

A Mission Congregation of the ELCA  
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
P. O. Box 64 - 8520 Oakes Rd - Pittsburg, Ohio 45358

Sermon Series on the Book of Luke  
Week 1  
August 16, 2020



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- **Presentation**

P: In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

*The sponsors and parents present Dawson for Baptism.*

We present Dawson Jane Schmitmeyer to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

*The minister addresses the sponsors and parents.*

P: In Christian love you have presented *Dawson* for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring *her* to the services of God's house, and teach *her* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As *she* grows in years, you should place in *her* hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for *her* instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of his Baptism and in communion with the Church, *she* may lead a *godly life* until the day of Jesus Christ. Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

**Sponsors and Parents: We do.**

P: Congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church, do you promise to assist these sponsors and parents to fulfill these obligations?

**C: We do and we ask God to help and guide us.**

\* **THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

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

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things. By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that *Dawson Jane Schmitmeyer* who is about to be here baptized may be given new life. Wash away *her* sin, cleanse *her* by this water, and bring *her* forth as *an heir* of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*The minister addresses the baptismal group and the congregation.*

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

**C: I do.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.\* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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. Amen**

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\**Or*, He descended to the dead.

## **BAPTISM**

*The minister baptizes the candidate.*

*Dawson Jane Schmitmeyer*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon *Dawson*: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C: **Amen**

P: *Dawson Jane Schmitmeyer*, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C: **Amen**

*A lighted candle may be given to the sponsor of a young child by a representative of the congregation who says:*

R: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P: O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Josh and Kami. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for all *five* of their *children*. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with *Callie, Finley, Beckett, Emerson, and Dawson*, the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

### • **WELCOME**

*The ministers and the baptismal group turn toward the congregation; a representative of the congregation says:*

P: Through Baptism God has made *Dawson* our new *sister* in Christ and a fellow member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that together we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

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\* Please stand if able

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**C:** We welcome you into the Lord’s family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.

*All return to their places and the Service continues with verses 3&4 of Baptismal Song.*

**\* BAPTISMAL SONG “Borning Cry” (Verses 3 & 4) ELW 732**



3 “In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I’ll be there to guide you through the night, com - plete what I’ve be - gun.



When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



I’ll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise.”



4 “I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.”

**\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

**P:** We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

**P:** Guiding God,

\* Please stand if able

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**C: You have shown us how to live a good life, yet we think we can do better on our own. We do not honor you or our neighbors, instead choosing to follow our selfish desires. We long to be free and yet hold others' wrongs against them. Release us from this endless cycle of guilt and poor choices. Restore us to yourself again, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

P: We are God's beloved children and we have been forgiven! Now live in the joy which this grace provides, and share the good news with others.

**All: Amen.**

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Holy God, Your name is sacred and precious. May we cherish it by calling upon you with sincerity and proclaiming your goodness to all the earth, for the sake of Jesus,

**C: Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Luke 11:2-4**

P: Our scripture reading for this morning is from Luke, Chapter 11.

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

<sup>2</sup>He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Praise To You, O Christ (*Spoken*)**

- **SERMON**

**Pr Mel Musser**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the one who teaches us to pray, Jesus Christ our Lord, amen.

Today we embark on a 4-week journey through the Lord's Prayer. I wondered why the smart people who did the planning for this lectionary series chose the Lord's Prayer as our final series for this summer. After reading an article called Relearning the Lord's Prayer, I wondered no more. In a survey conducted in Brittan children between the ages of 6-12 years of age are only half as likely to know the Lord's Prayer as children of that same age group were just 40 years ago. I believe we have a crisis even more profound than our current Pandemic. We are in danger of seeing the disappearance of faith in Jesus Christ as our savior in our lifetime... Children are not being brought up in the faith as most of us were. They don't know even the most basic truths contained in the Bible and it's about time Christians stand up and claim our birthright and teach our children things like the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Creeds and all those wonderful stories we grew up on from the Bible. So, I'll now get off my soapbox and we can begin looking at the most important prayer you could ever teach your children and grandchildren.



The Lord's Prayer is one of the most unifying set of words ever put down on paper. What more does our world need now than something that we can all rally around? Is it a coincidence that as we've lost ground in church and Sunday School attendance, violence has increased, and our society's moral standards have dropped through the floor?

What is it about the Lord's Prayer that makes it so vital to who we are as Christians? It's said at worship services all over the globe every Sunday. We use it to close our Church Council meetings and at the end of our Bible studies. This prayer gives us hope for the future. We trust that we are heard by the Creator, God Almighty and that's precisely where we begin today. We start by seeing what the Bible has to say about prayer overall, then we'll look at the beginning of the prayer from both Luke's and Matthew's perspectives. By way of coming attractions, next week we'll uncover the good news about God's Kingdom coming to earth, then we'll look into the petition where we ask God to provide us with our Daily Bread, and finish this series with a sermon on forgiveness. That will finish up our summer sermon series. After that we'll head into fall by going all the way back to the beginning and read through the major stories from the book of Genesis.

So, as we begin to look at the Lord's Prayer today, I thought we should start by taking a look at what the Bible says about prayer in general. Prayer is a really

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- \* Please stand if able
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important topic throughout the Bible, in both the Old and New Testaments. In fact, overall, prayer is mentioned in some form or another 442 times. The Bible has a lot to say about prayer and God's people are commanded to pray. Prayer isn't some option like electronic reclining seats in your car. Prayer is the engine that makes our relationship with God possible. People have long prayed to God when they were in peril. As far back as Genesis, God's people used intercessory prayer to ask God to spare the lives of their family and friends. Prayer was an integral part of who Jesus was. He prayed before every big decision, before he started his ministry, and at the hour of betrayal. Jesus was known to pray all night long and he prayed so fervently that he literally sweated blood. I think the most important thing I get from reading the passages on prayer is we are to make it a priority in our lives. Whether you formally pray 5 times a day, from morning prayer to Compline or have more of an ongoing casual conversational prayer life with God; prayer is the primary way we establish and grow in our relationship with God.

So, what about this specific prayer we call The Lord's Prayer? It's recorded in the Bible twice. In these verses I just read from Luke and also in the sermon on the mount from Matthew's Gospel. The two versions are different and in some ways those differences are significant. In case you missed it, Luke's version omits the "Our" from the Our Father. Also, Luke doesn't include Father's dwelling

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place. There's no reference to our Father who art in heaven... It begins very simply, Father, hallowed be thy name. In fact, Luke never tells us God's dwelling place is in heaven throughout his entire Gospel. Perhaps Luke doesn't want us to get the idea that God is located far away in the great by and by, but rather God is everywhere right here and now. On the other hand, God in heaven is one of Matthew's favorite expressions. God wants us to have both understandings of this prayer. Jesus wants us to use this prayer as a model to help shape our specific needs and to give us a way to access and address God. It tells us how to pray and what to pray for. God also wants to unite us all into one Body of Christ and so gives us both versions as a model for prayer and as a specific format to use in prayer. By having a common prayer that we recite often, we become one under the name of Jesus Christ. By memorizing these words and reciting them every chance we get, we're reinforcing our relationship with God and with each other. In times of great struggle, when we can't even think straight, we have comforting words that just flow from our lips because we've been repeating them over and over since we were children ourselves. I fear for what the next generation will do when they have struggles and don't have a relationship with Our Father who art in heaven to fall back on...

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We don't just send our prayer heavenward to whom it may concern... The Lord's Prayer is addressed to Father God. We're not talking to just any father, but to the Father of all creation, even if Luke leaves that part out... The prayer Jesus taught us is prayed directly to God the Father of all creation whose very Name itself is Holy. In the ancient world your name meant something. A person's name was tied directly to their character and it was their identity. When you knew someone's name you had a deep relationship with them because you knew their reputation and what kind of person they were. That's what makes addressing our prayers directly to God so important. We're binding God to his own reputation and to his promises of forgiveness and eternal life. Today little Dawson has become a recipient of those same promises and your Kami and Josh and all the rest of us have promised to teach her this prayer. May God give us the courage in this secular age to fulfill those promises we made today.

In his book, *Alone With God*, John MacArthur says, "In fewer than seventy words we find a true masterpiece of the infinite mind of God. No one else could compress every conceivable element of true prayer into such a brief and simple form—a form that even a young child can understand, but the most mature believer cannot fully comprehend..." The most mature believer may not be able to comprehend, but that doesn't stop us Lutherans from asking the famous question,

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“What does this mean?” After each and every part of the prayer. We all learned in our Catechism classes to ask what does it mean when we pray Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Luther teaches us that God invites us to believe He is our real Father and we are His real children, so we will pray with trust and complete confidence, in the same way beloved children approach their beloved earthly father with their requests. Again, Luther says, “Of course, God's name is holy in and of itself, but by this request, we pray He will make it holy among us, too. This happens when God's Word is taught clearly and purely, and when we live holy lives as God's children based upon God’s Word. Help us, Heavenly Father, to do this! Anyone who teaches and lives by something other than God's Word defiles God's name among us. Protect us from this, Heavenly Father!”

In this short introduction at the beginning of the Lord’s Prayer we say a lot about who God is and why we can trust our needs and even our wants and desires to him. I love starting all my prayers to God, Our Father. From the first words it gets me out of my own head. I don’t pray to my Father, we pray to our Father. Prayer is meant to be something we do together as a family. Even when I pray in my bedroom with the door shut, I still begin with “Our Father.” God isn’t my personal genie granting me three wishes every time I pray... God is “our” father and when I pray to our Father, I’m automatically acknowledging my place in the

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family as one of God's children. I'm not an only child... When I remember this, it helps me be a little less selfish in my prayer time. Praying to Our Father helps to keep us all in unity. In this way my prayer becomes our prayer.

May we each commit to improving our prayer life with God. May this study of Our Lord's Prayer renew our joy and give us confidence to boldly stand, kneel, or lay prostrate before the Lord Our God trusting in God's holiness and goodness. May we redouble our efforts to teach this prayer to our children and grandchildren so that unity of spirit can be revived across our lands. May God's power work in us pass along the blessing of prayer for generations to come. Amen.

*Silence for reflection may follow*

**\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P: We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need...

*A brief silence.*

L: You have given us a way to talk to you which shows us how close you hold us. May we give to your name the honor you deserve, cherishing you with our hearts and lives. Loving God,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: As the Summer ends we recognize the one who creates and brings all things full circle. We thank you for times of rest, recreation, fun and growth. We prepare ourselves for a new cycle to begin, knowing that you watch over us in all circumstances. Loving God,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Even as your name is holy, so is everything you have made. Help us to honor our original covenant to care for all living creatures, protecting their habitats and ensuring their humane treatment. Loving God,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: We give you thanks for claiming and naming Dawson Jane Schmitmeyer today. Help us to fulfill our Baptismal vows and give her the gifts of your salvation. We also remember and give thanks for the gift of marriage. We lift up for your care Nychelle and Zachary who were married yesterday. Strengthen their love and give them a long and blessed life together. Loving God,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: When we feel most alone, your Spirit remains with us to remind us of your never-ending presence. We pray for all those suffering from the Pandemic virus. Bring an end to this virus and comfort those who have lost so much. Bring your healing power to all those who need it most this day, especially... Loving God,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: We know that when this earthly life is through, you will bring us to be with you and with all those whom we love but have lost. Until that day may we be faithful children who live out your mercy on earth. Loving God,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

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\* Please stand if able

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*Here other petitions may be offered.*

L: We have asked and you have heard us. Gather all of these prayers into your merciful keeping, and make us grateful that you allow us to address you directly, even though you are the creator of the universe. We ask this through Christ our Lord,

**C: Amen.**

**\* SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*(The Sharing of the Peace that began when the congregation arrived is now shared with the Pastor at this time...)*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**• OFFERING**

**\* OFFERING PRAYER**

P: When we offer these gifts, we honor you, O God, by showing the same generosity to others that you have shown to us. Keep us mindful of how fortunate we are to be able to call you our creator, and to know that you have called us your own,

**C: Amen.**

**\* THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Jesus is the "tie that Binds us together", let us pray as Jesus taught...

**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.**

**• ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\* SENDING BLESSING**

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P: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C: Amen.

\* **SENDING HYMN**                      **“Baptized in Water”**



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust-ing his  
 tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
 sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

\* **DISMISSAL**

P: Depart in Christ's Love.

C: **Seeking, welcoming, and serving all. Amen!**

**Postlude**

**“Happiness Is the Lord”**

**Roxanne Groff**

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### Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff

Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Lector	N/A
Acolyte	N/A
Organist	Roxanne Groff
Greeters	Dean Thompson
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser
Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
FaceBook Live Recorder	PJ Musser

#### Health Tips for the Week

**BODY:** Stop smoking or Vaping

**MIND:** Go to a Museum

**SPIRIT:** Tell someone what they mean to you



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**This Week @ Trinity – August 16 thru August 23, 2020**

**Sun, August 16**

10:30 am Worship Service

**Tues, August 18 Newsletter Deadline**

**Wed, August 19**

6:00 pm Finance Team Meeting

7:00 pm Trinity Council Meeting

**Fri, August 21**

3:30 pm FISH Pantry @ 400 Markwith, Greenville OH

**Sun, August 23**

10:30 am Worship Service



Scripture readings for next Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Luke 11:2-4

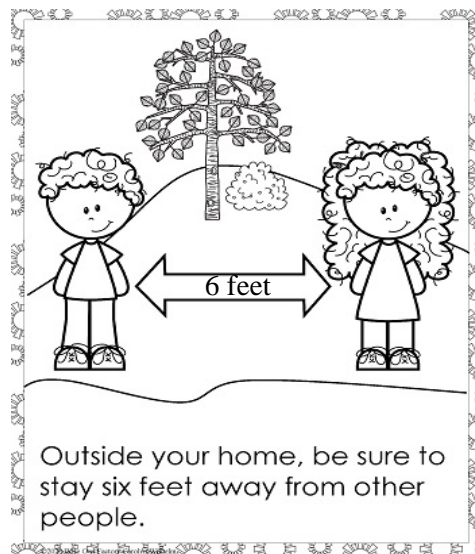
**TRINITY IS**

**ON the AIR**

**AT FM 88.3 ---**

If you are near the Church on Sunday morning, you can tune in to FM 88.3 at 10:30 AM and hear the sermon from your car.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** is this Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Please email your news to [secretary@pitsburgtlc.org](mailto:secretary@pitsburgtlc.org)



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- Please be seated

## **We're making School Kits for Lutheran World Relief!**

If you don't feel like doing the shopping, Linda Baker says she loves to shop (and Tony affirms how much she loves it 😊). Linda has offered and will be happy to accept any donations. She will purchase what is most needed to make the maximum number of school kits with what donations she receives. If you're like Linda and love to shop, here's the list that goes into a kit:

- 1 - Sturdy drawstring backpack style cloth bag— approximately 14" X 17", w/shoulder straps (handmade)
- 1 - Ruler—30 cm on one side (May have inches on the other side.)
- 1 - Box of Crayons (16 or 24)
- 5 - Unsharpened Pencils w/Eraser
- 1 - Pencil Sharpener
- 1 - 2 1/2" Eraser
- 1 - Pair Blunt Scissors
- 5 - Blue or Black Ball point Pens (No GEL pens)
- 4 - 70 Sheet College or Wide ruled Notebooks



### **THE GIVING TREE**

Our Giving Tree inside still has crosses with ideas for items to donate. Open the cross and take the paper with you or take the cross and return it when you drop off your donations. The basket under the tree also has items inside most of the crosses.

The baskets in the corner behind the tree are marked for either WERNLE or WELCA donations. Put your bags in the baskets to help keep the area neat as possible. We will try to remove your donations ASAP.

**THANK YOU!**

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