office@trinitychurchvirginia.org March 9, 2025 Lent One Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness

LUKE 4:1

PRELUDE

Cantilena

Florence B. Price (1887-1953)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

who forgives all our sin,

whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,

but our lives do not always reflect you

and your love for the world.

We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.

We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality

you grant to all people.

We oppress others,

even though you have set us free again and again.

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

Transform our lives

and guide us again in the way of the cross.

Amen.

540] 869-4019

9:30AM

Stephens City, VA **810 Fairfax Street**

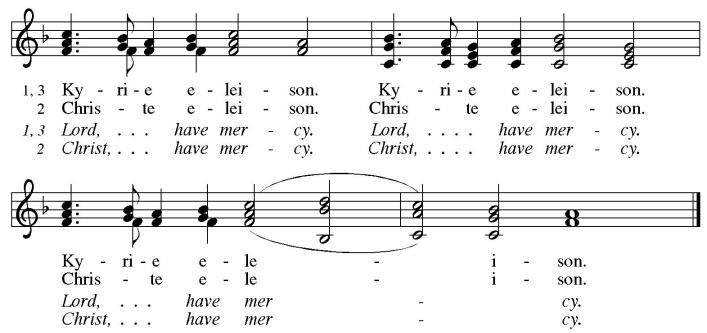
GATHERING SONG



Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929 Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

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**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

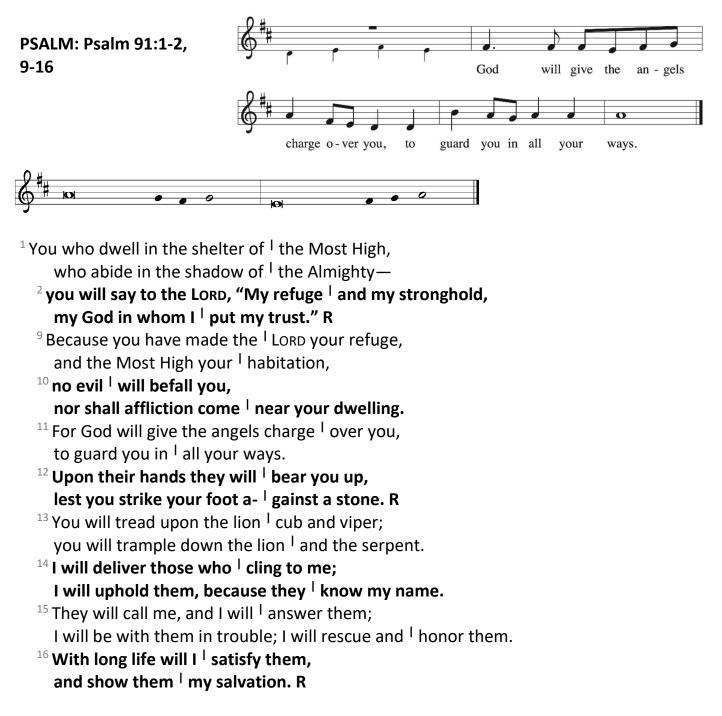
FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Roger Wickboldt

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹ When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have

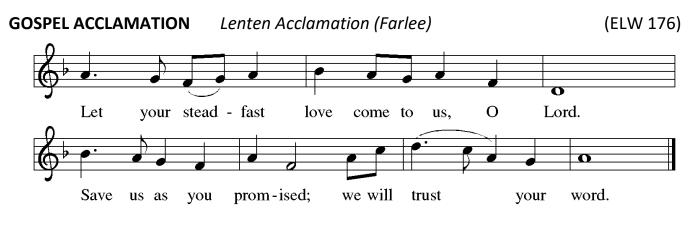
given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b-13

A reading from Romans.^{8b} "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to

shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



Text: Evangelical Lutheran Worship Music: Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950 Text and music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him.'"

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,

to protect you,'

 $^{11} \, {\rm and}$

'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

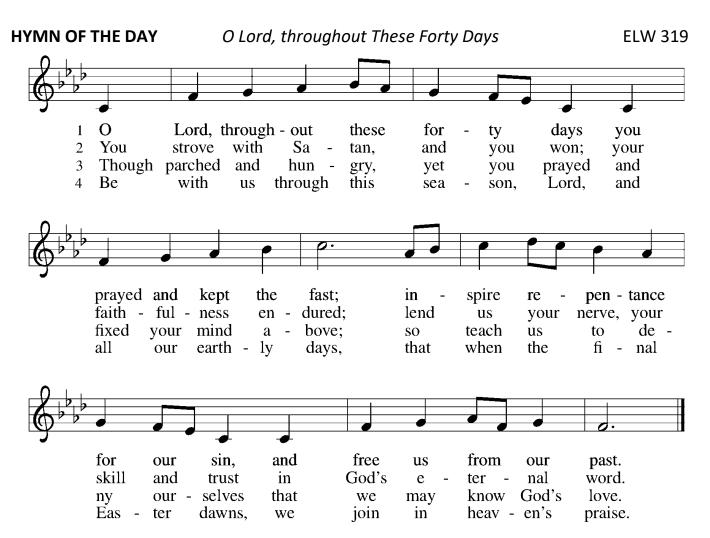
¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Larry Closter



Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

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

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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill especially Barb, Shirley, Louise, Stephen, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Michael, *(worshippers may add names silently or aloud)*. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life. Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Other prayers may be offered now.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

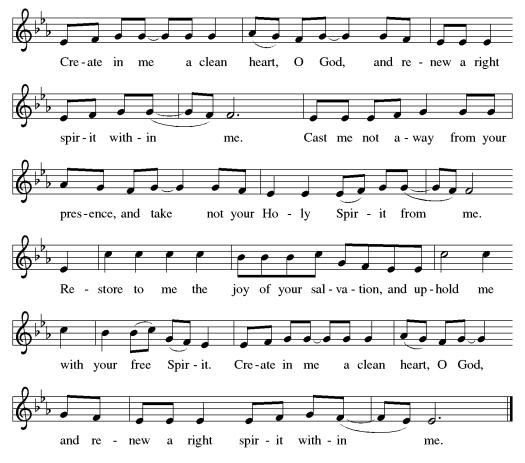
PEACE

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

OFFERING *PART OF THE PLAN* NATALIE SLEETH (1930-1992) 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.

OFFERING PRESENTATION



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

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider,

you set your immense treasures among us,

opening your heart to the world.

As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,

deepen our commitment to sharing those

treasures with others,

through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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,

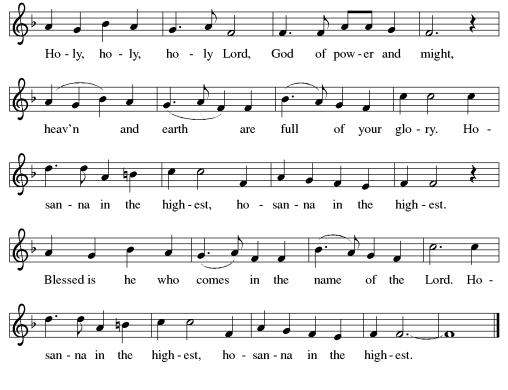
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,

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



Music: A Community Mass, Richard Proulx, b. 1937 Music @ 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.

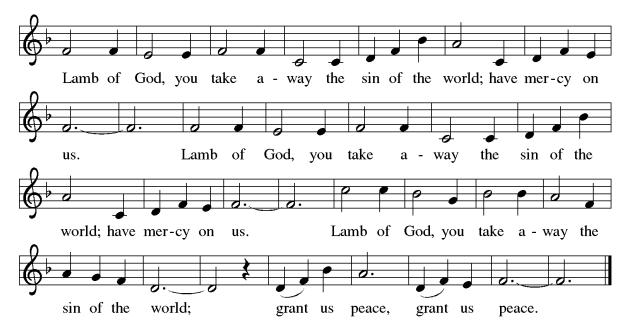
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come!

The feast of grace is spread.

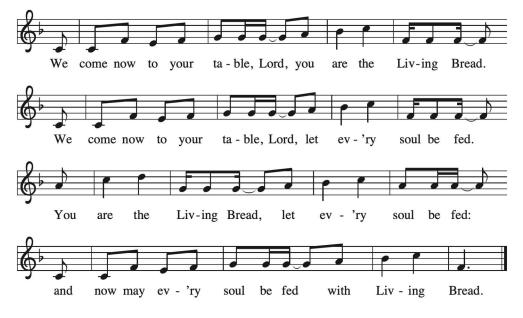
Those communing from home, have your package ready to open, but do not consume the elements until the pastor acknowledges those at home and says: "All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread." Then you may partake.



COMMUNION SONG

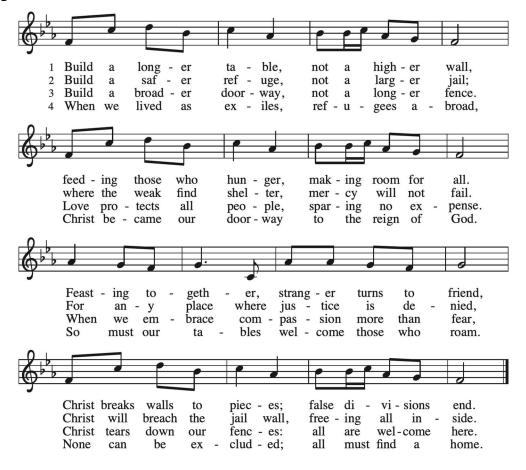
Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948 Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

SONGS DURRING COMMUNION



Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop Music: LIVING BREAD, St. Vincent traditional, adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, 1932–2013 Text and music © Caribbean Conference of Churches

Build a Longer Table



Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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POST COMMUMION BLESSING

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

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,

that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,

in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Amen.

SENDING SONG I Want Jesus to Walk with Me **ELW 325** 0 Ι want Je to walk with sus me: -2 In my tri als, Lord, walk with me; When I'm in 3 trou - ble, Lord, walk with me; 0 walk with Je I want sus to me; tri als, Lord, walk with in my me; when I'm in trou ble, Lord, walk with me; 0 all a - long pil grim jour ney, my break - ing, when my heart âl most is when my head is bowed in sor row, Lord, walk with I want Je sus to me. Lord, I want Je - sus walk with to me.

to

walk with

me.

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

Lord,

I want

Je - sus

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

POSTLUDIO

JOHN ZUNDEL (1815-1882)

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Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 4718 0792 Passcode: 173681 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/

This week: Greeter & Comm. Asst.: Deb Wickboldt; Reader: Roger Wickboldt Next week: Greeter: Marianne Wats, Reader: Sue Teal, Comm. Asst. David Reichert



Notes to the Congregation

"Thank you so much to the people of Trinity for thinking of us following the passing of Marcie's father. We appreciate immensely all the cards, prayers, and support received. It means a lot to us. - Chuck & Marcie Stern"

"Heartfelt thanks to everyone at Trinity for the retirement gift of relaxing bath items and a most generous gift card. I will keep the cards with everyone's names and notes forever. It was a joy to serve you and serve with you. I know I leave you in very capable hands with Jodie. With deep appreciation, Brenda Boldin "

In the Know

March is Women Composers month. Today's prelude, Cantilena (Lyrical), was composed by Florence B. Price. Price was a child prodigy. Her first composition was published when she was 11 years old. Price was the first black woman to have a symphony performed by a major American orchestra. Price also wrote over 300 compositions. Four major symphonies, concertos, orchestral works, chamber music, art songs and compositions for solo piano and organ. Florence Beatrice Price (1887-1953)

Reminders

- <u>Please Take a free Lenten devotional (*in the Narthex*)</u>
- **The Prayer Team** has a beautiful table located at the entrance to the Sanctuary (just inside the doorway to the right). Everyone is welcome to fill out a card and place prayer request in the box.
- Tuesday (March 11):

Sewing for the Savior will meet @9:30 am in room 204 Lutheran Church Women will meet @11:30 am in room 205

• Wednesdays in Lent

Lenten Soup Suppers at 5:30pm with worship at 6:30pm

There is a signup sheet located on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall if you'd like to sign up to bring a crockpot of soup or bread. We are looking for only 2 people to sign up to bring soup and 1 person only to sign up to bring bread and butter each of the Wednesdays. The dates are March 12, March 19, April 2 and April 9. Please note that on March 26 the Community Meal will take place in lieu of the Soup Supper. Thanks so much for considering helping with this ministry!

- Food pantry donation request for March: canned peas.
- Next Week the Noisy Offering benefits the Family Promise of the Shenandoah Valley. "Family Promise Northern Shenandoah Valley provides a way for congregations to work together to help families experiencing homelessness. Our program enables us to meet the basic needs of our families. Families with children make up the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population. Usually, over half of the guests served are children, and most of the children are under the age of six. Nationally, over 6,000 congregations participate in Family Promise Affiliates with literally thousands of volunteers who help families regain their independence. "

Please visit <u>https://www.familypromisensv.org/</u> for more information.

- April 17, Maundy Thursday there will be a Christian Seder meal at 5:30PM followed by worship with stripping of the altar
- April 18, Good Friday worship will be at 6:30PM
- April 20, Easter Sunday 8:00 am a potluck breakfast casserole meal precedes Worship at 9:30AM

*If you'd like to be added to our weekly Trinity Times Newsletter, please fill out a welcome card (small basket on table in Narthex) leave your name and email and we'll be happy to add you.