musical scale, each note assigned a different fabric print. The Advent frontal is a representation of the refrain of *Joy to the World*, in two-part harmony. The Lenten frontal is a four-part representation of the hymn *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*. Both of these hymns were part of the suggestions from the wonderful women who met with me.

It has been a privilege and a delight to create this work for the people of Trinity. Your light does shine. May God continue to bless you in your work and in your rest.

Norma Frederickson  
Studio Three 17

## Easter Flower Order Form



The Altar Guild will be ordering **tulips and hyacinths** for Easter. All plants will be available for you to carry home following Easter services. **Price is \$14.00 per plant and orders must be to the church office no later than Sunday March 3.** To make a purchase, complete this form, attach to payment and place in offering box or mail it to the church office. Checks are to be made payable to Trinity Lutheran Church

**Please Print Clearly**

Flowers Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

# of each type of purchases      \_\_\_\_\_ Tulip      \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinth

Total no. of plants purchased \_\_\_\_\_      Amount Paid      \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$14.00/plant)