

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



All Saints Sunday  
November 7, 2021  
1 Kings 19:1-18



Scan with your Smartphone and link to our web page, our  
Facebook page, and our YouTube Channel.



- **Prelude “This Little Light of Mine; When the Saints Go Marching In; Somebody Bigger Than You and I” Roxanne Groff**

- **Office of the Acolyte and Ringing of the Bell**

- **Welcome** **Pastor Mel Musser**

**\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism...*

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

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

P: Creator of all things,

**C: We have failed to care for all that you have made. We have squandered resources and oppressed others. Forgive us for what we have done and have failed to do. Teach us how to be steward of your creation with care and nurture. Amen.**

L: Our God will always love all that God has made. Although we sin, God forgives. Receive now the entire forgiveness of all your sins, granted as a gift from a loving God. In the name of Jesus we pray.

**C: Amen.**

**\* GATHERING SONG “For All The Saints” LBW 174**

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
2 You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;

all you, who by faith before the world confessed,  
Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;

your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
you, in the darkness dread, their one true light.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

- \* Please stand if able
- Please be seated

**\* APOSTOLIC GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray... God of stillness, You speak to us sometimes in the silence. Teach us to sit comfortably in it so that we might learn to hear your voice.

C: **Amen.**

**• SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Kings 19:1-18**

L: Our scripture reading for this morning is from 1 Kings, Chapter 19.

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

**19**Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. <sup>2</sup>Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." <sup>3</sup>Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there. <sup>4</sup>But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." <sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." <sup>6</sup>He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. <sup>7</sup>The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." <sup>8</sup>He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

<sup>9</sup>At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after

---

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” <sup>14</sup>He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” <sup>15</sup>Then the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. <sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

\* **SERMON**

Pastor Mel Musser

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the one who came to bring us peace, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, amen.

We live in a noisy world. Even outside of all city and village limits we still have jets that fly over our house in Union Township, near West Milton. At any given moment we might have two or even three television sets turned on and tuned to different channels. On Sunday afternoons our house is abuzz with children’s voices, some a little too loud... It makes it hard to concentrate. Sometimes a moment of real peace and quiet is hard to come by. To be perfectly honest, I don’t really enjoy peace and quiet. Even as a teenager in school, I always had to play the radio or have the TV on when I studied. For me, using my brain to

---

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

compartmentalize and shut out the external noise actually helped me concentrate on my studies. It's still that way. When I'm studying for the Sermon each week, if I don't have some background noise my mind wanders and I can't concentrate on the task at hand, but as soon as I turn on the TV or play some music, I focus in, like a laser and that's when I finally can understand the word God wants me to preach.

As I read through the various commentaries about Elijah, quite a few of them pointed out that it appears Elijah was in a serious depression. He believed his ministry had been totally ineffective and that he was the last man standing up for the God of Israel. He shunned his friends and even left his servant and wandered off into the desert wilderness where he begged God to take his life. I'm not a clinical Psychologist, so I won't tell you Elijah was depressed. That takes a professional's diagnosis. What I can tell you is that Elijah was sad. I know a thing or two about sadness. I think we've all experienced sadness from time to time. It's a pretty common thing to go through times when you just feel like you're in a funk. What do you do when the veil of darkness descends on your soul and you feel sad? Elijah ran away and begged to die...

These past many months have been hard for a lot of people. We're working from home a lot more than in the past. For me a lot of the meetings I used to attend regularly have been cancelled or moved to online webinars or Zoom

Meetings. Zooming or online webinars or FaceBook Live are not the same as having direct face to face contact with friends and colleagues. This past almost two years have left me feeling isolated and alone. When we miss those we love and crave the human contact of our friends and associates, it can leave us sad and lonely. For most of the Pandemic I tried to drown out my sadness with noise. I almost always have the television on in the room. I've done a lot more reading and phone calling...

Elijah found himself alone in a cave wishing God would just take his life. He thought he was the only surviving prophet left, even though the Bible says God had reserved 7,000 righteous Israelites. That's what being alone can do to you. It distorts your perceptions of reality. Elijah could have rejoined his fellow colleagues and countrymen any time, but he chose to remain isolated, in his cave, contemplating his own death. That's precisely the point at which Elijah encountered the living God once again in his life. He didn't find God in the noise of the tornado or the tremors of the earthquake. He didn't see God's awesome power in the heat of the fire. Instead, Elijah heard God's still small voice in the silence after all the commotion had ceased. When he did, that voice was enough to renew Elijah's zeal for his ministry. God recommissioned him to go forth and anoint the next Kings and even his replacement in the prophet Elisha.

What got Elijah in this funk to begin with? He faced grave persecution and death threats from King Ahab and Queen Jezebel because he was brave enough to speak truth to the powerful and they didn't like what he had to say. Ahab was the 7<sup>th</sup> King of Israel. Just 7 generations, about 140 years separated Ahab from Saul and look how far they had led Israel astray. If you recall from last week when we read from chapter 5 of First Kings, Solomon had developed a trading partnership with the King of Tyre. From that partnership we now find that Ahab has married Jezebel a daughter of one of their kings. To make matters worse Ahab had allowed Jezebel to bring the worship of her god, Baal, into the religious places in Israel. Earlier in First Kings it says King Ahab did more evil in the sight of the Lord than all the other kings combined. As you can imagine this didn't set well with YHWH, so he sent his prophet Elijah to bring God's Word to bear against Ahab and Jezebel. At first Elijah was extremely successful. Remember the story where he ministered to a Widow of Sidon during the extreme draught and kept her and her son alive with miraculous oil and flour? Then he demonstrated God's power by consuming a bull offering with fire from heaven, even after the entire altar and surrounding area was completely drenched with water. After that he slew the 450 prophets of Baal. While Elijah was still riding high on all these recent successes, Jezebel countered with a threat of her own. She promised Elijah she would have him killed within the day.

- 
- \* Please stand if able
  - Please be seated

I've never been threatened with death because of my ministry, but I have felt the sting of rejection. Who hasn't? It can leave you sad and maybe even depressed, certainly feeling alone. God never promised any of us the easy road. In fact, I believe Jesus said any who want to be his disciples must take up a cross and follow him. Now in all our lives there are many joys, but there are just as many valleys we must all go through as well. Some of us might use noise or other harmful distractions to help us get through the latest crisis. Other's turn to the silence and inner contemplation for the answers to our troubles. Some of us have learned to pray our way through times of trouble. I can't tell you what will work for you, but I can tell you this; God is present with you in all your highs and all your lows. I try to begin each Confirmation class by going around the room and asking each student to share a high and a low they have experienced since our previous meeting. We then pray for each other asking God to help us in our low times and thanking God for his Holy Presence all the time. My hope is we are modeling a health way to navigate through life by helping and praying for one another.

We stand among a great cloud of witnesses who have already run the race we're all still running. May the witness of those who have gone before us, as well as those whom we serve alongside today, help and guide us in our times of sadness and despair. May God's Holy Spirit be with us all as we too carry the cross of

- 
- \* Please stand if able
  - Please be seated



Jesus into our world filled with Ahabs and Jezebels. May God's still small voice whisper to you, letting you know you are loved and you are most certainly not alone. Amen.

*Silence for reflection may follow*

**\* NICENE CREED**

*The Nicene Creed is said on all festivals and on Sundays in the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. The Apostles' Creed is said at other times. The Creed is omitted here if the service of Holy Baptism or another rite with a creed is used.*

**C: 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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**

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

*A brief silence.*

L: We are frequently tempted to lose heart, to give up on the work that you have set before us, focusing on the negative and refusing to see new possibilities. Feed us with your spirit and breathe new life into us, opening our eyes to your purpose and showing us a way past discouragement and into your promise. Empowering God,

---

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: We seek you in the violent winds. We seek you in the earthquake. We seek you in the fire. We find you in all places of your good creation, especially in the spaces of silence. Empowering God,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: There are thundering voices all around us, claiming to speak your will, O Lord. Help us distinguish fact from fiction, reason from rambling, and truth from trifle. Tune our ears to hear you in the silence. Empowering God,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: When our strength has all but dried up, you offer us revival and refreshment. Cool our hot heads, and pour your blessing over those who particularly need it, especially... Empowering God,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: For all this and what ever else you know we need, we give you honor, thanks, and praise, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ,

**C: Amen**

\* **RECOGNITION OF THE SAINTS**

P: On this All Saints Day we remember those who have completed their earthly journey and are resting in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we remember each of our own dearly departed loved ones and after every five names are spoken, the Church bell will toll. After all names have been read please respond in faith that they are **“Here with Us”**.

*(The list of names is read aloud...)*

**All Saints Day List 2021**

Alice Street	Kathy Wiltshire
Alice Warner	Keith Furlong
Ann Kendall	Larry Linder
Betty Lutz	Laszlo Koos
Betty Merzke	Lulu Sheets
Betty Sutton	Marilyn Walker
Bill Davenport	Mary Ogle
Bill Kendall	Mary Philpot
Bob Jasinski	Myrl Lephart
Bob McKibben	Ned Kress
Carris Warner	Olis McKibben
Carson Boner	Pamela Skwarlo
Clint Patterson	Red Watson
Coleen Garber	Rev. Joe Soley
Denise Weyrick	Richard Fourman
Denver Anthony	Ron Boord
Devin Ketring	Sandy Booher
Dylan Wallace	Ted Risnor
Elma Musser	Tom Hamilton
Gene Vaughn	Treva Lucas
Gerry Merzke	Helen Thompson
Harold Musser	Earl Thompson
Harry Ogle	Libby Angles
Janet Gilliland	Albert Jackson
Jennifer Payne	Helen Jackson
Jim Lephart	Lianna Powers

- 
- \* Please stand if able
  - Please be seated

P: We give you thanks for these Saints and for all who shared your love with us.  
Keep us bound together in the love of our savior until we are all reunited in  
your heavenly kingdom.

**C: Amen.**

**\* OFFERING PRAYER**

*While the congregation is still standing say:*

P: Instead of passing the offering plate, we ask you to please place your offering in  
the Offering Plates conveniently located on your way out of worship. For those  
worshipping with us from their vehicles, there is an offering basket located near  
the back door of the church and for those worshipping online if you go to  
[www.pitsburgtlc.org](http://www.pitsburgtlc.org) you can make your offering online.

P: Let us pray... We bring what we can to you, Holy Lord, even when we fear it  
isn't enough, or it won't make any difference. Take the offerings we bring with  
our whole heart and multiply them so that all might see your faithfulness,  
patience, and love. In Jesus' name we pray,

**C: Amen.**

**\* THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: United into one through this heavenly food, we 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**

P: God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life,  
✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore.

**C: Amen**

**\* SENDING SONG**

**“Rise Up O Saints of God”**

**LBW 383**



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;  
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulfs earth's frame;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, his word of hope pro - claim.

**\* DISMISSAL**

**P:** Depart in Christ's Love.

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

**Postlude**

**“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”**

**Roxanne Groff**

---

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS023830. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

- 
- \* = Please stand if able
  - = Please be seated

November 7, 2021  
Page 13 of 15

## Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff

Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Organist	Roxanne Groff
Lector	Chris Cassel
Acolyte	
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser
Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
Facebook Live Recorder	PJ Musser
Altar Flowers	Given to the Glory of God by Pastor Mel & PJ Musser

### Health Tips for the Week

**BODY:** Take the stairs instead of the elevator

**MIND:** Don't worry about things you can't control

**SPIRIT:** Try Journaling

### *This Week @ Trinity – November 7 thru November 14, 2021*

- Sun, November 7 – ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY**  
 10:30 am   Worship Service  
 11:30 am   Annual Congregational Meeting
- Tues, November 9 –** 6:30 pm   Christian Education Team Meeting
- Wed, November 10 -** 6:30 pm   Confirmation Class
- Thurs, November 11 - VETERAN'S DAY**  
 10:00 am   Prayers & Squares Quilting  
 2:30 pm   Community Blood Drive at Trinity
- Fri, November 12 -** 3:30 pm   FISH Choice Food Pantry
- Sun, November 14 – THANKOFFERING SUNDAY**  
 10:30 am   Thankoffering Worship Service



Scripture readings for next Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>  
 Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24

- \* = Please stand if able
- = Please be seated

## **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.

### **AROUND THE PARISH**

#### **Holy Communion Delivery Available to ALL:**

If you or anyone you know would like to have Holy Communion delivered to a home or place of business, please call Pastor Mel at 937-626-7100. He will bring a prefilled communion chalice including both sanctified wine and a morsel of bread all prepackaged from the Concordia True Vine company. This is a safe way to stay connected to your brothers and sisters in Christ.

### **Trinity Contact Info**

Pastor:	Mel Musser
Email:	<a href="mailto:pastor@pitsburgtlc.org">pastor@pitsburgtlc.org</a>
Cell Phone:	937-626-7100
Secretary:	Sharon Fourman
Email:	<a href="mailto:secretary@pitsburgtlc.org">secretary@pitsburgtlc.org</a>
Office Hours:	By Appointment
Office Phone:	937-692-5670
Website:	<a href="http://www.pitsburgtlc.org">www.pitsburgtlc.org</a>

- 
- \* = Please stand if able
  - = Please be seated