

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**MAY 17, 2020**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 139**

L: LORD, you have searched me and known me.

**P: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.**

L: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

**P: If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

L: If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," even the darkness is not dark to you;

**P: I come to praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

**GATHERING SONG "In the Secret" Andy Park**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=92P3i9cQolc>

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin. Reconciling God,

**P: We confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us, through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Beloved God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

**SONG: "Love the Lord" Lincoln Brewster**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAbEfffqLdc&list=RDEAbEfffqLdc&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAbEfffqLdc&list=RDEAbEfffqLdc&start_radio=1)

## PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 66:8-20

<sup>8</sup>Bless our God, you peoples;  
let the sound of praise be heard.

<sup>9</sup>Our God has kept us among the living  
and has not allowed our feet to slip.

<sup>10</sup>For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

<sup>11</sup>You brought us into the net;  
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

<sup>12</sup>You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

<sup>13</sup>I will enter your house with burnt offerings  
and will pay you my vows-

<sup>14</sup>those that I promised with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

<sup>15</sup>I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;  
I will give you oxen and goats.

<sup>16</sup>Come and listen, all you who believe,  
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

<sup>17</sup>I called out to God with my mouth,  
and praised the Lord with my tongue.

<sup>18</sup>If I had cherished evil in my heart,  
the Lord would not have heard me;

<sup>19</sup>but in truth God has heard me  
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.

<sup>20</sup>Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,  
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

**SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

<sup>13</sup>Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. Christ was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

**GOSPEL READING: John 14:15-21**

[Jesus said:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, who will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, whom the world neither sees nor knows. You know the Spirit, because the Spirit abides with you, and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

**PREACHING TEXT: Acts 17:22-31**

<sup>22</sup>Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, the one who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is God served by human hands, as though needing anything, since that very God gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor God made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for and find God—though indeed God is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For ‘In God we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are the offspring of God.’

<sup>29</sup>“Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now God commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because God has fixed a day on which to judge the world in righteousness by a man whom God has appointed, and of this God has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

SERMON Pastor Jerome Evavold

SONG: "How Great is Our God" by Chris Tomlin  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKLQ1td3MbE>

### CONFESSION OF FAITH

**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 catholic church, The communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. Amen.**

### THE OFFERING

*Looking for a way to give to support Trinity ministry? We have now launched our Text to Give program. Simply text the amount you'd like to give to 833-610-0635. Kathy will also continue to check the mail and make deposits weekly Thank you for your generous giving that enables continued ministries.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

**Generous God, you have given us life, this community and the gifts of the earth. Move into our hearts, that we might use these gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we are, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we welcome our God into the sanctuaries of our homes, let us pray for all the needs of the world, responding to each petition with words that echo today's psalm: "O God, hear us."

***A brief silence.***

Abiding God, come into all the homes around the globe from which your people offer their prayer. Bless Christian leaders as they guide the church through this pandemic. Show our pastors and our church councils the way forward. Grant your grace also to the devout in other religions of the world, and show your kindness to all who search for you, whether within or outside the church.

For this we pray:

**O God, hear us!**

Creating God, revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures. Especially we pray for our local bodies of water (*local bodies of water may be named*). Form us unto a baptized body that protects the waters on which we rely.

For this we pray:

**O God, hear us!**

Righteous God, instill in all the leaders of nations a desire for justice and the will to serve the oppressed. We pray especially for those nations in which dictatorship threatens the population. Guide our nation's governors in their difficult pathway between the threat of disease and the dangers of scarcity and isolation. Bring our legislators into agreement about how to assist those in need. Give us patience in facing our current predicament.

For this we pray:

**O God, hear us!**

Compassionate God, visit all who are in great need, those who suffer from the coronavirus, those living in loneliness and fear, those without jobs, and those who mourn their dead. Uphold those whose futures have been taken away from them. We pray for health care workers and for the residents in care homes, prisons, and refugee camps. For the countless persons who carry heavy burdens on their back, we pray, and we call out to you these names:

For this we pray:

**O God, hear us!**

Benevolent God, give the world a vaccine.

For this we pray:

**O God, hear us!**

Fatherly and motherly God, embrace all orphans. Support the agencies that attend to the world's orphans. Shield orphaned children from traffickers. Give to all nations wisdom concerning the refugees who are children. Watch over all children whose usual care-givers are absent. Form us into your children who love all whom you have made.

For this we pray:

**O God, hear us!**

Loving God, once again each of us offers our personal praises and petitions.

For this we pray:

**O God, hear us!**

Eternal God, your kingdom is here now, and it has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us - those who remember in our hearts. Unite us forever in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

For this we pray:

**O God, hear us!**

With bold confidence in your love, merciful God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

## BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the Creator, Jesus the Christ and the Holy Spirit, the comforter bless you and keep you in eternal love. The God of all grace bless us now and forever. Amen.

## SENDING SONG "Everlasting God" Lincoln Brewster

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jP2nz6PG8KM>

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God!

\* \* \*

This is what the electronic sign outside of Trinity will look like on Sunday. *Aine*

