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Contact

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*** OFFICE HOURS ***

St. Paul's, Tuesdays, 9–11:30 a.m.
Trinity, Wednesdays, 9–11:30 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

109 W State St., Plankinton SD 57368
www.stpaulplankinton.com
605-942-7364

Elders Curt Guindon
Mike Tuschen

President Rodney Weber

LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

304 S Johnston St., White Lake SD 57383
www.trinitywhitelake.com
facebook.com/trinitywhitelake
605-249-2333

Elders David Bogenhagen
Ben Bogenhagen
Scott Meier

President Dan Guericke

LWML Presidents Diana Kieffer
Hope Circle
Brianna Bogenhagen
Ruth Circle



St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church are members of the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

THOUGHTS FOR LENT



Dear Members of Trinity and St. Paul's,

So often we hear of people giving up something for Lent. People talk about giving up chocolate, or coffee, or tea, or something else for Lent. That would be a real sacrifice for some. Giving up something for Lent should remind us of the One who gave up everything for us! Romans 8:32 says, *He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him freely give us all things.*

Many Christians do something positive for Lent, like finding ways to help other people. That reminds us of how Jesus helped so many people when He fed thousands of hungry people. He performed miracles of healing of all kinds. He set people free from demon possession. He did so many good things in helping people that they couldn't all be recorded in the Bible. John 21:25 says, *Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.*

Lent also reminds believers of Joel 2:13 which says, *Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful.* Some people have fallen away from the Lord either in the last year, or maybe several years. There are so many things that try to take us away from Jesus and salvation through Him. But as long as we are still in this world, we have this wonderful invitation to return to the Lord. Without God we would be lost forever. But thank God for these promises in His Word: Romans 10:13 says, *Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.* And Isaiah 1:18 says, *Come now and let us reason together says the Lord, Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow, though they be red as crimson, they shall be as wool.*

Pastor McKillop

MARCH 2026

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday Divine Worship Service Schedule 2026

Divine Services at Trinity 8:30 a.m.
Divine Services at St. Paul's 10:30 a.m.

Special Services

Joint Midweek Lent March 4, 2026, St. Paul's, 7 p.m.
March 11, 2026, Trinity, 7 p.m.
March 18, 2026, St. Paul's, 7 p.m.
March 25, 2026, Trinity, 7 p.m.
Joint Maundy Thursday April 2, 2026, Trinity, 7 p.m. with communion
Joint Good Friday April 3, 2026, St. Paul's, 7 p.m.

Christian Education

St. Paul's Sunday School Sundays, 9:30 a.m.
Catechism Classes Mondays, 7 p.m. at St. Paul's. Trinity class times TBD.
Trinity Release-Time Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.
Trinity Wednesday School None during Lent.
Joint Bible Study None during Lent.

Lutheran Women in Mission

Trinity Hope Circle Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 1 p.m.
Trinity Ruth Circle Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
St. Paul's Dorcas Circle Tuesday, March 10, 2026, 2 p.m.

Serving the Lord during March 2026

Trinity

Elder Ben Bogenhagen
Ushers Dan Meier
John Geyer
Acolyte Blake Bogenhagen
Altar Barb Gilbertz

St. Paul's

Elder Mike Tuschen
Ushers Curt Guindon
Merlyn Haak
Acolyte Jenna Haak
Altar Marlene Johnson
Greeters Mar. 1 Curt & Kathy Guindon
Mar. 8 Lennis & Sandy Titze
Mar. 15 Kieth & Cathy Albrecht
Mar. 22 Peggy Hoffman & Alexis Hauge
Mar. 29 Marv Jira

Scripture Readings for Sundays in March

Mar. 1 Second Sunday in Lent Genesis 12:1–9; Romans 4:1–8, 13–17; John 3:1–17
Mar. 8 Third Sunday in Lent Exodus 17:1–7; Romans 5:1–8; John 4:5–26
Mar. 15 Fourth Sunday in Lent Isaiah 42:14–21; Ephesians 5:8–14; John 9:1–41
Mar. 22 Fifth Sunday in Lent Ezekiel 37:1–14; Romans 8:1–11; John 11:1–45
Mar. 29 Palm Sunday Isaiah 50:4–9a; Philippians 2:5–11; Matthew 26:1–27:66



MAIN STREET LIVING MARCH 2026

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired.
www.mainstreetliving.com

Broadcast on KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1

March 1, 2026

10 a.m. "Undertow" Harry (David Ogden Stiers) loses his daughter to drowning. In his grief, he blames the lifeguard, Jim (Gil Peterson).

10:30 a.m. Rev. Kurt Laskowsky, pastor at First English & Zion Lutheran Churches in Centerville & Hurley, presents a message titled "Faith Tested". The sermon is based on Matthew 15:21-28.

March 8, 2026

10 a.m. "The Healer" Dave Forman (Gary Collins) is a dynamic "faith healer" who becomes angered by the drowning death of his daughter.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Ryan Loeslie, pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Dimock, SD, presents a message titled "Worshiping God in Spirit and Truth". The sermon is based on John 4:5-26.

March 15, 2026

10 a.m. "Flames of Hate" Betty Blackwood (Angie Dickenson) is stuck between the man she loves, Art (Ed Kemmer), and her obsessive father Nate (Edger Dearing) who disapproves of Art.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Don McKillop, pastor at Trinity and St. Paul's Lutheran Churches in White Lake and Plankinton, SD, presents a message titled "I Was Blind, Now I See". The sermon is based on John 9.

March 22, 2026

10 a.m. "Money for Marriage" - A woman's decisions at work put a strain on the new couple's marriage.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Tim Rynearson, pastor at Peace Lutheran Church in Brookings, SD, presents a message based on Psalm 130.

March 29, 2026

10 a.m. "The Twisting Road" A young man and his wife deal with life, future, and regrets of things left unspoken.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Zachary Wessel, pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hartford, SD, presents a message titled "Behold Your King". The sermon is based on Matthew 21:1-9.



MARCH 2026

Lindsey Thompson, TR	Mar. 3
Rhonda Peters, TR	Mar. 3
Ethan Byrd, TR	Mar. 4
Kyanna Huff, SP	Mar. 7
Lilyanna Huff, SP	Mar. 7
<i>Mike & Sandy Tuschen, SP</i>	Mar. 7
Jenalee Huff, SP	Mar. 10
Kelli Weber, SP	Mar. 11
Karter Weber, SP	Mar. 13
Ariel Glissendorf, TR	Mar. 14
Rick Markhardt, TR	Mar. 14
Ryan Everson, TR	Mar. 14
Destiny Haak, SP	Mar. 16
Vicki Gerlach, SP	Mar. 16
<i>Dan & Pam Hallman, TR</i>	Mar. 17
Travis Geyer, TR	Mar. 18
Peg Hoffman, SP	Mar. 18
Janice Thiry, TR	Mar. 25
Zander Clark, TR	Mar. 30
Stanlee Johnson, SP	Mar. 31

LENT and HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Joint Midweek Services

At Trinity, 7 p.m. — Mar. 11 and Mar. 25.

At St. Paul's, 7 p.m. — Mar. 4 and Mar. 18.

Joint Maundy Thursday

At Trinity, April 2, 7 p.m., with communion

Joint Good Friday

At St. Paul's, 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday

April 5 — Regular service times.

8:30 a.m. at Trinity

10:30 a.m. at St. Paul's



WORD FROM THE CENTER

Now That's A Temptation!



⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹"All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.' ¹¹Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him (Matthew 4:8-11).

Jesus' baptism publicly identified Him with sinners; He is a Savior who is willing to walk in our shoes and even take our place (Matthew 3:13-17). Soon after Jesus was baptized, Satan attacks. He meets Jesus in the desert to derail Him from His mission to literally save the world. First, it's a temptation to put the goods of this world to work for self. After 40 days of fasting, Satan tempts Jesus to put His power to work to feed Himself to the full (4:2-4). Then Satan tempts Jesus to test God the Father to see if He will really be there for Him when the chips are down. Let's see if those angels will really protect you when things get tough (4:5-7).

The final temptation in our reading is the most overarching of all. Satan offers Jesus the whole world! He implies, "Take this all, Jesus. Be the leader of this world on my terms, not its Savior." It's ironic that if Jesus had accepted Satan's offer, chances are that the religious people of the day would have honored and followed Him. Why? They too were looking for a political messiah, not an eternal Savior from sin, death, and even Satan himself.

So, who rules the world? Whose world is it anyway? And what is Jesus telling us when He rejects all of Satan's temptations in our place, for all of us, and also reasserts the primacy of a worshipful, obedient relationship to God as the most important thing in life? **He's telling us that God is in charge on His terms no matter what the present challenges to the contrary might be. God rules and is ruling the world.** Jesus also demonstrates that worship of the Lord is a priority, both now and forever. Knowing how God's saving work fits into that reality is the most

important thing for every human being on the planet.

Jesus reiterates these themes throughout his ministry. He emphasizes how vital faith in God is, even in comparison to "having it all" in this world. Later in Matthew 10:28-29, Jesus says: *Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care.*

Then, at the end of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus asserts that "all authority in heaven and earth has been given to me" (Matthew 28:18). This challenges Satan's right to even offer the world as his "supposed" gift.

So, in the midst of the arrogance of modern society where people who flaunt the things of God seem to not only get away with it, but even prosper, Jesus reminds you to **"worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only"** (Matthew 4:10). **In a world that continues to unravel before your very eyes, fear not.** Follow Jesus. Trust in the clear words of God and trust in the one who overcame the temptations that would have crushed us all. Trust in Him, because He has the power to face temptation, to overcome temptation, to see us through temptation, and to overcome our sin when we fail in times of temptation. Satan offered Jesus the world if He would only neglect and forget us. That's a temptation! But this lesson reminds us that Jesus, as our faithful Savior, resisted it as only He could!

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for being the disciplined, "temptation-overcoming" Savior that all of us need. Thank You for the blessings of Your salvation and give all of us strength to face our temptations with the power of Your Word. AMEN.

Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

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PALM SUNDAY DEVOTION

“Then Jesus said to him, ‘Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?’” (Matthew 26:52-53)

In the Name ✝ of Jesus. Amen.

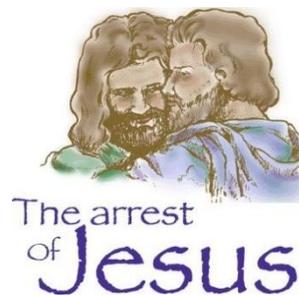
It's a response that makes sense to all of us. Of course, we would defend Jesus when evil men, armed with false charges, come to arrest the only One who could be called truly good. Matthew doesn't tell us who draws the sword, but John spills the beans and names Peter. Poor Peter is so often caught between his devotion to his Lord, his impulsiveness, and his all too human fear. A lot of people feel like they can relate to Peter wanting to do the right thing but falling flat on their faces.

Here, Peter reacts out of love but also fear. Jesus' rebuke to Peter is not simply about some pacifistic ideals, though we would do well to consider our willingness to live and die by our modern swords; it is also a fierce reckoning with who Jesus is. It is not simply that Jesus will go meekly to his arrest and eventual death in submission to His Father's will, but also that Jesus does not need Peter to defend Him. At a word, Jesus can call down twelve legions of angels. How much help is that? A legion is a unit of soldiers in the Roman army, consisting of approximately 6,000 soldiers. Therefore, twelve legions would be around 72,000 soldiers, or roughly half of the entire Roman army, composed of

fierce heavenly warriors, not just men. The point is clear: if Jesus needed to be saved from arrest at that moment, he could have handled it himself. Peter was failing to submit his own plan to the will of God.

I think most of us can understand Peter in this moment. We want to defend Jesus; we don't want to see him mishandled by evil men. We revile their intentions and can use this worthy impulse to justify all manner of lawlessness, hatred, violence, and even denial of the very nature of Jesus himself. It is hard for us to understand what Jesus is doing as we're left in anguish in our various Gardens of Gethsemane, but our call is to follow a crucified God who has already told us how the story will end. In that story, there is no room for fear.

*Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. **Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***



"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

A Lenten Devotion Based on the Hymn *LSB 425*

425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



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
trib - ute 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!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 | Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872 | Text and tune: Public domain

Stanza 1: Look to the cross! The Lenten season again is with us. It brings us humbly before our Savior. Truly we have been made rich through the forgiveness of our sins, which we gained through Jesus' death. Jesus, the Prince, dying in a horrible way for the paupers' sin.

Stanza 2: We owe everything to Jesus. We are saved by His grace, not of our own merit. It is a gift given to us by God. We, in gratitude, want to live for Him. The earthly things seem unimportant now. These we can sacrifice, give up. He gave His life — His sacrifice.

Stanza 3: His life! That's a lot! We look at His suffering, the pain of the crown of thorns on His brow, the beating, the nails through His hands and feet. The sorrow of our sins was truly His greatest pain. How could He do all this for us? Surely, we don't deserve it. But He loved us, very deeply does He love us, and this love was so great that He could do this for us!

Stanza 4: All the things of this world, the riches, the jewels, nothing could repay Jesus for this act of love. Love so great can only be returned by our total dedication to Him. As the hymn says, "my soul, my life, my all." To do this, we need to be repentant. We express repentance not only during Lent, but throughout the year.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross by Carol Draube, Sioux City, Iowa
Published by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League 2010 lwml.org — Revised 2020



March 2026



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 Second Sunday in Lent Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's	2 SP Catechism 7 p.m.	3 TR Hope Circle 1 p.m. TR Ruth Circle 6:30 p.m.	4 3rd Wednesday Lent TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. Lent Supper at SP 6 p.m. Joint Lent Service at SP 7 p.m.			7 
8 Third Sunday in Lent Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's	9 SP Catechism 7 p.m.	10 SP Dorcas Circle 2 p.m.	11 4th Wednesday Lent TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. Joint Lent Service at TR 7 p.m.			
15 Fourth Sunday in Lent Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's	16 SP Catechism 7 p.m.		18 5th Wednesday Lent TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. Lent Supper at SP 6 p.m. Joint Lent Service at SP 7 p.m.			
22 Fifth Sunday in Lent Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's	23 SP Catechism 7 p.m.		25 6th Wednesday Lent TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. Joint Lent Service at TR 7 p.m.			
29 Palm Sunday Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's	30 SP Catechism 7 p.m.	31				