

 <p>St. Paul's Lutheran Church Plankinton <i>stpaulplankinton.com</i> <i>stpaulplankinton@gmail.com</i></p>	 <p>Trinity Lutheran Church White Lake <i>trinitywhitelake.com</i> <i>trinitywhitelake@gmail.com</i> <i>facebook.com/trinitywhitelake</i> YouTube: Trinity White Lake</p>
<p>Rev. Don McKillop, Vacancy Pastor 605-840-0554 (mobile) or email: <i>prdomc5897@yahoo.com</i> Office Hours 9–11:30 a.m. Tues. at St. Paul's and Wed. at Trinity</p>	

March 15, 2026 — Fourth Sunday in Lent

By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the Darkness

The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. *“For his righteousness’ sake,”* He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns *“the darkness before them into light”* (Is. 42:16) because He is *“the light of the world”* (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh *“while it is day,”* until that night *“when no one can work”* (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though *“at one time you were darkness,”* now *“you are light in the Lord”* (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to *“awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead”* (Eph. 5:14).

DIVINE SERVICE

ORDER OF SERVICE

Divine Service Setting Four, *LSB 203*

CREED: Nicene

HYMNS

Opening Hymn:

LSB 832 “Jesus Shall Reign”

Sermon Hymn:

LSB 770 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Offering Hymn:

LSB 781 vv. 1–2 “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

Distribution/Third Hymn:

LSB 618 “I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”

Closing Hymn:

LSB 761 “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

SERMON TEXT AND THEME

Luke 8:22–25

“Where Is Your Faith?”

IN OUR PRAYERS **

FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

TRINITY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS: Pam Hallman, Deb Pope, Marlene Henthorn, Florence Meier, Linda Smith, and Barb Gilbertz. Mike Gilbertz, Neil Peters, Reiko Pope, Earl Tripp, and Richard Kieffer.

ST. PAUL’S MEMBERS AND FRIENDS: Chris Heismeyer, Kendra Will, and Bernice Kollman. Lynn Anderson, Tina Gerlach, Lenora Hoffman, Rocky Hauge, and David.

Mary Milbrandt, Darryn, Jane, Nadine Larson, Keith Wallin, and Zoe Jones.

TRINITY BIRTHDAY: Travis Geyer 03/18

TRINITY ANNIVERSARY: Dan & Pam Hallman 03/17

ST. PAUL’S BIRTHDAYS: Destiny Haak 03/16; Vicki Gerlach 03/16; Peg Hoffman 03/18

ST. PAUL’S ANNIVERSARY: none

** Please contact Nancy at *trinitywlsd@gmail.com* or 605-249-2570 for any updates to this bulletin prayer list. Thank you.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT

Sin makes us blind to the things of God (Isaiah 42:16, 18). Not only do we often fail to recognize our neighbors and the many needs they have, but we also have a hard time seeing our own lack of love (John 9:41) and need for salvation. Thankfully, Jesus has come to open our blind eyes and turn our darkness into light (John 9:6, Isaiah 42:16). The Lord not only grants us faith to see Him and know His salvation, He also empowers us to “walk as children of light” (Ephesians 5:8) to better see and serve our neighbors in need, from the least of them to the greatest. • *lutheransforlife.org*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Lent Schedule (see *March Newsletter* for full schedule)

- March 18, 2026. Joint Midweek Service at St. Paul’s, 7 p.m.
- March 25, 2026. Joint Midweek Service at Trinity, 7 p.m.

Lenten Meal – Everyone is welcome!

- St. Paul’s Dorcas Circle will be serving a Lenten supper at 6 p.m., March 18, 2026, prior to the Lenten service.

2026-03-15 Fourth Sunday in Lent

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR AND INFORMATION

Sun. Mar 15	8:30 a.m.	Divine Service at Trinity
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School at St. Paul's
	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service at St. Paul's
Mon. Mar. 16	7 p.m.	Catechism Class at St. Paul's
Wed. Mar. 18	2:15 p.m.	Release-Time Class at Trinity
	6 p.m.	Lenten Meal at St. Paul's
	7 p.m.	Joint Lent Midweek Service at St. Paul's

MARCH 2026

Elders: TR: Ben Bogenhagen SP: Mike Tuschen
Ushers: TR: Dan M., John G. SP: Curt G., Merlyn H.
Acolytes: TR: Blake Bogenhagen SP: Jenna Haak
Altar: TR: Barb Gilbertz SP: Marlene Johnson
Greeters: SP: 03/08 Lennis & Sandy T.; 03/15 Kieth/Cathy A.

March 8 Attendance and Offering: SP: 25, \$960; TR: 19, \$272

March 11 Midweek Lent Attendance: SP:3. TR: 17

THE LORD'S SUPPER is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another.

Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until he comes. We do this because as members of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod we take very seriously the advice of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:28–29, *A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.*

Self-Examination. 1. Do I believe that I am a sinner? 2. Do I believe and trust in Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior, from sin, death, and the power of the devil? 3. Do I believe that I receive forgiveness for all of my sins through Christ's true body and blood, present in the Sacrament? (Real presence of Christ's body.) 4. Do I promise to amend (or change) my sinful life with the help of the Holy Spirit?

If you have so examined yourself and are in full agreement with us, and have been instructed, you are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper. If you desire to learn more about these beliefs or are interested in learning how to become a member, please talk to Pastor McKillop or one of the elders. Thank you.