

# **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Service of Holy Communion**

**May 22, 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 Rise up, O saints of God!  
From vain ambitions turn;  
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts  
with nobler zeal might burn.
- 5 Commit your hearts to seek  
the paths which Christ has trod  
and quickened by the Spirit's power,  
rise up, O saints of God!

**SALUTATION**

- P: The Lord be with you.  
C: **And also with you.**

**+ PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P: Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, 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 16:9-15

*A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.*

<sup>9</sup>During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

<sup>11</sup>We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup>On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup>A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup>When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

### John 14:23-29

*As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.*

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

<sup>25</sup>"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

**SERMON** "Follow the Spirit"

**CHOIR ANTHEM** "Trust and Obey"

**HYMN** **Lead On, O King Eternal!**

**#495**

- 1 Lead on, O King eternal!  
The day of march has come;  
henceforth in fields of conquest  
your tents will be our home.  
Through days of preparation  
your grace has made us strong;  
and now, O King eternal,  
we lift our battle song.
  
- 2 Lead on, O King eternal,  
till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
and holiness shall whisper  
the sweet amen of peace;  
for not with swords loud clashing,  
nor roll of stirring drums,  
but deeds of love and mercy  
the heav'nly kingdom comes.

**+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: God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace (*especially*). Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people (*especially*). Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died (*especially*) when we meet together at your river 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      A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

#157

1      A hymn of glory let us sing!  
New hymns throughout the world shall ring:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ, by a road before untrod,  
ascends unto the throne of God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2      The holy apostolic band  
upon the Mount of Olives stand.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
And with his faithful foll'wers see  
their Lord ascend in majesty.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## 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:** *Carol Schutz* **Video:** *Don Gulliksen* **Usher:** *Eugene Randazzo*  
**Communion Assistant:** *Ellen Crane* **Altar Guild:** *Lisa Bischer*  
**CPIC:** *Lisa Bischer*

### Serving Next Week: (5/29)

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

**This Sunday we welcome Catherine Flynn** as our guest musician today.  
Thank you for blessing us!

**Special thanks to those who volunteered their time at our church work day last week:** Art and Ellen Crane, Carol DeMeo, Joan Cosgrove, Shannon and Levi Leifken, and Pastor. What a difference the crew made!

**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!

**Communion Note:** Did you know that the communion trays are configured in a certain way? Cups containing grape juice are in the center of the tray, and cups containing wine are near the edges of each serving tray.

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

**WELCA will be offering "selected treasures" from Dolly's Room for sale at VERY reasonable prices.** Come check out the table in the narthex (hallway) after church services.

**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.

**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](http://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](mailto: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.

**Lunch & Learn Adult Bible Study will be offered again on June 1.** in person or via ZOOM video link only from noon – 1:00pm. . . Please contact Pastor Jack ([jackspartan79@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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**

May 22- Women's Group Meeting in Choir Room (12:15:pm)

Interfaith Coffee Hour, White Meadow Lake Temple  
153 White Meadow Road  
Rockaway Township (1:00pm-3:00pm)

May 24- Congregation Council Meeting – 7:00pm

May 29- No Sunday School – Memorial Day Weekend



Five-Part Sermon Series  
**“What Shall We Do?”**  
Lessons Learned from the 1<sup>st</sup> 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