

**March 12, 2023
Third Sunday of Lent**



Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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.

Opening Hymn: O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

No. 658

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

658

1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our

life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -

parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.
Music: W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

WALTON
LM

Greeting

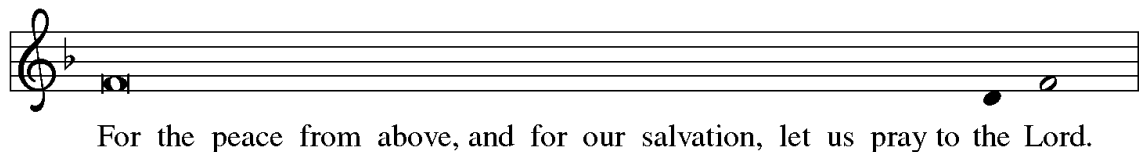
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

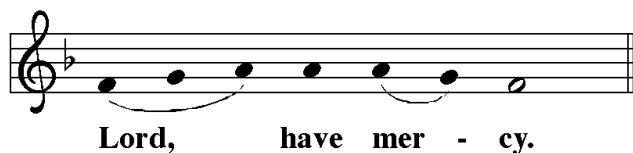
Kyrie



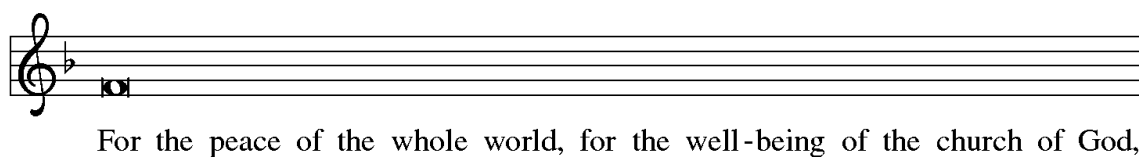
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



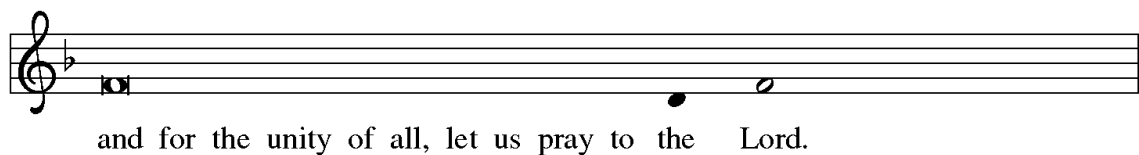
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



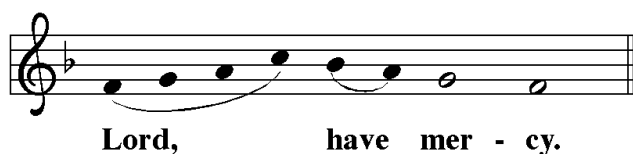
Lord, have mer - cy.



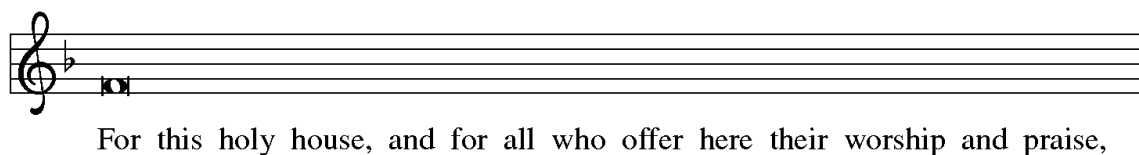
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



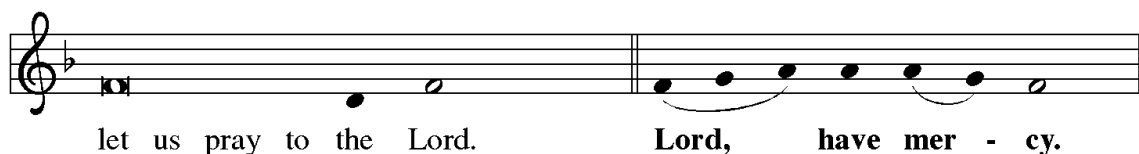
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



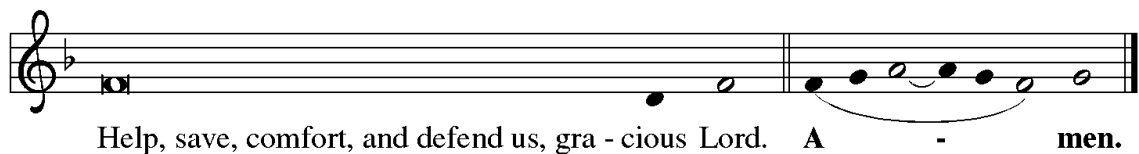
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Special Music by Wayne Gysan

First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95

- ¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
- ²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**
- ³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
- ⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**
- ⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
- ⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

⁸**“Harden not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

⁹There your ancestors tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰**Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,
‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.’**

¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger,
‘They shall never come to my rest.’”

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Gospel: John 4:5-42

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)¹⁰Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”¹¹The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?”¹³Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”¹⁵The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.”¹⁷The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’;¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!”¹⁹The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this

mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”

²⁶Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”

²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³²But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: As the Deer Runs to the River

No. 331

As the Deer Runs to the River

331



- 1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,
- 2 When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no stream or spring was seen,
- 3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!
- 4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst-ing for your heal - ing grace.
Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.
God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
Lead us to the wa - ters flow-ing from the cross on which you died.



Je - sus, source of liv-ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: David Hurd, b. 1950

Text © 2002 GIA Publications

JULION

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he was descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for your church. Bless partnerships with other Christians and inter-religious dialogue. Guide the daily work of denominational and congregational leaders. Strengthen our combined witness for the sake of the gospel, that all experience your life-giving love. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for the universe. All creation teems with life, from the depths of the earth and seas to the skies above. Fill us with awe and reverence for the diversity and preservation of life. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for the nations of the world. Topple the dividing walls that separate us from our neighbors. Form us into your beloved community where diversity of gender, race, language, ability, and ethnic origin is celebrated and affirmed. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. Be present with all who are lonely, and give courage to all who are afraid. Comfort those who live with chronic illness or other sickness (*especially*). Give them your living water always. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, especially those preparing for baptism (*at the Vigil of Easter/on Easter Day*). Nurture their faith and pour your love into their hearts. Inspire our community by their testimony to God's grace in their lives. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the lives of all your saints (*especially Gregory the Great, whom we commemorate today*). Their hope in you sustained lives of faith and service. Encourage us with the hope they shared in you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

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 forever.

Amen.

Blessing

God, the giver of love,

✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life,

and the Holy Spirit of rebirth

bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

Closing Hymn: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

No. 807



Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

807



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS008914. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the glory of God by Dave and Sally Warner in celebration of their son Paul's birthday on March 17.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS are presented to the glory of God by Fred Wobser in loving memory of Mary Ann on her birthday March 13.

ATTENDANCE

March 5: 57 + 27 = 84

PRAYER CONCERNS

Norm Stierhoff, at Firelands;

Dan Miller, at Firelands;

All those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey & Syria;

For all directly or indirectly effected by blizzards, tornadoes, and flooding,

Covid, Mass Shootings happening nationwide and Ukraine Crisis;

FAITH members, including; Dan Miller;

Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and the staff of our Northwestern Ohio Synod;

The work of Joey and Mary Supina and the Sandusky Artisans Recovery Community Center.

AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

At 8:00...

Interim Pastor:

Pastor Cathy Schibler

Lector:

Carrie Wiedenheft

Usher:

Justin Stierhoff

Acolyte:

Lincoln Smith

At 10:30...

Interim Pastor:

Pastor Cathy Schibler

Lector:

Jim Bertsch

Usher:

Denny Sessler

Acolyte:

Mason Russell

March Altar Care:

Pat Wiedenheft and Candy Beatty

DONATIONS TO OUR “PENNY JUG” support the global relief and habilitation efforts of ELCA World Hunger, a mission of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

THIS MORNING’S LOOSE CASH OFFERING (money not in an envelope or given without other designation) benefits Current Expenses. **LOOSE CHECKS** will support our Current Expenses Fund unless designated otherwise on the check memo line.



Devotions for Lent 3

Called by God – As Unfinished People

Texts: John 4:5-42 (Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95;
Romans 5:1-11)

Theme: I am he, the one speaking to you.

It would be impossible to count the number of voices - both literal and metaphorical - that call to us everyday of our lives. Family and friends, Co-workers and neighbors, Digital media and print media (yes, some still does exist!). Voices both present and past. On and on the list goes. Of all of the voices that call to us on a daily basis, which ones do we listen to? Which do we say “no” to? Which ones are like a pesky Jiminy Cricket sitting on our shoulders that we would silence if we could? And how do we discern what is the voice of God amid all of this? In the story of the Woman at the Well, we meet a woman who literally hears the voice of Jesus and discovers a new call for her unfinished life. God promises that Jesus does the same for us.

Reflect upon the voices that call to you:

*How do I typically decide which voices I listen to?

*What voices called to me today?

*Which ones did I listen to?

*Which ones did I not listen to?

Prayer: Inspire me, O God, to trust in your call upon my life. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

THANK YOU to Wayne Gysan for providing our “Special Music” today at both services.

2023 GIVING ENVELOPES AND 2022 STATEMENTS are available for pickup in the church office. If you do not see one for yourself, please let the office know and Carol will get you one.



SUNDAY, MARCH 26 BETWEEN SERVICES will be a brief overview of where the first aid equipment is and how to use the AED. This is open to the whole congregation. Please plan on attending this to help us all be better prepared for a health emergency here at Trinity.

ATTENTION: Anyone that would like to sing at the Good Friday service at Zion on April 7 starting at 1:00 pm, we will have a practice here *after late service TODAY*. (We will also run through the contemporary songs during the jam session.)

This Week at Trinity

TODAY	Worship Service Sunday School Jam Session	8:00 & 10:30 am 9:15 am 9:30 am
TUESDAY	Soup Meal prior to service at Zion Lenten Service at Zion	6:00 pm 7:00 pm
WEDNESDAY	Crossroads Meal “We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.)	1:00 pm 7:00 pm
THURSDAY	Council Meeting	7:00 pm
SATURDAY	“We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.)	11:00 am
SUNDAY	Communion Service Sunday School	8:00 & 10:30 am 9:15 am

ANOTHER CAMP is being planned for April 7 and our focus will be on Good Friday and All of God’s Creatures! So, during the month of March until Easter we will be collecting items to give to the Erie County Dog Pound. This is the wish list they have given us:

bleach, trash bags, paper towels, laundry soap, dish soap, fabric softener sheets, puppy food, dog collars, rawhide chewies, and old blankets, towels, or sheets.

There is a large trash container in the upstairs hallway to place your donations in. We thank you in advance for helping us with this project.



HELP IS STILL NEEDED for operating the video equipment for Sunday Services. It would be nice to get someone from early service to help so that the kid's programs can be shown also. Please let Cathy Wobser or the church office know if you would like to help.

NEED TO UPDATE LECTOR AND COMMUNION ASSISTANT VOLUNTEERS. It has been brought to the attention of the church that not all who are lectors want to be communion assistants and vice versa. Signup sheets have been placed on a bulletin board in the office hallway. Please sign your name to whichever activity you would be most comfortable with. New schedules will be distributed in April. If you have any questions, you can contact Nancy Vollmer or the church office.

EASTER MEMORIALS If you would like to make an Easter Memorial donation in honor of or remembrance of someone but are not really interested in the flowers or chicks there is an alternative. There are blue Easter Memorial envelopes available at the front and rear of the sanctuary. Just fill out what Trinity fund you would like to make your donation to, add your memorial information and drop it in the offering plate. These will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Morning.

SORRY IT HAS TAKEN AWHILE, but we wanted to give you the total amount of diapers and wipes that were collected in January. There were 28 packs of diapers, and 44 packs of wipes, including a couple powders and shampoo. We would like to thank everyone who brought these in. They will be distributed to Children's Services and Project Noelle.

ONCE AGAIN, WE HAVE WITNESSED THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKING THROUGH THE COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT PROJECT SHARE. Thanks to the donations and efforts of many, the spaghetti benefit held on March 4th was a success! While serving over 300 meals, \$4800 was raised for our Margaretta School district families. Project Share is fortunate to be the recipient of your goodwill and we thank you sincerely for your assistance. God's blessings to you! His Work, Our Hands! Blessings, Grace Lutheran Church



Living Gifts to Celebrate Easter Purchase Either or Both!!! Flowers for Our Sanctuary



Choose from Easter lilies, hyacinths, tulips, Calla Lilly, and daffodils, for our chancel at Easter and for your home or that of a loved one after worship. Flowers will be from Corso's.

Baby Chicks for Families in Underdeveloped Countries

Little chicks make a big difference! When they are just months old, these chicks begin laying eggs, which make nutritious, protein-rich meals for families who are hungry. The many extra eggs are often enough to allow a family to start a small business by selling them for additional income.



Order Form on Back

Living Easter Gifts Order Form

No. Item	Please put your name on this form	Total/item
---	White Easter Lilies (6" pot) @ \$13	---
---	Hyacinths (6" pot) @ \$11	---
---	pink --- blue --- white	---
---	Tulips (6" pot) @ \$11	---
---	red --- pink --- yellow	---
---	Daffodils (6" pot) @ \$11	---
---	Calla Lilly (4" pot) @ \$14	---
---	Baby Chicks @ \$1.00	---
TOTAL DUE (flowers/chicks)		---

Dedicated By -----
 DEDICATION FOR EASTER BULLETIN

Make checks payable to
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 and attach to this form.

Place in the offering plate or mail or take to the church office. Paid orders are due no later than **March 26!**