

# *Trinity Lutheran Church*

- *Sunday Worship Services 10AM*
  - *Holy Communion*
- 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month*

*25 Lakeview Street  
Lake Placid, Florida 33852  
Rev. Richard Norris, Sr. Pastor  
Rev. James Olckers Assistant Pastor  
Rev. Shane McCoy, Assisting Pastor  
Trinitylp.org  
863-465-5253*



*Our Mission and  
Ministry Statement is:*

*“To know Christ  
and  
make Him known”*

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## FROM THE PASTOR - April, 2026

For those of you who may be new to our congregation, you are probably not aware of the fact that Good Friday is my favorite Christian Day/Observance. Other than perhaps the account of Jesus' Birth, which God could have chosen many ways to come to earth, there is not a more important day in history. Good Friday is the very reason why Jesus came to earth, to die and take upon Himself the pain for our sin filled lives.

Good Friday is real, it is raw, it is wonderful. There isn't anything that can get in the way of the day, it is the purest of holy days.

No Gifts, no stockings, no Santa Claus, or reindeer of Christmas. No fancy clothes, little bunnies, egg hunts, and baskets filled with candy we find on Easter. No foam flames worn on heads as for some on Pentecost.

Nothing corrupts the raw truth of what happened on Good Friday. It is my belief there is no purer day of observance other than Good Friday, for me it is the Highest Holy Day of the Christian Faith.

We call this one Friday "Good Friday" in the English-speaking churches. This reference has been used for centuries. Our Spanish speaking fellow Christians speak of this day as "**holy Friday.**" The Germans speak of it as the Friday of "**pure gold.**" Swedes know it as "**long Friday,**" implying unhurried devotion throughout the day on the meaning of the Cross.

This one specific Friday in all of history is good because of its meaning. We cherish the day not because of a sordid curiosity over one man's excruciating ordeal of going through a crucifixion, but rather it is the outcome of that great sacrifice that fills us with the joy of the forgiveness of our sins because of this one man's sacrifice.

**The fruits of Good Friday bring about our redemption.** Without Good Friday there is truly nothing Good in Good News. For it was the innocent suffering and death our Lord that secures our salvation by faith.

The account of Jesus' passion given us in St. John's Gospel is particularly well suited for this purpose. John 19:16b-22. . . "**So, they took Jesus,<sup>17</sup> and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha.<sup>18</sup> There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them.<sup>19</sup> Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."<sup>20</sup> Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek.<sup>21</sup> So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" <sup>22</sup> Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."**

Many Churches including our church observe Good Friday with a Tenebrae service. Tenebrae stems from Latin, the word meaning "**darkness.**" The service centers around the increasing darkness of the church as the lights of the candles are extinguished. The darkness not only provides an atmosphere of reflection on Christ's death but also symbolizes the darkness that Jesus experienced as He hung on the cross.

The Synoptic Gospels record the interesting and important fact that darkness covered the land during Jesus' crucifixion this shroud of darkness over the land was a supernatural sign of judgment on sin. That day was not like any other since a world-changing event was happening — Jesus was enduring the sins of all mankind.

As Isaiah prophesied, Christ **“was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed”** ([Isaiah 53:5](#)).

Because of the sins placed on Him, Jesus experienced the pain of being separated from the Father. In His holiness, God the Father looked away from the Son who bore our sins in His body **“He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.”** ([1 Peter 2:24](#)).

Feeling the darkness of His separation, Jesus cried out, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ([Matthew 27:46](#)).

During a Tenebrae service, believers are gradually immersed into a physical setting of darkness, allowing us to reflect on Jesus' suffering, the darkness that covered the land at His crucifixion, His separation from the Father, and the seriousness of our sin.

When the candles are extinguished, we are reminded of the costly payment for our wrongdoing, the sacrifice of the perfect Lamb of God. “The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, **“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”** ([John 1:29](#))

After each reading, whether from the Psalms or gospels, a candle is extinguished until one is left. By the end of the service, the church is cast into darkness, except for the continual light of the Christ candle. The single candle left upon the altar is briefly removed. We visualize without words, in darkness, our awareness of the reason why Jesus suffered death. While believers are considering the significance of the darkness, a loud noise is heard, signifying the slamming shut of the book of life.

As our sovereign Savior, Jesus did not soar above the bloody sweat, the pain and horror of suffering and death, but entered into it so as to take hold of it and conquer it through enduring it. He turned the wrath of humans to the purposes of God's accomplishing our salvation. Nothing takes him by surprise, nor moves him to work out a plea bargain compromise. With frenzy and fanatical hatred bursting out all around him, Jesus is strong and steady in his mission to carve out the pathway through all that our sins create. That includes death itself.

It is here that our faith is centered. **What we preach on Good Friday, and every opportunity of proclamation on every day, is Christ crucified - and risen, for us. There is no other foundation on which we can establish our trust.**

Religion itself can be so twisted and distorted without this lifegiving center in the Cross. As Christians our attention must fully focus upon the Cross, and Jesus as the Lamb of God who took upon himself the sins of the world at that Cross.

When the candle returns, It speaks of death conquered and sin forgiven.

It speaks of resurrection, of Easter, of the victory of God - at such an enormously great cost. **You cannot get to Easter without first going through Good Friday.**

A Blessed Good Friday to you all,  
Pastor Norris

# Upcoming Events

*Maundy Thursday Service*  
*04/02/2026 - 6:00PM*

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*Good Friday Service*  
*04/03/2026 - 6:00PM*

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*Easter Breakfast*  
*April 5th,*  
*8:15AM to 9:30AM*

Please see the Sign-Up sheet on the hall door.

**Next SUNDAY Fellowship Hour For APRIL, 2026**

**April 12, 2026 - Hostess needed**

**April 26, 2026 - Hostess needed**

***WISH TO HOST ANY EVENT?***

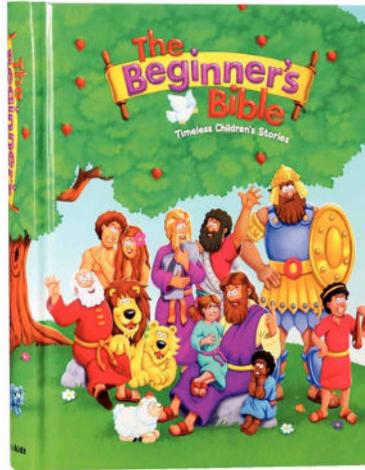
*Please see the Sign-Up Sheet for up coming dates  
in the Narthex to pick a day.*



**Next Trinity Ladies  
Guild Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 14 at 1PM**  
& Every second Tuesday of the month.

**Men's Breakfast**  
**Saturday, April 25, 2026**  
**& Every LAST Saturday**  
**of the month at 8AM**  
*At Oscar's Kitchen 1979 Placid Lake Blvd.*  
*Lake Placid, FL*

# Sponsor A Bible



I got this idea from my granddaughter and her preschool in Sebring. This Children's Bible that she got is one of her favorite books to read and she reads and discusses a new Bible story each week before she goes to bed. At Trinity Tots, we give each child who is graduating a bag full of kindergarten supplies to get them through the first couple of weeks of school. But with giving them a Children's Bible, we are helping to get them through LIFE!

We have had so many positive comments from the parents since we have been doing this. So, if you wish to sponsor a Bible for \$10.00, we are going to put your family name and Trinity Lutheran Church in the front of the Bible and let the child and his/her family know that you will be praying for them as they start their year of Kindergarten and throughout the year. Susan will give you the name of the child to include in your prayers. This is a great way to connect the church to the school, and we know that in today's world, our children need all the prayers they can get.

Take a form on the guest registry stand, fill in your name, put \$10 or a check (made out to "Trinity Tots") in an envelope and put it in Susan Norris' box. Thank you!

# Baskets Galore

Drawing will be on Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

*This is our major fundraiser of the year!*



You may still come and check out  
The Trinity Tots baskets in the hallway.

*Tickets are \$1.00 each*

Just write your name  
and phone # on it  
and which basket # you want.



*(If we have your phone # on file,  
you don't need to write it on the ticket.)*



**#1-GONE FISHIN'- \$800**

*\*Sponsored by Mrs. Harris' Class & Lake Placid Marine*

**4-hr. Guided Fishing Trip by Corky Neff  
Adult Fishing Pole, Bass Addict Gift Card,  
Youth Fishing Pole, Tackle Box  
Assorted Hooks, Lures & Jiggs , Hat,  
Fishing Backpack and Cooler**



**#2- AMERICAN GIRL- \$225**

*\*Sponsored by Mrs. Pepper's Class*

**"Truly Me" American Girl Doll, Doll Bag Carrying Case, Assorted Clothes, Toy Beauty Kit, White Plush Kitty Carrier, Skateboard & Helmet**



**#3- BARBIE'S ON THE GO- \$219**

*\*Sponsored by Mrs. Escobar's Class*

**Girls Scooter, Assorted Barbie, Ken & Chelsea Dolls, Barbie Off-the-Road Jeep, Doll Clothes, Assorted Coloring and Reading Books , Pink Storage Bin**



**#4- DINO STAMPEDE- \$258**

*\*Sponsored by Mrs. Norris' Class*

**Dino Egg Dig Kit, Paint Your Dino Race Cars, Lego Jurassic World, Dino Magnetic Building Tiles, Large Dino Egg with Dinosaurs, Dino Racetrack Set, RC Dinosaur, Assorted Reading and Activity Books, Large & Small Storage Cubes**



**#5- FAMILY ROAD TRIP -\$500**

*\*Sponsored by Guelff Orthodontics*

\$250 Marriot Gift Card  
 \$75 Wawa Gift Card \$50 Chick-fil-A Gift Card  
 Blanket, 2 Drawing Tablets , Memory Game  
 Snacks , Books, Storage Tote



**#6- TASTE OF LAKE PLACID- \$470**

*\*Featuring the following restaurants:*

Casa Tequila, Dock 633, Dunkin Donuts,  
 Golden Corral, Hitt's Nutrition, Main Street,  
 Mr. Sammy's Pizza, Morty & Edna's, Oscars,  
 Schoonis, Wet Dogs & Wine Down



**#7- DISNEY GET-A-WAY- \$625**

*\*Sponsored by Miller's Central Air, JPP Sod & Thrivent Financial*

\$450 Disney Gift Card , \$50 Wawa Gas Card,  
 Mickey Mouse Plush Toy, Mickey & Friends Totes,  
 Blankets, Mickey Toys,  
 Signed Disney Print by Artist Rob Kaz



**#8- A DAY JUST FOR ME- \$275**

*\*Sponsored by LP Noon Rotary*

Purse & \$100 Visa Shopping Card, Devotion Book,  
 Lee's Nail Salon, Gift Certificate,  
 Gift Cards from: The Blueberry Patch, Panera Bread,  
 Bath & Body Works, Bella Gusto Olive Oil,  
 Bottle of Wine



**#9-GET TO WORK- \$1,059**

*\*Sponsored by The Pourghafari Family*

**HP 15.6" AI PC Laptop Computer Mouse Pad, Mouse, Thumb Drive**



**#10- ROAD TRIP READY – \$350**

*\*Sponsored by Ole South Auto Salvage & O'Reilly's Auto Parts*

**Car Wash Bucket & Supplies, \$40 Gift Card to Triple B's Car Wash-Sebring, \$200 Gift Card to Weather Tech, \$40 Gift Card to O'Reilly's Auto Parts**



**#11- STITCH'S TREASURE CHEST- \$155**

*\*Sponsored by Friend of Trinity Tots*

**Stitch Backpack & Duffle Bag, Stanley Water Tumbler, 2 Zippered Pouches, Stitch Disney Miniso, Plush Angel**



**#12- START YOUR ENGINES- \$170**

*\*Sponsored by The Bradshaw Family*

**RC Electric Truck Tesla, 3 Racing Cars, Tow Truck, FAO Schwartz Build Your Own Track**



## **April's 2026 items are:**

- Cereal**
- Canned Meats (tuna, chicken, chili ...)**
- Microwaveable vegetable cups**

**(Items may be placed in the Narthex at any time.)**

# The Dragon's Den

## Another Trinity Serving Opportunity



Trinity serves this community by providing snack and food items for the Lake Placid Middle School Dragon's Den, a food pantry in which staff would give needy Middle School youth a bag of breakfast, lunch and snack items they could pre-prepare/microwave themselves over the weekend.

Many of the youth in our community depend on the free breakfasts and lunches which are provided each day at school, but when the weekend gets here, their parents might be working, and they are left to fend for themselves.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month will be called Green Dragon Sunday. You will have the opportunity to either bring in some of the items which are listed below, or you can put a few dollars in the basket labeled "Dragon's Den" and we will purchase the items in bulk from Sam's or Walmart. If you bring in items, please stick to the ones listed as these are the suggestions from the school. We will update the list according to their needs. Thank you!

**Microwave Raviolis**

**Microwave Spaghetti O's**

**Ramen noodles**

**Tuna packs**

**Microwave Mac n cheese cups**

**Granola bars**

**Pop tarts**

**Oatmeal**

**Cheese crackers**

**Peanut butter crackers**

**Peanut butter**

**Jelly**

**Fruit cups**

**Snack size cookies**

**Beanie weenies**

**Hormel packs**

**Vienna sausages**

**Microwave Soup**

*Special Days to Celebrate!!!*

*April 2026*



*Happy Anniversary!*

*15 Christopher & Kristin Andrews '17*

*2 Valerie Baker*

*3 Richard McConachie*

*8 Blair Adams*

*8 Mary Mihok*

*9 Crystal Jeanne (Corsetti) Harris*

*12 Thomas L. Petri*

*13 Bobbie Snow*

*16 Louise Kalmes Saugstad*

*18 Lyle Rowell*

*24 Randy Grohler*

*27 Harriet Josleyn*

*Happy  
Birthday!*



Church email address: [trinitylpfl@gmail.com](mailto:trinitylpfl@gmail.com)  
Pastor's email: [Pastortrinitylp@gmail.com](mailto:Pastortrinitylp@gmail.com)  
Pastor's personal email: [Rnorris1975@gmail.com](mailto:Rnorris1975@gmail.com)

HE HAS  
RISEN!



## APRIL'S 2026 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 10:00am Palm Sunday Worship Service followed by Fellowship Hour	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 6:00pm Maundy Thursday Service	<b>3</b> 6:00pm Good Friday Service	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 8:15am Easter Breakfast 10:00am Worship Service with Communion	<b>6</b> Basket Galore Winners Announcement	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 8:30am Adult Bible Class 10:00am Worship Service followed by Fellowship Hour	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 1:00pm Trinity Ladies Guild Meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 8:30am Adult Bible Class 10:00am Worship Service with Communion	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 8:00am Men's Breakfast at Oscar's Kitchen
<b>26</b> 8:30am Adult Bible Class 10:00am Worship Service followed by Fellowship Hour	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>