

Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026



PRELUDE

We arrive from many places as music gathers us into one shared moment in the Spirit.

WELCOME STATEMENT

Everyone is invited into God's story and the life of this community.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!

PROCESSIONAL

“Thine is the Glory”

ELW 376

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We ask the Spirit to prepare our hearts for hearing God's word.

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Acts 2: 14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

A reading from Acts.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

"This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM RESPONSE*Psalm 16*

We give voice to God's faithfulness, participating in the living story of God's mercy and love by echoing the ancient prayers of God's people.

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.

But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.

You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

NEW TESTAMENT READING*1 Peter 1: 3-9*

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

A reading from First Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**"Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"**

ELW 535

GOSPEL READING*John 20: 19-31*

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

The gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON*Rev. Phillip Potaczek*

We hear God's promise proclaimed to us, and the Spirit works in our hearts to make it real.

HYMN OF THE DAY**"The Risen Christ"****ELW 390**

We respond to the promises of God in song.

PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

We join the wider church in naming the story that holds us.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We entrust all into God's care.

After each prayer petition, please respond: **Merciful God, receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

We offer signs of Christ's peace, joining God's work of reconciliation.

May the peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Christ is risen! His new life brings hope to all creation. With thankful hearts, let us offer our gifts to God.
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! We offer our lives and gifts in praise.

OFFERING/ OFFERING HYMN

“Alleluia”

Jerry Sinclair

We return our gifts to God, offering ourselves for the life of the world.

Verse 1

Alleluia alleluia
Alleluia alleluia
Alleluia alleluia
Alleluia alleluia

Verse 4

Jesus loves me alleluia
Jesus loves me alleluia
Jesus loves me alleluia
Jesus loves me alleluia

Verse 2

I will praise Him alleluia
I will praise Him alleluia
I will praise Him alleluia
I will praise Him alleluia

Verse 5

How I love You blessed Savior
How I love You blessed Savior
How I love You blessed Savior
How I love You blessed Savior

Verse 3

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer

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OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

We lift our hearts and give thanks for God's life-giving work.

The Lord be with you. **And also 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

We remember God's faithfulness and join heaven and earth in praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

S 190

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

We recall the story of Jesus and ask the Spirit to make us one.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe... With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on † us and on these † gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Modern Version

We pray as Jesus taught, trusting God for what we need.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as our Savior taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to God's table of grace, receiving Christ's presence as nourishment for the journey.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All who wish to know the love of God in Jesus Christ are invited to Holy Communion. Inform a communion assistant if you need a gluten-free host. Grape juice is located in the center ring of the tray. If you are not receiving the sacrament today, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest for a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Breathe"

Marie Barnett

Singing in response to God's gift, we enter more deeply into the presence of Christ.

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence living in me
This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word spoken to me

Chorus

And I I'm desperate for You
And I I'm desperate for You

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We ask for strength to live what we have received.

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, we pray.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We share news and opportunities to live God's love together as a community.

BLESSING

God's promise goes with us into whatever comes next.

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL**“By Faith”**

Getty, Getty, Townend

With hearts lifted, we turn toward the world as Christ's people.

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave

By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

By faith the church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In ev'ry corner of the earth
(Chorus)

Chorus

We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight

By faith the mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name
(Chorus)

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SENDING*We are sent to love, serve, and live the story we have shared.*

Siblings in Christ, our Eucharist has ended. **Now it must be lived.**
Go in peace. Praise the Risen Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE**“Let's Go Out”**

Larry Olson

As worship concludes, music strengthens and inspires us for the journey ahead.

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*****Trinity at a Glance*****

- Please join us **Today, April 12, 2026** immediately after Service to celebrate our students' **First Communion!** There will be a reception in Java Junction. **Congratulations** to Allison Boyles, Gus Manning and Ben Spence!
- Special thanks to all for making Easter Sunday a very special day! We had a delicious fellowship breakfast, a lovely Service with a beautifully decorated Altar of Easter Lilies.

<u>Lilies In Honor Of:</u>	<u>From:</u>
Matthew, Kati, Judy & Joan'e.....	Jan Beckman
Shirley Harbeck.....	Cora Manning
Harold & Joan Salzman.....	Mathis Family
Don Link.....	Carol Link
Donetta Spohr.....	Sue Williamson

<u>Lilies In Memory Of:</u>	<u>From:</u>
Greg Matteson.....	Cheryl Matteson
Katie & Corey.....	Nancy Langeland
Gary Grunstad.....	Vickie Grunstad & Family


Additional Lilies From:
Bryan & Debra Guenther
Gross Family
Keith & Jane Goetz

- **Come join us at Java Junction on Sunday, April 26th, after Service** as we honor and show our appreciation for Trinity's support staff - Diane, Tonya, Matt, Mary, Carol, Dave, and Jamie.
- **The last Sunday Session and Affirmation Class** is scheduled for Sunday, **May 3rd**.
- **Please stop by the Giving Tree** in the narthex and pick up a tag or two for Mission/Outreach's next project! **We are collecting items for Safe Journeys.** These items will be used by Safe Journeys for victims of domestic violence. Thank you so much for your generosity!
- **The Swenson Scholarship is open to graduating High School seniors** going on to further their educations and who have remained active at Trinity throughout their elementary and high school years. Applications can be picked up at the church office Mon-Wed 9-2pm until April 30th. **The application deadline is May 1st.**
- **The Annual Trinity Rummage Sale will be held Fri, May 1st, 2-4pm for set up & 4-7pm for the sale. Also Sat, May 2nd 9-4pm for the sale.** Clean up date TBD. We are now taking donations for this event. If you are interested in helping, please contact Carol Wahlstrom, carolwahlstrom@gmail.com. We will need help for set up, during the sale dates & for clean up.
- **Please take and post the flyers in the back by Java Junction** at your local supermarkets, coffee shops, and give to your neighbors and family.
- **Open Table UCC's Annual Plant Sale is online through April 30th.** Order early before plants sell out! Plants start at \$4.50. <https://pci.jotform.com/form/260608653154154>
- Just a reminder: **If you need assistance applying for the Thrivent Grants,** Carol Wahlstrom carolwahlstrom@gmail.com or Jane Goetz goetz_jane@yahoo.com can help you.
- **Please support Mission's 2026 Growing Project.** The funds raised will help people (mostly women) increase their food production in Guatemala's Western Highlands. **Our goal is to raise \$25,000** to help. We're planning a number of activities to inform about the project and raise funds. All help is welcome! Last year's project raised almost \$29,000! Thank you for all of your support!
- It is time for the **TLC water station at the Starved Rock Marathon, Saturday May 9th,** at the entrance to Lone Point Shelter on Route 71. The station runs from **7am to Noon**. We need all hands on deck from 8:30-10:00am to hand out water and gatorade. Please let Anne or Rosie (815-488-5285) know if you are able to volunteer, for directions to the site, or if you have questions. Thank you!

● **CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- March Income = \$21,146.79 (Income YTD = \$67,408.67)
- March Expense = \$20,068.35 (Expense YTD = \$62,744.95)
- Income Less Expense = \$1,078.44 (Income Less Expense YTD = \$4,663.72)

● **THIS WEEK @ TRINITY:**

- **Monday (4/13):** 9a Tai Chi (Fellowship Hall)
10a Drum Fit (Community Room)
10a Staff Meeting (Office)
6p Christian Education Meeting (Board Room)
- **Tuesday (4/14):** 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)
7p Finance Committee Meeting (Board Room)
- **Wednesday (4/15)** *Tax Day*
1p Bible Study (Community Room)
6:30p Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- **Thursday (4/16):** 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)
7p Church Council Meeting (Board Room)
- **Friday (4/17):** 7a Sunrise Rotary (Fellowship Hall)
- **Saturday (4/18):** *World Circus Day!* 
- **Sunday (4/19)** Blessing of the Seeds & Soil
9a Sunday Session
9a Affirmation Class
10a Holy Communion

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE -

Please sign up using the binder at the back of the aisle.

<p><u>Sunday, April 12, 2026</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: Anna Reed Ushers: Lector: <i>LouAnn Gayan</i> Communion Assistants: Altar Guild: <i>Katrina Bromann, Cindy & Jay Komater</i> Video Tech: <i>Anne Lauterjung</i> Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever & Mary Heider</i> Altar Flowers: <i>In honor of Kate Beckman from Jan & Pete Beckman</i></p>	<p><u>Sunday, April 19, 2026</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: <i>Reagan Duffield</i> Ushers: Lector: <i>Shannon Matteson</i> Communion Assistants: <i>Shannon Matteson, Mike Matteson, Ann Enke</i> Altar Guild: <i>Diane Wahl,</i> Video Tech: <i>Anne Lauterjung</i> Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever & Mary Heider</i> Altar Flowers: <i>In honor of Marv Graunke from his family</i></p>