

WEISENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH

7645 Weisenberg Church Road

New Tripoli, PA 18066

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Service 9:00 AM

June 4, 2023 with Pastor Brandon, Marie, & friends

Good Morning! May the Lord's resurrection victory over sin and death and his love for us bring joy to our worship and our lives. We greet you in our Lord's name as we share this time together. Welcome everyone!

Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

**denotes "Please stand if you are able."*

RINGING OF THE BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

PRELUDE

"Jesus Calls Us" ~ Smith

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

***PEACE (ELW p. 241)**

Reconciled to God through the gifts of Baptism & Confession, we share a sign of the peace which passes all understanding with one another. Feel free to share a sign of peace with your neighbor at your own comfort. Waves, fist taps, elbow bumps, or handshakes all extend Jesus' greeting of hospitality and peace!

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Peace be with you.

***GATHERING HYMN**

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

No. 413

***TRINITY LITANY**

The Triune God gathers us into the abundance of life.

We join the dance of Trinity, and marvel at God's mystery.

God creates us for the love of the Father.

We care for the world, and all that is in it.

God redeems us by the life of the Son.

We make disciples who follow the Way of Jesus.

God perfects us for life in the Spirit.

We celebrate God's gifts and use them with joy.

God provides for us at font and table,

Claiming, cleansing, feeding and forgiving through the mystery of Word made Flesh.

The Triune God sends us to love and to serve.

We give ourselves away in thanksgiving and praise!

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE** *"Goodness is Stronger than Evil"*
No. 721

***PRAYER OF THE DAY** Let us pray.

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: **we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three.**

Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING **Genesis 1:1--2:4a**

A reading from Genesis.

At the beginning of time, God the Creator, God the powerful Word, and God the life-giving Spirit form the earth and all its inhabitants. God sees that all this created work is good and then rests on the seventh day.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from

the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. ⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. ²⁰And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. ²⁴And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²⁶Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the

earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” ²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. ^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. ^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 8

¹O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,

human beings that you should care for them?

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;

with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands;

you have put all things under their feet:
⁷all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.
⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

Paul closes a challenging letter to the Corinthians with an appeal to Christian fellowship grounded in the triune harmony of Christ's grace, God's love, and the Spirit's partnership.

[Paul writes:] ¹¹Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. ¹³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “*Alleluia*” (ELW p. 142)

***GOSPEL Matthew 28:16-20**

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them to baptize and teach all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Come, Join the Dance of Trinity ”

No. 412

***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**

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence.

Holy three, holy one, you call the church to make disciples of all nations. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel and direct all the baptized into lives of humble service. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you spoke creation into being and called it good. Protect lands and waters threatened by human misuse and sustain living

creatures of every kind: wild animals, birds, fish, and every creeping thing. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you have given humankind authority over the earth. Raise up leaders who listen earnestly, speak honestly, and govern thoughtfully. Heal divisions between nations, that we might agree with one another and live in peace. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you promise to be with us always, to the end of the age. Surround those most in need of your healing presence: any who are lonely, all who are grieving, and those who are sick (*especially*). God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you set the earth on its axis, and we experience the seasons. Strengthen those enduring challenges this summer: those who suffer in the heat, parents overwhelmed by childcare responsibilities, and children experiencing food insecurity outside of school. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you give rest when our work is done. We give thanks for (*name/s and*) all the saints who now rest in you, confident in the promise of resurrection life in the age to come. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *“Trinity Medley” ~ Loree*

WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM *“Go Ye Into All the World” ~ Besig*

***OFFERTORY HYMN** *“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful” No. 184*

***OFFERING PRAYER** Let us pray.

God of field and forest, **sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***DIALOGUE (ELW p. 144)**

***PREFACE (ELW p. 144)**

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)**

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

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. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With all your saints 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. **Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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**

**People of God, behold what you are.
May we become what we receive!**

COMMUNION SONG: *"Lamb of God"* (ELW p. 146)

COMMUNION

*All who confess Christ as Lord, who is really present in the bread and wine, are invited to come forward and participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. As you are ushered forward, please receive the elements and return immediately to your seat. Children may be brought forward to receive a blessing. **Gluten free wafers** are available on the left side of the chancel when you come forward. Grape juice, for those who prefer to have it, is located in the tray next to the usher distributing individual cups. Garbage can is located on the first pew in the center aisle. Everyone is asked to fill out a communion record card and place it in the offering plate. We invite you to join the choir in the singing of hymns during the Sacrament. Communion will be administered at two stations this morning.*

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

481—494—415—414

***TABLE BLESSING**

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

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed
✝ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG** “*God, Whose Almighty Word*” No. 673

***DISMISSAL VERSE** “*God Be with You Till We Meet Again*”

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE** “*Go Tell the World*” ~ Howell

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