

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Service of Holy Communion

May 8, 2022

(Note: All wording for the liturgy and hymns will appear on our large monitor screens just above the altar area.)

WELCOME FROM PASTOR JACK

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRELUDE

+THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

P: In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.
For this saving mystery, and for this water,
let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister
gives thanks.*

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth,
through the city,
through every living thing.
You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.
You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.
In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.
You call us forth and send us out.
In lush and barren places, you are with us.
You have become our salvation.
Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.
To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

- 1 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
and drives away all fear.
- 2 It makes the wounded spirit whole
and calms the heart's unrest;
'tis manna to the hungry soul
and to the weary, rest.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE ASSIGNED SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. The synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

SERMON "Stop the Funeral"

CHOIR ANTHEM We Remember You

- 1 O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.
- 4 O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.

+THE 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 Christian church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

+THE PRAYERS

(See “Celebrate” bulletin insert)

P: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Feed your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those making difficult journeys. Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation (*especially*). Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding (*as did Julian of Norwich, whom we commemorate today*). Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

EXCHANGE OF PEACE:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always

C: And also with you

(Please wave to your nearest worship neighbors)

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Living God,
you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together
in your peaceable reign,
and you welcome us all at your table.
Reach out to us through this meal,
and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

(Offering baskets will not be passed around. At the conclusion of the service, please place your offering in designated baskets in the rear of the sanctuary.)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *"In the night in which he was betrayed..."*

THE 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

+ BENEDICTION

P: God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!

#147

1 Hallelujah! Jesus lives!
He is now the Living One;
from the gloomy halls of death
Christ, the conqueror, has gone,
bright forerunner to the skies
of his people, yet to rise.

3 Jesus lives! And thus, my soul,
life eternal waits for you;
joined to him, your living head,
where he is, you shall be too;
with the Lord, at his right hand,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+THE DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

P: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Weekly Announcements

Serving at Worship Today

Lector: *Marga Conn* **Video:** *Don Gulliksen* **Usher:** *Lisa Bischer*
Communion Assistant: *Ellen Crane* **Altar Guild:** *Lisa Bischer*
CPIC: *Lisa Bischer*

Serving Next Week: (5/15)

Lector: *Volunteer Needed* **Video:** *Don Gulliksen* **Usher:** *Eugene Randazzo*
Communion Assistant: *Ellen Crane* **Altar Guild:** *Lisa Bischer*
CPIC: *Lisa Bischer*

This Sunday we welcome back Jennifer Foose as our guest musician. Thank you, Jennifer for serving today!

A Happy Mother's Day to all the moms who are with us today. We hope you have a special day.

Happy Easter! Please note that Easter is not one day, but a season of seven weeks (including Easter Sunday). Hymns, Scripture readings, and sermons all reflect resurrection themes. Rejoice in the season!

A Church Clean-up day will be held on Saturday, May 14 from 10:00am-??? Stay as long as you can...we will concentrate on discarding old, useless things. For more info., contact Pastor at 908-887-1161 or jackspartan79@gmail.com.

The ladies of WELCA will be meeting immediately following the worship service on May 22nd in the choir room. All ladies of the church are welcome.

Beginning May 15th WELCA will be offering "selected treasures" from Dolly's Room for sale at VERY reasonable prices. Com check out the table in the Narthax after church services.

Check out our new church garden, outside our back door. Special thanks to Anika Zoeller and the scouts for making this a reality.

New Designated Parking Areas. In light of the growing number of worship attendees with medical conditions, the Council has now designated all upper lot parking places (in front of the main entrance) for handicapped parking and/or parking for those who are medically challenged and can not climb the stairs connected to our rear parking lot entrance. Please be courteous and park in the rear parking lot if you are not medically challenged.

You can help give our flower beds a facelift! As part of her Eagle Scout Project Anika Zoeller will re-face the flower beds adorning the back entrance of our church. Donations are now being received to defray the cost of the pressure treated wood and other supplies. Please place your donation in the designated collection box in the rear of our sanctuary.

Our choir is coming back to life! Special thanks to Dr. Joanne Schaper and Barbara Selland for their work in keeping our choir "in tune" for the Spring season, even in the absence of a Director of Music.

Offering envelopes are now available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. We will not be printing individual boxed envelope sets this year. Please feel free to take some of the preprinted envelopes from the back and write your name in the space provided.

Opportunities to provide humanitarian aid to refugees from the Ukraine.

Send your contributions to Lutheran Disaster Response. You can donate on the web by visiting ELCA.org and then clicking "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" or you can mail checks to:

Lutheran Disaster Response

P.O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

(Write "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on your check memo line.)

RISE UP is collecting toiletries to aid our locals. Did you know that food stamps do not cover basic toiletry items like soap and shampoo? Please donate items in the special bin located in our church vestibule. For more information, contact Angela Bloshuk at 973-476-0101 or email her at: riseupangela@gmail.com

We are no longer accepting donations for Dolly's Room. If you have something you would like to donate, please save it until the fall. Please do not leave items in the vestibule.

Lectors (readers on Sunday mornings) are needed and appreciated. Read the assigned Scripture for the day! Sign up sheets are located in the rear of the sanctuary, or ask Pastor Jack for details: jackspartan79@gmail.com

Lunch & Learn Adult Bible Study will be offered again on May 18. in person or via ZOOM video link only from noon – 1:00pm. .. Please contact Pastor Jack (jackspartan79@gmail.com) about the ZOOM link.

Clothing Donations: Please DO NOT drop off clothing at our church vestibule or lobby area. Instead, please place all donated articles in the RED BIN in the rear parking lot of the church. Shoes, handbags, stuffed toys, and linens are accepted as well! For more information, contact Ellen Crane at 973-625-1353.

Food Collections. Please note: Please donate only NON-PERISHABLE food items. Do not drop off milk, bread, or various dairy products as these items may spoil prior to public distribution.

Want to give electronically? 40% of our offerings now come in via electronic giving sources. To learn more, simply go to our web page at www.rockawaylutheran.org and click on the "donate" button. . . then follow the simple instructions. Still not sure? Please contact Donna Gulliksen at: Donna.Gulliksen@gmail.com or call her at 973-697-1895. Regular offerings (with date and frequency of your choice) as well as one-time gifts can be established electronically. All transactions are confidential.

Looking Ahead

Sun. May 8
Sat. May 14

Happy Mother's Day
Church Clean-Up Day 10:00am



Five-Part Sermon Series
"What Shall We Do?"
Lessons Learned from the 1st Century Christians

First century Christians (in the immediate aftermath of the glorious resurrection) asked themselves, "What now?" and "What shall we do in light of the resurrection?". Join Pastor Jack as he explores the significance of the early church's mission to contemporary Christian living. Learn how to apply Biblical principles to your daily walk with Jesus.

- 5/8 "Stop the Funeral" - reminders of the resurrection promise
- 5/15 "Open the Doors" – exploring the inclusive nature of the church
- 5/22 "Follow the Spirit"- discerning the Spirit's work today
- 5/29 "Loosen the Chains" – How God frees US to rejoice
- 6/5 "Feel the Power of God" – The Spirit fortifies us daily

You're Invited!

CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY



MAY 14
10:00am - ??????

Wow! An opportunity to discard useless things which have been stored at our church building since 1968. Join the fun! Stay as long you wish. Refreshments, too!

Hoarders Not Welcomed!

For more information, contact Pastor Jack at:

Jackspartan79@gmail.com or 908-887-1161