

the FIFTH Sunday OF EASTER

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

***April 29/May 2, 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.

# celebration of holy communion:

In His Word, God makes it clear that the Lord’s Supper is to be shared by people of a common proclamation of faith (1 Corinthians 11:26; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Without judging anyone’s hearts, we invite those who share in our confession by their membership in our congregation or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) and who are properly prepared (1 Corinthians 11;27-29) to receive the Sacrament. Page 156 in the front of Christian Worship provides a guide for preparation.

Guests, we would love to have you join us in communion fellowship in the future, and for that to be possible, we ask that you speak with one of the pastors so that we may speak with you on how that would be possible. We thank you for respecting the way we celebrate the Lord’s Supper in our congregations.

DIVINE SERVICE II

# Opening hymn CW #599

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# invocation

Please stand, if you are able.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M:Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,   
For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,   
You should cast me away from your presence forever.   
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus’ sake.**

**ABSOLUTION**

M:Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**LORD, HAVE MERCY**

M:In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M:For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

M:For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M:Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

**C: Amen.**

**GLORY BE TO GOD** (Sung to the tune of CW Hymn #152) *Luke 2:14*

**1 All glory be to God on high!  
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;  
We praise you for your peace and grace,  
Your favor toward our fallen race.**

**2 Our grateful thanks to you we bring,  
For your great glory, heav’nly King,  
For all, O Father, you have done  
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.**

**3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.  
You take all human sin away.  
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;   
From God’s right hand, your mercy share.**

**4 You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;  
The Father’s glory you made known.  
We by your Spirit sing again:  
“All glory be to God!” Amen.**

**THE WORD**

**SALUTATION**

M:The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M:Let us pray.

*(The Prayer of the Day is spoken.)*

**C: Amen.**

*Be Seated*

**FIRST LESSON: Acts 8:26-40**

**26**Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is an isolated area.) **27**So he got up and went. And there was a man, an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, Queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship. **28**He was on his way home, sitting in his chariot and reading the prophet Isaiah.

**29**The Spirit told Philip, “Go over there and stay close to that chariot.” **30**Philip ran up to it and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet.

Philip asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

**31**The man replied, “How can I unless someone explains it to me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

**32**Now the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading was this:

He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,  
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he does not open his mouth.  
**33**In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who will talk about his generation?  
For his life is taken from the earth.

**34**The eunuch said to Philip, “I ask you, who is the prophet talking about—himself or someone else?” **35**Then Philip began to speak. Starting with that very passage of Scripture, he told him the good news about Jesus. **36**As they were traveling along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What is there to prevent me from being baptized?”

**38**He ordered the chariot to stop. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. **39**When they stepped up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away. The eunuch did not see him anymore, but went on his way rejoicing.

**40**Philip, however, found himself at Azotus. And as he went from place to place, he preached the gospel in all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 67**

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***Refrain***

May God be gracious to us and bless us\*

and make his face shine upon us;

May your ways be known on earth,\*

your salvation among all nations.

May the nations be glad and sing for joy,\*

for you rule the peoples justly

and guide the nations of the earth.

***Refrain***

Then the land will yield its harvest,\*

and God, our God, will bless us.

God will bless us,\*

and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

**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: Dale Wood. From *Seasonal Psalms*. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

**SECOND LESSON: 1 John 3:18-24**

**18**Dear children, let us love not only with word or with our tongue, but also in action and truth.

**19**This is how we know that we are of the truth and how we will set our hearts at rest in his presence: **20**If our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. **21**Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God. **22**We also receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commands and do what is pleasing in his sight. **23**This then is his command: that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another just as he commanded us. **24**The one who keeps his commands remains in God and Godin him. This is how we know that he remains in us: We know it from the Spirit, whom he has given to us.

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**GOSPEL JOHN 15:1-8**

**M:** The Gospel according to John, chapter 15, verses 1-8

**C: Glory be to you, O Lord.**

**1** “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. **2**Every branch in me that does not bear fruit, he is going to cut off. And he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so that it will bear more fruit.

**3**“You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. **4**Remain in me, and I am going to remain in you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Likewise, you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me.

**5**“I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him is the one who bears much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. **6**If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers. Such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. **7**If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8**My Father is glorified by this: that you continue to bear much fruit and prove to be my disciples.

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON HYMN CW #452**

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# SERMON Romans 5:1-5

**1**Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. **2**Through him we also have obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice confidently on the basis of our hope for the glory of God.

**3**Not only this, but we also rejoice confidently in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces patient endurance, **4**and patient endurance produces tested character, and tested character produces hope. **5**And hope will not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who was given to us.

**“Where Do We Go from Here?”**

*Please stand, if you are able.*

# 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

*Be Seated*

**OFFERTORY**

**“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us” (10:30 Service on Sunday)**

**THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION (10:30 Service on Sunday)**

*Please stand, if you are able.*

**THE PRAYER**

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Trinity Lutheran Church follows the historic Christian practice of *close communion*. We ask that only members of Trinity or one of our sister congregations partake of the sacrament. If you are not a member, please see the note about Holy Communion in the beginning of the Worship Folder.

M:The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

M:Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

M:Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is good and right so to do.**

M:It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who rose from the dead in glorious triumph to bring forgiveness to the world and everlasting life to all who believe. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** (Sung to the tune of CW Hymn #372) *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**1 O holy, holy, holy**

**Lord God of pow’r and might,**

**Your glory, earth and heaven**

**In countless ways recite.**

**Hosanna! Come and save us,**

**Lord God of hosts on high,**

**And in your grace and mercy**

**Receive our fervent cry.**

**2 Hosanna in the highest!**

**How truly blest is he**

**Who in God’s name is coming**

**To set his people free!**

**He comes to bring salvation**

**And with his blood outpoured,**

**Deliver us from bondage—**

**Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M:Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil’s power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ’s body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

**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.**

# Words of institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C**: Amen.**

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*Be Seated*

**DISTRIBUTION**

*During the distribution the congregation may sing one or more hymns.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN CW #312**

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*Please stand, if you are able.*

**THANKSGIVING**

**SONG OF SIMEON** (Sung to the tune of CW Hymn #19) *Luke 2:29-32*

**1 O Lord, now let your servant**

**Depart in peace, assured:**

**For I have seen your promised**

**incarnate, saving Word—**

**A Light that will enlighten**

**All gloom where Gentiles dwell;**

**The brilliant, crowning glory**

**Of those in Israel!**

**2 All glory to the Father,**

**All glory to the Son,**

**All glory to the Spirit,**

**Forever three in one;**

**For as in the beginning,**

**Is now, shall ever be,**

**God’s triune name resounding**

**Through all eternity.**

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

**BLESSING**

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.

C: Amen.

*Be Seated*

**CLOSING HYMN CW #765**

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# Serving In Worship

***Liturgy*** *Pastor Natsis*

***Preacher*** *Pastor Natsis*

***Organist*** *Marcia Marion Ackling*

***Trumpeter (Confirmation)*** *Megan Marion*

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

*(8:30) Jim Tice and Ed Wheeler*

*(11:00) Robert Niethammer and Jeff Neuburger*

***Altar Guild*** *Sandy Kirkpatrick and Barb Neuburger*

***Videographer*** *Jake Vershum*

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