



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 24, 2020 - 10:00 AM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of all who have served in the Armed Forces and First Responders during the pandemic by Stephen and Beverly Henderson.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Trio Sonata No. 1 in E^b - Allegro (BWV 525) by J. S. Bach*

WELCOME

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the life beyond all death,
the joy beyond all sorrow, our everlasting home.

Amen.

Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death,
let us come before God who calls us to repentance.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

by the resurrection of your Son you make everything new.

Newness scares us, and we confess to shutting our doors in fear.

We have not listened to voices that challenge us.

We have resisted the Holy Spirit moving us in new directions.

Our hearts are slow to believe your promises.

**Forgive us, O God, and renew us to embrace without fear
the new life you have given us in Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

People of God: Christ is alive, and death has lost its power.

Through the waters of baptism

you have been born anew by the living word of God.

Know that your sins are forgiven in ✠ Jesus' name
and that the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive in you
both now and forever.

Amen.

**A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand,
Alleluia! Alleluia! and with his faithful foll'wers see their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**To whom the shining angels cry, "Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"
Alleluia! Alleluia! "This is the Savior!" thus they say,
"this is his glorious triumph day!"
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**"You see him now, ascending high up to the portals of the sky." Alleluia! Alleluia!
"Hereafter Jesus you shall see returning in great majesty."
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord:
Alleluia! Alleluia! You are, while endless ages run, with Father and the Spirit one.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God of glory,
your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand.
Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy,
that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

A reading from Acts.

⁶When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that have been decided. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two messengers in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Galileans, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” ¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

A reading from First Peter.

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when Christ's glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that you may be exalted in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on God, because God cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist that one, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, will restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To God be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS' SERMON

Up, Up, and Away!

Stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

John 17:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the seventeenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹After Jesus had spoken these words to his disciples, he looked up to heaven and said, "Abba, the hour has come; glorify your Only Begotten so that I may glorify you, ²since you have given me authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given me.

³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy God, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

E Pluribus Unum

Stand as able

HYMN OF THE DAY

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

#392

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;

Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;

"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;

Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.

**Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?**

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay;

Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day.

**Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.**

Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;

Alleluia! born of Mary, earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.

**As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest,
here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;

Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:

"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."

NICENE CREED

**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

On this seventh Sunday of Easter, we gather in our homes and yet together as one, praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

In this time of troubling separation, we pray to you, triune God, for the unity of your churches. Bind us together in the truth of your gospel. Make us witnesses of your mysterious might. As you blessed the early disciples for their unfolding ministry, bless those who lead and serve our local congregation.

A brief silence.

God of unity, hear us:

Your mercy is great.

Nurture the life of your creation. Support those who explore the mysteries of your universe. We praise you for Nicholas Copernicus, whom we commemorate today, and for all the scientists who have enriched our understanding of creation. Help all online teachers to instruct our children in the ways of nature.

A brief silence.

God of unity, hear us:

Your mercy is great.

As we prepare for Memorial Day, we pray for peace around the world. Protect all soldiers, and assure them of your never-failing strength. Shield the vulnerable who live in paths of violence. We pray especially for the people of Afghanistan and Syria.

A brief silence.

God of unity, hear us:

Your mercy is great.

Come to the aid of all who suffer. We pray for those who are laden with grief, overwhelmed by anxiety, or struggling without medical care. Uphold all health-care workers who attend to coronavirus patients. Comfort all families and friends who cannot embrace their loved ones at the time of death. We give into your care all the sick, especially those we name here before you.

A brief silence.

God of unity, hear us:

Your mercy is great.

Again we pray: give the world a vaccine.

A brief silence.

God of unity, hear us:

Your mercy is great.

Grant your oneness to humankind, so marked by isolation and division. Bring harmony to families, rival gangs, distraught citizens, racial groupings, and members of our legislatures. Give to each individual a wholeness that is birthed in you. Make us one, as you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are one.

A brief silence.

God of unity, hear us:

Your mercy is great.

Make us steadfast in the faith, and graciously receive our personal petitions:

A longer time of silence.

God of unity, hear us:

Your mercy is great.

To know you is to have eternal life. We praise you for the lives of all who have died in the faith and who now live in you. At the end, bring us with all your saints into your presence.

A brief silence.

God of unity, hear us:

Your mercy is great.

With bold confidence in your love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God of our past, our present, and our future, we place all for whom we pray into your circle of love, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

We gather around the baptismal font to honor:

Nicholas Dillon

Natalie Geiger

Sydney Hoffert

Anna Havens Rice

Bo Wallace

Mac Wallace

Your graduation from high school reflects hard work and dedication, and we are delighted to share in your accomplishments. This is a very significant milestone in your life.

As we recognize and celebrate this milestone in your lives, we gather here at the baptismal font as a reminder of who and whose you are. When you were baptized, you were claimed by God. God's gracious love was poured out on you and you became God's precious children.

As you continue in this baptismal journey of faith, be mindful of these words of Scripture:

Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Ephesians 6:10

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven. Matthew 5:16

As you celebrate your achievements and prepare to begin new endeavors, we invite you to be mindful of your grounding in faith and of God's call upon your life.

As a token of our love and our hopes for you, we intend to gift you with Trinity blankets. May they give you comfort and warmth on long trips and late nights. May they help you remember your place in this community of faith. May they remind you, that no matter how far away from us you are, you are always wrapped in God's warm and loving embrace.

Stand

Let us pray. Gracious God, we praise you for blessing us and claiming us as your own. We thank you for Nick, Natalie, Sydney, Anna Havens, Bo, and Mac, and for the blessing they are to us. Be with them as they begin this new journey in life. Give them wisdom and discernment in decision-making; courage in the face of challenge; strength to confront temptation; comfort in distress; and the peace that comes with the knowledge that you will never let them go. We ask this blessing upon each of them, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Peace be with you.

☒ **Peace be with you.**

*Worshippers are invited to use their phones to text now or make a call later today
to extend a message of peace to someone you love and care about.*

Sit

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

*Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256,
or by following the link on the homepage of the website, www.trinitylutheran.ws.
Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 North Main St., Greenville, SC 29601.*

I Will Not Leave You Comfortless by Everett Titcomb

Melanie Helling, Richard Moose, Bob Schirmer, Sheryl Schirmer

I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you yet again: Alleluia.
And your heart shall be joyful, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Stand as able

OFFERTORY HYMN

Thine Is the Glory

#376

(Verse 1)

**Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!**

Let us pray. Merciful God,

**our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration,
but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives.
Feed us again at this table for service in your name,
in the strength of the risen Christ.**

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things:

you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos,

and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:

freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile,

wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:

forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death,

the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us:

renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need.

Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

#654

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the word.
From heav'n her came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**

**Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.**

**Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**

**Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life,
fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing.
Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

#389

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.**

**In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives where even hope has died.**

**Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and ev'ry age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said.
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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or by following the link on the homepage of the website, www.trinitylutheran.ws.
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