

# *Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter



*As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.*

- PRELUDE
- WELCOME
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PRAYER REQUESTS

*For sections with an \*, please stand as you are able*

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### **\*Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
by whose hand we are given new birth,  
by whose speaking we are given new life.

**ALL: Amen.**

L: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are welcomed, restored, and supported  
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,

holy and merciful,

holy and mighty,

you are the river of life,

you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death  
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.

In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,  
and in them we are born anew.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,  
for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,  
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,  
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**ALL: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.**

**Empower our witness to your resurrection.**

**Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

L: Satisfy the world's need through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope.

Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ,

who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**ALL: Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds  
Green Book: 143**

## Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in praise of love that  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there - fore our heart with  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; set heart and will on  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring and with the heav'n - ly



still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 things a - bove that we con - quer through your tri - umph;  
 bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!"



Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song  
 Now still he comes to give us life and by his pres -  
 grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day that by our lives  
 Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest,



of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"  
 ence stills all strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!  
 we tru - ly say: Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!  
 most ho - ly God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

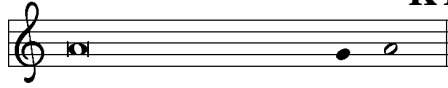
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**\*GREETING**

L: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**\*KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



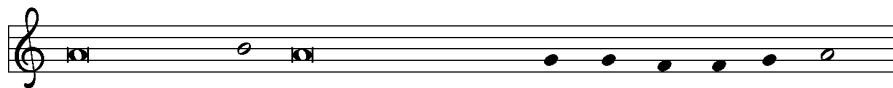
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

L: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**ALL: Amen.**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60**

*Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.*

L: <sup>55</sup>Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

L: The word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: 31:1-5, 15-16**

*Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

L: <sup>1</sup>In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.

**ALL: <sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me.**

L: <sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

**ALL: <sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.**

L: <sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit.  
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

**ALL: <sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

L: <sup>16</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love."

## SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

*Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

L: <sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—<sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious;  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup>To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,”

<sup>8</sup>and

“A stone that makes them stumble,  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

L: The word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





**\*GOSPEL: John 14:1-14**

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

**ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

L: [Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S TIME**

**SERMON: Pastor Rick Mollenkopf-Grill**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY: You Are the Way  
Green Book: 464**

## You Are the Way

1 You are the way; through you a - lone can we the Fa - ther find;  
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;  
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;  
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,

in you, O Christ, has God re - vealed his heart, his will, his mind!  
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.  
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

### \*NICENE CREED

L: Let us confess our faith together using the words of the Nicene Creed:

**ALL:**

**ALL: We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,**

of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*Each prayer ends with these words:*

L: Hear us, O God.

**ALL: your mercy is great.**

L: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

#### **\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

L: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

**ALL: And also with you.**

*\*You are invited to greet your neighbors with a sign of Christ's peace. Please be sure to have your neighbor's consent before sharing greetings with a handshake or other physical touch.*

*Otherwise, sharing a wave, peace sign or a high-five are great ways to share the peace from a distance.*

### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

*Any financial gifts you wish to give towards the ministry of Trinity may be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the worship space. We give thanks for your sharing of your offerings this and every day.*

L: Generous God,

**ALL: in this meal you offer your very self.**

**We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.**

**In the breaking of this bread**

**reveal to us the Risen One.**

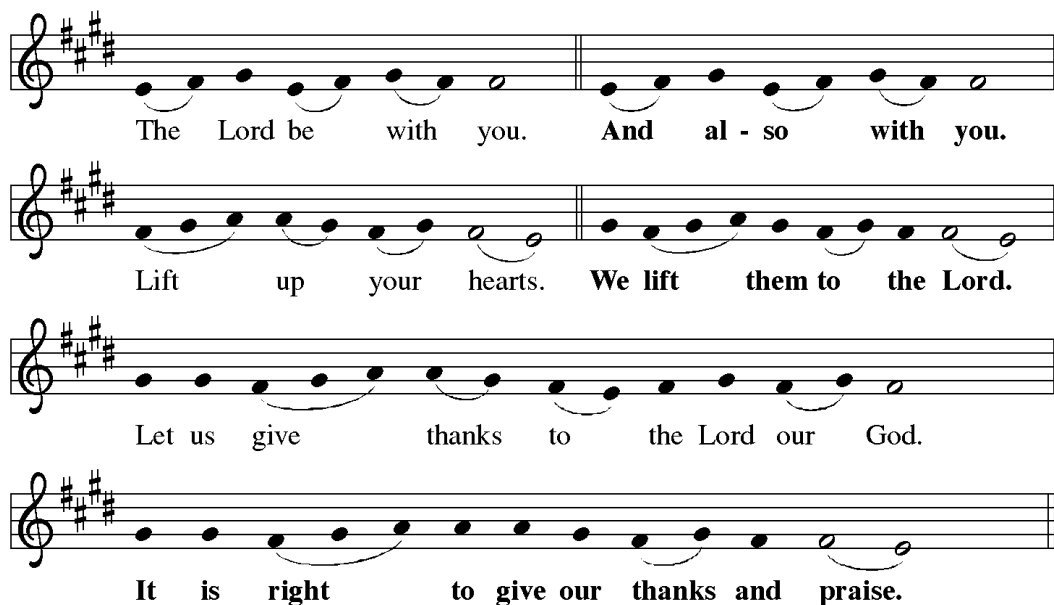
**In the pouring of this wine**

**pour us out in service to the world;**

**through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

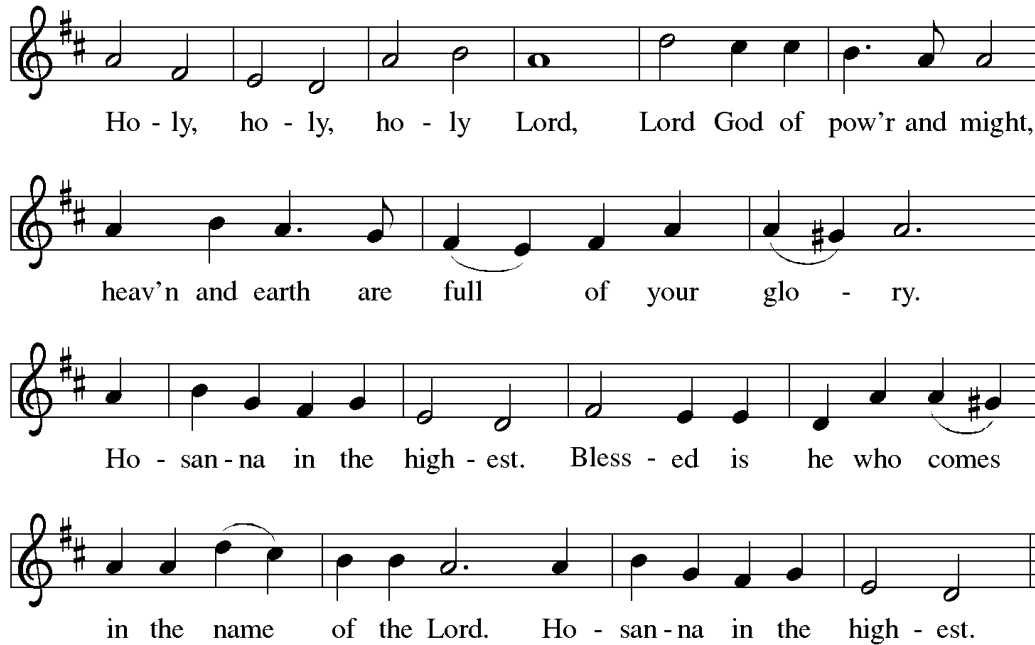
### **\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: 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,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.  
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

L: 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.

### **\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**ALL: 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.**

### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

L: Come and know Christ,  
broken and poured out for you.

### **THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*The minister will give instruction on the distribution of communion.*

## COMMUNION HYMN: Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN: The Church's One Foundation Green Book: 369

*To be sung during the distribution of communion - until distribution is complete*

# The Church's One Foundation

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,  
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,  
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.  
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;  
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food;  
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900  
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in God's grace, now and forever.

**ALL: Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

L: Gracious God,

**ALL: in you we live and move and have our being.**

**With your word and this meal of grace,**

**you have nourished our life together.**

**Strengthen us to show your love**

**and serve the world in Jesus' name.**

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

L: The God of all,

who raised ✝ Jesus from the dead,

bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit

to live in the new creation.

**ALL: Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN: I Know that My Redeemer Lives! (vs. 1-4)  
Green Book: 352**



# I Know That My Redeemer Lives!

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
 3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
 4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
 guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
 me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

5 He lives to bless me with his love;  
 he lives to plead for me above;  
 he lives my hungry soul to feed;  
 he lives to help in time of need.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;  
 he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
 he lives my mansion to prepare;  
 he lives to bring me safely there.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;  
 he lives and loves me to the end;  
 he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;  
 he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!

8 He lives, all glory to his name!  
 He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
 what joy this blest assurance gives:  
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

**\*DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**Office hours**

**Pastor Rick:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Tracy:** Thursdays 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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*God's love is powerful...powerful enough to wade through our doubts, fears, and challenges.  
And, God's love is for YOU and ALL*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Strength & Healing for:**

Brenden David – safe deployment

Helmut Bauder – healing from cataract surgery

## **The family & friends of:**

Eileen Kittel

Gary Karskevicz

Judy Stuber Roland

**Thanksgiving for:** great test results for Dina!

*Prayers are a powerful way to lift up people who are sick, injured or suffering for God's healing, and also to give thanks for good news. Trinity sees prayer as an essential ministry, and has several ways we pray for those in need, and for you to take part in those prayers:*

- 1. Trinity has a vibrant Prayer Chain ministry. Please contact Sue Kidder, our Prayer Chain coordinator, at 716-542-2095 anytime if you would like your prayer request(s) to be shared with our Prayer Chain group. Sue uses our OneCall phone system to share prayer requests with our group ASAP. Also, let us know if you would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain.*
- 2. Trinity maintains a prayer list in both the Sunday bulletin and the Beacon newsletter. Let us know about names you would like listed in the church office, or via the signup sheet at worship. Names remain listed for about a month unless you let us know otherwise.*
- 3. If you wish for names to remain anonymous, you can let us know privately. We also have a moment of silent prayer during worship to lift up any one person or situation too sensitive to share otherwise.*

**Counters:** April: MaryLou, May: Jennifer, June: Dale Kruschke

## **Bible Study**

Join us for Bible Study Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30, running through June 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **Choir**

Choir is meeting Wednesdays at 7:30 all are welcome!

## Worship Décor Committee

Do you love coming in and seeing how beautiful the church looks on holidays? A lot of work by Laura Pingitore and Ronda Lauridsen goes into the florals & seasonal décor, and many hands make light work...so, we are looking to form a Worship Décor Committee with more volunteers, to assist in beautifying the church and planning the floral orders, etc. The group would not meet weekly, only before the important weeks (think Pentecost, Reformation, Christmas & Easter.) If you can help out please see Pastor Rick. We're planning to meet before Pentecost (May 28<sup>th</sup>.)

## Sunday School

**Our May dates are: TODAY & May 21<sup>st</sup>, and our last day will be June 11<sup>th</sup>.**

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School: Sunday July 16-Thursday July 20<sup>th</sup>. It will run from 5:30-8pm each night, at Town Line Lutheran Church in Alden.

## Council & Committee Retreat

Council members and anyone who is associated with a committee is invited to attend the Council & Committee retreat **from 8:30am – noon on May 20<sup>th</sup>**. We will start with a pot-luck breakfast before getting down to business.

## Summer Worship and Picnic: Mark your Calendars

Trinity is going back to Akron Falls Park for worship and fun and food! We'll have our Summer Worship and Picnic at the Brooklyn St. shelter in Akron Falls Park at 10:30 am on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>!

## Worship in Russell Park

We will join with our siblings at Akron First United Methodist in the gazebo at Russell Park on June 25 and August 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible

Reminders about Trinity's new Third Grade Bible program:

**Today After Worship:** Today we'll have a third Grade Bible workshop during Sunday School time for children and parents. We'll share some Bible basics, and ways you can use your Bible with your family.

**May 21<sup>st</sup>:** Third Grade Bible Sunday when we'll present Bibles the children signed up for the program. Families are welcome to come and participate!