



For Your Reflection:  
**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

**LECTIONARY SUMMARY**

*We Worship the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Spirit and Truth of His Gospel*

Though the Lord had brought them out of Egypt, “*all the congregation of the people of Israel*” grumbled against Him because “*there was no water for the people to drink*” (Ex. 17:1). Despite their quarreling, the Lord graciously provided for them. He did not strike the people for their sins, but by the hand of Moses He struck the rock instead and brought forth water for the people. In the same way, living water flows from the pierced side of Christ at “*about the sixth hour*” (John 4:6; 19:14), when He is lifted up on the cross for the sins of the world. He is “*the gift of God*” (John 4:10), the well from which the Holy Spirit is poured out and becomes in His people “*a spring of water welling up to eternal life*” (John 4:14). By this grace in which we stand, being at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, we “*worship the Father in spirit and truth*” (John 4:23). “*We rejoice in hope of the glory of God*” because “*God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us*” (Rom. 5:2, 5).

**LESSON ON THE LITURGY**

**St. Patrick’s Prayer**

March 17<sup>th</sup> is the day we remember St. Patrick, 5<sup>th</sup> century missionary to Ireland. One of the great gifts that Patrick left the Church is his prayer known as St. Patrick’s Breastplate. Here are the final lines of the prayer:

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me. Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.	I bind unto myself today, The strong name of the Trinity, By invocation of the same, The Three in One and One in Three. By whom all nature hath creation, Eternal Father, Spirit, Word: Salvation is of Christ the Lord.
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The hymn version of this prayer can be found in Lutheran Service Book #604.

**CHAT WITH THE CHURCH FATHERS**

As the second part of repentance we add faith in Christ. The Gospel, in which the forgiveness of sins is freely promised concerning Christ, should be presented to consciences in terror. They should believe that, for Christ’s sake, their sins are freely forgiven. This faith cheers, and enlivens the contrite, according to Romans 5:1, "Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God." This faith obtains the forgiveness of sins. It justifies before God, "since we have been justified by faith." This faith shows the distinction between the contrition of Judas and Peter. The contrition of Judas [Matthew 27:3-5] is useless because faith is not added. Faith grasps the forgiveness of sins, given as a gift for Christ’s sake. So the contrition of Peter [Matthew 26:75] helps because faith, which takes hold of the forgiveness of sins granted for Christ’s sake, is added to it. Love is not present before reconciliation has been made through faith. For without Christ, the Law is not performed, according to Romans 5:2, "Through [Christ] we have also obtained access [to God]." This faith grows gradually and throughout the entire life, struggles with sin, in order to overcome sin and death. Love follows faith. Childlike fear is defined as anxiety that has been connected with faith, that is, where faith comforts the anxious heart. Without faith to sustain the anxious heart it is slavish fear. - Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Article XII(V): Repentance, paragraphs 35-38.

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Trinity App 

**Worship Times**  
Saturday 5 pm  
Sunday 8 & 10:45 am

**Adult Bible Class &**  
**Sunday School**  
Sunday 9:30 am

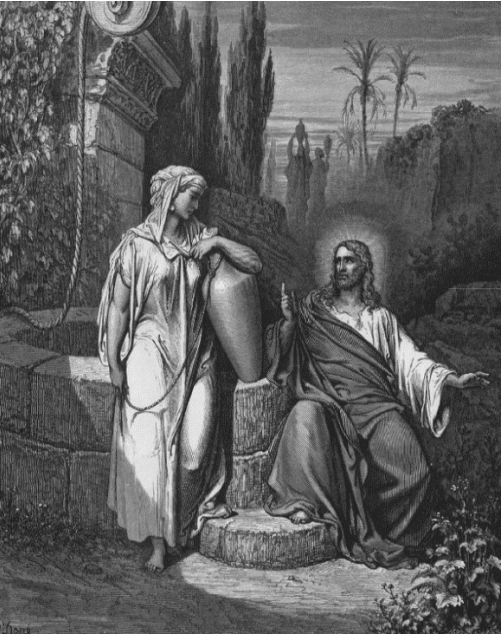
**Sunday Radio Ministry**  
(KLGA 92.7)  
The Lutheran Hour  
7:05 am  
Lift High the Cross  
8:30 am

**Trinity on TV**  
MediaCom Ch. 3  
AMU Ch. 918  
Tuesday 9 am

**Dial-A-Devotion**  
515-395-PRAY (7729)

# Trinity Lutheran Church

*Algona, Iowa / Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*



## The Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 12, 2023

### Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Celebration of the Lord's Supper

If you are a member of an LCMS congregation, we invite you to join us today for Holy Communion. Lutherans believe that the celebration of the Lord’s Supper is the eating and drinking of the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sin and the strengthening of faith. We also believe that Holy Communion is a sign of oneness of faith, life, and worship.

If you have not communed with us before and would like to receive Communion, we ask that you please visit with one of the elders on duty or one of the Pastors so that we may be of help to you concerning your participation in this Holy Supper.

Anyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply indicate your desire by crossing your arms over your chest.