

WELCOME TO
TRINITY

FAITH. LIFE. COMMUNITY.

8:45am

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

We are glad you are here at one of our THREE WORSHIP SERVICES this weekend, each centered around the same scriptures but with three different musical styles. THIS BULLETIN contains information for the 8:45 a.m. Sunday service

A SEPARATE BULLETIN lists the 5:30 p.m. Saturday service here in the sanctuary. The other service we offer is Praise worship in Jack's Place.

We invite you to turn to **pages 15 and following in this bulletin** for HELPFUL INFORMATION for visitors and members alike, such as service participants.

For directions or help with special needs, just ask an usher.

- DIAPER CHANGING AREA - in Gathering Space restroom
- LARGE PRINT BULLETINS for the Sanctuary services
- AURACAST AUDIO is available for hearing impaired for use in the Sanctuary and Jack's Place
- HANDICAPPED-ACCESSIBLE RESTROOM - Gathering Space
- WHEELCHAIR available - Gathering Space
- HANDICAPPED PARKING - near Worship entrances
- PAST SERMONS on the web - visit www.trinityashland.org

SUNDAY MORNING 8:45 COMMUNION

March 1, 2026

Second Sunday in Lent

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS of this service are available from the ushers.

✝ ✝ ✝ GATHERING ✝ ✝ ✝

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

THEME OF THE DAY

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING MUSIC

God So Loved the World - Theodore Beck
Mark Koehler, organ

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

pg. 94

**Please stand, as able.*

†*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:

cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

As you are able, please kneel.

Silence for reflection

Most merciful God,

**we confess that 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.

The minister stands and addresses the congregation

Almighty God, in his mercy,
has given his Son to die for you,
and for his sake, forgives you all your 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.

Amen.

Please stand

*ENTERANCE HYMN

How Firm a Foundation

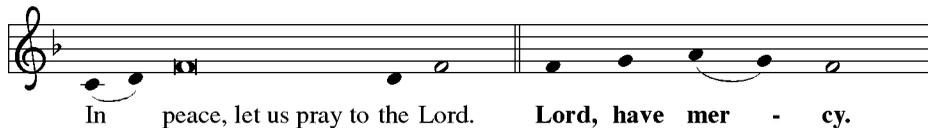
ELW 796

*GREETING

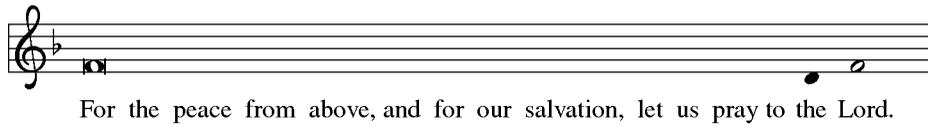
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

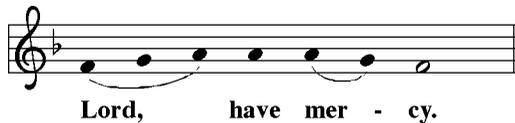
We sing a prayer for God's mercy to fill the church and the world.



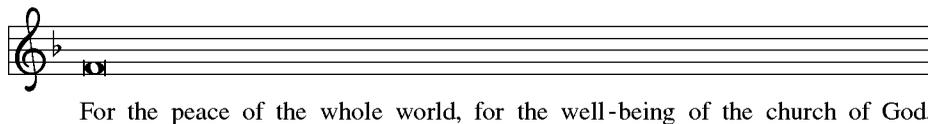
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



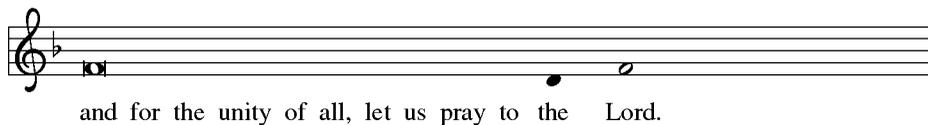
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



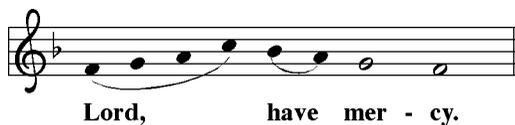
Lord, have mer - cy.



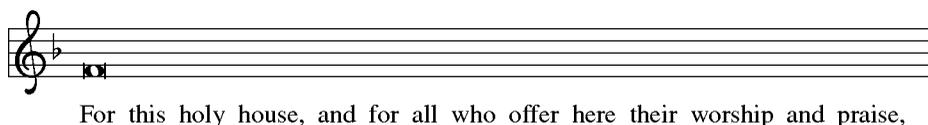
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



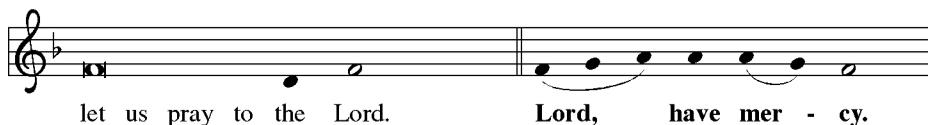
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



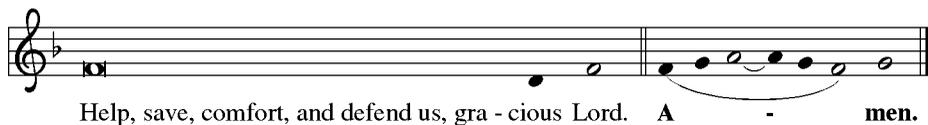
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.**

*SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

✠ ✠ ✠ **WORD** ✠ ✠ ✠
God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

FIRST READING *Genesis 12:1-9*

¹The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121 *Sung responsively - Tone 9*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹ I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?
- ² **My help comes | from the LORD,**
the maker of heav- | en and earth.
- ³ The LORD will not let your | foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.
- ⁴ **Behold, the keep- | er of Israel**
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;

⁵ the LORD watches | over you;
 the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;
⁶ **the sun will not strike | you by day,**
nor the | moon by night.
⁷ The LORD will preserve you | from all evil
 and will | keep your life.
⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,**
from this time forth for- | evermore.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Holy | Spirit.
As it was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

SECOND READING *Romans 4:1-17*

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
 and whose sins are covered;
⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

⁹Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness. ¹⁰How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised. ¹¹He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well, ¹²and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

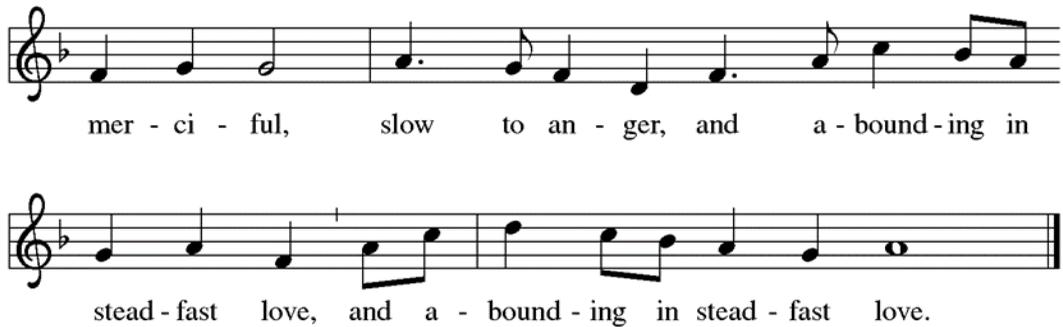
***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Return to the Lord, Your God

pg. 142



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



***GOSPEL**

John 3:1-17

The holy gospel according to St. John, the third chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Kevin McClain

HYMN OF THE DAY

This is the Spirit’s Entry Now

ELW 448

***LENTEN CONFESSION ON COMMUNION**

- adapted from Luther’s *Small Catechism*

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

**It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,
given with the bread and wine,
instituted by Christ himself
for us Christians to eat and to drink.**

Where is this written?

The holy evangelists Matthew, Mark, and Luke, and St. Paul write thus:

**“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.”

What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?

The words “given for you”

**and “shed for you for the forgiveness of sin”
show us that forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation
are given to us in the sacrament
because where there is forgiveness of sin,
there is also life and salvation.**

How can bodily eating and drinking do such a great thing?

It is not the eating and drinking alone,

but also the words that accompany it,

“given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sin.”

These words, when accompanied by the physical eating and drinking,

are the essential thing in the sacrament,

and whoever believes these very words

has what they declare and state, namely, “forgiveness of sin.”

Who, then, receives this sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are in fact a fine external discipline,

but a person who has faith in these words,

“given for you” and “shed for you for the forgiveness of sin,”

is really worthy and well prepared.

However, a person who does not believe these words or doubts them

is unworthy and unprepared,

because the words “for you” require truly believing hearts.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Sanctuary - Randy Scruggs and John W. Thompson

Arr. Lloyd Larson

Barbara Rhoades, soloist

***OFFERTORY**

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 186

Please sing this familiar response as the offering is presented.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

God our provider, in this season we turn back to you in spirit and in truth.

May these gifts we share be a sure sign of our turning.

Bless that which we offer here to be used to help all turn to you for the grace
you give all people, through Jesus Christ our savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✦ ✦ ✦ **MEAL** ✦ ✦ ✦

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord Be with You

pg. 144

The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE AND SANCTUS** *Holy, Holy, Holy*

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION (II)**

***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**

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
 Come and receive him!
 Amen.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS who believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation are welcome to receive communion.

STATIONS 1 & 2 - CENTER AISLE (nave) - Receive the host (bread), hear the promise, “The body of Christ given for you” and respond “Amen.”

Then receive a glass of wine while hearing the promise “The blood of Christ shed for you.” Please drink and then disperse the empty cup in the container before you leave for your seat.

Return to your pew by the side aisle, and then you may sit or kneel for prayer.

GLUTEN-FREE WAFERS AND GRAPE JUICE are available. Please indicate your desire to the communion deacon.

If you are NOT PHYSICALLY ABLE to move to the narthex, please advise an usher and the elements will be brought to you

CHILDREN who do not yet commune are invited with their families to receive a blessing.

You are encouraged to SING the hymns and RESPOND “Amen” as the elements are received.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God

pg. 146

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

ANTHEM

We Come Hungry to the Feast - Jerry Gunderson
Senior Choir
Ron Marenchin, director

ELW 759

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

SOLO

There's a Wildness in God's Mercy
with *Wonderful, Merciful Savior*
Mark Koehler, piano

*TABLE GRACE

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.

Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with tender care: in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

✝ ✝ ✝ **SENDING** ✝ ✝ ✝
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***BLESSING**

***DISMISSAL AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share God's peace with one another.

***POSTLUDE**

My Faith Looks Up to Thee - arr. Fred Bock
Mark Koehler, piano

✝ ✝ ✝

*We invite you to the Olive Tree Café after the service for goodies and Goldberry coffee.
The Café is located in the north office hallway on the Walnut Street side of the building.*

PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICES: 8:45

PRESIDING MINISTER - Pastor Kevin McClain

ASSISTING MINISTERS - Pastor Ben Mollohan, Stephanie Stoll

ORGANIST - Mark Koehler

ACOLYTE - Owen Schneeg

COMMUNION DEACONS - Pastor Kevin McClain, Pastor Ben Mollohan,
Stephanie Stoll, Jane Burns

LECTOR - Robert Harpster

GREETERS - Chuck & Cheryl Benway

USHERS - Usher Team #1, Gary Goon, Captain, John McNutt, Co-Captain

SOUND - Chris Vanderzyden

PRO PRESENTER - Jason Breining

CAMERA OPERATOR - Sam Wolfe

RADIO - Everett Kime

NURSERY - Connie Gorrell, Elizabeth Paddags, Emily Debolt, Faith Wolfe

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOST - Ted Ebert

VIDEO MONITORING - Tom Mutsch

*If you would be interested in learning more about these or other volunteer opportunities,
please contact Wendy Shreffler at the Church Office.*

SANCTUARY ALTAR FLOWERS this weekend are given by:

- > Stan Hunt and family in memory of loved ones,
- > Elaine Witmer in memory of her husband Merle's birthday on March 3rd, and to the glory of God,
- > Mr. and Mrs. Lee Mowry and family in memory of Virginia Young Green and Carl W. Green, Virginia Doyle Mowry and Arthur R. Mowry and Hazel Grace Baughman.

THE LIVESTREAM of the 8:45 a.m. Sunday service is sponsored by Larry Norris in memory of Kathleen Norris.

THE LIVESTREAM of the 11 a.m. Sunday Praise Service is sponsored in gratitude to live stream volunteers: Chris Vanderzyden, Eben Wolfe, Michael Prezioso

OUR SUNDAY 10:45 RADIO RE-BROADCAST of the 8:45 service on WNCO-AM 1340 is sponsored in memory of deceased Trinity members.

If you would be interested in learning more about these sponsorship opportunities, please contact Susan Jurjevic at the Church Office.

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WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE TODAY

CONNECT WITH TRINITY

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Ashland, Ohio 44805

 [@trinitylutheranashland](https://www.instagram.com/trinitylutheranashland)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday | 9am - 5pm | Other Hours by Appointment



GIVING

Thank you for giving to Trinity Lutheran Church today. Please use the link or QR code to donate. We appreciate your continuing support.



LET US KNOW YOU ATTENDED

Thank you for attending Trinity Lutheran Church today. Please use the QR code to note your attendance at our service. We appreciate your willingness to help keep our records up to date.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



REACH OUT & GET INVOLVED

Looking to get involved in the life of our church?
Fill out this form to let us know what you're
interested in, and we'll follow up soon!



EXPLORE OUR CURRENT NEWSLETTER

A variety of events and community-oriented
gatherings take place each week at Trinity.
See what's coming up, and join us!



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH