

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Little Mountain, South Carolina
2nd Sunday in Lent

We Prepare for Worship

Silence and meditation

Prelude *Trust in the Lord*

Welcome and Announcements

(* Please stand as able)

*Gathering Hymn *Beneath the Cross of Jesus~* Hymn 107

*Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness page 56

*Apostolic Greeting page 57

*Kyrie page 57

*Hymn of Praise *Glory to God in the Highest* page 58

*Prayer of the Day

P. Let us pray together.

C. Eternal God, only you are able to transform the hopelessness of death into the hope and promise of eternal life. Help us stand firm in the promise of eternal life through all of life's trials and tragedies; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

(We Sit)

God's Word Proclaimed

The First Lesson Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms 22:23-31 see bulletin

The Second Lesson Romans 5:1-11

*The Gospel Acclamation *Return to the Lord...* page 63

*The Holy Gospel Mark 8:27-38

*The Gospel Response page 63

(We Sit)

The Children's Sermon: *All of God's little Children are asked to come forward for a special message just for them!*

The Congregation is invited to sing "Jesus Loves Me" as the children come forward.

The Sermon "Take Up Your Cross"

Pastor Randy Drafts

*The Hymn of the Day *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary* Hymn 93

New Member Reception page 198

*The Peace

(We Sit)

We Offer Our Thanks and Praise to God

The Offering

The Anthem: *I Will Glory in the Cross* Choir

*The Offertory Hymn *Create in Me* page 75

*The Offertory Prayer

Merciful Father,

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God Sends Us Into The World

*Blessing page 76

*Sending Song *In the Cross of Christ, I Glory* Hymn 104

*Sending and Charge

*Doxology Hymn 564

Before Worship: Speak to the Lord
During Worship: Let the Lord speak to you
After Worship: Speak to each other

Welcome to worship today. We especially extend a warm welcome to all who are visiting with us today. We are strengthened by your presence and hope that you will worship with us again soon. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to become a part of our church family here at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

No Altar Flowers during Lent.

This morning we receive Dean & Barbie Rodgers into membership here at Holy Trinity. Welcome to the family, Dean & Barbie!

Stewardship Minute

If we allow a day to pass by without practicing generosity, we are like a blacksmith's bellows; we breathe, but we do not live. - Sanskrit proverb

All Organizational Treasurers - Please bring your financial books for audit for calendar year 2023 to Ann Sanders or Shannon Corley by Sunday, March 3rd. This should include your checkbook, bank statements, invoices that were paid and ledger if one was kept.

Prayers: Michael Torrence, Judy Shealy, Joyce McCall, Charles Frick, Donna Fulmer, Terecia Wilson, Barry Derrick (Brother of Clair Wicker), Jean Miller (Mother of Pam Bush), Rev. James Franklin Shealy, Denise Salyer (Friend of Lucy Peters), Randy Stockman (Father of Amber Koon), Jean Alewine, Bobbie & Andy Bickley, Junior Alewine, Patsy Frick, Broko Boland (nephew of Carmen Boland), Gerald Shealy, Marilyn Plampin, Nancy Webb (Mother of Terecia Wilson). *If you would like to include someone on our weekly prayer list, please call Pastor Randy at (803) 537-2303. Unless otherwise notified of a need, members will remain on the list for one month and non-members for two weeks.*

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, ²that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” ³Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴“Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. ⁷And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

¹⁵And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Psalm 22:23-31

²³You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

²⁸For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

²⁹All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

³⁰Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

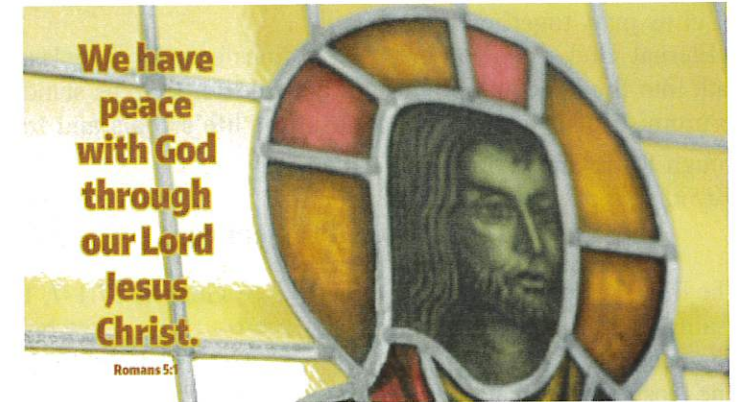
²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?”

²⁸And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” ³⁰And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him. ³¹And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

³⁴And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. ³⁶For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? ³⁷For what can a man give in return for his soul? ³⁸For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

531 Church Street
Little Mountain, SC 29075
Office: (803) 345-2841 / (803) 945-7336
Pastor Randy Drafts
Email: office@holyltc.org



*“Preaching, Teaching and Serving
in Christ’s Name”*

SERVING TODAY, February 25, 2024

Acolyte: Eva Kednocker
Crucifer: Troy Hentz
Bulletin Folder: Ava Kate Weaver
Lector: Danny Newton
Greeters: Danny & Ann Newton
Nursery: Sheri Wicker, Rebecca Edwards
Altar Guild: Wanda Havird, Holly Havird
Flowers: No Flowers during Lent
Usher Chair: Steve Bush
Elevator: Cameron Kaihara
Ushers: Andrew Frick, David Rodgers

SERVING WEDNESDAY, February 28, 2024

Acolyte: Roman Long
Crucifer: Blake Ballentine
Lector: Ann Sanders
Altar Guild: Wanda Havird, Holly Havird
Usher Chair: Steve Bush
Elevator: Cameron Kaihara
Ushers: Andrew Frick, David Rodgers

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, March 3, 2024

Acolyte: Roman Long
Crucifer: Blake Ballentine
Bulletin Folder: Troy Hentz
Lector: Eli Kednocker
Greeters: Chad & Anna Weaver
Nursery: Jessica Lindler, Joyce McCall
Altar Guild: Kara Cumalander, Christie Allison
Communion: Bill & Robin Loadholdt
Flowers: No Flowers during Lent
Usher Chair: Spyros Lezimis
Elevator: Britton Havird
Ushers: Danny Newton, Edwin Havird

If you are unable to serve, please arrange to switch with someone or contact an alternate.

Our Weekly Commitments and Needs – General Fund:

Amount Needed Weekly in 2024 \$ 6,531.00

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Website: www.holyltlc.org
Facebook @ Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

February 25, 2024

*We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today!
We pray that Christ will touch you with His love so you may be empowered
to be His witnesses in the world. Please join us throughout the week for
worship, Bible study, community outreach and fellowship in Christ Jesus.*

What's Happening This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, February 25th

Confirmation 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Teens for Christ 5:30 p.m.

Monday, February 26th

Prayer Shawl 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, February 28th

Good News Club 2:40p.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Lenten Meal 6:00 p.m.
Lenten Worship 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 3rd

Confirmation 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Mid-Week Lenten Schedule

This year during our mid-week Lenten worship, are going to explore the question: what does it mean to live out our baptism in the world today?

For Christians, our way of life has at its foundation God's saving action in baptism. All that we are, and all that we do, grows out of His love given to us in baptism. During Lent, we will reflect upon who we are as God's children in baptism, and how we are to live as people forever marked with the cross of Christ. We will also be reminded that, in a world filled with pain, suffering, and uncertainty, God calls His baptized children to bring the message of hope, mercy, and grace into the lives of everyone around us. This is our ministry as baptized persons—as persons marked for living!

Join us Wednesdays during Lent to learn more.

Meal at 6:00 p.m.
Worship at 7:00 p.m.

February 21 - Claimed
February 28 - Named
March 6 - Clothed
March 13 - Enlightened
March 20 - Appointed

holyltc.org



Easter Lily Order Form

If you would like to order Easter Lilies this year, the cost is \$10.00 (with foil wrap) per plant. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, March 3rd and payment must accompany order. No orders can be accepted after this date. Please print the information requested below, so we can insure accuracy in the bulletin.

YOUR NAME _____

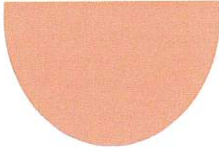
HOW MANY _____

IN HONOR OF _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

OTHER _____

TOTAL PRICE _____



What is a disciple?
Who are disciples?
What is discipleship?
How can I be a disciple?

Disciple Discipleship Disciple-making

What Does It Take to be a Disciple?

Recall in the Great Commission Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus commanded us to "Make Disciples." Three Parables explain how to do this command (1) Going, (2) Baptizing, & (3) Teaching which will be explained in future discussions.

Also, recall a disciple is a "follower of Jesus" which takes priority over everything else especially over their own will and chooses Christ & His will. "Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven," Matthew 6:10.

Becoming a disciple costs. It costs in the way we use our own gifts—our time and talents. Jesus never told us it would be easy. We must take up our crosses & follow Him. Mark 8:34-36

Jesus made one of the most powerful statements in all of scripture:

"If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for my sake the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?"

How do you save your life, yet lose it? By going after the temptations of the world—money (wealth), material things (stuff). When this is done, you start to forfeit your life; in other words—you put Jesus first, because you realize life is more than just "stuff" you accumulate. Giving yourself totally to God is giving Him full authority over your life as His follower (disciple)!

If young men/women in the military are expected to sacrifice everything for their country, how much more should we as believers be willing to do whatever our Commander, Jesus Christ asks of us? That is what Christ expects of us as followers (disciples)!

Sadly, that's not the case now a days. Too many of us serve Christ as long as He keeps money in our pockets or smiles on our faces. We DON'T want to be INCONVENIENCED.

"Yes, I love the Lord but I'm too busy with my job to serve others! Maybe when I retire! I don't have time for bible study but I do come to church on Sundays."

Few church members ever say this out loud! As a result there are too few disciples around to enable the church to impact others: community, the world. The problem is not that there is not enough money or programs or even churches filled with Christians. The problem is THERE IS NOT ENOUGH DISCIPLES!

The shortage of disciples explains why we have so many "Christians" but so little impact within our church: community, world. What we need are not more bodies in the pew but more "Disciples!" true followers serve. It's not how many members that are in a church but it the number of disciples!

Are you a disciple or a warm body in the pew?

Stay Tuned!

The Discipleship Team



