

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**10AM WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND ZOOM**  
**RIVER OF LIFE: Week 2—GOD CLAIMS**  
*“Everything will live where the river goes.”*  
**JULY 18, 2021**

**Worship Notes:**

**Bathroom use:** *The only available bathrooms are the downstairs Avenue bathrooms. To access these bathrooms exit the sanctuary out the front doors, go down the avenue ramp and enter the Avenue door. These bathrooms are functioning as single stall bathrooms at this time. Please lock the outside wooden door when in use.*

**Merging In Person and Zoom Worship:** *Today Ann Clark will be running Zoom from the front of the sanctuary, allowing individuals to join worship from offsite. We celebrate having the ability to gather together in hybrid form. Zoom quality will continue to improve with every Sunday’s learning.*

**Congregational Singing:** *We have returned to in-person congregational singing. We have hired Kristin Norlander as our Music Ministry Coordinator. We continue to invite those who would like to be involved in music ministry, vocal or instrumental, to let Kristin know and join in upcoming rehearsals.*

**After Church Activities:** *Join members of the Witness Within Team outside following the worship service for “River of Life” activities: play “Saved by Grace” Scrabble or Blanket Volleyball, create Tie Die Paper remembering the baptismal cross watermark, hear the story of a group of people in Milwaukee joining in the efforts of ELCA World Hunger Relief to provide water clean from lead, create your own Milwaukee bowling pins (Milwaukee is the home to the oldest bowling alley).*

**Pastoral Care:** *Vicar Shivon Miller is out of town this morning. If you have any pastoral care needs, you may reach her by 218-341-6154.*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Heidi Johnson, Witness Within Team:**

Today we continue our three Sunday theme, “River of Life.” Water is a valuable resource. It is also a powerful symbol, with deep significance. Today we will hear about the Jordan River, where Jesus was baptized. In baptism we are called together and formed as a community, a group of people who come together for a common purpose. Today we celebrate the community of God’s family. As a church community of the ELCA we are committed to accompanying communities that lack access to clean water and proper sanitation, both in the United States and internationally, through ministries supported by ELCA World Hunger. Each of the three “River of Life” Sundays we will learn about the importance of water and with Captain Tom and Pilot Jody, whom you will meet during Children’s Time, we will visit important “ports” to hear Bible stories about water and the communities working to restore watersheds, to protect rights to water and to ensure safe water for everyone. Today’s “River of Life” theme is “God Claims.”

**GREETING (Heather Sweetland)**

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Remaining in your pews I invite you to turn and greet or wave to one another as we welcome one another to worship today.

**GATHERING SONG: “Shout To The Lord” (Kristin Norlander, Music Ministry Coordinator)**

My Jesus my Savior  
Lord there is none like You  
All of my days I want to praise  
The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort my shelter  
Tower of refuge and strength  
Let every breath all that I am  
Never cease to worship You

**CHORUS:**

Shout to the Lord  
All the earth let us sing  
Power and majesty  
Praise to the King  
Mountains bow down  
And the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy  
At the work of Your hands  
Forever I'll love You  
Forever I'll stand  
Nothing compares to the promise  
I have in You

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**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Heather)**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

**P: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.  
Holy God,

**P: You search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin – our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Heather)**

L: How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

**P: Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY (Heather)**

O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **SONG: (Kristin) "RIVER OF LIFE" THEME SONG:**

Intro:

*Lap, lap - clap, clap, clap* Let's thank the Lord!

*Lap, lap - clap, clap, clap* Let's thank the Lord!

Verse 1:

God gives us what we need, Let's thank the Lord!

For food, for friends and air to breathe, Let's thank the Lord!

Chorus:

For all we have we give thanks and sing, We can share everything!

Verse 2:

God gives us everything Let's share, let's share

So together we will sing Let's share, let's share

### **CHILDREN'S TIME led by Jody Berquist and Tom Meador**

#### **PSALM THE DAY: Psalm 29 Reader: Jan Culliton**

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

<sup>6</sup>**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

<sup>8</sup>**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

<sup>11</sup>May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

**THEME READING: Matthew 3:13-17     Read by Jan Culliton**

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”



**SERMON written by Shivon Miller, read by Heidi Johnson**

**The Sacrament of Holy Baptism – The Small Catechism by Martin Luther**

**What is Baptism?**

Baptism is not water only, but it is water used together with God’s Word and by his command.

**What is this Word?**

In Matthew 28 our Lord Jesus Christ says “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

**What benefits does God give in Baptism?**

In Baptism God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what God has promised.

**How can water do such great things?**

It is not water that does these things, but God’s Word with the water and our trust in this Word. Water by itself is only water, but with the Word of God it is a life-giving water which by grace gives the new birth through the Holy Spirit. Paul writes in Titus 3 “He saves us...in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.”

**What does baptism mean for daily living?**

It means that the old person in us, with all sins and evil desires is to be drowned through daily sorrow for sin and repentance, and that day after day a new person is to come forth and rise up to live before God in righteousness and purity forever. Paul says in Romans 6 “We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into his death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

**Song within the Sermon: Handwashing Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise him all creatures here below  
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost  
Amen.

**SONG: (Kristin) 10,000 REASONS**

**CHORUS**

**Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name**

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes **CHORUS**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find **CHORUS**

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore **CHORUS**

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**CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED (Heather)**

**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.**

**OFFERING**

*We will not be passing the offering plates but rather ask that as you enter or exit the sanctuary to place your offering in the offering box located at the back of the sanctuary. Or text-to-give by texting the amount you'd like to give to 833-610-0635. Thank you for your generous giving of time, talent, and treasure.*

**OFFERING PRAYER (Heather)**

**O God, receive these gifts as you receive us. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with the same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Heather)**

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you gather your people from east and west, north and south. We pray for the mission of the church throughout the world, that your steadfast love may be made known to all peoples.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You laid the foundations of the earth and the waters are the womb of creation. The morning stars sing your name and all creation shouts for joy. We pray for your blessed creation, that it may continue to flourish and magnify your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You keep watch over all nations. We pray for countries experiencing violence, hunger, and unrest. Guide worldwide and local community organizations in their efforts to establish safety and justice. Today we give thanks for ELCA World Hunger Relief and the Milwaukee communities working for clean water. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You are close to the brokenhearted and near to those in distress. We pray for those who are experiencing oppression. Liberate us from the systems and chains that bind us. Remove the barriers that separate us from one another. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You dwell with us in this faith community. We pray for our Team and Council leaders. Grant them knowledge, patience, and kindness, that through their leadership you may be exalted in this assembly. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**P: 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 (Heather)**

L: God the Creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter keep you in peace.

**P: Amen.**

**SENDING SONG: (Kristin) “*Marching in the Light of God*”**

We are marching in the light of God  
We are marching in the light of God  
We are marching in the light of God  
We are marching in the light of God

**We are marching O-oh, we are marching oh  
We are marching in the light of - light of God  
We are marching O-oh, we are marching oh  
We are marching in the light of God**

We are living in the love of God  
We are living in the love of God  
We are living in the love of God  
We are living in the love of God

**We are living oh-oh, we are living o-oh  
We are living in the light of - light of God  
We are living o-oh, we are living oh  
We are living in the light of God**

We are praying in the light of God  
We are praying in the light of God  
We are praying in the light of God  
We are praying in the light of God

**We are praying o, oh, we are praying oh  
We are praying in the light of, light of God  
We are praying oh-oh, we are praying oh  
We are praying in the light of God**

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**DISMISSAL (Heather)**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Trinity members and friends are invited to come observe military honors followed by a memorial service for **James "Jim" McIntosh** at 3pm, Friday, July 23, 2021 at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery-Duluth, 4777 US Hwy 53. Food and visiting will follow the service at Cast Iron Grill, 5906 Old Miller Trunk Highway.



### **BE A PART OF TRINITY MUSIC MINISTRY**

Have you been active in music ministry in the past? Have you listened and watched from a distance and wondered if you could be a part of it? Have you hesitated unsure of the commitment or the skill level necessary? Feel like you are too young or too old? We are seeking musicians of all ages, all skill levels, all experiences. We invite you to check it out. Dare to imagine that God might be inviting you into music ministry at Trinity.

Reach out to Kristin Norlander at 218-343-4541 or [biplander@gmail.com](mailto:biplander@gmail.com)



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## AFTER THOUGHTS

### **BASED ON: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56**

<sup>30</sup>The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them.



<sup>34</sup>As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

<sup>53</sup>When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. <sup>54</sup>When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, <sup>55</sup>and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

### **Upside-Down Expectations**

The people were expecting a powerful king. In Jesus, they were given a shepherd. They were looking for the one who would conquer the empire with military might. In Jesus, they were shown the way of self-sacrifice. They were used to a kingdom that celebrated the wealthy and influential. In Jesus, they became witnesses to a kingdom that places the marginalized at the center.

Jesus arrives on the scene in today's gospel as a stark contrast to Herod, who is the focus of the verses immediately prior to today's text. Herod threw a private banquet for the big names of the day; Jesus offers healing for all on the grassy hillside. Herod perpetuated the division between the haves and the have-nots; Jesus gathers all people for the sake of God's merciful love. Herod seeks to appease the economic elite, while Jesus turns the marketplace into a place of healing for common people.

Jesus takes what we think we know about status, belonging, and leadership and turns it on its head, shepherding us into a new way of living. With Jesus as our shepherd, we gather in worship and prayer. We confess how we have been complacent about the old kingdom's ways and are freed by grace to begin again in God's kingdom. We remember our identities in the waters of baptism, reminded about whose we are and which king we serve. We hear God's promises and lift our voices in praise and take part in the banquet that is given for all. We practice generosity and raise our voices in prayer to remember the ones whom Jesus places at the center. We go forth to be citizens of God's kingdom—healed, fed, forgiven—following the one true Shepherd whose compassion knows no bounds.

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