



FEBRUARY 2023

NEWSLETTER



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ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.stpaulplankinton.com
605-942-7364

Elders Justin Everson
Curt Guindon
Mike Tuschen

President Justin Everson

LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.trinitywhitelake.com
facebook.com/trinitywhitelake
605-249-2333

Elders Dan Guericke
David Bogenhagen

President Dean Suelflow

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.

Joint Divine Worship Service Schedule for February

Sunday, February 5, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Sunday, February 12, 2023 — 5 p.m. at Trinity
Sunday, February 19, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Ash Wednesday, February 24, 2023 — 12 Noon at St. Paul's
Sunday, February 26, 2023 — 5 p.m. at Trinity

Christian Education

Joint Bible Study, Book of 1 Peter — 6 p.m. at the same location as the Joint Divine Service.

Joint Confirmation Class — same location as the Joint Divine Service, 3:45 p.m.

Trinity Release-Time — Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Hope Circle – No meeting in February.
Trinity Ruth Circle – February 1, 2023, 6 p.m.
St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – February 13, 2023, 2 p.m.

Meetings

Joint Council Meeting — Tuesday, January 31, 2023, 7 p.m. at St. Paul's.
Trinity Voters — Monday, February 6, 2023, 7 p.m. **Note date/time.**

Serving the Lord's Church in FEBRUARY

TRINITY

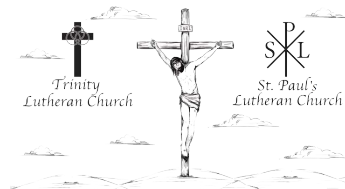
Elder David Bogenhagen
Ushers Ben Bogenhagen
Ron Steffen
Acolyte Joshua Doering
Altar Janice Thiry

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Curt Guindon
Ushers Marv Jira
Larry Gerlach
Acolyte Tayven Weber
Altar Sandy Tuschen

Scripture Readings

Feb. 5 Isaiah 58:3–9a; 1 Corinthians 2:1–12; Matthew 5:13–20
Feb. 12 Deuteronomy 30:15–20; 1 Corinthians 3:1–9; Matthew 5:21–37
Feb. 19 Exodus 24:8–18; 2 Peter 1:16–21; Matthew 17:1–9
Feb. 26 Genesis 3:1–21; Romans 5:12–19; Matthew 4:1–11



The **March 2023 newsletter** will be available on/after February 26, 2023. Articles are due Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

Please send newsletter and bulletin items to Nancy Bogenhagen at trinitywlsd@gmail.com. **Weekly bulletin deadline is Thursday noon.** Please email me if you prefer your newsletter emailed to you. Thank you!


READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

On Your Mark! Get Set! Open Your Bibles!

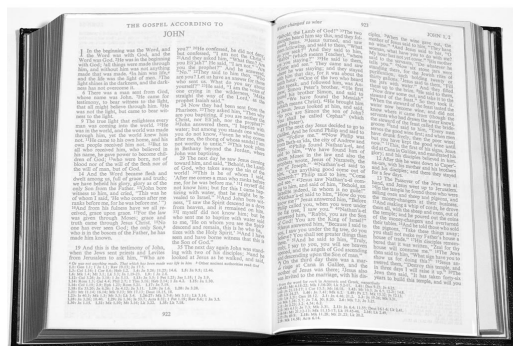
Many Christians have considered challenging themselves to read through the Bible in one year. Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is offering you that very opportunity! The Gospel Outreach Committee has created a monthly reading plan to guide you.



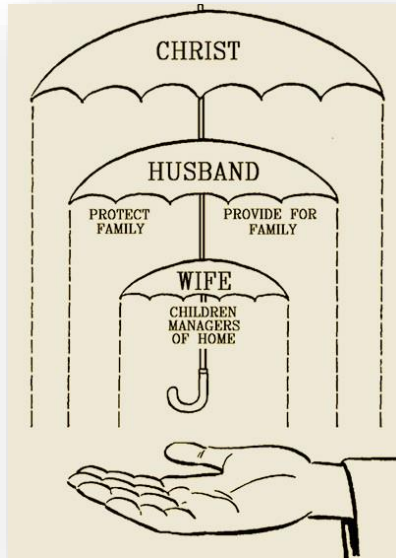
2023 FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	30	31	01 Genesis 41 Psalm 32 Luke 23:1–25	02 Genesis 42 Psalm 33 Luke 23:26–56	03 Genesis 43 Psalm 34 Luke 24:1–12	04 Genesis 44 Psalm 35 Luke 24:13–53
05 Gen. 45:1–46:27 Psalm 36 Hebrews 1	06 Gen. 46:28–47:31 Psalm 37 Hebrews 2	07 Genesis 48 Psalm 38 Hebrews 3:1–4:13	08 Genesis 49–50 Psalm 39 Heb. 4:14–6:12	09 Exodus 1–2 Psalm 40 Hebrews 6:13–20	10 Exodus 3–4 Psalm 41 Hebrews 7	11 Exodus 5:1–6:27 Proverbs 1 Hebrews 8
12 Exodus 6:28–8:32 Proverbs 2 Hebrews 9:1–22	13 Exodus 9-10 Proverbs 3 Heb. 9:23–10:18	14 Exodus 11–12 Proverbs 4 Hebrews 10:19–39	15 Exodus 13–14 Proverbs 5 Hebrews 11:1–22	16 Exodus 15 Proverbs 6:1–7:5 Hebrews 11:23–40	17 Exodus 16–17 Proverbs 7:6–27 Hebrews 12	18 Exodus 18–19 Proverbs 8 Hebrews 13
19 Exodus 20–21 Proverbs 9 Matthew 1	20 Exodus 22–23 Proverbs 10 Matthew 2	21 Exodus 24 Proverbs 11 Matthew 3	22 Exodus 25–27 Proverbs 12 Matthew 4	23 Exodus 28–29 Proverbs 13 Matthew 5:1–20	24 Exodus 30–32 Proverbs 14 Matthew 5:21–48	25 Exodus 33–34 Proverbs 15 Matthew 6:1–18
26 Exodus 35–36 Proverbs 16 Matthew 6:19–34	27 Exodus 37–38 Proverbs 17 Matthew 7	28				

*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you (Psalm 32:8).*



FROM OUR PASTOR



Ephesians 5:22ff: *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, His body, and is Himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her ... In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.*

With Valentine's Day coming up I think it is a good time to look at what Scripture says regarding husbands, wives, and God's order. Ephesians 5 certainly stands opposed to our culture's current views on marriage, sex (male and female), and the work God calls men and women to.

God instituted marriage in the beginning. Genesis 2:24, *Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.* There is also a God-given order in marriage, namely, that man is the head of the wife and family.

Sadly, many view headship as a horrible thing, but **God did not institute marriage and headship to curse man and wife, but to bless them.** What does it mean to be the head? **To be the head means for the husband to love his wife as Christ loved the Church.**

Husband and wife are a team and God calls men to lead the family. (Here also it must be said that men and women need each other. The whole idea of "Men don't need women" or "Women don't need men" is nothing but narcissistic and delusional.) The head leads the family in the way of the Lord, lives according to God's Word, makes decisions that are in the best interest of the family, and if the need arises, lays down his life for his wife.

The husband is the one who, having listened to his wife and God's Word on various matters, should deliberate and make the final decision that will give glory to God and will be what is best for his family. The wife voluntarily and out of love for Christ follows her husband. 4th Century pastor John Chrysostom writes well to husbands in his comments on Ephesians 5: "Would you have your wife obedient unto you, as the Church is to Christ? Take then yourself the same provident care for her, as Christ takes for the Church. Yea, even if it shall be needful for you to give your life for her, yea, and to be cut into pieces ten thousand times, yea, and to endure and undergo any suffering whatever — refuse it not." God calls men to be chivalrous and self-sacrificing, reflecting the love and service of Christ.

God bless all of you, dear Saints.

Rev. Jens Jenson



Main Street Living February 2023

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. For more information visit:
www.mainstreetliving.com

February 5, 2023

10 a.m. — **“The Gift”** A daughter struggles over what to do with birthday gift money.

10:30 a.m. — Rev. Iver Possehl, pastor at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Watertown, SD presents a message titled “You Are The Light Of The World.” This sermon is based on Matthew 5:14–16.

February 12, 2023

10 a.m. — **“The Priceless Book”** Money and health troubles on the farm lead a father to God’s Word for comfort.

10:30 a.m. — Rev. Jeffrey Williams, pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Slayton, MN presents a message titled “The Spirit of the Law.” This sermon is based on Matthew 5:21–37.

February 19, 2023

10 a.m. — **“In Search of Dignity”** Two factory workers struggle to find meaning after they are replaced by machines.

10:30 a.m. — Rev. Jeremy Richert, pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Dakota Dunes, SD presents a message titled “All Witnesses Point To Jesus.” This sermon is based on Matthew 17:1–9.

February 26, 2023

10 a.m. — **“Which Way Grows the Vine”** A father struggles to accept the consequences of his actions and set an example for his son.

10:30 a.m. — Rev. Micah Bauer, pastor at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Brookings, SD presents a message titled “Be Gone, Satan!” This sermon is based on Matthew 4:1–11.

LENT SERVICES

Ash Wednesday Divine Service will be held at 12 Noon at St. Paul’s in Plankinton.

You may view the 7 p.m. live-stream of **Midweek Lent** services at Redeemer Armour, from their YouTube channel,
Redeemer Lutheran – Armour.

You can find online Lenten devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries at www.lhm.org/lent/.

Spring Retreat



The LWML South Dakota District Spring Retreat, “With One Voice”, will be held at Peace Lutheran Church, Brookings, SD, **April 21–22, 2023.**

Registration will begin on Friday evening at 6 p.m. At 7 p.m., we will have music, a devotion, and a celebration of the 80th anniversary of our LWML SD District. On Saturday, we will begin at 8 a.m. We will have an ingathering, a servant event, and an indoor mission walk. There will be a special learning message called SMILE.

District Counselors, Pastor Clint Thorson and Pastor Brian Mosemann will lead us in Bible study. We will hear how the word amen is used in many languages and about welcoming all people in love.

For more details, visit sdlwml.org, Events, District Retreat. You won’t want to miss any of this special time in retreat with our LWML sisters!

LWML Milwaukee Convention district bus registration deadline is **February 20, 2023**. See www.sdlwml.org/lwml-conventions.

STAY IN TOUCH

Websites

www.stpaulplankinton.com
www.trinitywhitelake.com

Links for the bulletin, printed service, and for the YouTube recording are updated weekly under the Services tab!

Email

trinitywlsd@gmail.com

- Submit newsletter and bulletin articles.
- Update a prayer request.
- Request a digital copy of the newsletter.

Social Media

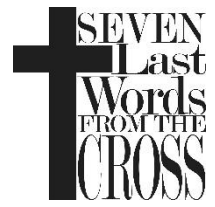
facebook.com/trinitywhitelake

Recordings of Divine Services
Available on the **YouTube** channel,
Trinity White Lake.

CROSSWORDS

A Lenten Sermon Series on Jesus' Words from the Cross

Written by pastor and Concordia Seminary professor, Dr. David Peter, the series focuses on the words of Jesus that were spoken from the cross. Each week one of the sayings of Christ is examined and applied to the listeners' lives. For this newsletter, we'll be looking at "Father, Forgive Them" (Ash Wednesday) and "You Will Be With Me in Paradise" (First Sunday in Lent). *Note: The Sundays during the season of Lent are noted as being in Lent but not of Lent. That is, even during this penitential season Sunday worship remains a celebration of the Lord's resurrection, a "little Easter." In fact, the Sundays themselves are not reckoned in the forty days of Lent.*



ASH WEDNESDAY "Father, Forgive Them"

CENTERING OUR THOUGHTS

This day begins the penitential season of Lent. Lent is a time to reflect upon one's sinful life and to repent of sin. In biblical times, some people would demonstrate their repentance by donning ashes as a symbol of their guilt and mortality. But Lent is not only a time to see our sin; it is also a season for beholding our Savior. It is a time to hear his Word. During this Lenten season, we will listen to the words spoken by Jesus from the cross. These are his "crosswords." Today we hear him speak words of forgiveness for sinners like us.

447 Jesus, in Your Dying Woes, vs. 1-3: First Word, Luke 23:34

- 1 Jesus, in Your dying woes, Even while Your lifeblood flows,
Craving pardon for Your foes: Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 2 Savior, for our pardon sue When our sins Your pangs renew,
For we know not what we do: Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 3 Oh, may we, who mercy need, Be like You in heart and deed,
When with wrong our spirits bleed: Hear us, holy Jesus.

FIRST READING

Joel 2:12–19 (*God summons his people to heartfelt repentance.*)

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:16–21 (*Inward contrition reveals what is treasured in the heart.*)

MEDITATION

Today is Ash Wednesday. It begins the penitential season of Lent. It is a season of penitence, of repentance. This is because we acknowledge that only through repentance can we receive God's forgiveness. But we can be assured of his forgiveness, purchased by the shed blood of Christ, offered to those who acknowledge their sin. God promises this. 1 John 1:8–9 makes that clear: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." So today, come before God in true penitence and receive his full forgiveness!

But not only do we receive forgiveness, we give forgiveness. We offer absolution to those who have wronged us. The Spirit of Christ within us empowers us to forgive others, even as we have been forgiven. That is what Ash Wednesday is all about — forgiveness. That is what Lent is all about — forgiveness. That is what the cross is all about — forgiveness. Let that be what we are all about as well — forgiveness! Amen.

PRAYER

Gracious God, during this season of Lent we reflect upon the suffering and death of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that it is because of our sin that he suffered, and we repent of that sin. We take comfort in the fact that just as Jesus bespoke forgiveness for those who crucified him, so he now bespeaks forgiveness to us. Guide us to live in a manner worthy of our calling as redeemed servants of God. In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

LENT 1

“You will be with Me in Paradise.”

CENTERING OUR THOUGHTS

Lent is a time to reflect upon one’s sinful life and to repent of sin. But Lent is not only a time to see our sin; it is also a season for beholding our Savior. It is a time to hear his word. During this Lenten season, we listen to the words spoken by Jesus from the cross. These are his “crosswords.” One criminal who was crucified next to Jesus recognized his sin and repented. More than that, he recognized his Savior in Jesus and heard the promise of eternal life. We join him in confessing our sinfulness and trusting our Savior.

447 Jesus, in Your Dying Woes, vs. 4–6: Second Word, Luke 23:43

- 4 Jesus, pitying the sighs Of the thief, who near You dies,
Promising him paradise: Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 5 May we in our guilt and shame Still Your love and mercy claim,
Calling humbly on Your name: Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 6 May our hearts to You incline And their thoughts Your cross entwine.
Cheer our souls with hope divine: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Text: Thomas B. Pollock, 1836–96, alt. | Text: Public domain

FIRST READING

Colossians 2:13–15 (*God nailed the record of our debt of sin to the cross so that we might be forgiven and made alive.*)

GOSPEL READING

Luke 23:32–43 (*Two criminals who are crucified alongside Jesus respond very differently to him.*)

MEDITATION

Jesus’s words here are words of promise. He announces that in his death he himself will enter paradise. But he also promises the thief that he will accompany him into that eternal kingdom. “You will be with me,” Jesus announces. The repentant criminal’s death would become the passageway to a glorious kingdom, to paradise itself. What a dramatic transformation is wrought by these words of Christ. This man goes from utter hopelessness to perfect hope! His future moves from the prospect of perishing to the prospect of paradise! And it is all because of the promise of Jesus.

What did the thief do to deserve this promise? What did he do to earn this paradise? Nothing, absolutely nothing! There is perhaps no better example in all of scripture of God’s saving act by grace alone. The man deserved condemnation, but he received justification. He deserved reprobation, but he receives restoration. He deserved perdition, but in the end, he received paradise.

So do we, all by grace. We too are malefactors — evil doers — because we also have done evil in the sight of God. We too are “under the same sentence of condemnation,” the sentence of death, because “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). We too, by ourselves, have no hope. Like the criminal, we cannot save ourselves. But Christ has come and identified with sinners like us. As the prophet foretold, “He was numbered with the transgressors” (Isaiah 53). And through repentant faith we are linked with Christ in his death *and* his life, which means we also inherit paradise. It is all by God’s grace. That, my fellow sinners, is our only hope!

This gives us hope not only for the future, but also for today. As you face failure and pain, discouragement and disease, you have hope. Through adversity and disappointment, there is the promise of a new day, a new strength, a new life. Anchored in the hope of Christ’s promises, we experience new vitality to press on.







PRAYER

Gracious God, during this season of Lent we reflect upon the suffering and death of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that it is because of our sin that he suffered, and we repent of that sin. We take comfort in the promise given to the thief on the cross and to us, that we may now enter paradise because of the sacrifice of Christ. Guide us to live in a manner worthy of our calling as redeemed servants of God. In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.



February 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Jan. 31 7 p.m. Joint Council Meeting at St. Paul's	Feb. 1 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time 6 p.m.  TR Ruth Circle	2	3	4
5  Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. Bible Class	6 7 p.m. TR Annual Voters Mtg.	7	8 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	9	10	11
12  Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. TR Lutherans For Life Meeting	13 2 p.m. SP Dorcas Circle 	14	15 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	16	17	18
19  Transfiguration Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. Bible Class	20	21	22 Ash Wednesday 12 Noon Ash Wed. Service at St. Paul's 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	23	24	25
26  First Sunday in Lent Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. TR Lutherans For Life Meeting	27	28	<i>We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts (2 Peter 1:19).</i>			