



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  MAY 25, 2025

BECAUSE HE LIVES:

We Have Lasting Joy

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.

The world would have you believe that joy is a direct result of circumstance. We are joyful when the events of our lives, the conditions in our world, and our relationships with others are good. But that kind of joy is fragile and inconsistent. Jesus gives us a better joy. It is not a product of circumstance, but a product of Easter. Because he lives, we have proof that God can take what causes tears and turn it into something worth rejoicing over. Sin, death, and shame went into Jesus' tomb. Forgiveness, life, and glory came out. Our risen Savior is the source of joy that remains constant in the highest high and the lowest low. And because he lives, his joy is ours.

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.*

WELCOME TO TRINITY! We're happy you're here! Thank you for joining us this morning to worship our gracious God. This **worship folder** has everything you'll need for the service except some of our songs. For those, you'll be able to find the words on the screen in the front of the church and the music in the blue hymnal.

We love to see **families worshiping together**, and to see little children coming to Jesus unhindered. However, if you would like a place to quiet your little ones' "joyful noises," there is a **nursery** down the hall on the south side of the building. There, you'll find a television streaming the service so you can follow along until you feel comfortable returning to the sanctuary.

The **restrooms** are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. If you need anything before, during, or after the service, our **ushers** will be happy to assist you.

God bless your worship with us today!

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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Stand

In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Gathering in the Joy of the Gospel

We gather in the place where God comes to us in his Word and feeds us with his love. Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice in his presence!

- 1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
with exultation springing,
and, with united heart and voice
and holy rapture singing,
proclaim the wonders God has done,
how his right arm the vict'ry won.
How dearly it has cost him!**

God has called us to love him and to serve him as his dear children. But we have not obeyed that call. In our words and actions, in our thoughts and feelings, we have sinned against God. Therefore, we deserve his punishment both now and in eternity.

- 2 Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay;
death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day;
in sin my mother bore me.
Yet deep and deeper still I fell;
life had become a living hell,
so firmly sin possessed me.**
- 3 My own good works availed me naught,
no merit they attaining;
my will against God's judgment fought,
no hope for me remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair
left only death to be my share
and hell to be my sentence.**

Where sin abounds, grace does all the more! Before the world began
God's grace moved him to rescue us.

- 4 **But God beheld my wretched state
 before the world's foundation,
 and, mindful of his mercies great,
 he planned for my salvation.
A father's heart he turned to me,
sought my redemption fervently;
 he gave his dearest treasure.**

When God's time came, God sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sin. Christ Jesus did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant.

- 5 Men:
 **He spoke to his beloved Son:
 "It's time to have compassion.
Then go, bright jewel of my crown,
 and bring to all salvation.
From sin and sorrow set them free;
slay bitter death for them that they
 may live with you forever."**

- 6 Women:
 **The Son obeyed his Father's will,
 was born of virgin mother,
 and, God's good pleasure to fulfill,
 he came to be my brother.
No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore;
a servant's form like mine he bore
 to lead the devil captive.**

Therefore, at Christ's command and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

- 7 Men:
To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me,
I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I myself will be;
for you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, your friend divine,
and evermore you shall be mine;
the foe shall not divide us.
- 8 Women:
"The foe will shed my precious blood,
me of my life bereaving;
all this I suffer for your good;
be steadfast and believing.
Life will from death the vict'ry win;
my innocence shall bear your sin,
and you are blest forever.

Now reigning in heaven, Jesus has sent his Spirit into our hearts through the gospel. Through that gospel, the comforter guides us in truth and brings us real peace. Therefore, cling to that gospel! Proclaim that gospel!

- 9 "Now to my Father I depart,
the Holy Spirit sending
and, heav'nly wisdom to impart,
my help to you extending.
He will a source of comfort be,
teach you to know and follow me,
and in all truth will guide you.
- 10 "What I on earth have lived and taught
be all your life and teaching;
so shall my kingdom's work be wrought
and honored in your preaching.
Take care that no one's man-made laws
should e'er destroy the gospel's cause;
this final word I leave you."

*Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-1887, alt.
Text: Public domain*

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; 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 14:8-22

⁸In Lystra there sat a man who was lame. He had been that way from birth and had never walked. ⁹He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed ¹⁰and called out, "Stand up on your feet!" At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.

¹¹When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" ¹²Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker. ¹³The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.

¹⁴But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: ¹⁵"Friends, why are you doing this? We too are only human, like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. ¹⁶In the past, he let all nations go their own way. ¹⁷Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." ¹⁸Even with these words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them.

¹⁹Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. ²⁰But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe.

²¹They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, ²²strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

The children are invited to come forward for a message designed specially for them.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 65B

Printed on the next page

Second Reading

Revelation 21:21-27

²¹The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass.

²²I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. ²⁵On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. ²⁶The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. ²⁷Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Every Heart Its Tribute Pays

Psalm 65B



1 Ev - 'ry heart its trib - ute pays, ev - 'ry tongue its
2 Ev - er while his deeds en - dure our sal - va - tion
3 Year by year, the sea - sons' round sees the land with



song of praise; sin and sor - row, guilt and care, brought to
stands se - cure; he whose fin - gers spun the earth, gave the
bless - ing crowned, where ca - ressed by sun and rain bar - ren



him who an - swers prayer; there by grace may hu - man - kind
seas and moun - tains birth, tamed the o - cean, formed the land,
earth gives life a - gain; sun - lit val - leys burn with gold,



full and free for - give - ness find; called and cho - sen,
spread the skies with might - y hand: far - off shores re -
na - ture smiles on field and fold, gifts of God in



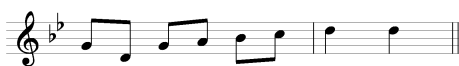
loved and blest, in his pres - ence be at rest.
vere his name, day and night his pow'r pro - claim.
plen - ty poured: all things liv - ing, praise the Lord!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith

Tune: George J. Elvey

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Gospel Acclamation*Psalm 30:5**Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone*Refrain*

Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morn - ing.

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Gospel*John 16:16-24*

¹⁶Jesus went on to say, "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me."

¹⁷At this, some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father'?"

¹⁸They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying."

¹⁹Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me'?" ²⁰Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. ²¹A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. ²²So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. ²³In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ²⁴Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

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

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

449 This Joyful Eastertide

Sermon

Acts 14:8-22

Easter Joy, No Matter What

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there 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.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Each petition will end with "Lord, in your mercy..." The congregation is invited to respond, "Hear our prayer."

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!*

Stand

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours 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

561 Before the Throne of God Above

TRINITY NEWS

CALL NEWS: On *Wednesday, May 21 at 7:00 pm*, the Voters extended a call to **Pastor Ben Zuberbier**, who currently serves at Zion Lutheran Church in Columbus, WI. He invites you to contact him at 920-517-7940.

Mrs. Cari Kelly has accepted our call to be preschool teacher and director at Trinity Lutheran School. **Mr. Alex Ritter** has been assigned to teach in our 5th-8th grade classroom. Please join us in thanking God for sending them to us and keep them in your prayers as they begin their ministry here. When you see them on campus, welcome them warmly to our church and school family!

VETERANS AMMO CAN: Every year we collect a Memorial Day donation that goes to the Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) and send it to them in honor of our vets. Please consider donating to this cause this weekend!

KINGDOM WORKERS PRESENTATION: On *Thursday, June 5, at 1:30 PM*, the Ladies Guild will host a presenter from Kingdom Workers. It will include pictures and videos that bring alive the Kingdom Worker programs in Clean Water, Disability, Construction, and Family and Social Care. ***The congregation is invited to join us.*** Kingdom Workers is a global Christian non-profit organization associated with our WELS Lutheran church body. In 2024, Kingdom Worker programs served more than 36,000 people in the USA, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, Grenada, and five African countries. Kingdom Worker programs partner with churches to share Jesus' love and help their neighbor.

NEW BEGINNINGS: June 1st is soon approaching if you haven't turned your "baby coin bottle" in. Thanks so much for participating!

PINE & 99-TRINITY PORK CHOP STAND: We will host the next Pork Chop Stand on *June 5th*. We could really use 2 people to work in the food stand if you could look at your schedule and please sign up. Direct questions to Larry Bruegger at 507-420-9195. Thanks!

SCREEN FOR SUMMER SUNDAYS: We are looking for some volunteers to help us run the PowerPoint screen this summer. We will provide a short training session and a step-by-step guide to use as a reference. We may also need help with basic formatting of the PowerPoint prior to the service. If you are willing to help us out in either of these areas, please let Lori Enter, Mandi Russow, or Nicole Lehman know. Any questions, please ask Mandi or Nicole. Thank you for considering helping!

HOT LUNCH: We could use 1 or 2 people to help out with serving the school's hot lunch next year on either Thursday or Friday or both. If you can help with this from 11:15- 1 pm, during the school year, please let Lori Enter know as soon as possible. Thanks so much!

FREINDSHIP DAYS: On *Saturday, June 21st, at 1 pm*, Trinity will be supporting TLS in the parade with the barrel train, donated by Allen & Joy Enter. We could use children to ride in the barrels and walk alongside and also hold the banner. A sign-up sheet will be put up in the Narthex if you can ride or walk. We will be washing and setting up the barrels around 10:30 am to get things ready.

AREA NEWS

THE CANCER GROUP at St. John's church in New Ulm will meet *on Sunday, June 1, at 3:00pm* in the church fellowship area. Anyone living with a history of cancer (whether the diagnosis was recent or longer ago) as well as adult family members and friends who support someone with cancer are welcome to attend. We will be previewing *When Cancer Comes*, a series of three books published recently by Northwestern Publishing House. This series uses the Biblical accounts of Job, Jeremiah, and Paul along with personal cancer stories to encourage and provide Gospel comfort to persons with cancer and to those who care about them. We will also discuss a possible project to extend spiritual comfort and support to others who are diagnosed with cancer.

GRIEF SHARE: St. Peter Lutheran Church is offering a 13-week session starting *Monday, June 2* from 3:30-5 pm. If you are grieving and need some help, visit www.griefshare.org/findagroup to sign up, or you can contact Anita in the office at 507-931-1866.

BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE invites you to the Seventh Annual Apologetics and Worldview Conference, *June 18 – 19, 2025*, under the theme *Unsurpassed Christian Apologists*. The work of defending the truth of Christianity has been ongoing throughout the church's history, resulting in many great apologists. To register go to: www.apologeticcenter.org/events/

LWMS CONVENTION 2025: Join the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society *June 25-30* for the annual LWMS Convention being held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Convention registration is now online at <https://whova.com/portal/registration/EVSZBFt2emX@u-zaJ2g7/>

BETHANY SPORTS CLASSIC: August 4th, at the Mankato Golf Club the annual sports classic will be held from 8:30 am-4 pm. If you are interested please take a pamphlet off the bulletin board with all the information.

AS I HAVE LOVED YOU

[Jesus said] “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”

John 13:34

The night before Jesus died, he gathered with his disciples in the upper room. Jesus didn't fill them with motivational slogans or empty optimism. He didn't tell them to “go out and change the world.” Instead, with only hours left before his betrayal and death, he gave them a command—not flashy or complicated, but one that would truly change the world: “Love one another.”

The command to love wasn't new; God had given it through Moses centuries earlier. But the standard was: “As I have loved you.” A love that is sacrificial, unconditional, one-way—a love only Jesus has ever truly shown.

It sounds simple, but it's anything but easy. Jesus didn't say, “Love when it's convenient” or “Love when it's deserved.” He said, “Love as I have loved you.” It's a love that reaches down to wash dirty feet, extends bread to betrayers, and stretches out arms on a cross. That's how Jesus loved us—a love that gives fully, serves humbly, and forgives completely.

And now he calls us to love one another in that same way. But let's be honest. We don't naturally want to. It's easy to love those who love us, to serve when it's noticed, or to forgive when it feels safe. But what about the people who frustrate us? Disappoint us? Wound us? Jesus still says, “Love them.”

How? By remembering that he loved us first. He loved us when we were unlovable. He gave himself fully when we had nothing to offer. Jesus' love isn't just a model—it's our motivation, our foundation, and our strength. His love forgives our failures to love. His love changes hearts. His love empowers us to love others—not to earn anything from God, but because we already have everything in Christ.

So, what does this mean for you? It means your life matters—not necessarily because you accomplish great things, but because you reflect the love of Jesus. It means you carry a kind of love into the world that can't be found anywhere else. And it means that when you love, people see their Savior.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sun. (5/25)	9:00 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Fellowship/Bible Study
Mon. (5/26)	6:00 pm	NO Monday Night Worship
	7:00 pm	NO Bible Study
Tuesday (5/27)	10:00 am	Faculty Meeting
	7:00 pm	Men's Bible Study

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday 9:00 am	158
Monday 6:00 pm	18
Streaming	17

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday 10:45 am	N/A
Kids in Christ	N/A
Monday 7:00 pm	7
Monday Virtual	5

SUNDAY GIVING

General Fund	5743.00
Vanco	3243.95
Capital	75.00

MINISTER: Pastor Micah Plocher

BULLETIN SPONSOR: Craig Spoor

ACCOMPANIST: Kellsie Wasser

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



May 2025

TRINITY EV.
LUTHERAN
NICOLLET, MN
Pastor Micah Plocher

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
May 4 9 am Worship/Comm 10:15 am Fellowship 10:45 K in C 10:45 Pre-call meeting/District	5 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	6 7:00 pm Elders	7 3:30 pm NPS Catechism	8 5:30 pm Entertainment Night 7:00 pm Mens Fellowship @ TBD	9 8 am TLS Chapel	10 1:30 pm Ladies Guild/Concert 7:00 pm Women, Wine & Word
11 9 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study/K in C	12 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	13 3:15 pm Faculty	14 3:30 pm NPS Catechism	15	16 8 am TLS Chapel	17
18 9 am Worship Confirmation/Comm 10:30 am Confirmation Fellowship	19 5:30 pm CEA Family Night @ Wow Zone 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	20	21 ALL School Fieldtrip 7:00 pm Pastoral Call meeting 7:00 pm Council	22 12:50 pm TLS Early Dismissal 5:00 pm Trinity food Stand 5:30 pm Groundskeeping 6:00 pm TLS Closing Service	23	24
25 9 am Worship 10:45 Bible Study 2:00 pm MVL Graduation	26 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	27 10:00 am Faculty/year end 7 pm Mens Bible Study/Fireside	28	29	30	31
June 1 9 am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study	2 6:00 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	3 7:00 pm Elders	4	5 1:30 pm Ladies Guild 7:00 pm Board of Ed	6	7