THE FOURTH SUNDAY

OF EASTER

**tRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** | *Saline, Michigan*

*April 22/25, 2021*

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**Thank you** for joining us in God’s house today! We cordially ask that our Guests sign one of the guestbooks located at either the front or back entryways, or fill out a “Let’s Get Acquainted” card located in the hymnal pew rack and place it in the collection plate.

**THANK OFFERING:**  Members of Trinity give their offering as an expression of love and thankfulness to the Lord and to help support the Lord’s work in our community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

**Restrooms** are located at the back of the upper level (the annex), and in the basement (down the back stairs of the sanctuary or annex). Handicap access is available, please ask an usher for assistance.

**Young Families / Toddler Bags** – We are **GLAD YOU BROUGHT YOUR CHILDREN** to our worship service. Jesus said: *“Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”* We know that having little children in church can be a challenge, but **DO NOT WORRY** about it. Many of your fellow worshippers have been in your shoes and are just happy you brought your children with you. For your convenience, we have reserved the back rows of seating for parents with small children. These areas provide more flexibility for your family, as well as, easy access to move downstairs if necessary. A closed-circuit TV system allows families to continue participating in the service while downstairs. Pre-school **toddler bags** and **children’s bulletins** are available for their enjoyment. Ask an usher for one to use during the service and please return the toddler bag afterwards.

**THE COMMON SERVICE (Christian Worship, page 15)**

**THE OPENING HYMN** **CW #374**

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# *PLEASE Stand, IF YOU ARE ABLE*

# invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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# Confession AND ABSOLUTION

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*kYRIE*

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M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

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**PRAYER AND PRAISE**

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

C:\Users\Pastor Smith\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCacheContent.Word\CS 05 Salutation.tifM: The Lord be with you.

M: Let us pray.

***THE MINISTER SAYS THE PRAYER OF THE DAY***

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***BE SEATED***

The Word

**THE FIRST LESSON Acts 4:23-33**

**23**After Peter and John were released, they went to their own friends and reported everything the high priests and the elders had said. **24**When they heard this, with one mind they raised their voices to God and said, “Master, you are the God who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and everything in them. **25**By the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David, your servant, you said:

Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?  
**26**The kings of the earth take their stand,  
and the rulers are gathered together  
against the Lord  
and against his Anointed One.

**27**“For certainly, in this city both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and people of Israel, were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. **28**They did whatever your hand and your plan had decided beforehand should happen.

**29**“Now Lord, look at their threats and give to your servants the ability to keep on speaking your word with all boldness **30**as you stretch out your hand to heal and as signs and wonders take place through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

**31**After they prayed, the place where they were gathered was shaken. Also, everyone was filled with the Holy Spirit, and they continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

**32**The whole group of believers was one in heart and soul. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they held everything in common. **33**The apostles continued to testify about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ with great power, and abundant grace was on all of them.

**PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 23**

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***Refrain***

The LORD is my shepherd,\*

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;\*

he leads me beside quiet waters.

He restores my soul;\*

he guides me in paths of righteousness

for his name’s sake.

Even though I walk through the valley

of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,\*

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

***Refrain***

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.\*

You anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me

all the days of my life,\*

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\***

**and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

***Refrain***

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, <www.giamusic.com>. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**THE SECOND LESSON 1 John 3:1-2**

**1**See the kind of love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are! The world does not know us, because it did not know him. **2**Dear friends, we are children of God now, but what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he is revealed we will be like him, and we will see him as he really is.

# Verse of the day

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# *PLEASE Stand, IF YOU ARE ABLE*

# THE gospel LESSON John 10:11-18

# M: The Gospel according to St. John chapter 10:11-18

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**11**“I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. **12**The hired man, who is not a shepherd, does not own the sheep. He sees the wolf coming, leaves the sheep, and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. **13**Because he works for money, he does not care about the sheep.

**14**“I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me **15**(just as the Father knows me and I know the Father). And I lay down my life for the sheep. **16**I also have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock and one shepherd. **17**This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again. **18**No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have the authority to lay it down, and I have the authority to take it up again. This is the commission I received from my Father.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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# tHE APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

**SERMON HYMN CW #375**

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**SERMON John 12:20-21**

**20**Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Festival. **21**They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we want to see Jesus.”

**“Stewards of Our Faith in Jesus…Pass It On to the World”**

***PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE***

***AFTER THE SERMON, THE CONGREGATION SINGS***

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**PRAYER**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

**HYMN CWS #432**

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**PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE**

**M:** Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ’s holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

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**CLOSING HYMN CW #436**

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# Serving In Worship

**Liturgy** Pastor Natsis

**Preacher** Pastor Natsis

**Organist** Ann Hoeft

**Deacons** (Thursday) Dave Frey and Duane Mason

(8:30) Jim Tice and Ed Wheeler

(11:00) Robert Niethammer and Jeff Neuburger

**Altar Guild** Shirley Klumpp and Ann Latowski

**Videographer** Cindy Dresch

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