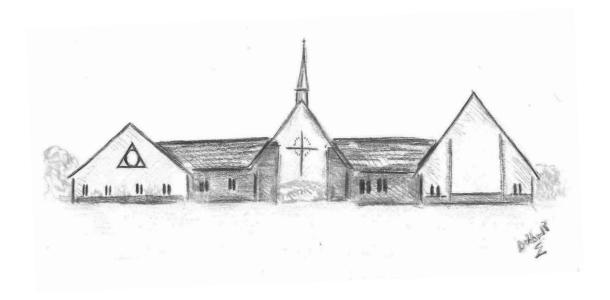
Fourth Sunday in Lent March 30, 2025



OUR MISSION:

To make disciples for Jesus Christ, to baptize and to teach the faith, that all may know the hope of Jesus Christ and become responsible members of His church.

Trinity Lutheran Church
1190 Valley Forge Rd PO BOX 340 Fairview Village, PA 19409
610-584-8411 www.trinityfairview.com

Assistive technology for the hearing impaired is available. Please see the operator in the sound booth.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Now, let our singing help us clear our hearts and minds for worship.

P

WELCOME SONG ELW 751



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

P Please rise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C Amen.
- P Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

 Silence is kept for reflection.
- P Compassionate One,
- C you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.

 We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.

 We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.

 We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.

 We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

 Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.

 Amen.
- P Beloved in Christ,
 God's arms are always stretched open wide
 to welcome the wandering ones home.
 In + Christ your sins are forgiven.
 You have a place in God's house forever.
- C Amen.

OPENING HYMN ELW 807

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb en e zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise. and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home. let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love, Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God; Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove. he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813

GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray.
- C God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

 Amen.

P Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

⁹ The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

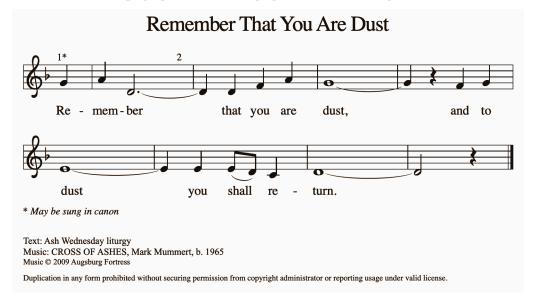
- ¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.
- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 32

- L Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!
- C ² Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- L ³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.
- C ⁴ For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- L ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- C Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- L ⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- C 8 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.
- L ⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
- C 10 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- L Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.
- P Please rise.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

- P The holy gospel according to Luke, the thirteenth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

- **P** The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.
- P Please be seated.

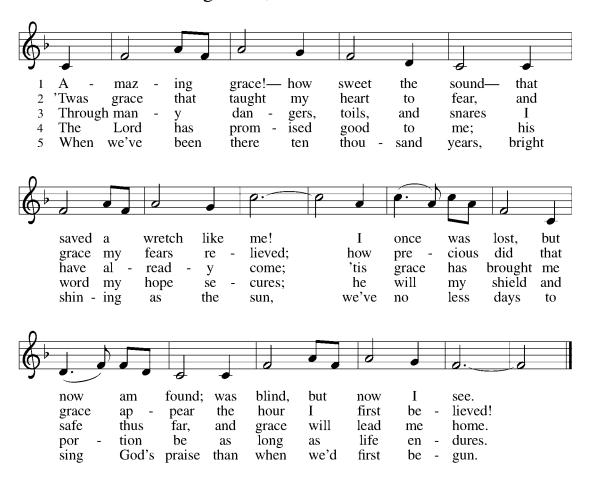
SERMON

The Reverend Karen Nelson, Pastor

P Please rise.

SERMON HYMN ELW 779

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

APOSTLES' CREED

- P Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.*
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Amen.

P Please sit or kneel.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- L Let us pray.
- L Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

- L God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- L God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. God, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- L God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.

God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness.

We especially pray for those who are unable to be with us today: Sandy, Dot, Nancy, Joe & Diane.

For those in need of God's healing love and strength: Karen, Glenn, Kylar, Kelly, Mary, Lynne, Leslie, Susan, Rhiana, Bill, Bob, Steve, Mike, Brandon, Charles, Rick, Joan, Jane, Peggy, Anna, Marita, Tilly, Heather, Brenda, Vince, Joe, Kim, Shelly, Nelson, Zaden, Sandra, Nancy & Tom.

For those in need of God's guidance, protection and strength. Meg & Julie

In gratitude for God's abundance.

For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

For those who serve and protect our nation: Jordan, Brian, Craig & Eve.

And for those who we hold in our hearts, and those whose needs are known only to you God.

God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

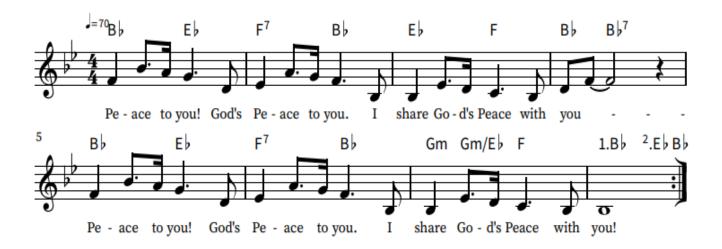
- L God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. God, in your mercy,
- L receive our prayer.
- L Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
- C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P Please rise.
- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

While we sing, you may turn to those sitting closest to you to offer, and receive, the peace and reconciliation which is possible only through Christ.

Peace



P Please be seated.

OFFERTORY MEDITATION MUSIC

OFFERING

God has blessed us in so many ways. We offer our gifts as a demonstration of our gratitude. And we pray God will use these resources to help us address the needs of our neighbors.

Offering by online giving: Make a gift to the general fund at https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YR6Z/home



Bill pay option with your local bank or **By Mail:**

Trinity Lutheran Church PO Box 340 Fairview Village, PA 19409

P Please rise.

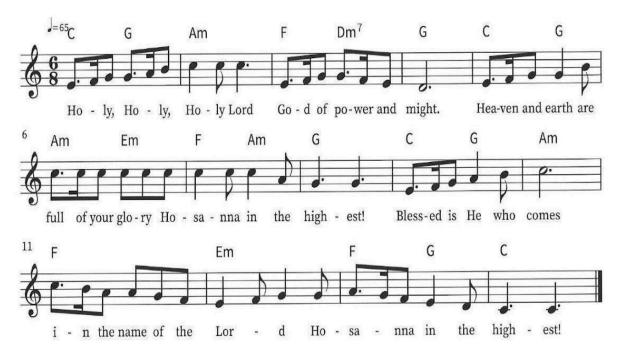
OFFERING PRAYER

- P Gracious Provider,
 you set your immense treasures among us,
 opening your heart to the world.
 As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
 deepen our commitment to sharing those
 treasures with others,
 through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

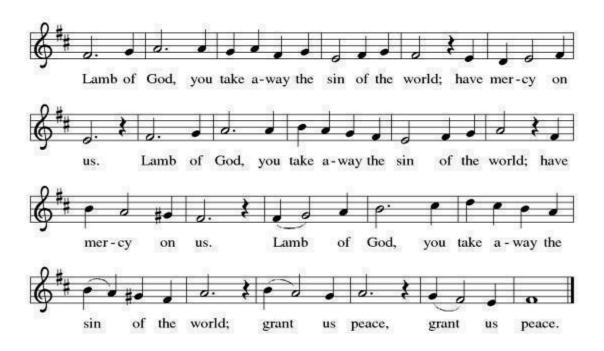
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
- C Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

P Please be seated until the invitation.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

- P The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
- C Amen.

To receive Holy Communion please come by the center aisle to the pastor to receive the bread (wafer) and then proceed to the communion assistant for intinction (dipping your wafer in the wine) and then eat, then return to your seat by the side aisle.

Non alcoholic wine is used at all services.

A gluten free wafer is available, simply tell the Pastor when you approach.

If you are not communing and desire a personal blessing please come to Pastor with your hands at your sides.

P Please rise.

COMMUNION BLESSING

- P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you forever in his grace.
- C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.

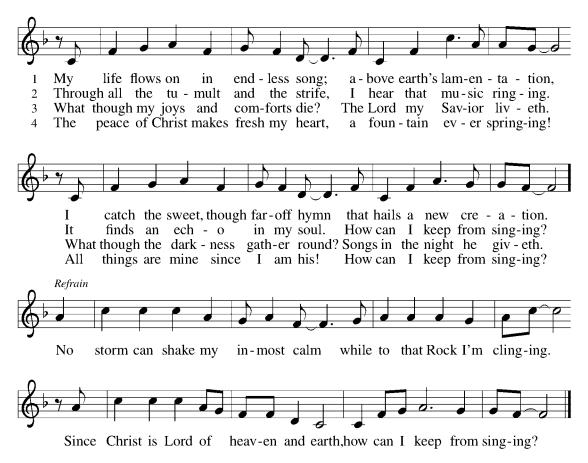
 The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

 The Lord look upon you with his favor, and give you his peace.

 In the name of the Father, + and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

SENDING SONG ELW 763

My Life Flows On in Endless Song



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Live in hope.
- C Thanks be to God.



The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Liz's brother John by Vince & Liz Gallenti.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Terms of use: Liturgy from <u>sundaysandseasons.com</u> copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress.

Text: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License. **Scripture:** New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License 006477.

Announcements:

- Welcome to all who are visiting us today. Please complete a purple visitor's card (found on the clipboard in the pew chair in front of you) and place it in the offering plate. Thank you for taking the time to worship with us today.
- Adult Faith Formation: Our Lenten study, "Witness at the Cross" by Amy-Jill Levine, is continuing today. Join us at 11:15am in the sanctuary as we consider the crucifixion from the perspective of Jesus' beloved disciple. Thank you Pastor Karen for leading our Lenten study.
- The Juliets lunch will be held on Wednesday April 2nd at noon at the Eagleville Taphouse, 3300 Ridge Pike. Please contact Trish Graves at 610-304-5130 by Tuesday, April 1st if you're coming.
- PLEASE LEND A HAND FOR COFFEE SET UP OR CLEAN UP! Open set up dates: April 13th, April 20th (Easter Sunday), May 4th. Open clean up dates: April 13th, April 27th, May 4th.
- Who's That? The latest version of this game invites everyone to send me either their wedding picture or a picture of a special celebration. The older the better, so we can have fun trying to guess the identity of those in the picture. I'll display them without names in the narthex on April 13th and April 20th, then attach the names for everyone to see on April 27th. Contact Mike Martorelli with any questions.
- For Pastoral emergencies please call 610-584-8411 extension 2 and leave a message for Pastor Nelson. This voicemail is being monitored for emergencies.



	1
Serving Today 3/30	
Lector	John Nowmos
Greeter	Francesca Burnett
Communion Assistants	Francesca Burnett & Paul Myers
Ushers	Lori Peltier & Peter Schell
Coffee Hour	Francesca Burnett & Anne Meibohm
Building Opener	Alma Nowmos
Altar Guild	Trish Graves
Counting Team	Rick & Chris Cole, Joan Woodruff
Serving Sunday 4/6	
Lector	Brenda Aslin
Greeter	Jennifer DePaulis
Communion Assistants	Jenn Castor & Alma Nowmos
Ushers	Ann Dungan & Wilmer Cressman
Coffee Hour	Ann Dungan & Kristin Stoeber
Building Opener	Ann Dungan
Altar Guild	Trish Graves
Counting Team	Dave Stone, Lori Peltier, Meg Smith



This Week at Trinity

Sunday, March 30

10:00 AM – Worship

11:15AM – Adult Faith Formation - Sanctuary

1:00-3:00 PM - Food Drive

Monday, March 31

8:30 AM -2 PM -Trinity Country Nursery School

2:30 PM- Outside Vendor Kitchen Rental

6:30 PM - Aerobic Rhythmics - Hall

Tuesday, April 1

8:30 AM -2 PM -Trinity Country Nursery School

11:00 AM – TAG Book Club

Wednesday, April 2

8:30 AM -2 PM -Trinity Country Nursery School

6:30 PM – Aerobic Rhythmics – Hall

7:00 PM -Evening Prayer on Zoom

Thursday, April 3

8:30 AM -2 PM -Trinity Country Nursery School

1:00 PM -TAG Cards & Games

7:00 - 7:45 - Bell Choir Rehearsal -Sanctuary

7:45 - 8:30 - Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary

Friday, April 4

8:30 AM -2 PM -Trinity Country Nursery School

Saturday, April 5

8:00 AM – Car Club – Narthex

Holy Week at Trinity

Sunday April 13th - Palm Sunday Worship 10:00 AM Choir and Bells

Thursday April 17th - Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 PM

Friday April 18th - Good Friday Worship 7:00 PM Tenebrae Service (readings and music)

Sunday April 20th - EASTER SUNDAY Worship 10:00 AM Choir and Bells Bell Tree Solo

Easter Flowers



\$20.00 each

Orders Due By Sunday April 6th

Completed forms and payment can be placed in the offering plate
Dropped off at the food drive on Sundays from 1-3
OR mailed to PO box 340 Fairview Village, PA 19490
(Checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church.)

You may pick up your plant following the 10 AM Service on Easter Sunday.

I will pick up my plant ___

Please deliver my plant to a shut-in ___

In Honor of: _____

OR

In Memory of: _____

Name _____ Email ____