

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



Exodus 20:17  
July 3, 2022



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



- **Prelude**  
**Groff**

**Roxanne**

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

- **Welcome**

**Pr Mel Musser**

**\* 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: God of liberation,

**C: We are quick to forget all that you have done for us. We ignore your commandments, choosing ourselves over you and our neighbors time and again. Lead us out of the wilderness of our sin, and into new lives of love.**

P: Our God bears us on eagle's wings and lovingly gathers us into a community of faith. Receive the entire forgiveness of all your sins and walk in the freedom and confidence of God's deliverance, in Jesus Christ, our savior.

**C: Amen.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE

“Amazing Grace”

LBW 448

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.

\* 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.

\* KYRIE

A: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: For this Holy House, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: Help, save, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... Blessed YAHWEH, You provide us with all that we need to flourish. Turn us away from envy and give us a heart of gratitude, for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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## • **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Theme: Thou Shall Not Covet

Object: Bowling Ball

Scripture: Exodus 20:17

Good morning boys and girls! I'm so glad you're here! I hope you all had a really great week. This week we're going to talk about a word you might not have ever heard before. Do you know what coveting means? Not covering, coveting... It means that you want what someone else has. Not that you are willing to work to achieve or to get something like what they have, but you want their stuff and you're willing to do just about anything to get their stuff. Here's what I mean... Our family loves to go bowling on New Year's Eve. It's really fun. The Bowling Ally turns off all the regular lights and turns on black lights and multicolored lights. There's loud music and even some really great prizes. Bowling is a fun game, but there's rules, just like any other game or sport. One of the main rules is you have to take turns.

Last year my little granddaughter, Emery bowled for the first time. She loved it! The only problem was the rule about taking turns. She always wanted to be out on the alley rolling her bowling ball down the lane to try to knock over the pins. When it was someone else's turn, she began to cry and throw a full fledged temper tantrum. Have any of you ever thrown a temper tantrum? You know when you lay down on the floor and kick your feet and scream as loud as you can... Well, that's what Emery did. Taking turns is not in our nature as humans. We always want it to be our turn. When you want what someone else has, that's coveting...

Don't think I'm pointing out some fault in Emery, because we all covet. You do, your parents do. Even I do too. And God says we shouldn't covet. Coveting is bad because it leads to all kinds of bad behavior like temper tantrums. It could lead to people stealing other people's stuff or even killing other people to get their stuff.

Since coveting is our normal human nature, what can we do about it? Well, when we know what coveting is, then we can recognize it in our minds before it leads to temper tantrums or other really bad behaviors. Unfortunately, we're all guilty of breaking the commandments against coveting. So how do we get out of the trouble we get ourselves into? The only answer is through Jesus. He's our savior and because He loves you so much, he paid the penalty for your coveting.

Now, you and me and everyone else gets to live a new life that's free from the trouble caused by our sin. Isn't that Good News?

Let's pray... Dear God, thank you for the gift of your law in the Ten Commandments. They show us our guilt and our need for Jesus. Thank you Jesus for always being our great Savior and our Lord. Amen!

- **SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 20:17**

P: Our scripture reading for this day is from Exodus, Chapter 20.

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

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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

- **SERMON**

**Pr Mel Musser**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from Christ our Savior and Lord, Amen.

A kid's Sunday school class was studying the Ten Commandments. As they were ready to discuss the last two, the teacher asked if anyone could tell her what the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> commandments were. Little Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted, "Thou shall not take the covers off the neighbor's wife or anything else that belongs to your neighbor." Well, that's close, but not quite. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's... Do you ever complain about your lot in life relative to someone else? Why can he sing like that, and I sound like someone is torturing a duck? Why does that coworker always get the breaks? How come you can't have that

marriage, or that inheritance, or that talent, or those looks? When I want what God has given to someone else - I am coveting. We think this is a virtue in our day. We teach our children to covet, to never be satisfied. "Just wait your turn for it," we tell our kids... Almost all advertising is designed to tempt you to covet. When I don't have something I believe I'm entitled to it leaves me feeling bitter or cheated - I am coveting.

Coveting is the catch-all sin and the only one of the ten commandments that involves thoughts instead of actions. I propose that all sin starts with coveting something we don't have but want to possess. There is no one who is not guilty AND it's obvious! We Lutherans, like our Roman Catholic sisters and brothers, believe Coveting is so important we made it into two separate Commandments! Commandments #9 and #10 are basically a restatement of the previous 8. Most other Protestant Denominations lump all coveting into one Command, #10.

I believe we need to have coveting in two commandments because it's at the root of so much evil. Here's what I mean... I violate commandment #1 when I covet God's authority; I want to be a god. I violate commandment #2 when I covet God's glory; I take God's name and use it improperly like it was no more than a disposable napkin. I violate commandment #3 when I covet more stuff than God has already blessed me with, enough is never enough, so I refuse to take even one

day of rest each week. I violate #4 when I covet the authority God has placed in my parents and others over me and I refuse to honor them and give them the respect they deserve. I violate #5 when I gossip and dish on other people as if by lowering their value, my value or esteem will be raised. I'm coveting their social ranking. I violate #6 when I dwell on my lusting urges over my neighbor's spouse. I violate commandment #8 when I covet my neighbor's possessions.

It doesn't matter if you lump them all into Commandment ten or divide them up into two separate commands. All of the evangelical catechisms, Lutheran and reformed, see coveting as a summary of the preceding eight commands. Coveting deals not with the criminal actions of law breakers, but with the heart of every human being. God is not only concerned with our actions, as Jesus explains in the sermon on the mount; God holds us responsible for the motives and intents of the heart. Coveting catches everyone who is slow to realize their sinful condition. Even if you believe you are not guilty of killing because you've never been charged with committing murder in a court of law, coveting raises the stakes to a whole new level. You can, in fact, be guilty under God's Law, even if you've never pulled the trigger or raised the hand against your neighbor. (SLIDE)

According to George Barna in The Barna Report: 1991-92 (Ventura, California: Regal, 1992) most Christians believe they obey the Ten Commandments:

No other God's - 76%

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- \* Please stand if able
  - Please be seated

Honor parents - 77%  
Do not murder - 93%  
No adultery - 82%  
No theft - 86%  
No False Witnessing – 52%  
No Coveting – 53%

Because we have lost the understanding of law and gospel in our modern society, we have no sense of the urgency of our condition. We believe we are “fine” because we don’t know what is expected of us. Let’s take a quick survey through the Bible and see where we really stand... (SLIDE)

In Matthew 5:43-48, Jesus says, “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’”<sup>44</sup> But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,<sup>45</sup> so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.<sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?<sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your brothers,<sup>[i]</sup> what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?<sup>48</sup> You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Remember that the next time you think you’re a pretty good person... The standard is Godly perfection...

In the book of James (James 2:10) it says, “For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it... So, even if you

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- \* Please stand if able
  - Please be seated



haven't committed a mass shooting, but you watch TV on a device that pirates copyrighted movies, you're guilty of breaking the entire law. Remember the standard we're being held to is perfection...

It seems to me nobody is guiltless under the weight of God's law. This is bad news for those who want to believe they live a pretty good life and deserve to go to heaven when they die... No, you're just as guilty in the eyes of God as I am or as the shooter in Texas who killed all those elementary children... I can hear the objections already... Pastor Mel, if we're all guilty and deserve nothing but eternal suffering, what hope do we have? What must we do to get back into God's grace? For those who, maybe for the first time, have heard the truth about where they stand under the eternal judgment of God, do not fall into despair here's your good news...

In the Book of Romans, chapter 5 Saint Paul says, "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

who has been given to us.” Here's the big take away for today and for the last four weeks that we've focused on the Ten Commandments: the law is rightly carved in stone - it is impossibly hard. We all fall short of the standard God has set for us, Godly perfection... To the guilty, for those who still haven't gotten the Word, that's every single one of us and all other people, I repeat the Words of Jesus, “Repent for the Kingdom of God is near!” To the innocent I say go back and listen to the beginning of this sermon as well as the last three before it again.

How great is our need; how great is our Jesus! The truly Good News is that Jesus has promised to be with us until the end of the age. Jesus has covered our imperfections, our guilt, our shame with his blood and with His Righteousness. That means we are set free from that which we deserve, eternal punishment, and given new life. I'm going to use an example from Harry Potter. He hid from his enemies by hiding under an “Invisibility Cloak.” When he wore the cloak his enemies couldn't see him and he was able to accomplish his goal. We wear the righteousness of Jesus as our cloak and when we trust in Jesus and the power of his promises all our guilt and sin become invisible. In fact, God says we are separated from our sin as far as the east is from the west and God remembers our sin no more. Just how far apart is the east from the west? I'm going to say it's about that far... (Raise arms like Jesus did when he was on the cross...)

May these Ten Commandments force you to know your true standing under God's Law. May your guilt bring you to realize your need for something more than your own good works to redeem yourself from sin death and the devil. May the weight of the Law's demand for Godly Perfection drive you straight into the arms of your loving and forgiving Savior. His name is Jesus and He is all you will ever need! Amen. I'd like to close this sermon with a short video to help us remember the freedom we celebrate this weekend of Independence Day. Our freedom is in and comes from Jesus Christ and to Him be all the Honor and Glory, Amen. [\(Play Video\)](#)

*Silence may be kept for meditation...*

**\* APOSTLE'S 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: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

**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.*

**\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**L:** Trusting in the faithful promises of our God, we pray for the church, the world,

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

L: God of plenty, open our hearts to know that you have and will provide all that we need. Turn our eyes away from the possessions of others, and show us how to live gratefully with all that you have given to us. God of Promise,

**C: You hear our prayer.**

L: Turn our eyes toward all that you have made, and show us where your creation is in need our attention and care. God of Promise,

**C: You hear our prayer.**

L: Turn our eyes toward those who lead, and help us to support them with our patience, tolerance, and love. God of Promise,

**C: You hear our prayer.**

L: Turn our eyes toward those who are in need of healing, (*especially*). Help us to offer with grace and compassion the love and care they need for healing and wholeness. God of Promise,

**C: You hear our prayer.**

L: Turn our eyes toward those who possess less than we do. Show us how to love, empower, and provide for those who live in poverty of body, mind, or spirit. God of Promise,

**C: You hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: Turn our eyes toward those who have gone before. May we heed their example of contentment and gratitude. God of Promise,

**C: You hear our prayer.**

L: With humble hearts we lift these prayers to you, in the name of Jesus Christ our savior.

**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: So, let's pray for the offerings we receive this day.... Generous God, in your love and mercy you give us all that we need. Accept these gifts, returned to you, for the good of the world.

**C: Amen.**

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### \* DIALOGUE

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 him thanks and praise.**

### \* THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### \* THE SANCTUS

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

### \* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**\* THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: We are united together by this heavenly food, which is the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. So, 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.**

**\* INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: God, who gives us all we need, offers us now divine communion with Christ. Come and join in the feast that truly satisfies. All is prepared for you.

**• COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

*During the distribution the minister says these words to each communicant:*

P: At this time you may open the communion bread and partake of The Body of Christ, given for you.  
Now please open the wine and you may now partake of The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: Amen.*

**\* POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: May this Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen, keep, and unite us, now and forever,

**C: Amen.**

**\* POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray... Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

**C: Amen**

**• ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\* SENDING BLESSING**

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

P: The God of peace, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C: Amen.

\* SENDING HYMN

“Here I Am, Lord”

ELW 574



1 “I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 “I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple’s pain.  
3 “I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?”  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?”



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

\* DISMISSAL

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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P: Until the next time we gather together as God's people to offer our worship and praise, depart in Christ's Love.

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

\* **POSTLUDE**

**Roxanne Groff**

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### **Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff**

Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Organist	Roxanne Groff
Lector	Larry Harter
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser
Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
Facebook Live Recorder	PJ Musser
Altar Flowers	Given to the Glory of God by PJ Musser in celebration of her birthday and retirement

### **Health Tips for the Week**

**BODY:** Remember to take deep breaths throughout the day

**MIND:** Start a compliments file

**SOUL:** Look for a least five beautiful things in nature.



### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Tuesday, July 19 and Thursday, July 21 – 6:00-8:15 pm.

R.S.V.P. to Marge Warner at 937-623-2544.

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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**Church Picnic and Outdoor Worship** – Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup> – Worship will be under the portico and the picnic will be in the fellowship hall! Please mark the date and plan to attend!



**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.

**This Week @ Trinity – July 3 thru July 10, 2022**

**Sun, July 3**      10:30 am      Worship Service w/Holy Communion

**Mon, July 4**



**Fri, July 8**      3:30 pm      FISH Choice Food Pantry

**Sun, July 10**      10:30 am      Worship Service



Scripture readings for next Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>  
1 Peter 1

**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

- \* Please stand if able
- Please be seated

Office Phone:	937-692-5670
Website:	<a href="http://www.pitsburgtlc.org">www.pitsburgtlc.org</a>