



“People coming together to be The Church,
not just attend one.”

Trinity Lutheran Church is an open and inclusive
church, welcoming all who seek God.

69 Griswold Street • Hillsdale, Michigan
517-437-2647 • tlchillsdale.org

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 13, 2021



**Service of Holy Communion
8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Worship**

Trinity Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING! We invite you to join us regularly for worship and in a variety of activities and opportunities in our congregational life. If you are new here, we welcome you; if you are a member of longstanding, we celebrate your gifts and your ministry among us. Our order of worship is printed on the following pages of this bulletin.

MISSION STATEMENT - The Mission Statement of Trinity Lutheran Church is to nurture faith through proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ by word, sacrament, deeds and loving relationships, to ALL people.

VISION STATEMENT - As proclaimers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Vision of Trinity Lutheran Church is to maximize our gifts and resources to reach out with God's love and serve the global community.

COMMUNION PROCEDURE - The communion table of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is open to all baptized Christians who believe that our Lord Jesus is truly present in the forms of bread and wine. Please follow the ushers' instructions at the time of distribution. Children who have not yet received first communion instruction are welcome to come forward with their families to receive a blessing.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated weekly throughout the year. No one is ever required to participate in the sacrament, but it is offered to nourish and sustain God's people. This is in accordance with Lutheran teaching:

Background 35A: The Church celebrates the Holy Communion frequently because the Church needs the sacrament, the means by which the Church's fellowship is established and its mission as the baptized people of God is nourished and sustained. This practice was reaffirmed in 1989 by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We continue to need "consistent pastoral encouragement and instruction relating to Holy Communion...pointing up Christ's command, his promise, and our deep need." For a variety of historical reasons, Lutherans in various places moved away from the weekly celebration of the sacrament.

Application 35C: Participation in the sacramental meal is by invitation, not demand. The members of the church are encouraged to make the sacrament a frequent rather than occasional part of their lives.

(Excerpts from: The Use of the Means of Grace, Principle 35)

OFFERING

SECOND SUNDAY: Barnyard Boxes for ELCA Good Gifts

The offering is collected at the beginning or end of worship using the plate at the entrance of the church. Each week, our congregation collects a general offering for the church and our ministries. Additionally, we collect an offering for special projects. If you would like to make a regular gift to the church, please place it in the offering plate. If you are looking to support our special project (noted above), please place your offering in the barnyard boxes or noisy offering buckets.

Sunday, June 13, 2021

INTRODUCTION

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

(8:30am: kneel/sit) Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Reconciling God,

C **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

P Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ☩ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Your sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Sit

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #807 v. 1 & 3

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Hymns are sung by a cantor. Please refrain from singing, due to increased risk of virus transmission.

- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee;
may I still thy goodness prove.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

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.
O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

A A reading from Ezekiel.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

²²Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

A Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

The righteous shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon. (Ps. 92:12)

- ¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;
²**to herald your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night;**
³on the psaltery, and on the lyre,
and to the melody of the harp.
⁴**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**
¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
¹³**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
shall flourish in the courts of our God;**
¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age;
they shall be green and succulent;
¹⁵**that they may show how upright the LORD is,
my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

A A reading from 2nd Corinthians.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

A Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia!

C Alleluia! Welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. Alleluia!

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 4th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Mark 4:26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY **ELW #690 v. 1, 2 & 3** ***We Raise Our Hands to You, O Lord***

Hymns are sung by a cantor. Please refrain from singing, due to increased risk of virus transmission.

1 We raise our hands to you, O Lord,
like empty vessels.
Oh, come to us and give us life
from springs where living waters flow.

3 Oh, make our barren trees to grow,
our hands to blossom,
and let our lives bring forth such fruit
that heals our neighbor's grief and pain.

2 What good and blessing you bestow
are freely given.
Your pow'r will make the weakest strong
and barren branches start to bud.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**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.**

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

A Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

A Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

A Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

A Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

A Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musician, Paul, and all those who share music in this place. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you (*especially*). We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.
C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND SANCTUS

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age. And so, with the glorious company of the apostles, with all the choirs of angels and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

C **We praise you, O God.**

P Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

C **We bless you, O God.**

P We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C **We thank you, O God.**

P 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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people;
throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ
Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER (8:30 a.m.)

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

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**

LORD'S PRAYER (11:00 a.m.)

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

C **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin
against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and
the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION ELEMENTS

Gluten-free communion bread and grape juice are available upon request. Simply tell the usher as communion is distributed.

Please do not consume the elements until instructed to do so after the elements have been distributed to the entire congregation.

Those receiving communion may remove their masks.

P The body of Christ, given for you.

C ***All those receiving communion may remove their masks and are invited to consume the bread.***

P The blood of Christ, shed for you.

C ***All those receiving communion are invited to consume the wine or grape juice.***

After you have received communion, please put your mask back on.

BLESSING ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT RECEIVE COMMUNION

Parents or family members may choose to make the sign of the cross on the foreheads of children or individuals in their family group that do not receive communion.

P The Lord bless you and keep you as beloved children of God. ✝ Jesus loves you.

C **Amen.**

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.**

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

SENDING HYMN

ELW #679 v. 1 & 3

For the Fruit of All Creation

Hymns are sung by a cantor. Please refrain from singing, due to increased risk of virus transmission.

1 For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev'ry nation,
thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.

3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. You are the body of Christ for the world.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated. An usher will dismiss the congregation by row.

SERVING AT TRINITY

Ministers: Every member of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Hahn

Piano/Keyboard: Paul Lucas

Parish Secretary: Meighan Roe

Council President: Chris McNamara

Vice-President: Suzanne Langston

Treasurer: Kristin Lucas

Secretary: Sandra Dufur

Council Members: Johncie Langston, Norma Ludlow, Brad Otterbein, Joe Painter, Gene Stockford-Shively, and Tom Walworth.

SERVING TODAY:

8:30 AM

Assisting Minister: Betsy Roberts

Cantor: Pastor Hahn

Ushers: Tom Stockford-Shively, Diane Draper

11:00 AM

Assisting Minister: Chris McNamara

Cantor: Phyllis Klingler

Ushers: Phyllis Klingler, Jay Sponsler

BOTH SERVICES

Altar Guild: Tom Stockford-Shively

Offering Counters: Chris McNamara, Sandra Dufur

FLOWERS – The flowers on the altar today are given by the Bartels for Robin and Warren's birthdays.

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