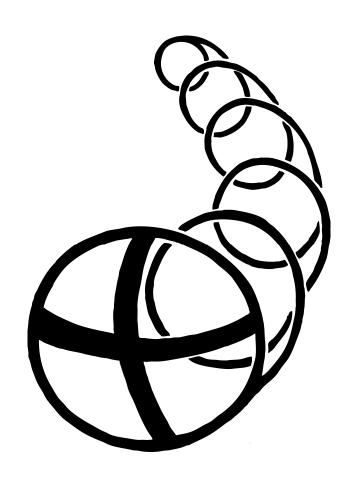
Welcome to

# Luther Memorial Church

of the Erie Lutheran Parish



26 MAY 2024 The Holy Trinity 10:30 am

When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

# LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106 REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor* 

Walt Gaber

Cantor

Ron King

Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity

The Rev. Karen Lundwall, The Rev. Brian Moran
The Rev. Karen Parsh, The Rev. Gail Zackrison

Pastors in Residence

MICHELLE THOM
Academy Administrator
BETH KELLER
SARAH PRYLINSKI
Youth and Family Ministry
JAN MACINNES
Care Ministry

#### **WELCOME!**

# THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE! TOGETHER WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!

- + Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.
- + If you have need to **children**'s bulletins, coloring pages, crayons, or other supplies they are available on the Welcome Table. You can proceed out the door next to the pulpit and find the Welcome Table near the door.
  - Children are always welcome in worship and together we make a joyful noise! However, if you have need, a staffed nursery is available down the stairs across from the Welcome Table.
- + An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for "Handicap Bathroom." Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.
- + You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshiping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.
- + We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

# 26 MAY 2024 THE HOLY TRINITY Holy Communion • 10:30

GATHERING - "The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God."

**PRELUDE** – "All Glory Be to God on High"

Johann Pachelbel

HANDBELL VOLUNTARY - "Come, Join the Dance of Trinity"

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

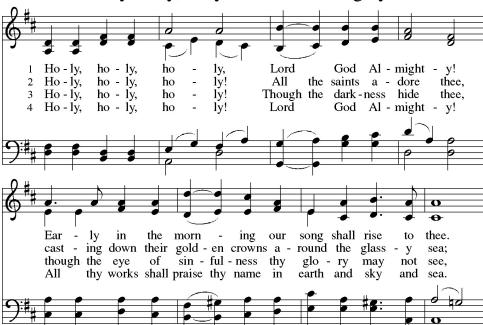
Please stand as you are able.

#### **GATHERING LITANY FOR TRINITY SUNDAY**

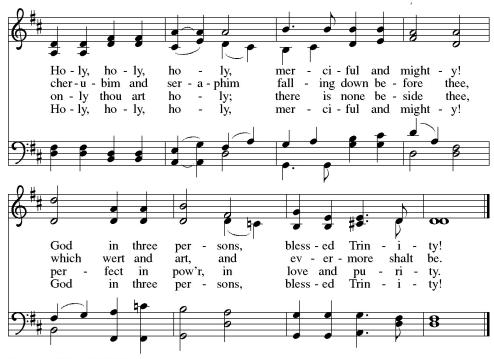
- P Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
- **ఆ** Glory to you, forever!
- **P** Speaker, Word, and Breath of Life:
- **☑** Glory to you, forever!
- P Font of Blessing, Living Water, Flowing River:
- **☑** Glory to you, forever!
- P Compassionate Mother, Beloved Child, Life-Giving Womb:
- **☑** Glory to you, forever!
- P Sun, Light, and Burning Ray:
- **☑** Glory to you, forever!
- **P** Giver, Gift, and Giving:
- **☑** Glory to you, forever!
- P Lover, Beloved, and Love:
- **ఆ** Glory to you, forever!
- P Rock, Cornerstone, and Temple:
- **ఆ** Glory to you, forever!
- P Consuming Fire, Dividing Sword, Overpowering Storm:
- **☑** Glory to you, forever!
- P Rainbow Promise, Ark of Salvation, Dove of Peace:
- **G** Glory to you, forever!
- P God who was, God who is, God who is to come:
- **☑** Glory to you, forever!
- P Almighty and ever-living God,...one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

#### **ENTRANCE HYMN**

# Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!



**ELW 413** 



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

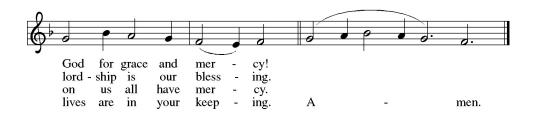
#### **GREETING**

- **P** The grace ...be with you all.
- **G** And also with you.

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

# All Glory Be to God on High





Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1485–1550; tr. composite Music: ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH, plainsong; adapt. Nikolaus Decius Text st. 1 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress: sts. 2–4 © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

### **P** Let us pray:

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD - "God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song."

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of the Lord's robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above the Lord; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of the glory of the Lord." <sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the Sovereign, the Lord of hosts!" <sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

L Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**☑** Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM 29

**Refrain:** (Sung once by the choir, then repeated by the congregation and sung where indicated by **R**.)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,

ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;

the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;

the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor. R

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; <sup>6</sup>the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf,

and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the Lord

bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup>The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;

the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. R

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup>The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;

the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.

<sup>11</sup>O Lord, give strength to your people;

give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace. R

### **SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17**

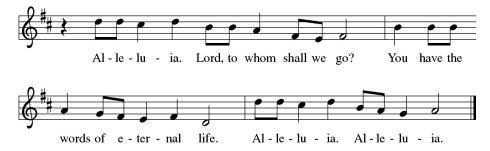
<sup>12</sup>So then, my dear family, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— <sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with Christ so that we may also be glorified with Christ.

L Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**☑** Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to greet the gospel.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jewish people. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the dominion of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to Jesus, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the dominion of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to Jesus,

"How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son-of-Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son-of-Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that God gave the Son, the only begotten one, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

**SERMON** Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able to proclaim the Word of God in song.

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

# Womb of Life and Source of Being

**ACS 948** 



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

#### THE CREED

This day, as we contemplate the Sacred Mystery of the Trinity, we proclaim our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed—the Creed into which we are baptized—and learn together from Luther's Small Catechism.

#### The First Article: On Creation

- P I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- **A** What does this mean?
- **☑** I believe that God has created me together with all that exists.

God has given me and still preserves my body and soul:

eyes, ears, and all limbs and senses;

reason and all mental faculties.

In addition, God daily and abundantly provides shoes and clothing,

food and drink, house and farm,

family, fields, livestock, and all property

along with all the necessities and nourishment for this body and life.

God protects me against all danger

and shields and preserves me from all evil.

And all this is done out of pure, parental, and divine goodness and mercy,

without any merit or worthiness of mine at all!

For all of this I owe it to God

to thank and praise, serve and obey.

This is most certainly true.

## The Second Article: On Redemption

P I believe in Jesus Christ,

God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

- A What does this mean?
- **©** I believe that Jesus Christ,

true God, begotten of the Father in eternity,

and also a true human being, born of the virgin Mary,

is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being.

He has purchased and freed me from all sins,

from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver

but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

He has done all this in order that I may belong to him,

live under him in his kingdom,

and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

# The Third Article: On Being Made Holy

- P I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
- A What does this mean?
- I believe that by my own understanding or strength
  I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him,
  but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel,
  enlightened me with gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith,
  just as the Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy
  the whole Christian church on earth
  and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith.
  Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins—
  mine and those of all believers.
  On the last day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead
  and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life.
  This is most certainly true. Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS

- (A) We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world. A brief silence.
- Abba God, you have brought us into your family, claiming us as beloved children. Bless your family of faith with gifts of cooperation and graciousness. Increase our hospitality toward all expressions of faith and teach us to honor our shared humanity. Merciful God,
- receive our prayer.
- A Your love and power burst forth in the flashes of lightning, the dance of the wind, and the deeply rooted trees of the forest. Sustain fragile and interconnected ecosystems that they flourish for generations to come. Merciful God,
- receive our prayer.
- A Give your blessing of peace to the nations. Shelter all who risk life and livelihood to protect others from violence, conflict, and injustice. On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember those who have died in war and conflict. Merciful God,
- receive our prayer.
- A You are a God of love and not of condemnation. Quiet the hearts of all who struggle with shame, regret, or questions of self-worth. Teach us to forgive ourselves and one another. Restore wholeness to all who seek hope and healing. Merciful God,
- **G** receive our prayer.
- A Strengthen bonds between parents, children, and families of all varieties. We pray especially for adoptive and foster families, multi-generational households, and blended families. Grant gifts of nurture and patience to all caregivers. Merciful God,
- **G** receive our prayer.
- A The Spirit bears grateful witness to all children of God who have now come into their inheritance among the saints, especially Cindy Schaper and Donald W. Shaner, Sr. As they lived with hope in your gift of eternal life, so strengthen us in faith, that we recognize your eternal presence even in this mortal life. Merciful God,
- **©** receive our prayer.

- A Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.
- G Amen.

#### THE PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you.
- **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

# MEAL - "God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ."

#### THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

An offering is received for the mission of the church. Our offerings at Luther Memorial support our ministries as well as those of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church. Online giving may be done via our website: Luther Memorial Online.org and using the "contribute online" button at the bottom of the page.

# **ANTHEM** – "Prayer to the Trinity"

Michael Bedford

Come, come O God of heaven, live within our hearts today; Come, come O God of heaven, hear us as we pray.

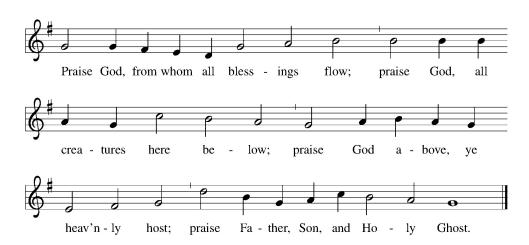
Come, come O gracious Savior, stay within our hearts today; Come, come O gracious Savior, hear us as we pray.

O be near us, love and cheer us, with your blessing from above; Ever guide us, walk beside us, as we seek to share your love.

Come, come O Holy Spirit, shine within our hearts today; Come, come O Holy Spirit, hear us as we pray.

Please stand in body or spirit.

# OFFERTORY Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt. Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.
- C Amen.

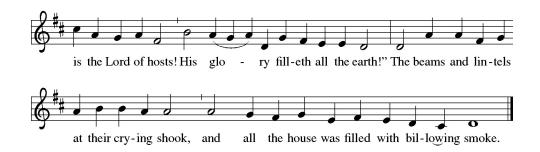
# GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **And also with you.**
- **Q** We lift them to the Lord.
- **Q** It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three! Before all that is, you were God. Outside all we know, you are God. After all is finished, you will be God. Archangels sound the trumpets, angels teach us their song, saints pull us into your presence. And this is our song:

**ELW 868** 

# Isaiah in a Vision Did of Old





Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976 Music: JESAIA, DEM PROPHETEN, Martin Luther Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three! You beyond the galaxies, you under the oceans, you inside the leaves, you pouring down rain, you opening the flowers, you feeding the insects, you giving us your image, you carrying us through the waters, you holding us in the night; your smile on Sarah and Abraham, your hand with Moses and Miriam, your words through Deborah and Isaiah, you lived as Jesus among us, healing, teaching, dying, rising, inviting us all to your feast.

In the night in which he was betrayed he 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.

P Holy God, we remember your Son, his life with the humble, his death among the wretched, his resurrection for us all: Your wisdom our guide, your justice our strength, your grace our path to rebirth.

P And so we cry, Mercy:

Mercy!

**P** And so we cry, Glory:

**G**lory!

**P** And so we cry, Blessing:

Blessing!

P Holy God, we beg for your Spirit: Enliven this bread, awaken this body, pour us out for each other. Transfigure our minds, ignite your church, nourish the life of the earth. Make us, while many, united; make us, though broken, whole; make us, despite death, alive.

P And so we cry, Come, Holy Spirit:

**©** Come, Holy Spirit!

P And so the church shouts, Come, Holy Spirit:

**©** Come, Holy Spirit!

P And so the earth pleads, Come, Holy Spirit:

© Come, Holy Spirit!

You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three; our Life, our Mercy, our Might; our Table, our Food, our Server; our Rainbow, our Ark, our Dove; our Sovereign, our Water, our Wine; our Light, our Treasure, our Tree; our Way, our Truth, our Life. You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three! Praise now, praise tomorrow, praise forever.

G Amen!

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!
- P Those communing at home: take and eat, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.

Please be seated.

#### **COMMUNION**

This is Christ's Table and all Christians are welcome to the feast! We believe that this is the Body and Blood of Christ for you.

Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle.

Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle.

White grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine.

Gluten-free wafers are available for those who need them; please let the pastor know.

Receive the bread in your open palm, then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill.

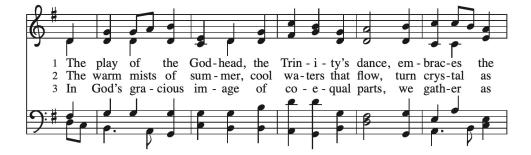
As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray.

All are invited to the meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine, please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor.

#### HYMNS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

**ACS 946** 

# The Play of the Godhead

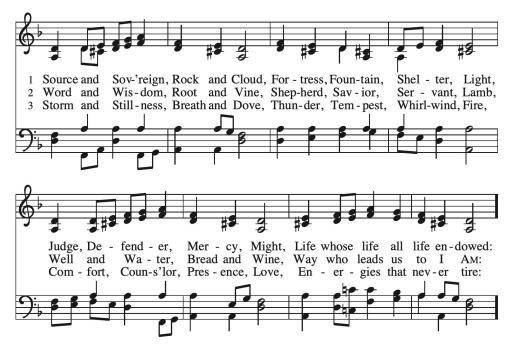


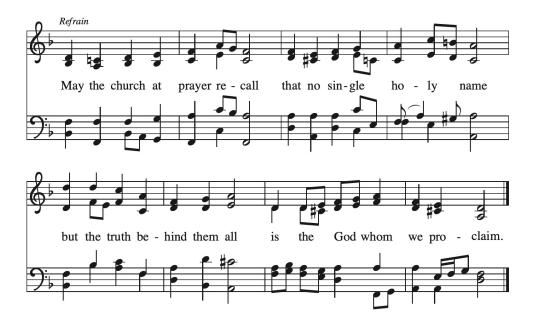


Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: PERICHORESIS, William P. Rowan, b. 1951 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music © 2000 William P. Rowan, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

# **ACS 947**

# Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud





Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945 Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903 Text © 1986 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

#### **TABLE BLESSING**

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, keep you in all goodness and health, and bring you to everlasting life.
- **G** Amen.

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

- A Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.
- C Amen.

SENDING - "God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world."

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please stand as you are able.

### **BLESSING**

- **P** ...now and always.
- C Amen.



SENDING HYMN ELW 414



Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900 Music: GROSSER GOTT, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774

#### DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

- **A** Go in peace. You are the Body of Christ.
- **☑** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** – "All Glory Be to God on High"

J. S. Bach, Wilhelm Rudnick

#### — SERVING TODAY —

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Kate Martin

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Elaine Kern

LECTOR – C. Noelle Partusch

ALTAR GUILD – Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels

BREAD BAKER – Jane Moran

USHERS – Linda & David Ditz, Linda Graffius, Betty Pletz

VIDEO STREAMING – Gina Snider

t t

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my sister, Cindy Schaper, by Mary Laver.

**Front altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory my brother, Donald W. Shaner, Sr. on his birthday, by his sister, Sally McAfee.

We would like to recognize our high school and college graduates. Please contact Norma in our church office by phone, 454-0106, ext. 221, or email, <a href="mailto:nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org">nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org</a>, by Friday, May 24 with the following:

For our high school graduates, please share:

- 1. Name
- 2. High school they are graduating from
- 3. Future plans, college, service, etc.

For our college graduates, please share:

- 1. Name
- 2. College they are graduating from
- 3. Degree

### **Today's Events**

**HYMN LOTTO!** Beginning this Sunday and lasting through the summer, you will find a slip in your bulletin asking for your suggestion of a hymn. We will choose from the collection during the Announcements each week. We will select at **both** services. The hymn chosen will be the Sending Hymn the following week. We ask that you include as much information as you know about the hymn; the title, the source, the hymnwriter or composer. Anything to help us find it. Pastor Jay reserves a veto to be used in only one of two cases: (1) If we will sing the hymn within two weeks (before or after) the given Sunday or (2) If we do not have the copyright to be able to print the hymn. Otherwise, the floor is open! Choose your favorites!

**Stop in the parlor** this morning following the 10:30 service for some refreshments and a time of fellowship. Thank you for the Deborah Circle for providing a lovely summer gathering.

**Raffle Tickets** for two complete sets of summer picnic supplies are on sale from our youth. Stop and take a look at all the goodies. Tickets are \$2 each or 6 for \$10 and will be available through Sunday, June 9. Proceeds will benefit travel to the National Youth Gathering.

**Greeting cards** can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

#### Worship

Our prelude begins at 10:25 each week and flows into the 10:30am worship time. We hope that this will draw us together and into our time of worship. Please remember to be mindful of those around you and those worshiping at home by keeping conversations and visiting to the lobbies once the prelude has begun. Thank you.

A reminder that our livestream runs from the beginning of the prelude through the end of the postlude. To maintain a worshipful space for those joining from home, please remember to leave the chancel area (the area around the altar) clear until after the postlude.

#### **Worship Matters**

Holy Trinity Sunday is unique in the entire liturgical year. It is the only festival of the Church that celebrates a doctrine and not a person or event in history. Usually when we celebrate festivals in the Church, they are for people (John the Baptist, Mary Magdalene, etc.) or an event (Christmas, Transfiguration, etc.). Even Holy Cross Day—which seems like it would be to celebrate a *thing* is set on September 14 as a celebration of the founding of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem which is an event. This Sunday, though, we focus on the doctrine of the Trinity. This doctrine is, in essence, a mystery. We cannot fully comprehend it and we cannot adequately describe it. But with our finite human words we try our best to laud the majesty of the ultimate Divine Being. We will always fall short, but we should never stop trying. As we transition from the Christ Cycle of the Church Year when we focus on the story of the historic Jesus—Advent through Pentecost—into the Church Cycle of the Church Year our focus shifts from being about the historic moments of Jesus' life to what it means to be part of the community that gathers in his name. What does it mean to be the Church? It is not surprising, then, as we begin our consideration of what it means to be the Church that we begin with this most central of mysteries and foundational doctrines to being part of the Church: The Trinity. As we consider what it means to be part of the community that gathers in Jesus' name, we first begin by celebrating that our God in the very heart of the Godhead (how's that for an old-timey word) is in relationship within God's self.

#### Where Is Pastor Jay?

**Pastor Jay** is happy to meet with you anytime, just let him know! However, if you would like to just "drop in" on him, this week you can find him at The Park Coffee & Bread Co. (4007 Main St) on Thursday from 8:00-9:00am. Any other time, just give him a call or send him an email!

## **Christian Education**

**Family Vacation Bible School** – we began four wonderful evenings for children, youth, and adults on Wednesday May 22. VBS will continue on Wednesday, May 29, June 5 and June 12. We are going into an amazing undersea adventure with **SCUBA** and discovering what living water is really all about. Our evenings together are from 5:30-7:00pm and begin with a potluck meal (main dish provided; please bring a dish to share), followed by a Bible message, craft, music and some great activities, too.

#### **Opportunities for Fellowship**

Magic Fingers Grace Group invites you to spend the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month with them for knitting, crocheting and any yarn project you may be creating. These are wonderful mornings of fellowship and laughter. Join us May 28 from 10:00am— 12:00 noon. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

**OWLS** are heading to Madeline's (formerly Crowley's), 8844 Rt. 18, Cranesville, for a scrumptious lunch on Wednesday, June 12 at 12:00 noon. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes or the church office by Friday, June 7.

#### **Youth Event**

Willy Wonka Movie Night is scheduled for Friday, June 14 from 5:30 – 9:00pm for youth in grades 5 and up. Join us for more fun and lots of chocolate! Please RSVP to Beth Keller or the church office.

#### **Support for our Youth**

The Salt Spa, 101 Center Street in Corry, is offering salt room and floatation therapy sessions through June 1. A 45 minute session in the salt room is \$30. A 16 minute floatation therapy session is \$65. Our LYO will receive \$10 for each session booked. Sign-up sheets are located at the welcome tables and the church office; you will be contacted to arrange your visit.

#### **Items to Note**

In case of an emergency and unable to reach Pastor Jay (264-549-9858), please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. During the weekend and evening you are welcome to contact Norma Buerk at 814-450-7162. Thank you.

#### **Bethany Outreach Center**

**Are you a Golfer** who enjoys a Good Scramble? Join us at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Harbor Ridge Open, this year in Support of the Bethany Outreach Center! Join us **Sunday, June 30 at 10:00am** at the Harbor Ridge Golf Course, 3730 Harbor Ridge Trail, Erie. Highlights of this "Fun" Fundraiser:

- Several (last year we had 16) Teams will compete in two 9-hole "Scramble" Rounds
- 9 optional "Fun" Skill Contests, such as Hole-In-One, Closest-To-The-Pin, etc.
- *Even if you're not a golfer*, you can still enjoy the Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle, Pull-Tab Prizes/Games in the Club House during and after golf
- Hot dogs and drinks at the turn
- All Proceeds go to support the Bethany Outreach Center
- Cost is \$320 per Foursome

To sign up see the registration information at the Bethany Outreach Center website (<a href="www.bethanyoutreachcenter.org">www.bethanyoutreachcenter.org</a>). Call, text, or email Eric Hedlund if you have any questions, at (814) 898-1233 or (814) 722-7732 or eric@bethanyoutreachcenter.org.

# **Readings and Commemorations This Week**

May 27 – John Calvin, renewer of the church, 1564 – Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 8; Romans 8:28-30; John 15:1-11 -- Gifted both as a systematic theologian and as an interpreter of scriptures, Calvin embraced the Reformation, and as a preacher in Geneva, Switzerland, brought a theocratic government to it. He is regarded as the father of the Reformed churches.

May 28 – Psalm 20; Exodus 25:1-22; I Corinthians 2:1-10

May 29 – Jiri Tranovsky, hymnwriter, 1637 – II Chronicles 20:20-21; Psalm 96; Ephesians 5:18b-20; Matthew 13:44-52 -- Tranovský is considered to be the father of Slovak hymnody as well as an important reformer of the Slavic church. He translated the Augsburg Confession (the basis of Lutheran teachings) and published a collection of Slovak hymns.

May 30 – Psalm 81:1-10; Exodus 31:12-18; Acts 25:1-12

May 31 – The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth – Zephaniah 2:14-18a; Psalm 113; Romans 12:9-16; Luke 1:39-47 -- This festival marks the occasion when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited her cousin Elizabeth who was herself pregnant with John. Elizabeth pronounced Mary "blessed among women," and Mary responded with the song called the Magnificat.

**June 1 – Justin, martyr at Rome, 165** – Psalm 16:5-11; I Corinthians 1:18-25; John 12:44-50 *-Born of pagan parents, Justin was influenced by an elderly Christian in Ephesus. He became a teacher of philosophy and the Christian faith. Jailed for practicing an unauthorized religion, he refused to renounce his faith and was beheaded.* 

#### - PRAYER LIST -

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Our Members:					
Lois Fobes	Dave Parsh	Phil McAfee	Cathy Beck & Jim		
Diane & Bob Giannelli	Winnie Lyons	Ron King	camy beek & sim		
Friends and Family:					
Kate Collins & family	Lily	Marlo	Amy Roschy		
Jessica Bulos Grubb	Sherry Johnson	Heather Keaster	Curtis Krick		
Nikki & Ayden Moyer & family	Stephanie Voland	Barbara Beatty	Jonah Allgeier		
Jenny Hallgren	Tony B.	Betty M.	Betty Peters		
Connie Haibach & family	Katja Mestrom	•	•		
Grief:					
Paul Gustafson family					
Our Military Service Men & Women:					
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown		
Ben Dixon					

# CALENDAR

MONDAY, MAY 27 Memorial Day		Church Offices and LMA Closed
TUESDAY, MAY 28	10:00am	Magic Fingers Grace Group
WEDNESDAY, MAY 29	11:30am 5:30pm	Early Connections Graduation Vacation Bible School Newsletter Mailing
THURSDAY, MAY 30	1:00pm	Grade 8 Awards Ceremony
FRIDAY, MAY 31	6:00pm 6:30pm	Grade 8 Graduation Banquet Grade 8 Graduation Dance

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

# SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024 THE NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Worship services at 8:15am in Faith Chapel and 10:30am in the main church.

Baccalaureate and Graduation Ceremony for LMA Grade 8 students begins at 3:00pm.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024 ASSISTING IN WORSHIP				
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Rob Benacci		
	10:30am	Chloe Meucci		
Communion Assistant (1 needed)	10:30am			
Lectors	10:30am	Patrick Cimino, Blake O'Brien		
Altar Guild	8:15am	Donna Sedelmyer		
	10:30am	Sharon Burke		
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco		
	10:30am	(1 needed)		
Video Streaming	10:30am	Nick Lang		
Counters	10:30am	Liz Stroup, Pat Young		
Ushers (4 needed)	10:30am	Sullivan Heutsche, Jake O'Brien,		
,		Sutton Rowland, Gina Snider		