

**✝ 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent ✝**  
**February 25, 2018 10:00 A.M.**

**GATHERING IN WORSHIP**

*Please use the time during the prelude for quiet meditation to prepare yourself for worship.*

◆Prelude

◆Call to Worship - (In Unison)

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

◆Hymn of Praise (BH #439) *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
**Paul Kozak, Trombone**

◆Invocation  
The Lord's Prayer (forgive us our sins...)

**WORD**

**Scripture Readings**

Genesis 12:1-4a  
John 3:1-17

◆*Gloria Patri* (BH #109)

**Pastoral Prayer**

◆Hymn of Preparation (BH #680) *Lift High the Cross*

Message "Do Our Lives Reflect The Savior?"  
**Rev. Mark Westlind**

**RESPONSE**

◆Hymn of Response *This Little Light of Mine*

Prayer of Confession (In Unison):

God of salvation,  
you shower our lives and our world with love,  
yet we too often turn away from your blessing.  
It is just so easy to complain!  
There are little annoyances each day,  
but they pile up into a mountainous burden  
that becomes a curse on our lives.

Free us from our unwise choices, O God.  
When we are distracted and confused,  
redirect our attention to the abundant opportunities  
to experience your love.  
During this Lenten journey, focus our hearts on you,  
that we may choose the blessing of salvation  
offered us each day through Jesus Christ,  
in whom we pray. Amen.

*Time for personal reflection and confession.*

Assurance of Pardon (Pastor):

Hear and believe these words of grace:  
God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but in order that the world might be saved through him.  
And so I declare to you: In Jesus Christ we are loved,  
we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

**Passing of the Peace**

**Life Together**

**Offering**

Offertory *Lord Jesus, Fill My Days* **Carol Byland, Carol Strickland**

- ◆ *Doxology*
- ◆ Prayer of Dedication

**SENDING**

◆Hymn of Dismissal (BH #72) *To God Be the Glory*  
**Paul Kozak, Trombone**

◆Benediction

Postlude

◆Indicates those who are able should stand.

## NOTES OF INTEREST

Childcare is offered for infants and younger children in the church nursery. If you need directions or more information feel free to ask an usher for assistance.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Greg Goetz, Dorothy Karner, Elsie Koler, Carol Latimer, Barbara Mateer, Joyce Olson, Bruce Sladek, Lorraine Sorensen, Linnea Wimpenny.

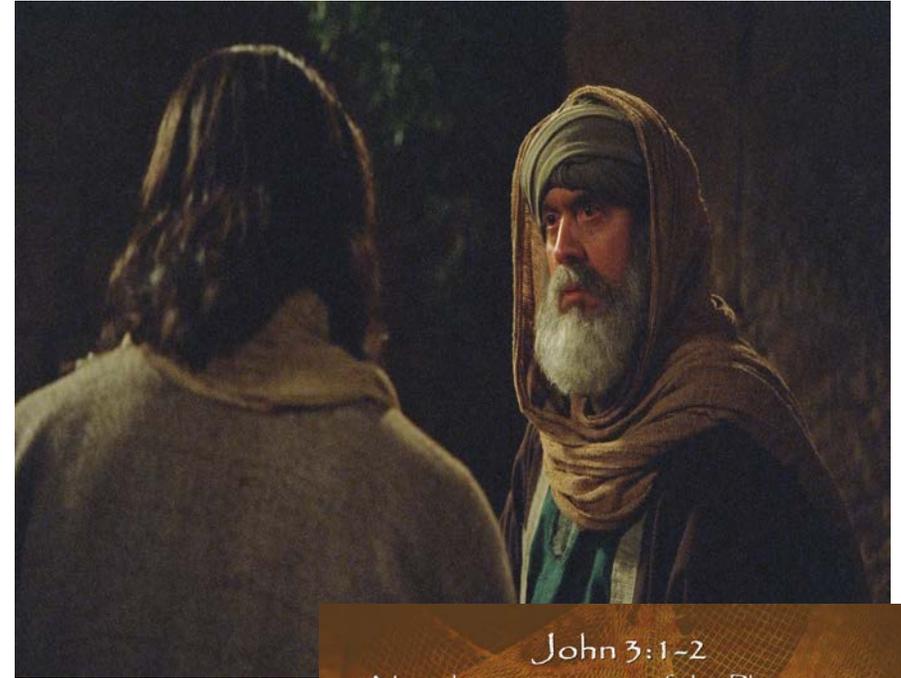
Thank you to Paul Kozak, Carol Byland and Carol Strickland for the special music this morning.

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Rev. Mark Westlind.....	Interim Pastor
Stuart Seale.....	Director of Music and Worship
Betty Aardema and Nate Van Der Male.....	Organists
Amanda Fulton.....	Director, Noah's Ark Preschool
Karen Christakos.....	Church Secretary
Joe Michalowicz.....	Custodian

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Trinity Evangelical Covenant Church  
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Website: [www.trinitycovoaklawn.org](http://www.trinitycovoaklawn.org)  
Email: [office@trinitycovoaklawn.org](mailto:office@trinitycovoaklawn.org)



John 3:1-2  
*<sup>1</sup> Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."*

CHURCH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 11:15 A.M.  
 PETERSON HALL

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**WELCOME TO TRINITY**

So that we can get to know you better and you can better know us, please complete the tear-off below and place in the offering plate. Thank you!

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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**Calendar for the Week:**

**Today:**

- 9 A.M. Adult Sunday School
- 10 A.M. Worship
- 10–11 A.M. Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade
- 11:15 A.M. Annual Church Business meeting, Peterson Hall

**Note:** No Confirmation Class or High School Youth Group

**This Week:**

- Mon.-Fri. 9 A.M. Noah's Ark Preschool
- Tues. 9:30 A.M. Women's Bible Study
- Wed. 6 P.M. Light supper prior to Lenten class
- Wed. 6:30-8 P.M. Lenten Journey, Fireside Room
- Thur.

**Next Sunday:**

- 10 A.M. Worship
- 10–11 A.M. Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade
- 11:15 A.M. Confirmation Class and High School Youth Group
- 11:30 A.M. Adult Sunday School

**March 4 – Nursery Helpers:** Heidi Weszely

**Greeters:** Pat Anderson, Gloria Vitro

**Announcements:**

**Adult Sunday School**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Today, February 25, the day of the Church Annual Business Meeting, the class is meeting at 9 A.M. instead of the usual time.

Dr. Carol Noren will conclude her four-week class on the topic of four familiar biblical narratives with a slightly different perspective: not exactly feminist, but taking a closer look at overlooked aspects of stories featuring women. The final topic is (Luke 10:38-42) Sister Acts: Cooperation or Competition?

In March, Dr. Troy Martin will be returning to teach our class on the topic "Law and Emotion in the Bible and Our Society". Join us for this interesting topic and discussion.

**Camp Registration**

Today is the last day for Early Bird Registration for Summer Camp (a \$35 discount!) See Kellie Lee for information.

## Lenten Journey

Pastor Mark's new class looks deeper into a centering prayer life, a contemplative life, if you will. The class starts with a light meal at 6 P.M. on Wednesday evenings followed by class from 6:30 P.M. to 8 P.M. The Lenten Journey will run through March 28.

Pastor Mark explains, "I feel that this time of year perfectly pairs Lent with a contemplative and meditative prayer life. As we look at the three-pronged life: 1) **Outward** extension of the Gospel, 2) Going outward, **Together** as a body, and 3) The **Inward** Journey, this 6 week class focuses on the inward reflection. Do not be afraid of this journey! Do not think that you cannot be silent and reflective before the Lord! This will bring you closer to Jesus and you will love it! Hope to see you there."

To RSVP, please fill out the flyer and place in the offering plate.

## Save the Date - Youth Group (ages K-6<sup>th</sup> grade)

The Youth Group's next get-together is Sunday, March 18, from 3-5 P.M. Look for details in upcoming bulletins.

## **Today's Scripture:**

### **Genesis 12:1-4a**

The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

<sup>2</sup>"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

## **John 3:1-17**

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

<sup>3</sup>Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

<sup>4</sup>"How can someone be born when they are old?"

Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

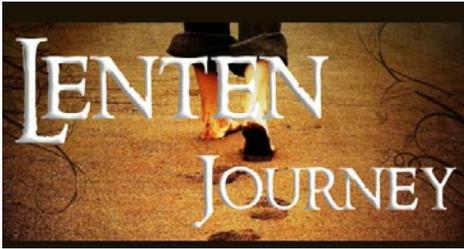
<sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup>You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

<sup>10</sup>"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony.

<sup>12</sup>I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.



This new class from Pastor Mark looks deeper into a centering prayer life, a contemplative life, if you will. This class will once again start with a light meal at 6 P.M. on Wednesday evenings followed by the class from 6:30 P.M. to 8 P.M. "The Lenten Journey" will begin on February 21 and run through March 28. I feel that this time of year perfectly pairs Lent with a contemplative and meditative prayer life. As we look at the three-pronged life:

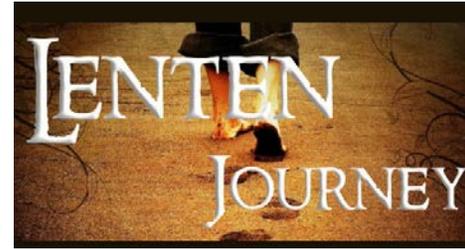
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<u>Date</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Light Supper</u>	<b>I am willing to help prepare and serve a light supper</b>
Feb. 28			
March 7			
March 14			
March 21			
March 28			



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