



March 26, 2023
Fifth 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: Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

No. 886

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

886

1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;

the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is in the treble staff, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

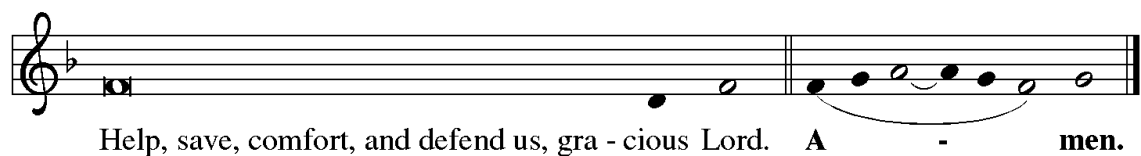
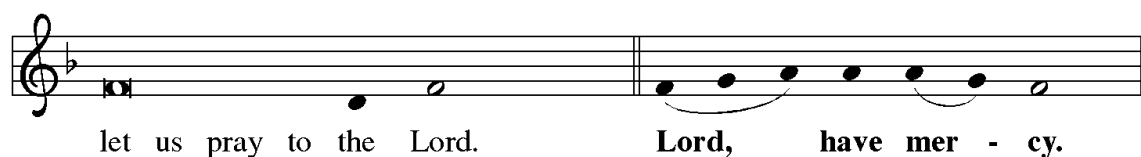
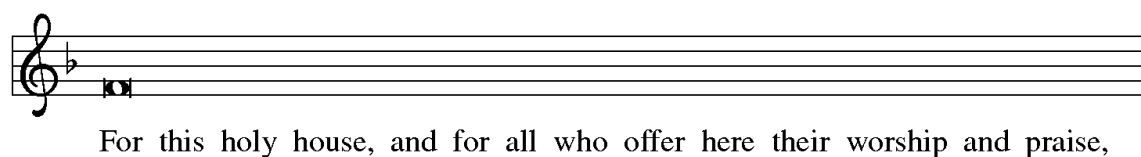
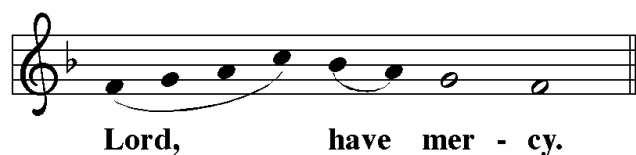
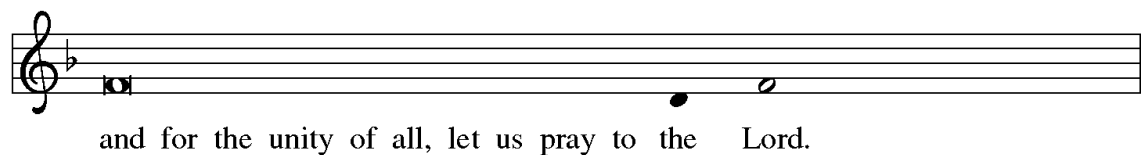
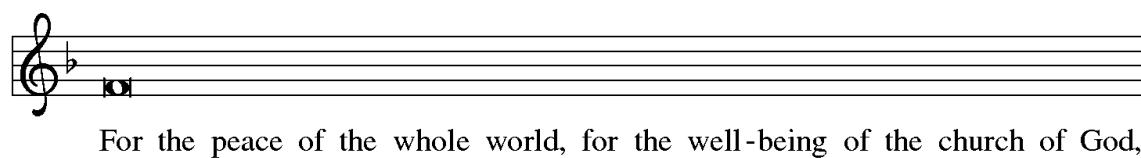
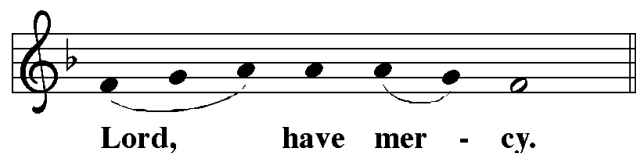
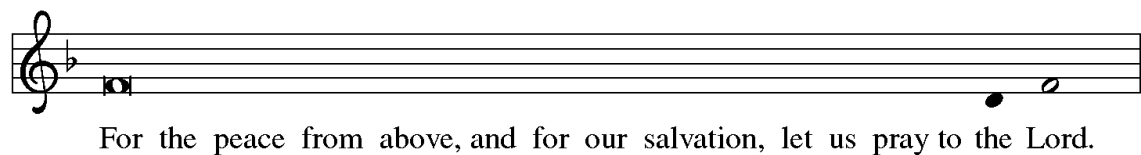
AZMON
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Greeting

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



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.**

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The 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. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I 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."

⁷So 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. ⁸I 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. ⁹Then 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." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then 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.'

¹²Therefore 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. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I 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."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

¹Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

²**O LORD, hear my voice!**

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

³If you were to keep watch over sins,
O LORD, who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you is forgiveness,
in order that you may be feared.**

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;
in your word is my hope.

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

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;
with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

⁸**For the LORD shall redeem Israel
from all their sins.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11

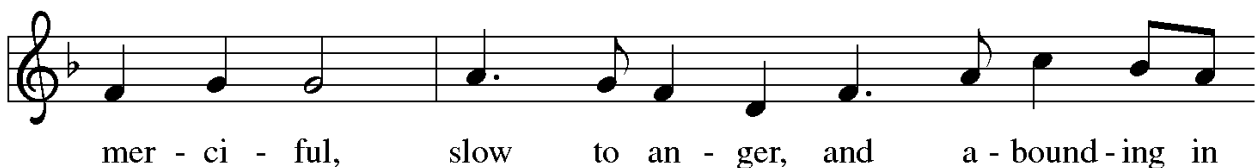
⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But 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. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: John 11:1-45

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But 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." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

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

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

²⁸When 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." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The 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. ³²When 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.” ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus 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.” ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I 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.” ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The 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.”

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

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

Children’s Message

Sermon


Hymn of the Day: Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

No. 452



452

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.

so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
 to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
 one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
 with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
 A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984

Music: Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House

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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.

You have breathed into us the breath of life. Enliven your church. Deepen our partnerships with our companion churches around the globe (*specific synods, dioceses, or congregations may be named*), and bless the work of missionaries who accompany them. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your spirit brings life to creation. Enliven the natural world and restore ecosystems in need of healing (*local natural places may be named*). Uplift prophetic voices that turn us to the needs of the soil beneath our feet and the air all around. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of oppression. Unbind nations and societies from the sins of racism, sexism, and homophobia. Raise up leaders at all levels of government who work to promote the dignity of every human life. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness (*especially*). You hear us when we call to you. Deliver us from the depths of our despair, and free us from the worries that bind us. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. Bless the music ministries of this congregation (*specific ensembles may be named*) and all who lead us in hymns of praise and thanksgiving and in songs of lament and prayer. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You are the resurrection and the life. Even though we die, we will live. With thanksgiving, we remember all your saints who now live in your eternal love. 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: Once We Sang and Danced

No. 701



701

Once We Sang and Danced



- 1 Once we sang and danced with glad-ness, once de-light filled ev-'ry breath;
- 2 All the wil-lows bow in weep-ing, all the riv-ers rage and moan,
- 3 God, who came to dwell a-mong us, God, who suf-fered our dis-grace,
- 4 Come, O Christ, a-mong the ash-es, come to wipe our tears a-way,



now we sit a-mong the ash-es, all our dreams de-royed by death.
 as cre-a-tion joins our plead-ing: "God, do not leave us a-lone."
 from your own heart, grieved and wound-ed, come the rich-es of your grace.
 death de-roy and sor-row ban-ish; now and al-ways, come and stay.

Text: Susan R. Briel, b. 1952, based on Psalm 137

Music: Latvian folk tune

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KAS DZIEDĀJA

87 87

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

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ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the glory of God by Dave and Sally Warner in celebration of their grandson Tavin's 12th birthday on March 23.

ATTENDANCE

March 19: 50 + 27 = 77

PRAYER CONCERNS

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; Bernie & Mary Ann Neidler;
 the people of Grace, Castalia, and their pastor, Kathleen Suggitt;
 the ministry of Habitat for Humanity in providing housing for low-income working
 families in our area.

AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

At 8:00...

Interim Pastor:	Pastor Cathy Schibler
Lector:	Guy Miller
Usher:	Mark Wiedenheft
Acolyte:	Erica Miller

At 10:30...

Interim Pastor:	Pastor Cathy Schibler
Lector:	Cathy Wobser
Usher:	Bob Troike
Acolyte:	Mya Smith

March Altar Care:	Pat Wiedenheft and Candy Beatty
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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.

This Week at Trinity

TODAY	Worship Service Sunday School AED Training	8:00 & 10:30 am 9:15 am Between Services
TUESDAY	Soup Meal prior to service at Zion Lenten Service at Zion	6:00 pm 7:00 pm
WEDNESDAY	“We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.)	7:00 pm
SATURDAY	“We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.)	11:00 am
SUNDAY	Communion Service (Palm Sunday) Sunday School	8:00 & 10:30 am 9:15 am

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.



Devotions for Lent 5

Called to Regret – As Unfinished People

Texts: John 11:1-45 (Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130;
Romans 8:6-11)

Theme: Jesus began to weep

Think of a time when tears welled up inside you and spilled over in weeping, not because of something joyful, but because of a deep sorrow. Sometimes our sorrows arise out of experience that are simply and profoundly sad. Other times our sorrows arise out of experiences that are marked by our own regrets. And still other times, it is both. Our experiences of regret can be powerful, even to the point of being debilitating. In such times, we can get lost in all that is unfinished, the “what ifs” and the “if onlys.” Naming and facing our regrets, however, can actually help us turn hindsight into insight so that even our regrets can be experiences of call for us that move us to something different in the future. When Jesus arrives at Lazarus’ tomb after Lazarus died, he weeps. We don’t really know the cause of his weeping, but I imagine that regret may have been part of his heartache. He wasn’t there when Lazarus was ill. A beloved friend has died. Deep sorrow has ensued. There were things unfinished. Jesus’ weeping calls to us amid our own regrets in a host of ways that not only comfort us but also move us to new ways of being and doing.

Reflect upon your regrets.

- How easy it is for me to name and learn from my regrets?
- What are my regrets from today?
- What insight do I gain from them?
- What do I need for tomorrow?

Prayer: Help me, O God, to learn from my regrets so that I might live more faithfully in each tomorrow. In + Jesus’ name, Amen.



TODAY 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.



ANOTHER DAY 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.

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS ARE DUE TODAY!



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!**



We all have days where we
don't know how we will go on.
Loved ones hurt us. Finances
worry us. Sickness may overtake
us. We lose people we love. But
God will always be there to guide
us through tough times.
Keep the faith.