



*Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*

106 N. DeLeon  
Victoria, TX 77901  
(361) 573-4725

*The mission of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is to embody the love of Christ at home-at work-at play-in the community and in the world.*



Fifth Sunday in Lent  
8:00 a.m. March 26, 2023

Pastor: Ildiko Rigney- Presiding  
Pianist: Betsy Stovall & the Praise Team  
Worship Assistant: Darla Dentler  
Ushers & Greeters:  
Altar Guild: Frances Hitchcock  
March Council: Pat Miller and Bill Rose

**PRE- GATHERING MUSIC: BB #11 SPEAK O LORD**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**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 journeys with us these forty days,  
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another  
our need for repentance and God’s mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
we confess to you our faults and failings.  
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;  
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;  
we spoil rather than steward your creation;  
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;  
we choose fear over compassion.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,  
so that all may receive life. This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ’s name,  
and revives you in the Spirit’s power. **Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN: ELW #886 OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING (vs 1-4)**

### **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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**



#### **FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14**

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.'" <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

**PSALM: Psalm 130**

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>**Yet with you is forgiveness,**

**in order that you may be feared.**

<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

<sup>6</sup>**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,  
more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;  
with the LORD there is plentiful redemption.

<sup>8</sup>**For the LORD shall redeem Israel  
from all their sins.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11**

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

☞ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

The Gospel of our Lord, taken from the 11th Chapter of John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**



**GOSPEL: Gospel: John 11:1-45**

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup>after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” <sup>11</sup>After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” <sup>13</sup>Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup>For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” <sup>16</sup>Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

<sup>17</sup>When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup>When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup>She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him,

“Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”<sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

## **THE SERMON: PASTOR ILDIKO RIGNEY**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW # 333 JESUS IS A ROCK IN A WEARY LAND**

#### **APOSTLE’S CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He 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 and is seated at the right hand of Father.  
He will come again 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**

**PEACE:**



**OFFERING MUSIC: 10,000 REASONS – Matt Redman**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

God of good gifts,  
receive these and all our offerings  
as we present them in faithful service  
for the sake of your gospel.  
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal  
as you pour out your very presence  
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.  
**Amen.**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

Come for all has been prepared.

*Please come to the table from the side aisle, receive the elements at the altar rail and return down the center aisle.*

## **MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: BB #19 COME TO THE TABLE OF MERCY**

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.

With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,

empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors

and touch the world with your love.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN: ELW #328 RESTORE IN US, O GOD**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE: BB #10 HUMBLE THYSELF**

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## Announcements



**SPECIAL PRAYERS:** Dottie Nixon, Carol Thacker, Lillie Dornak, Katalin Szanto, Aslisa Garcia, Roger & Linda Sanger, Becky McGlone, Troy Hallmark, Linda P., Henry R., Richard Chapman, Deloris Hindley Smith, R.L. Montgomery, Christina Martinez



**FLOWERS ON THE PEDSTAL:** Flowers are placed on the pedestal in Loving Memory of Verdine Schroeter, Given by Claudette Hofer.

### MARK YOU CALENDAR:

- **TODAY**, Sunday, March 26- Easter Egg Hunt. Pizza will be served for lunch.
- Monday, March 27- 6:00 pm Boy Scout Court of Honor (LH)
- Tuesday, March 28- 8:00 am LWR Sewing
- Tuesday, March 28- 9:00 am Plates of Love
- Tuesday, March 28- Victoria East High School Tours Trinity
- Tuesday, March 28- 9:00am Seadrift Retiree Meeting (Chapel)
- Tuesday, March 28- WELCA is hosting bingo at Sodalis Elmcroft @ 3:15pm
- Wednesday, March 29- 5:30 pm Lent meal provided by Christian Ed/ Youth  
6:00 pm – Confirmation then 7:00 pm Worship in the Chapel

### REMINDERS:

- **High school and College graduates** will be honored at both services on May 7<sup>th</sup>. If you know of someone graduating, please let the church office know.
- **Compassionate Servers and Lutheran World Relief** use donated fabric for quilts and lap covers. If you or anyone you know has fabric they would like to donate you may drop the fabric off at the church office.
- **Prayer Shawls:** If you know of someone who needs a prayer shawl we have some available in the Narthex. You may place the shawl in the bag provided and add their name in the book. Thank you for remembering someone. *Chris Rippamonti*



**Easter Sunday April 9, 2023**

*Trinity is adorning the Altar area for Easter.*

The cost is \$15.00 each. Deadline to have names printed in the Easter bulletin is **April 4, 2023.**

**Next Week's Readings  
April 2 Palm Sunday**

**Isa. 50:4-9a\*\*Ps. 31:9-16\*\*Phil. 2:5-11  
Matt. 26:14-27:66**

#### **Lenten Schedule**

#### **Wednesdays in Lent**

5:30-6:30pm Soup and Sandwich meal

7pm Service in the Chapel

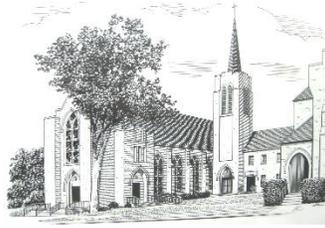
**Maundy Thursday April 6 and**

**Good Friday April 7 services**

7pm in Sanctuary

**Easter Sunday services – April 9**

8am Chapel - 10:30am Sanctuary



# *Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*

106 North De Leon Street  
Victoria, Texas 77901-6629  
361-573-4725

## **RESULTS OF THE WORSHIP PREFERENCE SURVEY**

### **Background**

The survey was conducted on Sundays, March 12<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup>.

For the Month of February 2023, the average attendance at the 8:00 AM service was 36.

For the Month of February 2023, the average attendance at the 10:30 AM service was 60.

Thirty four (34) members responded to the survey and twelve (12) indicated their preferred service was at 8:00 AM and twenty-two (22) indicated that their preferred service was at 10:30 AM.

### **Scoring Values**

- 1 = Very Important
- 2 = Somewhat Important
- 3 = Not Important
- 4 = Undecided

### **Average Score by Worship Element with Comments**

#### **Worship Time 1.3**

Would like 9:00 AM.

#### **Length of Service 2.0**

You lose people's attention if too long.

Needs to be less than 1 hour.

#### **Worship Space 2.0**

Love the Chapel

If it helps the church by only heating or cooling one space let's do it.

#### **Music Selection 1.4**

More songs are needed to be known by the congregation.

Song leaders are helpful to the congregation.

Like old faithful music

Need to get back professionals.

I enjoy a variety of styles.

Needs to be more upbeat at 10:30 AM service.

Hymns should be easy to sing. Need some traditional at each service.

I don't like the black book.

Children's Time 1.4

Keep it short so you don't lose control of them. Teach them church etiquette.  
Always warm and wonderful.  
Not too long. Not rambling.

Preaching 1.1

Keep sermons 15-20 min. maximum.  
We are blessed and grateful to have Pastor Ildiko.  
Great!  
Enjoy the sermons! Presented very well.  
Pastor Rigney's preaching is great!

Being with Friends 2.5

Ability to Hear 1.2

Music is louder than the singers.  
My husband can now hear. Pastor speaks very loudly and clearly.

Traditional Worship 1.7

I like the current service. No chanting or formal liturgy.  
I enjoy going back to our traditional worship.  
I enjoy both styles of worship.

Contemporary Worship 2.3

Nice for others.  
On occasion.  
My favorite.  
I enjoy both styles of worship.

Use of Member Musicians 1.7

No  
Only when we need to fill in.  
I enjoy seeing our own members in the choir. We have many talented members.  
Use of members gives the congregation "ownership".  
Necessary without a music director.  
Like Jammin' 4 Jesus and the Dentler family at the 8:00 AM service.  
Love J4J and uplifting music.  
No guitars – need full choir.

Use of Paid Musicians 2.3

Need a pianist or organist  
Sometimes paid are more reliable or talented.

Other Elements

Sharing of the Peace – Shorten the time. Visit before or after the service  
Recognize members for their accomplishment and recognitions.  
Holy Communion is very important.  
The Liturgy, Creed and Prayers are very important.

Use of Screens in Worship 1.9

It helps many. I enjoy the hymnals to watch the notes.  
I really like this.  
Darker script is easier to see.  
Need to give Steve more help!!  
I use it now because it is easy, but it seems like it takes something out of the holy atmosphere of the church.