

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Service of Holy Communion

April 14, 2024

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

+ INDICATES THE CONGREGATION STANDS AS YOU ARE ABLE

WELCOME FROM PASTOR JACK

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRELUDE Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus...Wm Kirkpaprick, Arr. James Koerts

+THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

- 1 Lord, take my hand and lead me
upon life's way;
direct, protect, and feed me
from day to day.
Without your grace and favor
I go astray;
so take my hand, O Savior,
and lead the way.

- 2 Lord, when the tempest rages,
I need not fear;
for you, the Rock of Ages,
are always near.
Close by your side abiding,
I fear no foe,
for when your hand is guiding,
in peace I go.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE ASSIGNED SCRIPTURE READINGS

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.

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

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.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then 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." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things."

SERMON

"A Healthy Doubt"

- 1 O Word of God incarnate,
 O Wisdom from on high,
 O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
 O Light of our dark sky:
 we praise you for the radiance
 that from the hallowed page,
 a lantern to our footsteps,
 shines on from age to age.
- 2 The church from you, dear Master,
 received the gift divine;
 and still that light is lifted
 o'er all the earth to shine.
 It is the chart and compass
 that, all life's voyage through,
 mid mists and rocks and quicksands
 still guides, O Christ, to you.

+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.**

+ 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)

CHOIR ANTHEM Trust in the Lord. . . Roland Tabell, arr Fred Bock

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

- P: Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
- C: **Amen.**

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 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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Shepherding God,
 you have prepared a table before us
 and nourished us with your love.
 Send us forth from this banquet
 to proclaim your goodness
 and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
 our redeemer and friend.

C: **Amen.**

+ BENEDICTION

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

P: The God of resurrection power,
 the Christ of unending joy,
 and the Spirit of Easter hope
 ✠ bless you now and always.

C: **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN My Faith Looks Up to Thee

#479

- 1 My faith looks up to thee,
 thou Lamb of Calvary,
 Savior divine!
 Now hear me while I pray,
 take all my guilt away,
 oh, let me from this day
 be wholly thine!

- 2 May thy rich grace impart
 strength to my fainting heart,
 my zeal inspire;
 as thou hast died for me,
 oh, may my love to thee
 pure, warm, and changeless be,
 a living fire!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+THE DISMISSAL

P; Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Weekly Announcements

Serving Today (4/14)

Lector: *Ron Mathewson* **Video:** *Don Gulliksen*
Usher: *Carol Schutz* **Altar Guild:** *Judy Randazzo*
Communion Assistant: *Joan Cosgrove & Joyce Maul*
CPIC: *Sig Samuelsen* **Counters:** *Carol Schutz & Joan Cosgrove*
Offering: *Barbara Samuelsen*

Serving Next Week (4/21)

Lector: *Ron Mathewson* **Video:** *Don Gulliksen*
Usher: *Carol Schutz* **Altar Guild:** *Judy Randazzo*
Communion Assistant: *Joan Cosgrove & Joyce Maul*
CPIC: *Sig Samuelsen* **Counters:** *Carol Schutz & Joan Cosgrove*
Offering: *Barbara Samuelsen*

Special thanks to Jennifer Foose who is serving as our guest musician today!

Volunteers are greatly needed at our Spring Car Show and Festival, slated for June 8 from noon to 6:00pm. Can you give an hour or two to set up, clean up, or volunteer during the festival? Sign up sheets are located in the back of the sanctuary. **Please don't wait until the last minute to sign up as we need an accurate estimate of help to be provided.**

Would you like more information regarding our Spring Car Show and Festival? Simply go to: <https://www.rockawayfallfestival.com/> and you will see the website (which was moved from a Fall designation to a Spring designation in the url).

Scandinavian Market at Nor-Bu Lodge, April 27th, 10am-5pm. Food sale, vendors, books, paintings and more!

SAVE THE DATE! - This year's Mother/Daughter Banquet will be held on May 10 at 6:00 PM. Entertainment will be provided by Eric Kerssen. Tickets will be going on sale soon. If you know you will be attending, please sign up to bring something yummy for our World Famous Dessert Table on the sheet in the back of the church.

We are looking for donations of new items for the tricky tray that will take place at the Festival on June 8th. Some suggestions might be things that are associated with Spring and Summer such as gardening tools or flowers, pool or lake toys, picnic basket items, beach towels or beach chairs, American Flag or other July 4th items. Gift cards of any kind are always good. Thank you for your support. See Peggy Hon if you have any questions

Considering Membership at Holy Trinity? Pastor Jack will be offering orientation classes on three consecutive Sundays beginning May 5 at 12:30pm in his office. See Pastor for details.

Our sister congregation in Sparta is inviting us to join in their activities. See the insert in upcoming bulletins for more details.

Pastor Jack has tickets for sale to attend the Fish Fry at Shepherd of the Hills Church in Sparta. Date of the event is April 14. Adults - \$20; kids- \$12.

Lunch and Learn Bible Study meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at noon in the choir room. This is an in-person event. However, If you wish to attend via ZOOM internet conferencing please contact Pastor Jack to request a ZOO link at jackspartan79@gmail.com.

LADIES - The Women's Group (WELCA) will be meeting April 14 in the Blue Room immediately following the church service. We will be finalizing the plans for our annual Mother/Daughter Banquet.

Keep those Random Acts of Kindness reports coming for our Sunday School project :-) email Erin at eosterhout@optonline.net or call/text her at 973-615-1026.

How to order flowers to be placed on the church altar. Let Donna in the church office know no later than the Monday before you want the flowers in church and let her know what you would like printed in the bulletin. Donna orders the flowers and they deliver them and bill the church at \$30.00 per arrangement. The cost to you is \$30.00. Contact information for Donna in the church office: Phone number 973-625-0110.

A Praise Band is Starting at Holy Trinity! If you play the guitar, drums, or another musical instrument. Come on board! Youth are encouraged. See Jennifer Foose for more information: jdfoose@gmail.com.

Want to have your announcement appear in this bulletin? Please email your blurb to the church office no later than Tuesday at 10:00am for the upcoming Sunday announcement. Email is: htl.church@gmail.com

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

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. Regular offerings (with date and frequency of your choice) as well as one-time gifts can be established electronically. All transactions are confidential.

Four-Part Sermon Series is Coming Soon



“Love Letters From God”

Each week our assigned Scripture passages reflect God’s great gift of love. Join Pastor Jack as he unpacks these beautiful themes centering on God’s love for us and our command to love one another.

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|------|-------------------------|
| 4/21 | Love is Self-Less |
| 4/25 | Love is God Centered |
| 5/5 | Love is Action Oriented |
| 5/12 | Love is Choosing YOU |

9th Annual Night of Fish & Chips

Sunday, April 14th

4:00 pm – 8 pm

Featuring **Thistle Catering**

Family Owned, established in 1958

Serving **Curbside Takeout 4-5pm** or **Dine-In 5-8pm**

Meal includes **New England Cod Fish & Chips**
or **Chicken Fingers, Coleslaw, Dessert &**
Non-alcoholic beverage

Join us as we raise money to benefit
the Outreach Mission of Shepherd of the Hills
serving & supporting God's children
locally and globally

Pre-Sale Tickets: **Meal: \$20 Adult & \$12 Child**

Door Tickets: **Meal: \$22 Adult & \$14 Child**











Call **Judi Wolff**
973-224-0986



Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
246 Woodport Road, Sparta NJ 07871

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246 Woodport Road, Sparta NJ 07871 * (973) 729-7010
2024 EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW TO SAVE THE DATES:

Apr 14 th (Sun) 4-5pm Take-out & 5-8 Dine-in Fish & Chip Dinner. Coordinator: <u>Judi Wolff</u>		VENDOR & CREAT FAIR May 04 th (Sat) 10am-3pm - Spring Vendor Fair Coordinator: <u>Barbara Osborne</u>
 Jun 08 th (Sat) 6pm – Wine Tasting Coordinator: <u>Solveig Schunk</u>		Jun 09 th (Sun) Immediately after Worship Volunteer Job Fair Coordinator: <u>Rick Erck</u> 
Blood Drive – Jun 27th (Thu) 1pm-7pm Coordinator: <u>Janine Shugan</u> 		 Blood Drive – Aug 29th (Thu) 1pm-7pm Coordinator: <u>Janine Shugan</u>
 Sep 08 th (Sun) – "Rally Day" Picnic/Brunch. Coordinator: <u>Maryann DiCola</u>		Sep 28 th (Sat) 6-8pm – Line Dancing Preceded by Chili Cook Off at 4:30pm Coordinator: <u>Judi Wolff</u> 
Oct 05 th (Sat) 10am - Blessing of the Animals Coordinator: <u>Pastor Jack</u> 		VENDOR & CREAT FAIR Oct 26 th (Sat) 10am-3pm - Fall Vendor Fair Coordinator: <u>Barbara Osborne</u>
 Nov 17 th (Sun) Immediately after Worship and PSS Thanksgiving Food Delivery Coordinators: <u>Judi Wolff / Barbara Osborne</u>		Blood Drive – Dec date TBD Coordinator: <u>Janine Shugan</u> 
Meat, Greet, and Eat! – 4x during the year - Host homes & dates to be determined Coordinator: <u>Diane Hassa</u>		

If you have any ideas for an activity and would be willing to coordinate – see **Judi Wolff**
See **Volunteer Sign-up Sheets** on **Bulletin Boards** in **Narthex**

2024 HTLC CHURCH OFFICERS

President	Joyce Maul, 516-967-4282 joycemaul1705@gmail.com
Vice President	Currently Vacant
Treasurer	Sig Samuelsen, 973-586-8454 ssamuelsen@aol.com
Financial Secretary	Shannon Leifken, 973-570-2136 shannonleifken@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Cindy Alvarado Cindy.alvarado@gmail.com

2024 HTLC TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

Worship & Music	Ron Mathewson 201-602-8887 Rhmathewson@yahoo.com
Christian Education	Ron Mathewson 201-602-8887 Rhmathewson@yahoo.com
Membership	Bob Klein, 973-902-4596 Bob.Klein@cit.com.
Giving	Joyce Maul, 516-967-4282 joycemaul1705@gmail.com
Community Relief	Cindy Alvarado 973-518-3349 Cindy.alvarado@gmail.com
Activities	Shannon Leifken, 973-570-2136 shannonleifken@gmail.com
Property	George Leonard, 201-341-7531 geojleo@yahoo.com
Marketing	Megan Hatem, 973-580-2710 meganehatem@aol.com Kjell Stefani, 973-668-5820 steponesigns@gmail.com Shannon Leifken, 973-570-2136 shannonleifken@gmail.com
Finance	Karren Parrish 314-637-6682 Parrish.karen64@gmail.com Bob Klein, 973-902-4596 Bob.Klein@cit.com.