# TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



# THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER >> MAY 4, 2025

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# We Can See Things Clearly

As we observe Easter, it is good for us to review the details: *who, when, where.* After all, Jesus' resurrection is a historical event – the historical event on which everything else hinges. But we risk missing the point if we simply recall the historic details of Easter. We must also see its significance: Jesus won! And that means something for us, today and every day. *Because He Lives*, not only is our eternity secure, but we have everything we need to live our present lives.

Scripture often uses blindness as a metaphor for how hard it is to navigate life without a correct understanding of Christ. Spiritual blindness takes many forms. In some cases, it is hostile opposition to the message of Jesus. In others, it is confusion about Jesus' true identity. In others, it is the inability to understand our spiritual condition. No matter what spiritual blindness looks like, though, Easter has the power to replace it with sight. Easter shows us where we stand with God, enables us to see the path through life that's worth pursuing, and makes us certain who holds our future and is worth our worship. Because he lives, **We Can See Things Clearly**.

### THE MISSION OF TRINITY

The members of Trinity are joined together in Jesus' love to **worship** our Lord, **grow** in his Word, and **share** it with others.

### WE WILL CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER IN TODAY'S SERVICE.

St. Paul writes that everyone who receives the Lord's Supper must "recognize the body of Christ," and therefore "ought to examine themselves" (1 Cor. 11:27-29) before eating and drinking. He also writes that it is God's desire that as his people commune, they do so as "one body" (1 Cor. 10:17), "perfectly united in mind and thought" (1 Cor. 1:10). For this reason, Trinity follows the biblical and historic practice of closed (or member) communion. We welcome members of WELS or ELS congregations to commune with us. If you are not a member of a church in fellowship with Trinity, please refrain from communing today. We want nothing more than to receive the Lord's Supper with you, but we want to do so in the unity of faith that Jesus wants for his people (cf. John 17:20-23). We hope that can happen soon! Please speak to our pastor after the service, and he would be happy to further explain our practice and help you work toward full unity with us.

### Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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Hymn

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

### Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever. **Amen.** 

### Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.** 

### CW 173

CW 174

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

### Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.** 



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# THE WORD

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

### Be seated

### **First Reading**

Acts 9:1-22

<sup>1</sup>Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

<sup>5</sup>"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. <sup>6</sup>"Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

<sup>7</sup>The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. <sup>8</sup>Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

<sup>10</sup>In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. <sup>12</sup>In a vision he

has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

<sup>13</sup>"Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

<sup>15</sup>But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup>I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

<sup>17</sup>Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup>Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup>and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. <sup>20</sup>At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. <sup>21</sup>All those who heard him were astonished and asked, "Isn't he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn't he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?" <sup>22</sup>Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### **Second Reading**

### Revelation 5:11–14

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. <sup>12</sup>In a loud voice they were saying:

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

<sup>13</sup>Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

### "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

<sup>14</sup>The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped.

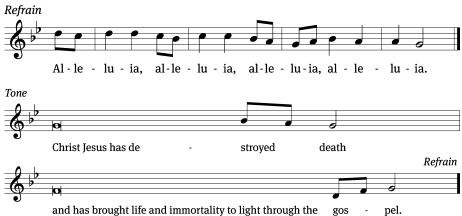
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### Stand



2 Timothy 1:10





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### Gospel

John 21:1-14

<sup>1</sup>Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: <sup>2</sup>Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. <sup>3</sup>"I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

<sup>5</sup>He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. <sup>6</sup>He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

<sup>7</sup>Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. <sup>8</sup>The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. <sup>9</sup>When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

<sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

### Hymn of the Day

459 Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

John 21:1-14

### Sermon

## It is the Lord!

1. His power (1-8)

2. His provision (9-12a)

3. His presence (12b-14)

Stand

### 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be seated

### **Prayer of the Church**

Lord of life, fill our hearts with joy during this season, for you have risen and conquered the grave. Imprint the message of victory on our hearts, and implant it in our minds.

Through the good news of your resurrection, renew our hope and revive our faith.

By baptizing us into your name, you have connected us to your death and rising. You have put our sin to death and have given us a new life. Enable us each day to think of ourselves as dead to sin and alive to you, so that we may walk in newness of life in all we do.

In this fallen world, death and sorrow surround us. Touch the hearts of those who grieve the loss of a Christian they love.

Direct their eyes to your empty tomb, and ease their pain by reminding them their loved ones will one day rise again.

Lord, many people grieve without hope. Let the message of your resurrection reach them and awaken faith in their hearts.

Use us as your instruments to bring the word of life to their souls and the message of hope to their hearts.

Stay by the side of all who are suffering. In your wise mercy, heal those who are sick, receiving treatment for illness, recovering from illness or surgery, or hurting in body or mind.

Remind them that your victory over death is a fact, and comfort them with your promise to raise and give them and all believers new, glorified bodies like yours.

Risen Savior, feed our faith with the message of your resurrection. Come to us in your Word and the feast of your sacrament to sustain and strengthen us until we feast with you in eternal glory. **Amen.** 

### Offering

The members of Trinity Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and throughout the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

At this time, we ask both members and guests to fill out the **friendship register** found at the end of each pew. When you've written your information, please pass it to the next person until everyone has had a chance to sign it. Thank you for helping us serve you with the gospel!

# THE SACRAMENT

As you have the opportunity, take a moment for selfexamination before receiving the Sacrament. You may wish to review the "Christian Questions" beginning on page 295 of the hymnal or read through a "Holy Communion" hymn (659-677).



Stand

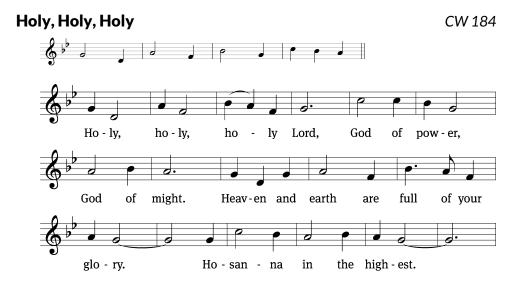
### Preface

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

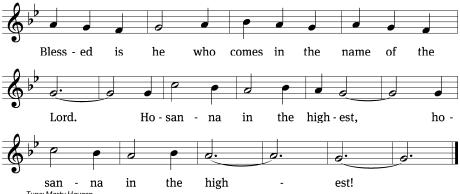
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



CW 183



Tune: Marty Haugen

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### Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, vour 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. Lead us not into temptation. but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

### Words of Institution

... The peace of the Lord be with you always. Amen.

Jesus. Lamb of God



### Be seated

### Distribution

In order to receive communion today, we ask that worshipers be able to check all of the following boxes:

- □ I repent of all my sins, holding nothing back from God (1 John 1:9).
- I believe that Jesus took away my sins when he died for me on the cross (John 3:16; 1 John 3:5).
- □ I believe that in communion I receive Jesus' true body and blood along with the bread and the wine (Mt. 26:26-27; 1 Cor. 10:16).
- I have made a statement of my agreement with all the teachings of this church family and its church body (WELS), as I have learned to know them through a Catechism or Foundations Class.

If you are not able to check all these boxes today but would like to commune with us in the future, please speak to our pastor after the service. He would love to help make that happen!

### **Distribution Hymns**

### 454 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

### 442 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

### Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

### Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Seasonal Closing Hymn 577 Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love

# THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sun. (5/4)	9:00 am 10:15 10:45 10:45	Worship Fellowship Pre-call meeting with District Kids in Christ
Mon. (5/5)	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Monday Night Worship Bible Study
Tues. (5/6)	7:00 pm	Elders
Wed. (5/7)	3:30 pm	Catechism
Thurs. (5/8)	5:30 pm 7:00 pm	Entertainment Night Men's Fellowship TBD
Fri. (5/9)	8:00 am	TLS Chapel
Sat. (5/10)	12:15 pm 7:00 pm	Ladies Guild/Concert Women, Wine & Word

# **OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE**

### **WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

Sunday 9:00 am 157 Monday 6:00 pm 12 Streaming 21

### **BIBLE STUDY**

- Sunday 10:45 am 25
  - Kids in Christ 24
- Monday 7:00 pm 6
  - Monday Virtual 6

### SUNDAY GIVING

General Fund	6496.65
Vanco	1458.00
Capital	76.60

MINISTER: Pastor Micah Plocher

BULLETIN SPONSOR: Harold & Pat Mead

ACCOMPANIST: Kellsie Wasser

**SPECIAL THANKS** to all others who served in worship today, including our video and screen coordinators, ushers, greeters, and soloists.

A

# May 2025

# TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN NICOLLET, MN Pastor Micah Plocher

Sat	10 1:30 pm Ladies Guild/Concert 7:00 pm Women, Wine & Word				
Fri	9 10 1:3:38 am TLS Chapel 2:30 7:01	16 8 am TLS Chapel	24	31	2
	9 8 am	16 8 am	23	30	9
Thurs	8 5:30 pm Entertainment Night 7:00 pm Mens Fellowship @ TBD	15	22 12:50 pm TLS Early Dismissal 6:00 pm TLS Closing Service	29	5 1:30 pm Ladies Guild 7:00 pm Board of Ed
Wed	7 3:30 pm NPS Catechism	14 3:30 pm NPS Catechism	21 ALL School Fieldtrip 7:00 pm Council	28	4
Tues	6 7:00 pm Elders	13 3:15 pm Faculty	20	27 3:15 pm Faculty/year end 7 pm Mens Bible Study/Fireside	3 7:00 pm Elders
Mon	5 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	12 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	19 5:30 pm CEA Family Night @ Wow Zone 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	26 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	2 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study
Sun	May 4 9 am Worship/Comm 10:15 am Fellowship 10:45 K in C 10:45 Pre-call meeting/District	11 9 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study/K in C	18 9 am Worship Confirmation/Comm 10:15am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study	25 9 am Worship 1045 Bible Study	June 1 9 am Worship 10.15am Fellowship 10.45 Bible Study