



Weekly Update
Friday, February 19, 2021
Trinity Lutheran Church Tea, SD

Dear friends in Christ,

The record cold this week brought me back to March 2002 when a similar blast roared out of the arctic. It was the month that my mother died very suddenly from a massive stroke, and the children and grandchildren gathered for the familiar funeral liturgy on an unusually frigid March day. After the service in town the small procession of cars drove to the family plot at West Nidaros Lutheran church. I remember the pine trees that ringed the cemetery, and they filled me with hope on that sad, cold day.

Traditionally the rural cemeteries in the Midwest were surrounded with pine trees as a reminder of eternal life through our Lord Jesus. Even in the in the wintery blast, the trees would remain green as proof that life endures.

The Bible ends with the image of a tree as a reminder of the life that God promises to us.

“And he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, ² in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.” Revelation 22:1,2

We entered the season of Lent this week on a very cold day, but we walk through this season anticipating not only the return of warmth but also in the promise of life amid the cold. The tree of life blooms no matter the season.

Peace and best wishes, Pastor Tom Opoien

“Table of Lent”

MID-WEEK HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICES

Wednesdays at 6:30pm

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| February 24 | Interrupted Table—God’s Plan, Not Ours: Scripture: Luke 7:36-50 |
| March 3 | Testing Table—Temptation and Trials, Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 |
| March 10 | Table of Forgiveness, Scripture: Matthew 6:14-15 |
| March 17 | The Wide Table, Scripture: Acts 11:1-18 |
| March 24 | The Adaptive Table, Scripture: Mark 2:13-17 |

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday—2-21 In-Person 8am & 10:30am Worship, On-Line worship at 10:30am, 9am Endowment Committee Meeting, 9:30am Adult Sunday School. Sunday School,

Tuesday—6:30am Men's Breakfast, 8:30am Preschool,

Wednesday—8:30am Preschool, 6:30pm Lenten Worship, 7:15pm KFC 6th grade in person, Sr. High

Thursday— 8:30am Preschool, 4-6pm Food Distribution, 5:30pm TOPS

Sunday—2-28 In-Person 8am & 10:30am Worship, On-Line worship at 10:30am 9:15am,9:30am Sunday School, Adult Sunday School.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:30am

February 21st: 3rd Grade in-person

February 28th: 2nd Grade in-person

The Board of Education is putting together a committee to help with Vacation Bible School this Summer. We are planning to **meet Monday, March 8th** in the fellowship hall. If someone is interested in joining this committee, they can email myself at brooke.boots@k12.sd.us or Angela Curtis at a.curtis22211@gmail.com



Trinity is excited to announce that we will continue to host a monthly drive-through food distribution similar to what we hosted in 2020. This ministry will be called the Tea Community Food Distribution. The first distribution will be held on Thurs. 2/25 from 4-6pm. If you need help with food or know someone who does, please signup here - <https://forms.gle/FfWB1mRrgi9RgRaC7>, through our Facebook page or call the church office at 498-2343.

ATTENDANCE

Date	8:00	10:30	Ash Wed 12pm	Ash Wed. 6:30pm
Feb 14	25	85	36	181

CHURCH FINANCES

Week of Feb 15

\$10,625 **Weekly Total Operating Expenses**

\$ 8,283 **Actual Weekly Total Giving**

\$ 2,342

This one number represents all expenses including staff costs, benevolences, supplies, outreach, and our mortgage payment. If you have questions regarding the budget, please contact Tommy Pol-
lema at 321-3057. **Ways to Give:** Online Giving: <https://teatrinity.breezechms.com/give/online>
Text Giving: (605) 777-7223 Envelopes: In-person or mail to the church

Our Globe Offering for February is The Teddy Bear Den

8am & 10:30am Worship

Sunday, February 21, 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church, Tea, SD

Teatrinity.org – 605-498-2343



First Sunday in Lent

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (from Colossians 1)

L: Fill us with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

C: so that we may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him

L: May we be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power

C: so that we may be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled us to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light

L: Rescue us from the power of darkness and transfer us into the kingdom of his beloved Son

C: in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins

L: We gather in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

All: Amen.

Song

Confession

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: God of mercy,

C: Jesus was faithful even in the face of death, yet we so often fail you in day to day living. Our commitment is shaky, our promises are unreliable, and our actions are questionable. We quit when discipleship becomes difficult and complain that we don't get enough credit. Forgive us our neglect of your mission and our lukewarm devotion and wake us up to the urgency of your gospel.

P: God is gracious and pardons all our shortcomings. May the giver of life forgive us our sins and restore us to the joy of discipleship and service, for the sake of Jesus our faithful Lord.

All: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

God of wisdom,

You challenge us to expand our minds to your inclusive view of the world. Teach us to welcome the stranger whoever they may be, and to open ourselves to having our minds changed and our hearts transformed, for the sake of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

WORD

Psalm 15

L: O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

C: Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;

L: who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

C: in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the Lord; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

L: who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Gospel Reading – Luke 10:25-42

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Sermon Pastor Tom Opoien

Sermon Song

Apostles' Creed

Offertory

Prayers of the People

We pray for members and friends of our congregation: Mike Westall, Steve Jelen's dad – Gene and brother – Jamie, Sarah Hilmo's uncle Fred Tidemann. Jerry & Dianne Werness's son in law – Doug Madetzke, Jami Atkin's dad – Kevin Roth, Jessica Boone's mom – Sue Meyer. Rosalie Gerdes's sister JoAnn Breitbach, Carol Ebel – Angie Hillestad's mom, Troy Smith and Ellie Cordie while in active duty.

MEAL

Holy Communion

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Distribution

Communion Blessing

Blessing

SENDING

Sending

L: God is good.

C: All the time.

L: All the time.

C: God is good.

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude