



*Evangelical Lutheran
Church of the Holy Trinity*

*The Third Sunday of Easter
April 18, 2021*

Welcome in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ! If you come as a visitor today, we hope you will leave as a friend. We count it a privilege and a blessing to have you with us in worship. If you are not presently a member of any congregation, please feel welcome to gather with us around Jesus in this community of his disciples at Holy Trinity. Come and worship with us again!

Invitation to Communion: Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus Christ by which our Lord is truly present to forgive sin and bring life and salvation. All baptized Christians who believe this promise are welcome to commune. Parents with children are encouraged to come to the altar together. Children who do not yet receive communion will receive the blessing of the Church from the Pastor.

Procedure for Communing: We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.

Gluten-free wafers are available; let Pastor know when you come forward to receive.

Service of Holy Communion

Significance of the Day: The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

Gathering

Prelude

Variations on *Slane*

(Held et al)

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for
the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God, O Living One,
for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly. Oceans and
aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you.

All life is sustained by you, our Source.

We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who frees us from sin
and raises us up to new life.

Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life, bright as crystal,
flowing through the city of God. Here, death is washed away forever.
Here, we are grafted into the tree of life,
with leaves for the healing of the world.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly,
 into this community, and throughout all creation. Cleanse us from our fears
 and drown our divisions. Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
 forever.

Amen.

Hymn during Asperges

We Know That Christ is Raised

(The Cantor will sing the Hymn. The words are for your reflection.)



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
 The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
 Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

Opening Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

(Stanzas 1 – 3 will be sung by the Cantor, assembly joins on stanza 4.)



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Easter Dialogue

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

We are illumined by the brightness of his rising.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Death has no more dominion over us.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

A reading from Acts:

12 When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? 13 The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. 14 But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, 15 and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. 16 And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

17 “And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18 In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. 19 Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.’ ”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 4

(Saturday psalm will be spoken responsively, Sunday psalm will be sung by Cantor.)

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress;
have mercy on me and | hear my prayer.
- 2 "You mortals, how long will you dishon- | or my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek | after lies?"**
- 3 Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me | when I call.
- 4 Tremble, then, and | do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed.**
- 5 Offer the appointed | sacrifices,
and put your trust | in the LORD.
- 6 Many are saying, "Who will show us | any good?"
Let the light of your face shine upon | us, O LORD.**
- 7 You have put gladness | in my heart,
more than when grain and | wine abound.
- 8 In peace, I will lie | down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me | rest secure.**

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-7

A reading from 1 John:

1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. 3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

4 Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 5 You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. 6 No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia.

**Our hearts burn within us
while you open to us the scriptures.**

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 24:36b-48

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

(The reading of the Gospel.)

36b Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” 37 They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. 38 He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” 40 And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41 While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate in their presence.

44 Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46 and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Pastor Brenda Martin

Hymn of the Day

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You

(Stanzas 1 – 3 will be sung by the Cantor, assembly joins on stanza 4.)



1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing



friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,



speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

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

A: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love, responding, “Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.”

(Brief silence)

A: Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Michael; for our pastors and musicians and worship leaders and teachers and all others who share the good news in word and song. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. We pray for our president, Joe; our governor, Tom; our state and local elected leaders. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness. Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us, especially Margaret, Betty, and Dottie. Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Are there others for whom we should pray?

P: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Meal

Music as the meal is prepared

Interlude on *Union Seminary*

(McShott)

(The assembly stands. The deacon, on behalf of the people, prays.)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of
milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup

we remember our Lord's passover from death to life

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine,

that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
Father, Son, + and Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

Breaking of Bread

Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us,

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all is now ready.

Communion of the Faithful

Procedure for Communing: *We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.*

(Following the Communion the assembly stands for the blessing.)

Music during communion Appointed hymns

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Our Prayer for These Times

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand us leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Thine Is the Glory

(The assembly will sing the entire hymn.)

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
 where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Finale

(Rawesthorne)

+ + + + + + + + + +

Serving Tonight

Presiding Minister Pastor Brenda Martin

Pianist Maidene Hackett

Liturgical Deacon Catherine Mott

Serving Today

Presiding Minister Pastor Brenda Martin

Organist Maidene Hackett

Cantor Sheryl Lanning

Liturgical Deacon David Lineman

Communion Assistant Catherine Snyder

Lector Bonnie Massing

Acolyte Jackson Weaver

Head Usher Chuck Lanning

Altar Guild The Richardson family

Acknowledgments

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Pastors in residence:

The Rev. Martin Roth, Pastor Emeritus, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

The Rev. Julia Fraser, chaplain at St. Paul Homes

The Rev. Brian Riddle, Thiel College Campus Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson, retired, Thiel College

This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, April 18, 2021, *3rd Sunday of Easter*

- 9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday Church School/Confirmation
- 7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Monday, April 19, 2021

Messenger articles due today

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Congregation Council
- 7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Weekday Communion

Thursday, April 22, 2021

- 10:00 a.m. Weekday Communion
- 7:00 p.m. Happy Hour

Saturday, April 24, 2021

- 5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 25, 2021, *4th Sunday of Easter*

- 9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday Church School/Confirmation
- 7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

- 6:30 p.m. CCSS
- 7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Weekday Communion

Thursday, April 29, 2021

- 10:00 a.m. Weekday Communion
- 7:00 p.m. Happy Hour

Saturday, May 1, 2021

- 5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

Good Shepherd Community Meal

On Monday, May 24, Holy Trinity will be hosting the Monday night community dinner at Good Shepherd. If you are able to assist in cooking, serving, delivery of dinners, or clean-up duties please call **Mike Bradley at 724-962-3238 or 724-699-7122.**

Good Shepherd April Request

The Good Shepherd Center is our church community social service agency that supports the needs of many in the area. The Good Shepherd Center's request for Holy Trinity for **April is canned vegetables.** Donations may be dropped off at the church office or directly at the Food Pantry.

Second Mile Giving For April – Focus On ELCA Youth Gathering

Youth Gathering gathers about 30,000 of our youth from around the country every three years for a week of worship, learning and service opportunities. The Gathering in 2022 will be held in Minneapolis.

Those who have attended Youth Gathering have said that no one – not the teens or their adult leaders – comes home unchanged. It is an amazing experience in a life's faith journey.

Because Youth Gathering involves significant preparation in advance – the teens spend a lot of time together and the congregation would help with fund-raising – we will lift up Youth Gathering as a repeated emphasis in Second Mile Giving.

Altar and Columbarium Flowers

The flowers on the altar have been given to the Glory of God and in honor of our grandson Logan J. Watson's baptism by Vic and Michele Shine.

The flowers in the columbarium have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Lenne Logan by the Logan family.

Attendance

Maundy Thursday 12:10 p.m. Service: 22; Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Service: 31; Good Friday 7:00 p.m. Service: 30; Easter Vigil 7:30 p.m. Service: 45; Easter Sunday 9:30 a.m. Service: 121; Second Sunday of Easter, 9:30 a.m. Service: 69.

Please Pray For

Permission is necessary to add a person to the prayer list. Please ask before your call the office. Thanks.

Health and Healing:

Aaron (friend of Dave and Judy Leary)	Hank (son of Henry and Ruth Heil)
Bruce (brother-in-law of Mary Reames)	Kate (friend of Paul and Sue Bittler)
Irlean (mother of Billie Hollenbaugh)	Jim
Paul (nephew of Henry and Ruth Heil)	Nancy (friend of Linda Armstrong)
Jeff (nephew of Judi Moinet)	John L (father of Catherine Mott)
Donnie (friend of Wayne and Darla Swift)	Brenda (sister-in-law of Betty K. Junk)
Marie (sister-in-law of Henry and Ruth Heil)	Carl
Tammy (friend of Jill Murrin)	Paul
Lori McCann	Dillon (friend of Ed Pitcher and Beth Harpst)
Betty K.	Belle (granddaughter of Linda Bateman)

Christ's comfort for those who grieve the death of:

Betty Good
John Winschel (friend of Bonnie Long)
Margaret Callen
Dorothy "Dottie" Spence
Coleen Barwell (member of Flying Quilts)

In Military Service

Specialist (SPC) Andrew McCall, Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado (son of Mark and Jane McCall, grandson of Karen McKay and the late Jim McKay)
Sgt. First Class Nicholas Carman, US Army, Fredericksburg, Virginia (grandson of Nancy Ullstrom)
Admiral Richard Childs, Assistant Surgeon General of the USA (nephew of Harvey Childs)
CDR Ryan Leary, USN, Operation Officer, 7th Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan (son of David and Judy Leary)
Tim Ross, Navy Special Forces, (grandson of Rae Johnson, nephew of Lori McEwen)