

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

WELCA

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Thankoffering



Micah 6:1-8
October 24, 2021



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



* **Prelude** “” **Roxanne Groff**

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

* **Welcome** **PJ Musser**

* **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM** **PJ Musser**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. Amen

L: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gracious gift of baptism. Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things. Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land. By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

* **HYMN OF PRAISE “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” LBW 423**



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
 stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

* **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

PJ Musser

L: 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**

Peggy Didier

L: Let us pray... O God of justice and love, you light our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

• **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Marge Warner

• **SCRIPTURE READING: Micah 6:1-8**

Julie Kossler

L: Our scripture reading is from the Book of Micah, Chapter 6.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

¹Listen to what the LORD says: "Stand up, plead my case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say. ²"Hear, you mountains, the LORD's accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the LORD has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel.

³"My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me.

⁴I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. ⁵My people, remember what Balak king of Moab plotted and what Balaam son of Beor answered. ⁶Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD." ⁶With what shall I come before the LORD and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? ⁸He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

• **SERMON**

PJ Musser

This year I feel a little closer to normalcy. The women's Thankoffering has returned to full swing with several women taking part in the service. Fair Trades was able to share today with us- Special thanks to Donna for providing items for sale- this is a great way to shop for loved ones in our lives that are hard to buy for.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

Fair Trade provides unique items that cannot be found anywhere else. I always enjoy learning something about the various crafters when I am shopping. For anyone that is not aware, Fair-trade partners with farmers and craftspeople in developing countries who are socially and economically marginalized in finding markets and customers for their goods. The prophet Micah would be pleased with Fair Trades.

Micah admonished unjust leaders, defended the rights of the poor against the rich and powerful; while at the same time he looked forward to a world at peace centered on Zion under new leadership. The prophet Micah dealt with attitudes toward Justice during the eighth century B.C. This was a time of great wealth and prosperity in the land of Judah. On the outside it appeared that God's people were thriving, but on the inside, they were rotten to the core. The people had stayed so far away from God that they no longer could tell the difference between good and evil. Political corruption was widespread. Economic corruption thrived. Ethical abuses were rampant. The people continued to go through the outward motion of worship, but their hearts were far from the Lord. Much like America today, their society was characterized by overconfidence and self-indulgence.

Micah was an ancient whistle blower. He blew the whistle on the blatant hypocrisy by announcing God's ensuing judgement on his people unless they

-
- * Please stand if able
 - Please be seated

repented from their sin. Micah's prophecy mixed a harsh message of judgement with the hope of future restoration at the coming of the Messiah. Micah pleaded with his people to come back to the Lord. America at this moment in time is experiencing an abundant of wealth and prosperity, like the land of Judah during Micah's era. Americans like the Judeans are plagued by the sins of overconfidence, self-sufficiency, and self-indulgence. We have more money and resources than any other period in history, yet we have drifted dangerously away from the Lord. Church parking lots are getting emptier on Sundays and not just because of Covid. Yes, people still attend church, but I wonder why. Is it for the love of the Lord or has it just become a Sunday routine?

Micah 6:1-8 forms the highpoint of Micah's prophesy. He reminds the people that God does not want hollow sacrifices, or empty acts of worship. Micah 6:8 says He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Let me repeat the three things that God wants from each and everyone of us- to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly.

So, what does each of these three acts look like in this modern day.

To act justly means to do what is right and truthful according to God's word.

Ask yourself if you are impartial. Acting justly means making fair decisions in our

* Please stand if able

November 14, 2021

• Please be seated

Page 6 of 15

business and personal lives. Do you show more courtesy to a well-dressed businesswoman than to a homeless man or a person in drag? God stamped his image on every human being. We have been called to treat everyone with dignity. Truthful living means you refuse to exaggerate yourself to seem better than your true self. You deceive only yourself when you try to rationalize your decisions or behavior. God establishes governing authorities. He commands us to obey both the rules of the land and of the road, and to respect everyone in authority, regardless of whether we agree with him or her politically. The Bible provides our moral standard; it defines right and wrong. The words and actions of a person of integrity align with God's truth. We should do what is right even when no one is watching — even when it takes more time or costs more money. Acting justly requires *action*, not mere talk. Speaking about injustice — abortion, human trafficking, displaced people — may make us appear caring, but words do nothing to ease the pain of those suffering. Biblical justice is never divorced from acts of love and mercy. To act justly may mean blowing the whistle on unethical practices at our workplace-it might require calling the police on a neighbor who is physically abusing his wife/girlfriend/partner-it might mean refusing to laugh at an ethnic joke or confronting a racial slur. My family has often educated individuals about not using the word retarded to describe something they believe is dumb.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

To love mercy. When it's within our power or right to punish or harm someone but we show compassion and forgiveness instead, we're demonstrating mercy. And while we'd all like to think of ourselves as merciful, it's not a trait that comes naturally. Let's face it. Everyone likes to escape the negative consequences of wrong behavior. Whether a sigh of relief or the thrill of a narrow escape, averting punishment feels good. But is that mercy? Mercy doesn't mean letting injustice prevail. God's mercy for us cost Jesus his life. Jesus took the penalty and punishment that we deserved. Mercy will cost us comfort and time. It will cost us money and status. And it will give us heartache. Facing insults without retaliating; forgiving someone for umpteenth time; graciously bearing the consequences of someone else's sin; reaching out to the lonely, neglected or addicted without expecting anything in return. This is what loving mercy looks like.

The first two acts emphasize our relationship with people, this third act of walking humbly focuses on our relationship with God. Though the world tries to tell me otherwise, I didn't make myself. God created all things, including me, including you, including those in other countries. When we acknowledge that everything we are comes from God, we understand his authority that leads us to surrender to him. God created all people in his image. Intelligence, beauty, and physical ability all come from him. So, no person is worth more than another

-
- * Please stand if able
 - Please be seated

person. We walk humbly with God by valuing each life and respecting all people. God has entrusted the care of the earth to people. Seeing ourselves as stewards — not owners — keeps us from exploiting the world for our profit. Protecting earth's beauty and carefully managing its resources are ways to walk humbly with God. To walk humbly with God is to live in a proper fear and relationship with Him. We can do this through active prayer, seeking His guidance and will, daily obedience and worship.

God has shown mercy to us, humility empowers us to act justly toward others even when they don't treat us the same way.

The power to walk humbly with God, to love mercy, and to act justly comes from the Holy Spirit — God himself. God invites me — and you to join his work. What an awesome privilege God gives us when he calls us to demonstrate to a confused world what acting justly, love mercy and walking humbly really looks like.

Now that we know how to live a life that is pleasing to God, let's do it.

Silence may be kept for meditation...

- **SPECIAL MUSIC**

Katherine Jump

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

* **APOSTLES' CREED**

Katherine Jump

**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.**

➤ *Or, He descended to the dead.*

* **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Linda Baker

L: Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the renewal of the church, for those in need, and for all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

L: We pray, holy God, for the unity of the church universal: Draw your people together into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ to carry out his holy mission, together sharing the good news of your justice and love wherever we are sent. Holy God,

C: Christ, be our light.

L: Shine in your church gathered today. We pray, omnipotent God, for the well-being of creation: We give you thanks for transforming the chaotic waters of creation into the saving waters that nourish and sustain all the earth. Renew us every day by your water and your word. Holy God,

C: Christ, be our light.

L: Shine in your church gathered today. We pray, righteous God, for peace and justice in the world: Lead the nations of the world away from the stony wilderness of sin, and toward the holy light of love, justice, and peace. Holy God,

C: Christ, be our light.

L: Shine in your church gathered today. We pray, compassionate God, for all in need: For those who hunger and thirst for peace, for belonging, for love, for righteousness, shine your light of justice. For those who mourn or suffer in any way, shine your light of comfort. Holy God,

C: Christ, be our light.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

November 14, 2021

Page 10 of 15

L: Shine in your church gathered today. We pray, faithful God, for the renewal of all life: Refresh us with your living water and anoint us with your Holy Spirit. Embolden us with your promise and your presence. Holy God,

C: Christ, be our light.

L: Shine in your church gathered today. Receive our thanksgiving, eternal God, for all who have died in the faith. May we know the fullness of the new life that you prepare for us in your kingdom. Holy God,

C: Christ, be our light.

L: Shine in your church gathered today. All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

*** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

PJ Musser

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

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

C: And also with you.

*** THANKOFFERING PRAYER**

PJ Musser

While the congregation is still standing say:

L: 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 you can make your offering online.

L: So, let's pray for the offerings we receive this day. God of grace, you have showered us with gifts of grace and abundance, entrusting to us the ministries of Women of the ELCA. Help us to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world. Accept these gifts and our prayer that, nurtured by your Word, filled with your Spirit, and fed at your table, we may share with gladness all that you have shared with us, until all creation is satisfied.

C: Amen.

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

PJ Musser

L: 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

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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

PJ Musser

* SENDING BLESSING

PJ Musser

L: Our God calls us to do justice. May you find strength in God's grace.

C: Amen.

L: Christ Jesus calls us to love kindness. May you find comfort in Christ's gentleness.

C: Amen.

L: The Holy Spirit calls us to walk humbly with our triune God. May you always find joy in God's love and justice.

C: Amen.

L: Holy Trinity + One God, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

* SENDING HYMN "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" LBW 439



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

November 14, 2021

Page 12 of 15

* **DISMISSAL**

L: 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

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.



Scripture readings for next Sunday, November 21st
Isaiah 9:1-8

Health Tips for the Week

BODY: Try crock pot cooking

MIND: Learn some simple sign language

SPIRIT: Give thanks to God for your many blessings

Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff

Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Organist	Roxanne Groff
Lector	Linda Baker
Acolyte	Claire Hein
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser
Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
Facebook Live Recorder	PJ Musser
Altar Flowers	Trinity WELCA

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

November 14, 2021

Page 13 of 15



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.



This Week @ Trinity – November 14 thru November 21, 2021

Sun, November 14	10:30 am	Worship Service
Tue, November 16	<u>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</u>	
Wed, November 17	6:00 pm	Finance Team Meeting
	7:00 pm	Trinity Council Meeting
Thurs, November 18	11:30 am	Ladies Luncheon at Galo's Italian Restaurant, Richmond, Indiana
Fri, November 19	3:30 pm	FISH Choice Food Pantry
Sun, November 21	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Annual Congregational Meeting

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING POSTPONED TO Sunday, November 21st

- * Please stand if able
- Please be seated

Trinity Contact Info

Pastor:	Mel Musser
Email:	pastor@pitsburgtlc.org
Cell Phone:	937-626-7100
Secretary:	Sharon Fourman
Email:	secretary@pitsburgtlc.org
Office Hours:	By Appointment
Office Phone:	937-692-5670
Website:	www.pitsburgtlc.org

-
- * Please stand if able
 - Please be seated