TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 504 S. Westnedge at Cedar Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 269-344-6181 www.tlckzoo.com

WORSHIP at 8:30 and 11:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:45AM

All are welcome at Trinity for this Sabbath time of prayer and praise!

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

As the prelude begins, please observe a period of silence and contemplation in preparation for worship.

PRELUDE: Two Psalm Preludes, Charles Callahan (1951-2023), Negar Afazel, Violin

- 1. Psalm 23: 2 By Still Waters He Leads Me
- 2. Psalm 96 Sing to the Lord a New Song

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

> The * indicates when the congregation stands, if able. Congregational responses are in **bold**.

WELCOME

P. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P. God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

- C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

*ENTRANCE HYMN

ELW #321

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you



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*SALUTATION P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸ But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹ He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a

covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 27

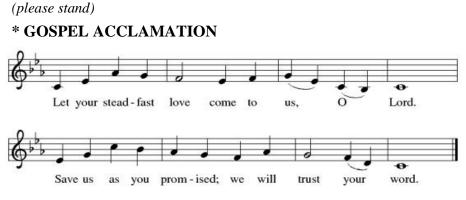
¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? ² When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall. ³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken. ⁴ One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple. ⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock. ⁶ Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD. ⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me. ⁸ My heart speaks your message— "Seek my face." Your face, O LORD, I will seek. ⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation. ¹⁰ Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in. ¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors. ¹² Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence. ¹³ This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! ¹⁴ Wait for the LORD and be strong. Take heart and wait for the LORD!

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God



- P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.
- C: Glory to you O Lord.

*GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³² He said to them, "Go and tell

that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

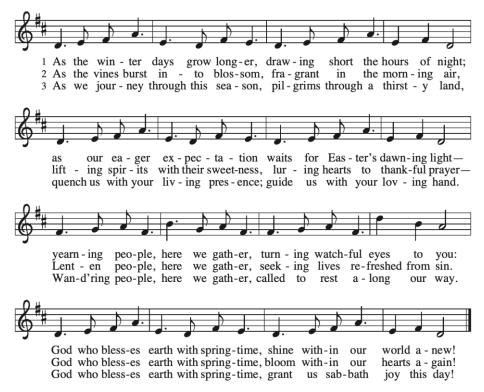
P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY





Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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Apostles' Creed *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 Holv Spirit and born of the virgin Marv. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into Hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the 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**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need (*especially*). May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. 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.**

*SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please take a moment to sign and pass the navy fellowship folders located in each pew at this time.

OFFERTORY

During this time, we worship God with our offerings. There are a variety of gifts and a variety of ways to give!

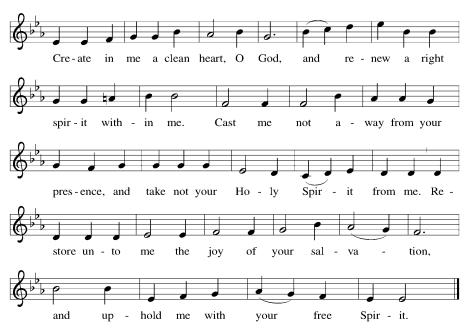
- If you give electronically, thank you.
- If you would like to give electronically, please scan the QR code.
- If you are led to give through cash or check, simply place your offering in the plate as it passes.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."



Offertory Music: 8:30 - "Peace" Sigurd M. Øgaard (b.1978) 11:00 - "One Thing I Ask of Thee" Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)

Please stand as we begin singing the "Create in Me" and the elements are brought forward



Create in Me a Clean Heart

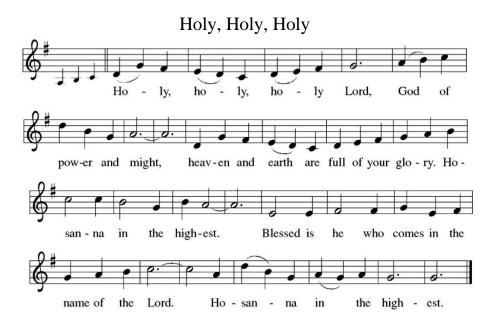
***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:**





P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



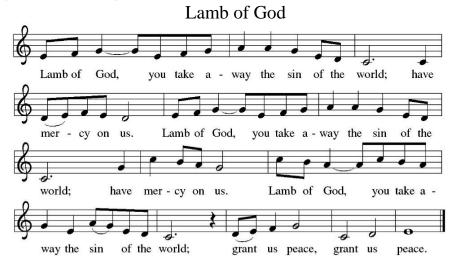
***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

- P: Blessed are you....as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: O God of resurrection....grace our table with your presence.
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.

- P: Reveal yourself to us....with justice, peace, and love
- C: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: With your holy ones.... now and forever.
- C: Amen.
- P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: 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.

(Please be seated)



HOLY COMMUNION by Intinction (dipping the bread into the wine) Please come from both sides up the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisles.

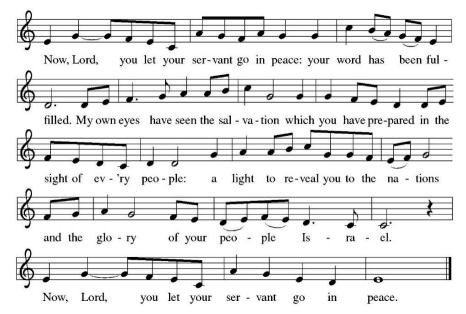
8:30am Holy Communion by Intinction please kneel, as able, at the rail.

11:00am Holy Communion by Intinction Those desiring to kneel or pause for prayer at the rail after communing are invited to do so.

Communion Music: 8:30 - "Old Irish Blessing" Denes Agay (1911-2007), Jen Gatz, Piano 11:00 - "Peace" Sigurd M. Øgaard (b.1978)

(please stand)

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

***HYMN** Bless Now, O God, the Journey **ELW #326**

***BLESSING** The Three-fold Amen

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "Ricercar in E Flat Major" Orlando di Lasso (1532-94)

All are welcome at Trinity for this Sabbath time of prayer and praise!

Our Nursery is available for children 5 years and younger at each service. The nursery is located near the south side entrance.

OUR STAFF AT TRINITY:

Rev. Ken Johnson		Pastor
Rev. Jake Lehman		Outreach Pastor
Nathan Mattson		Organist/Director of Music
Katie Grubaugh		Office Administrator
Heidi Albertson		Dir. of Family & Youth Ministry
Terri Schmidt		Bookkeeper
Margaret Stevenson		Hospitality Host
Bob Koenes		Custodian
Dr. William Musselm	an	Organist/Director Emeritus
ALTAR GUILD:	Karn	Erlandson, Holly Wohlfert
WELCOME TEAM:	8:30	Jason Grubaugh, Paula Sportel
		Rasma McMullen, Pat Mason
LECTORS:	8:30	Jen Gatz
	11:00	Tim Eschelbach
ACOLYTES:	8:30	Avery & Nolan Fowler
		Kiley & Calico Morris

PRAYER CONCERNS: David Mason, Ruth Krueger, Bertha Boettcher, Jeannie Grubaugh, Beth Latshaw, Sandy Eschelbach, Diane Reau, Linda Ward, Kendall, Joanne Musselman.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God by Pat Mason in honor of her son John's birthday, grandson Justin's birthday, and great granddaughter Galilee's birthday.

Weekly Announcements

Lenten Wednesday Evening worship services will be in-person each week at 6:30pm. For those unable to join in person, the service will be live-streamed and be available to view on our YouTube channel.

Lenten devotional materials will be available in the Fellowship Hall as we approach the season of Lent and prepare for Easter. Please help yourself!

Christ Clothes Closet: Needs personal hygiene products such as toilet paper, razors, shaving cream, lotion and feminine hygiene.

Please sign up to help with Lenten Soup/Salad Suppers starting March 12. Lenten Wednesday Evening Services start on Ash Wednesday, March 5 at 6:30pm. Every following Wednesday in Lent, a Soup/Salad Supper will begin at 5:45 before the Lenten Service. We ask for our congregants to sign up to help provide food for these suppers by signing up on the list posted on the Youth Board opposite the kitchen in the downstairs hallway!



Family Ministry : Pretzels and Prayers

Sunday, March 16th 12:30-2pm Lent is here and it's often a time for prayer and reflection and... pretzels?!?! A pretzel is special tool used by pastors to help children learn about prayer. After we eat some lunch, we will make our own

pretzels and create special pretzel prayers for our congregation members. Hopefully you can join us for this fun time together.

Basket Weaving at Trinity! A basket weaving class is being offered on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>April 19</u> just in time for Easter. The Berry Basket class will be from 9am-12pm, and the Handled Basket class will be from 1pm -4pm. There are still a couple spots left open for the Handled Basket class, contact Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino (<u>gougeonjs@gmail.com</u>) if you are interested! Please plan to bring a snack to share and an offering for the food pantry or emergency food box.

Bring Your Ugly Mug to Church! Okay, it doesn't have to be ugly, but bring your mug to church! In an effort to produce less waste and give a little more of a personal touch the coffee we sip on Sunday mornings we've added a "Mug Wall" to the fellowship hall. There are detailed instructions next to the wall, but the basic idea is you bring in a mug from home, you use the mug when you're here, we wash the mug during the week! Simple, right!? So we'll say it again, Bring your ugly (or not ugly) mug to church!

Good Samaritan Fund Need Trinity's Good Samaritan fund is the fund that enables us to meet the needs of those in our community during some of their most difficult moments. This fund is generated entirely through the generosity of our congregation. These funds go toward electric bills, rent, and other essentials when our neighbors are facing utility shut-offs, eviction notices, or seeking to get into housing. Due to a sustained time of high demand this fund balance is running low. If you find yourself in a position to be able to give, any gift is greatly appreciated. Simply designate the gift to the "Good Samaritan Fund" on the memo line of your check or give online under the "giving" tab on our website www.tlckzoo.com.

If you have access to Thrivent Grants, please consider using one to help purchase needed items and supplies for church outreach and events! Contact the church office if you are looking to find out more.

Greece & Turkey Trip – "Walk in the Footstep of Paul and John" - Summer 2027 - Informational Meeting on Sunday April 6, at 10am!

Trinity is exploring the option of taking a Youth and Congregational trip to Greece and Turkey the summer of 2027. If you would be interested in joining us or would like more information, please plan to attend this meeting. You can also sign up in the Fellowship Hall or the Youth Board, or fill out the interest form online in our weekly emails. If you are in middle school, a parent/guardian would have to attend the trip. If you are in high school, Heidi Albertson would act as your guardian if a parent/guardian is not going on the trip.

Refugee Families in Need! Trinity is working with our local refugee services to help provide for new refugee families in Kalamazoo. If you wish to contribute financially to our Kalamazoo Refugees, scan the QR code to make a donation. And if you would like to volunteer time to help our refugee



families, please contact Bess Fitzgerald (bess.fitzgerald@gmail.com) or the church office.

We are once again hosting American Red Cross blood drives at Trinity in 2025. The next date is Wednesday April 16 from 11:00am to 4:45pm.

We are asking for volunteers to become part of the team to help with registrations/hospitality, some set-up and closing the church at end of the drive. If you are interested/able to do this, please contact Holly Wohlfert at 269-808-3889 or the church office.

Meeting of the Men! Meeting of the men is an "informal, come as you are, when you can" kind of get together with no agenda, just good conversation and a great opportunity to get to know one other guys who call Trinity home! We'll gather at O'Duffy's Pub on **Thursday March 20 from 5-6:30pm** for a relaxed time of fellowship and conversation!

Hold the date for Sunday, April 27, 2025 - the Kalamazoo Valley CROP Hunger Walk is back! New this year: Trinity Lutheran will be the starting and ending point for the walk! We are also working on an alternative activity during the walk for non-walkers. CROP Hunger Walks raise money for <u>Church World</u> <u>Service</u> hunger/ poverty reduction projects locally (~25%) and internationally (~75%). This year our local funds will go to Loaves & Fishes food pantry. If you are interested in walking, donating to our Trinity team, or just would like more information, please contact Karn Erlandson

(<u>karnerlandson@yahoo.com;</u> <u>269-579-0619</u>). Our team web page is available for online donations at:

https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/team/trinity-lutherankalamazoo

Emergency Food Box: Trinity is partnering with people in our neighborhood to stock the emergency food box located on Oak Street between Cedar and Lovell. Easy open, ready to eat, non-perishable foods such as cans with a flip top lid, ramen, granola bars, crackers, protein shakes etc. should be put in the box designated Emergency Food Box outside the Fellowship Hall. Call Rasma McMullen (269-349-9429) or Sandy Wallace (269-375-8876) with any questions.

Quilting supplies and donations needed! Have you recently discontinued a quilting or seamstress hobby? Have a stash of fabric looking for a home? The Trinity Quilters would happily accept a donation of your fabric to use in the construction of mission quilts. You can drop off fabric at church (just label it for the quilters) or, if you would like a pick-up, contact Teri Koretsky at 779-5632. Thanks!!

Rebecca Circle Looking for a chance to participate monthly in a women's small group meeting for Bible study? Rebecca Circle is an excellent chance to make some new acquaintances while studying God's word. They meet every 4th Wednesday of the month at Trinity and all are welcome! The next Circle meeting will be on Wednesday, March 26 at 10am.



Please sign up for Fellowship Time and Altar Flowers! Sign up in the Fellowship Hall and help share God's love for our community! Individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to provide flowers or host fellowship time for the coming months. This is a great way to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special events. (And if

you enjoy baking, we're always happy for help to stock our freezer for Sundays that might not have a fellowship host!) *Altar flowers are \$ 20 per bouquet and should be ordered one week in advance. Call or email the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you wish to put altar flowers on for a Sunday.

		Calendar of Upcoming Events
Wed	Mar 12	Ladies Lunch 11:30
		Soup/Salad Supper 5:45
		Lent Service 6:30
Thu	Mar 13	P.E.O. 10-3
		Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30
Sat	Mar 15	Violin Choir 4-6
Sun	Mar 16	Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30 & 11AM
		Choir 9:25
		All Sunday School classes 9:45
		Parent small group 10
		Family Ministry event 12:30-2
Tue	Mar 18	Christ Clothes Closet 10-2
		Loaves and Fishes 11-1
		C.F.T. 11-12:30
Wed	Mar 19	Men's Bible Study 7am
		Soup/Salad Supper 5:45
		Lent Service 6:30
Thu	Mar 20	Meeting of the Men 5-6:30
Sat	Mar 22	E.M.M. 11-3:30
		Violin Choir 4-6
Sun	Mar 23	Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30 & 11AM
		Choir 9:25
		All Sunday School classes 9:45
		Church Council 12:15