

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6134 US 23 North, Rogers City, MI 49779

(A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

Pastor Jeffery J. Luplow

Organist: Mrs. Diane Smuda

Lent 1

March 6, 2022

The Lenten season officially began this past Wednesday, the day Christians call “Ash Wednesday.” Many years ago, a custom developed in churches (some still practice) that in a worship service on this day the people would come forward and have the minister apply ash to their foreheads. While doing so the pastor would say, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” “Dust and ashes” symbolized mortality, which remains a consequence of sin. Also, “dust and ashes”—especially as we have learned from the Old Testament—served as a practice and outward sign of grieving and repentance.

While many Lutheran churches no longer stress outward customs such as applying ash to the forehead, certainly the focus on repentance of sins is necessary. After all, if a person doesn’t see his sins, he would see no need of a Savior from sin.

That’s why, then, the Sunday and special midweek services revolve around the Passion of our Jesus, His suffering and death, which paid for our sins. Thus, we see how the ministry of Jesus takes Him step by step to the purpose for which He was sent—to offer Himself as our sin-sacrifice to God, to rescue us from sin and its mortal consequences.

Order of Worship: ELH Page 60 with communion.

Hymns: 491 (1-5), 293, 328 (6, 8), 491 (6)

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 26:5-10. Moses reminds God’s people of the LORD’s actions on their behalf. He especially points out their deliverance from the misery, oppression and toil they had experienced in the land of Egypt. Thanksgiving for the LORD’s blessings lead them to worship to bring Him the firstfruits of their crops.

Psalms of the Day: Psalm 91. The LORD lovingly sends His angels to deliver us from danger and to guard and deliver us from sin. (*Supplement*)

Epistle: Romans 10:8b-13. God’s word proclaims to us the good news of salvation and works saving faith in our hearts. This faith expresses itself through an outward confession of that faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Verse of the Day: “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” (Matthew 4:10b, EHV) [We omit saying/singing alleluias during Lent]

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13. Jesus begins His ministry by doing battle with the devil. The devil confronts Him with three temptations. Each time Jesus used God’s word to defeat Satan. Jesus’ victory over Satan started here and ended in complete and total victory on the cross. Thanks be to God for our champion, the Lord Jesus Christ. -1-

Sermon: Luke 4:1-13

Theme - “Jesus Defeats The Opportunist”

Points to ponder from the day’s Scripture readings:

- Old Testament: What “bigger” reminder of what the LORD has done for us does Israel’s rescue from Egypt serve as a picture?
- Old Testament: What is the appropriate response of the LORD’s people for His gracious rescue?
- Epistle: God’s word not only assures us that God has saved us through faith in Christ. What does that word also motivate Christians to do?
- Gospel: Each time Satan tempted Jesus to sin, what weapon did Jesus use to fend off those temptations? (Additionally, see Ephesians 6:10-18)
- Gospel: Evaluate this statement – “The devil knows the Bible better than Christians.”
- Gospel: In light of Satan’s use of the Bible to mislead Jesus... agree/disagree to this statement – “A half-truth is just as harmful as a truth-and-a-half when it comes to applying the Scriptures.”

Announcements:

+ Sunday school 8-8:40 a.m.

+ Bible class 8-8:30 a.m. We will be studying the book of Psalms.

+ Confirmation class – Monday from 3:15-5 p.m.

+ Midweek Lenten worship: March 9 @ 6:00 p.m.

Holy Communion - We celebrate the Lord’s Supper because Jesus instructed us to do so, and God offers us forgiveness of sins, life and salvation through it (Matthew 26:28). We believe the Bible’s teaching that receiving the Sacrament together is a way of expressing unity in our beliefs as one body (1 Corinthians 10:17). We therefore respectfully ask that guests who are not members of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod, or our sister synod, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, refrain from communing here until becoming familiar with our beliefs and express agreement. We in no way imply that you are not a Christian or are not “good enough” for us. God’s Word teaches us to regard communion as an outward expression of unity in all areas of faith. In communion we publicly confess that we agree in all that we teach and confess on the basis of the Bible (Matthew 28:20, 1 Corinthians 1:10, Romans 16:17, 1 Corinthians 10:17). We pray that you understand and will respect this practice of Close Communion. We encourage you to seek more information about the confession that unites us and would love to meet with you if you have questions regarding Close Communion.

Deuteronomy 26:5-10 – Then you will respond and say in the presence of the LORD your God, “My father was a wandering Aramean. He went down to Egypt and lived there as an alien with just a few people, but there he became a great, strong, and populous nation. The Egyptians mistreated and afflicted us. They imposed hard labor on us. We cried out to the LORD, the God of

our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice, and he saw our affliction, our labor, and oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand and an outstretched arm and with great awe-inspiring acts and signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now, look as I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you have given me, LORD.” (EHV™)

Romans 10:8b-13 – “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the word of faith that we are proclaiming. Certainly, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and it is with the mouth that a person confesses, resulting in salvation. For Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” So there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord is Lord of all, who gives generously to all who call on him. Yes, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (EHV™)

Luke 4:1-13 – Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where he was tempted by the Devil for forty days. He did not eat anything during those days. When they came to an end, he was hungry. The Devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’” The Devil led him up to a high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. The Devil told him, “I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, because it has been entrusted to me, and I can give it to anyone I want. So, if you worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written: ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” The Devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the pinnacle of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here, because it is written: He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you. And, they will lift you up with their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.” Jesus answered him, “It says: ‘You shall not test the Lord your God.’” When the Devil had finished every temptation, he left him until an opportune time. (EHV™)