

# 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 5**

**April 3, 2022**

Historically in the Christian church, the Sundays in Lent have been referred to as “mini-Easters.” Therefore, Christians often emphasized the passion of Jesus during the special midweek services instead of during the regular Sunday services. According to a custom stemming from this practice years ago, however, Christians started calling the regular Sundays in Lent “Passion Sundays,” and the focus spread between the normal Sunday and midweek, special Lenten services.

In particular, today’s gospel reading reflects Jesus’ passion by outlining how hatred against our Christ had increased. We note, too, how in Psalm 73 the Spirit’s chosen writer, Asaph, acknowledged that unbelievers seem to have no struggles—unlike Christians—as well as the disdain those without regard for God have for Christians...including our Jesus!

Order of Worship: ELH Page 60 with communion.

Hymns: 499 (1-5), 8, 286, 499 (6)

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

*Old Testament: Isaiah 43:16-21* The powerful LORD, who delivered His people from the slavery in Egypt, captivity in Babylonia and the slavery of sin, continues to offer a new life of blessings to His faithful people.

*Psalms of the Day: Psalm 73.* The psalmist Asaph sinfully challenges God’s faithfulness: “Why do the wicked, those who have no regard for God, seem to prosper?” Nonetheless, when the LORD brings Asaph to his spiritual senses, he realizes the beautiful assurances of the LORD both now and hereafter for life everlasting (v.26) (*Supplement*).

*Epistle: Philippians 3:4b-14* Our greatest treasure is the gift of salvation, whereby God makes us by His grace righteous. This treasure motivates and strengthens us in holy living as we strive to live the godly life to which God has called us. We cling to this treasure as we “*press on to the goal*” of eternal life.

*Verse of the Day:* The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:45, EHV) [We omit saying/singing alleluias during Lent]

*Gospel: Luke 20:9-19* God continued to offer salvation to the chosen nation of Israel. As they rejected the prophets of salvation, so they also reject and would soon murder the Author of their salvation, God’s own Son. Since they rejected their Savior, He would also reject them. May we never reject the precious gift of life from our God.

*Sermon: Luke 20:9-19*

*Theme - “Christ Is Our Cornerstone”*

-1-

Points to ponder from the day’s Scripture readings:

- Old Testament: The LORD delivered His people from Egyptian captivity. What “new thing” (v.19) is the LORD now promising the people?
- Old Testament: What’s the spiritual point the LORD makes, when He through Isaiah reminds the people of His divine rescue from the Egyptian and Babylonian captivities respectively?
- Epistle: What serves as the basis for Paul’s confidence of a right relationship with our holy God?
- Epistle: To what is Paul referring when he states that he “lost all things”?
- Epistle: What is Paul’s goal based on all these verses?
- Epistle: What is the “this” to which Paul refers in verse 12?
- Gospel: What are the specific points of Jesus in His parable of the tenants and the vineyard?
- Gospel: What is the “inheritance” of verse 14?
- Gospel: When Jesus quotes Palm 118:2 in verse 17, how did His hearers understand what our Savior meant?
- Gospel: What was the reaction of those who heard this parable of Jesus?
- Gospel: What did these hearers try to do to Jesus as a result of “getting” the meaning of His message?

## Announcements:

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

+ Sunday Bible class 8-8:30 a.m.

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

+ Midweek Lenten worship: April 6 @ 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.

**Isaiah 43:16-21** – This is what the LORD says, who makes a road through the

-2-

sea and a path through mighty waters, who brings out the chariot and the

horses, the army and the strong warrior. They will all lie down together. They will not get up. They are extinguished. Like a wick they go out. Do not remember the former things. Do not keep thinking about ancient things. Watch, I am about to do a new thing. Now it will spring up. Don't you know about it? Indeed, I will make a road in the wilderness. In the wasteland I will make rivers. The wild animals, the jackals and ostriches, will honor me, because I am providing water in the wilderness, rivers in a parched wasteland, to provide water for my chosen people to drink. This people that I formed for myself will declare my praise. (EHV™)

**Philippians 3:4b-14** – But even more than that, I consider everything to be a loss because of what is worth far more: knowing Christ Jesus, my Lord. For his sake, I have lost all things and consider them rubbish, so that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, which comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness that comes from God by faith. I do this so that I may know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death, in the hope that in some way I may arrive at the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus also took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it yet, but there is one thing I do: Forgetting the things that are behind and straining toward the things that are ahead, I press on toward the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (EHV™)

**Luke 20:9-19** – He began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard, leased it to some tenant farmers, and went away on a journey for a long time. When it was the right time, he sent a servant to the tenants to collect his share of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenant farmers beat the servant and sent him away empty-handed. The man went ahead and sent yet another servant, but they also beat him, treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. He then sent yet a third. They also wounded him and threw him out. The owner of the vineyard said, ‘What should I do? I will send my son, whom I love. Perhaps they will respect him.’ “But when the tenant farmers saw him, they talked it over with one another. They said, ‘This is the heir. Let's kill him, so that the inheritance will be ours.’ They threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. So what will the owner of the vineyard do to them? He will come and destroy those tenant farmers and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “May it never be!” But he looked at them and said, “Then what about this that is written: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone? “Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush the one on whom it falls.” That very hour the chief priests and the experts in the law began looking for a way to lay hands on him, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people. (EHV™)