



“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

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**Third Sunday of Easter**

**April 18, 2021**

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**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**

### **THIRD SUNDAY: Marafiki Children's Fund**

*The offering is collected at the beginning or end of worship using the box 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 box. If you are looking to support our special project (noted above), please place your offering in the barnyard boxes or noisy offering buckets.*

**Sunday, April 18, 2021**

## **INTRODUCTION**

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

## **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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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

**P** Gracious God,

**C** **Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**P** God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**GATHERING HYMN**                      **ELW #367 v. 1 & 3**      *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*  
*Hymns are sung by a cantor. Please refrain from singing, due to increased risk of virus transmission.*

1    Now all the vault of heav'n resounds  
     in praise of love that still abounds:  
     "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
     Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
     Repeat their song of glory here:  
     "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
     Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3    Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
     set heart and will on things above  
     that we conquer through your triumph;  
     grant grace sufficient for life's day  
     that by our lives we truly say:  
     "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
     Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**GREETING**

P     Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C     **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.

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

C     **Amen.**

A A reading from Acts.

**FIRST READING**

*Acts 3:12-19*

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

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

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

A Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

*Psalms 4*

*The Lord does wonders for the faithful. (Ps. 4:3)*

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;  
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup>**"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;  
the LORD will hear me when I call.

<sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>**Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"  
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup>**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

A A reading from First John.

**SECOND READING**

**1 John 3:1—7**

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

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

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

A Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

P Alleluia!

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

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

**GOSPEL**

*Luke 24:36b-48*

*In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

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

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**SERMON**

*The sermon begins:*

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY****ELW #495 v. 1, 5 & 6*****We Who Once Were Dead***

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

- 1 We who once were dead  
now live, fully knowing  
Jesus as our head.  
Life is overflowing  
when he breaks the bread.
  
- 5 Jesus, you were dead,  
but you rose and, living,  
made yourself our bread,  
in your goodness giving  
life though we were dead.
  
- 6 This is your design;  
in this meal we meet you.  
Be our bread and wine,  
Jesus, we entreat you.  
This shall be our sign.



## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

*A brief silence.*

A Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration (*local concerns for creation may be named*). Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

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

**C Your mercy is great.**

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

**C Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

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

**C Your mercy is great.**

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

**C Amen.**

## 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, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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 Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

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

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

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

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

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

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

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

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

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

P With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**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 The risen Christ invites us to this table. Receive this meal and be satisfied.

*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** Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**SENDING HYMN**

**ELW #389 v. 1, 4 & 5**

*Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing*  
*Hymns are sung by a cantor. Please refrain from singing, due to increased risk of virus transmission.*

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
  
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth,  
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
and find the way, the life, the truth,  
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
  
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

**DISMISSAL**

- A Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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

### **SERVING AT TRINITY**

**Ministers:** Every member of the congregation    **Council President:** Chris McNamara  
**Pastor:** Rev. Jessica Hahn    **Vice-President:** Suzanne Langston  
**Piano/Keyboard:** Paul Lucas    **Treasurer:** Kristin Lucas  
**Parish Secretary:** Meighan Roe    **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:** Amy Otterbein  
**Cantor:** TBA  
**Ushers:** Tom Stockford-Shively, Sue Risk

#### **11:00 AM**

**Assisting Minister:** Chris McNamara  
**Cantor:** Rev. Jessica Hahn  
**Ushers:** Suzanne Langston, Jay Sponsler

### **BOTH SERVICES**

**Altar Guild:** Tom Stockford-Shively  
**Offering Counters:** Suzanne Sponsler, Phyllis Klingler

**FLOWERS** – The flowers on the altar today are given by Norma Ludlow in honor of her birthday.

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