

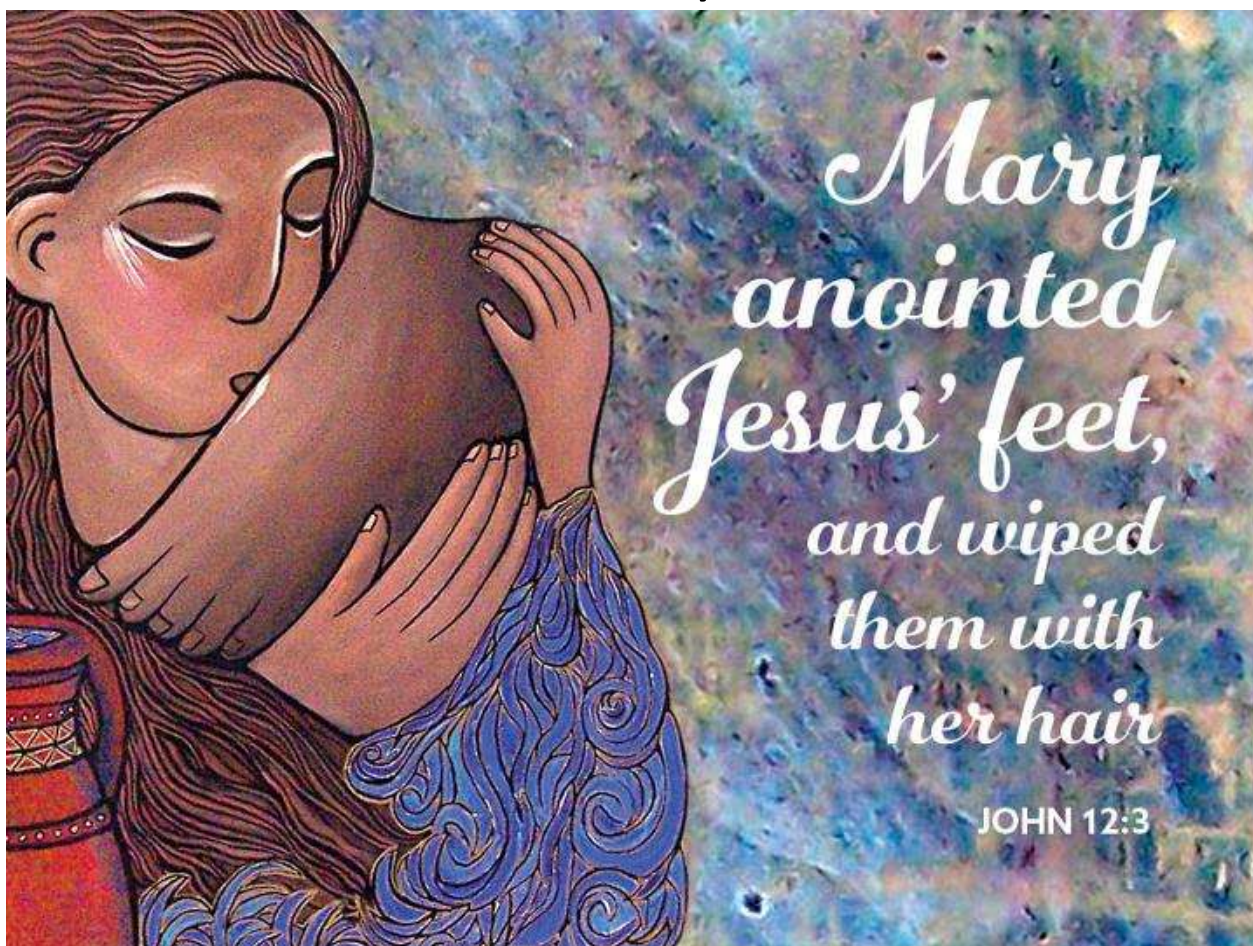
TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF STEPHENS CITY VIRGINIA

810 Fairfax Street
Stephens City, VA
Sunday Worship, 9:30AM

(540) 869-4019

April 06, 2025

Fifth Sunday in Lent



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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: Hilda Painter

Next Week (Palm Sunday, Cry of the Congregation): Greeter: Diann Dailey, Reader: Marcie Stern, Comm. Asst.: David Reichert, Role of Peter: David Reichert, Role of Pharisee: William Wolf, Role of Judas: Bruce Everly, Role of Pilate: Roger Wickboldt.

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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.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In ✙ Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy

1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y,
 2. Come, ye thirst - y, come, and wel - come,
 3. Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y - la - den,
 4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger,

3

Weak and wound-ed, sick and sore; Je - sus read-y
 God's free bount-y glo - ri - fy; True be - lief and
 Lost and ru - ined by the fall; If you tar - ry
 Nor of fit - ness fond - ly dream; All the fit - ness

6

stands to save you, Full of pit - y,
 true re - pen - tance, Ev - 'ry grace that
 till you're bet - ter, You will nev - er
 He re - quir - eth Is to feel your

Baptist Hymnal 2008 420
 WORDS: Joseph Hart; Refrain, Anonymous
 MUSIC (RESTORATION 8.7.8.7. with Chorus): Walker's Southern Harmony

420 *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

8 *Chorus*

love, and pow'r.
 brings you nigh. I will a-rise and go to Je - sus,
 come at all.
 need of Him.

11

He will em-brace me in His arms; In the arms of


14

my dear Sav-ior, O there are ten thou-sand charms.

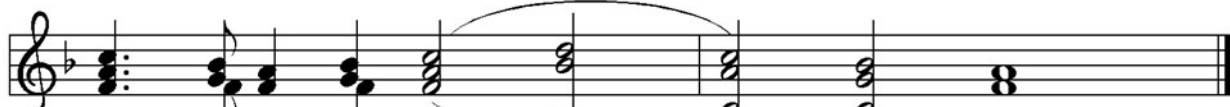
GREETING

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



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹⁶ Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

- ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
- ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
- ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

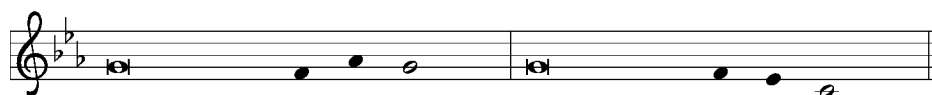
Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 126



Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.



- ¹ When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.
- ² **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**
Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great | things for them."
- ³ The LORD has done great | things for us,
and we are | glad indeed.
- ⁴ **Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,**
like the watercourses | of the Negeb. R
- ⁵ Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.
- ⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,**
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. R

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from Philippians.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:

⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lenten Acclamation (Farlee)



GOSPEL: John 12:1-8

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the

money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.)
⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."
 The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Larry Closter

HYMN OF THE DAY

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

(ELW 631)



1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
 3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
 4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
 trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
 life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
 let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
 find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
 more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
 ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
 Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
 its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
 crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

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.

A brief silence.

The church declares your praise, O God. Guide us in the example of Isaiah's imagination, Paul's transformed identity, and Mary's faith and devotion; that our lives, too, may be poured out in love as we trust in your promises. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

The earth declares your praise, O God. Make a way for the planet's future in the sea and the wilderness, the mountains and plains, the tundra and wetlands. Repair habitats and sustainable ecosystems on, above, and beneath the ground. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

The nations declare your praise, O God. Where religious differences divide, bring together those who worship you in the name of Jesus Christ and those who call to you with different names. Guide interreligious dialogue, that faith may unite rather than divide communities. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

The people declare your praise, O God. Restore those whose hope has been dampened through a health diagnosis, job or home loss, divorce, or death. Bring healing to those in need especially Barb, Shirley, Louise, Stephen, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Michael, Jeff, Monica (worshippers may add names silently or aloud). May all who weep now sing songs of joy again. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

The gifts of the Spirit declare your praise, O God. We thank you for artists who proclaim the gospel (especially Albrecht Dürer, Matthias Grünewald, and Lucas Cranach). Inspire music, poetry, and images that proclaim the new thing you are doing. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

The communion of saints declares your praise, O God. Giving thanks for those who have died, we trust in the one who has made them his own: Christ Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

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 *More About Jesus* Arranged, By Jeff Wachter **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.

OFFERING PRESENTATION

Create in Me a Clean Heart (Capers)

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.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, as well as rests. Phrasing slurs are used to group notes for specific lyrics. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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.

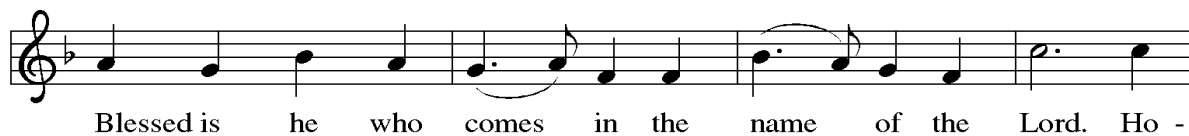
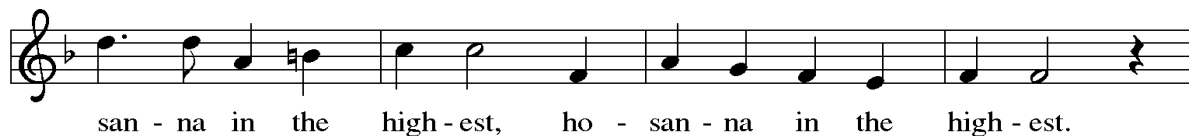
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:



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

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

Take My Life, That I May Be (ELW 685)



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself, and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee.

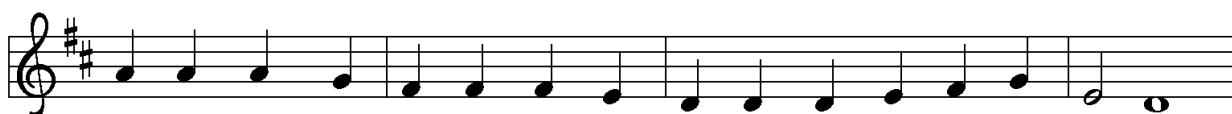
Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

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

In the Singing (ELW 466)



- 1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
- 2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
 in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Refrain
 Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

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Stand

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

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.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BLESSING

God our tender parent,

God the crucified one,

God the reconciling Spirit,

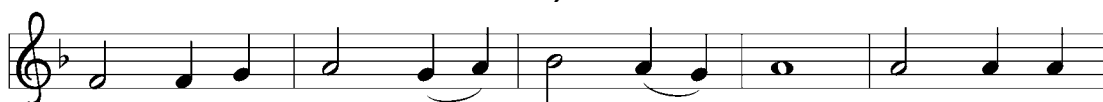
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

(ELW 803)



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

L. Bottazzo (1845-1924)


~The Trinity Times~ Church & Community news

Reminders

♦ Following Today's service,

RSVP List for Maundy Thursday Christian Seder Meal | Location: Parish Hall

If you haven't added your name yet, please call the office:

 **540-869-4019**

 **Business hours:** Tuesday-Friday, 8 am - 1 pm

♦ Tuesday, April 8

- Sewing for the Savior @ 9:30AM in room 204. | Contact Martha Cooley
- LCW (Lutheran Church Women) @ 11:30AM | Contact Deb Wickboldt

♦ Wednesday, April 9

- 5:30 PM – Soup Supper
- 6:30 PM - Lent Worship Service

♦ Thursday, April 10

Weekly Choir Rehearsal @ 5:45

♦ Notes from the LCW

 LCW Bake Sale – April 5th (9 AM - 3 PM)

Calling all bakers! The Lutheran Church Women are hosting a bake sale alongside the Easter Craft Bazaar.

Drop off baked goods: Friday, April 4th (8 AM - 3 PM) or Saturday, April 5th at 8:30 AM
~ Proceeds will support LCW projects. Thank you for your generosity!

- The LCW invites all ladies to a special Tea Party on Saturday, May 17, 2025, at 2 PM in the Parish Hall.

Come dressed in your favorite hat and join us for a relaxing afternoon filled with tea and fellowship! **RSVP by April 15:** Sue Scheulen - 540-247-4826 | susanscheulen@yahoo.com

OR Mistie McPadalin - 540-660-0567 | wjmcp3@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you there!

- ♦ **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. Also, if you would like to add to the Prayers of Intercession please contact Mistie McPadalin.
 - ♦ **HOSPITAL VISITATION**- Pastor Closter is registered clergy for Valley Heath he visits patients in the hospital when we are aware that someone has been admitted and sees this as important pastoral care. Because of HIPPA, the hospital does not contact the church to let us know when a parishioner is a patient. If you want him to visit, please contact the church office at 540-869-4019, or after hours, please call the pastor 540-848-5325 or send an email. You may also reach out to our prayer team contact, Mistie McPadalin or Matha Cooley.
 - ♦ **Food pantry donation** request for April: canned Corn.
 - ♦ **Happy Birthday this week:**
7th -Charles Koontz
11th-Barbara Shimp
-

Save the Date

- ♦ **April 13, Palm Sunday** worship with Palms
 - ♦ **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
-

For More Info

*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.