

Eagle Scout Ceremony, 1963

# FEBRUARY 4th, 2024

# FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 10 A.M. WORSHIP



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Lifting Up, Reaching Out

#### WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY!

We are so glad you are joining in our worship. Whether this is your first time or you are a regular participant, we are happy to welcome you today.

#### **God Heals Persons and Communities**

When Jesus heals us, we are empowered to serve others. While at first glance it might seem that Jesus' healing of Peter's mother-in-law was self-serving, on further reflection we see the same result in nearly all of his signs and miracles. The object of Jesus' compassion now has new responsibilities. In the very next chapter a paralytic lowered through the ceiling is raised, only to become the center of a religious controversy (Mark 2:3-12), as was the man who lay by the pool of Beth-zatha for thirty-eight years (John 5:2-15). When Jesus calms the storm (Mark 4:35-41) the disciples have to row the rest of the way! Any meaningful encounter with Jesus will result in our being changed, which in turn alters the way we see our relationship to the needs of others and the world.

Hard economic times, natural disasters, and divisive, party strife can make us feel helpless and hopeless, as if we have been abandoned by God. Even the church—local congregations as well as denominations—may feel fear and panic in the face of declining numbers and revenues, loss of loyalty from members, indifference or hostility from the surrounding culture, and internal sniping among factions. The exiled people of Israel in Babylon experienced all of this and more, so our condition is neither unique nor beyond the reach of our God. Isaiah 40:21-31 in the NRSV begins "Have you not known? Have you not heard?" Eugene Peterson, in The Message, translates this idea as "Have you not been paying attention? Have you not been listening?" There is some irony indeed that God's church, entrusted with God's salvation history and the gospel, still panics, still doubts and worries, still feels like it is up to us to save the church. We indeed are "clay jars" (2 Cor. 4:7)—carrying the message but not understanding, preaching salvation but not believing that God cares or will act to save. We live Isaiah 40 every day.

**PRELUDE** Lord I Want to be a Christian......Traditional

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GATHERING

P The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- C Amen.
- P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
- P We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock.
  When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to

## AL CONGREGARSE

P El Espíritu Santo nos llama como el pueblo de Dios.

## ACCIÓN DE GRACIAS POR EL BAUTISMO

La asamblea se pone de pie. Todos pueden hacer la señal de la cruz, el signo con el que somos marcados en el bautismo, mientras que quien preside comienza.

P Bendita sea la Santísima Trin idad, 中 un solo Dios, la fuente de agua viva, la roca que nos dio vida, nuestra luz y nuestra salvación.

## C Amén.

- P Unidos a Cristo en las aguas del bautismo, estamos re vestidos con la misericordia y el perdón de Dios. Demos gracias por el don del bautismo.
- P Te damos gracias, oh Dios, porque en el principio tú nos creaste a tu imagen, y nos colo caste en un jardín con corrientes de agua. En el desierto, tú prometiste agua abundante para

lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life. We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

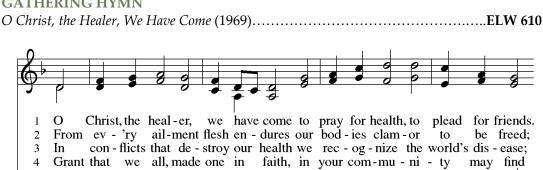
el sediento, y nos diste agua de la roca. Cuando no sabíamos el camino, tú nos enviaste al Buen Pastor para que nos llevara a aguas de reposo. En la cruz, tú nos lavaste desde el costado herido de Jesús, y en este día, tú nos riegas nuevamente con el agua de vida.

Te alabamos por tu salvación por medio del agua, por el agua en esta fuente, y por todas las aguas en todas partes.

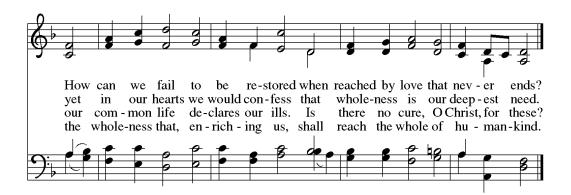
Lávanos en tu perdón, gracia, y amor. Satisface al sediento, y danos la vida que sólo tú puedes dar.

A ti sea dado el honor y la alabanza por Jesucristo, nuestra agua viviente, en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, ahora y siempre. Amén.

C Amen. С



#### **GATHERING HYMN**



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#### GREETING

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

#### SALUDO

P La gracia de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, el amor de Dios, y la comunión del Espíritu Santo sean con todos ustedes.

C And also with you.

#### C Y también contigo.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? <sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; <sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. <sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. <sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. <sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. <sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? <sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;
<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

- A Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### ANTHEM

All You Need Is Love (1967).....John Lennon and Paul McCartney arr. by Sylvain Vallee Christus Choir

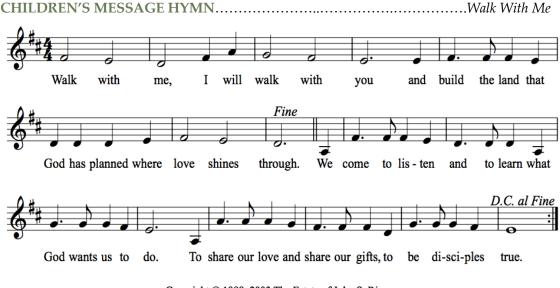
## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

- A Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.



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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE......Pastor Mike Gutzler

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION.....

.....G **187** (Sing Twice)

*Please stand as you are able* 



#### HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

P The Holy gospel according to Mark, the first chapter

#### C Glory to you, O Lord.

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons

- P The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON.....Pastor Mike Gutzler

#### **MESSAGE HYMN**

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness.....



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813 Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

# Credo Apostólico

Creo en Dios Padre todopoderoso, creador del cielo y de la tierra. Creo en Jesucristo, su único Hijo, nuestro Señor. Fue concebido por obra del Espíritu Santo y nació de la Virgen María. Padeció bajo el poder de Poncio Pilato, fue crucificado, muerto, y sepultado. Descendió a los muertos. Al tercer día resucitó. subió a los cielos, y está sentado a la diestra del Padre. Volverá para juzgar a los vivos y a los muertos. Creo el Espíritu Santo, la santa iglesia católica, la comunión de los santos, el perdón de los pecados, la resurrección del cuerpo, y la vida eterna. Amén.

# PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

# A brief silence.

- A Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace,
- A receive our prayer.

- A God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need (*especially*). God of grace,

#### C receive our prayer.

A Watch over our military and members of agencies serving to keep us safe and free. Bless, strengthen, and defend them with your heavenly grace, give them courage in the face of peril, and grant them a sense of your abiding love and presence wherever they may be throughout the world. God of grace,

## C receive our prayer.

- A Watch over all your children, Lord, including any who have not felt welcomed by the members of your church. Help us to truly be a Reconciling in Christ congregation: a welcoming and safe community for all. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace,

## C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

- A Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

## **BOY SCOUT TROOP 140 CHARTER PRESENTATION**

#### PEACE

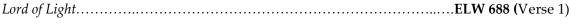
- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you. The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and then be seated. Please also sign the Friendship Register and pass it to the next person in your pew.

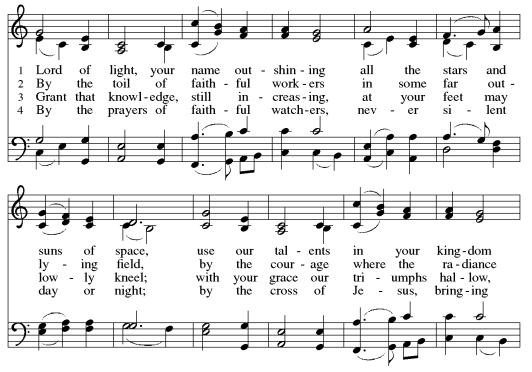
#### LA PAZ

- P La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.
- C Y también contigo.

Your offering can be received in many ways. You may use the offering plate in the Sanctuary, sign-up for online giving at <u>www.holytrinityfallschurch.org/giving</u>, mail your offering to the church, or drop your offering in the mail slot by the office door.

#### **OFFERING HYMN**





Continued on next page



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#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

#### Please stand as you are able

Let us pray.

- A Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

# ORACIÓN Por favor, quedate como eres capaz Oremos.

А

Dios Santo, lleno de gracia y misericordia, tú nos brindas los frutos de la tierra y alimentas toda tu creación. Vuelve nuestros corazones hacia aquellos que sufren hambre de diferentes formas, para que todos conozcan de tus cuidados; y prepáranos ahora para participar del banquete del pan de vida, Jesucristo, nuestro Señor y Salvador.

# PLEGARIA EUCARISTICA

Santo Dios, principio y fin, Р dador de toda vida: Bendito eres tú por toda la creación. Bendito eres tú en la oscuridad y en la luz. Bendito eres tú por tu promesa a tu pueblo. Bendito eres tú en los sueños y en las esperanzasde tus profetas. Bendito eres tú por la apertura de María a tu voluntad. Bendito eres tú por tu Hijo Jesús, la Palabra hecha carne.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

- P Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.
- C Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
  Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
  Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.

La noche en que fue entregado, nuestro Señor Jesús tomó pan y dio gracias; lo partióy lo dio a sus discípulos, diciendo: Tomen y coman; esto es mi cuerpo, dado por ustedes. Hagan esto en memoria mía.

De igual manera, después de haber cenado, tomó la copa, Dio gracias y la dio a beber a todos, diciendo: Esta copa es el nuevo pacto en mi sangre, derramada por ustedes y por todo el mundo para el perdó delpecado. Hagan esto en memoria mía.

- P Proclamemos ahora el misterio de nuestra fe:
- C Cristo ha muerto. Cristo ha resucitado. Cristo vendrá de nuevo.
- P Con este pan y esta copa recordamos tu Palabra viviendo entre nosotros, llena de gracia y verdad. Recordamos nuestro nuevo nacimiento en su muerte y resurrección,y anticipamos con esperanza su venida.
- C Ven, Señor Jesús.
- P Santo Dios, anhelamos tu Espíritu.Ven entre nosotros.
   Bendice esta cena.Que tu Palabra se encarne en nosotros. Despierta a tu pueblo. Llénanos con tu luz. Trae a la tierra el regalo de la paz.
   C Ven, Espíritu Santo.
- 16

- P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
- C 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.

- P Tuya es toda alabanza y gloria,
   Sant de Israel,Palabra de Dios encarnada, Poder del Altísimo, un Dios, ahora y siempre.
- C Amén.

#### PADRE NUESTRO

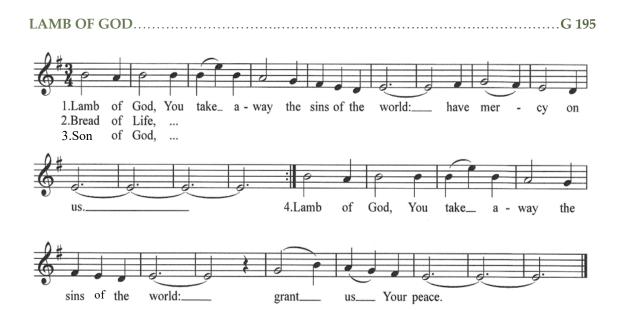
- P Unidos en el Espíritu Santo, oremos como Jesús nos enseñó
- C Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo.
  - Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal.
  - Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder y tuya es la gloria, ahora y siempre. Amén

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P Taste and see that the Lord is good
- C Amen.

#### INVITACIÓN A LA COMUNIÓN

- P Prueben y vean que el Señor es Bueno
- C Amen.



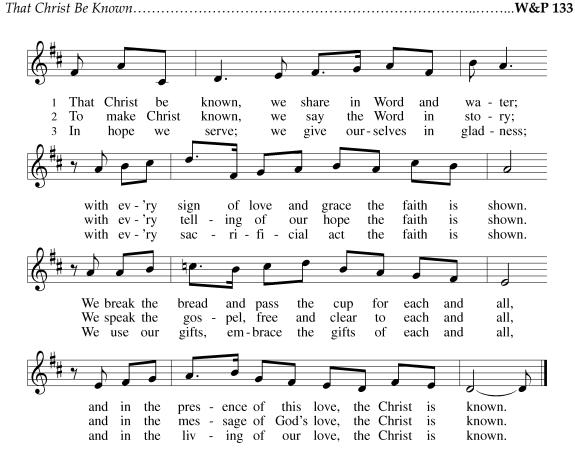
#### **COMMUNION**

- P The body of Christ, given for you.
- C Amen.
- P The blood of Christ, shed for you.
- C Amen.

## COMUNIÓN

- P El cuerpo de Cristo, dado por ti.
- C Amén.
- P La sangre de Cristo, derramada por ti.
- C Amén.

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**



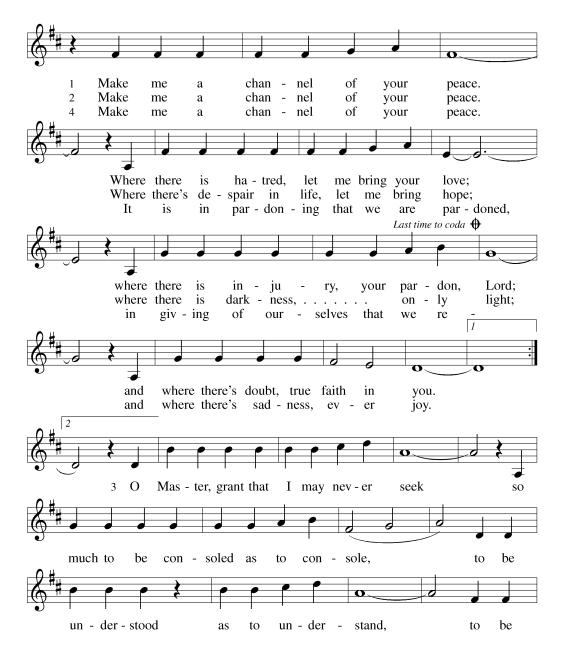
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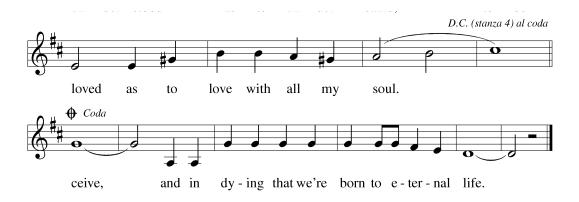
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**COMMUNION HYMN** 

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (1967).....W&P 95





Text: Sebastian Temple Music: PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS, Sebastian Temple

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# PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as you are able

Let us pray.

- A We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

#### BLESSING

- P The holy Three, the holy One increase your hope, strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and + grant you peace.
- C Amen.

# ORACIÓN DESPUÉS DE LA COMUNIÓN Por favor, quedate como eres capaz Oremos.

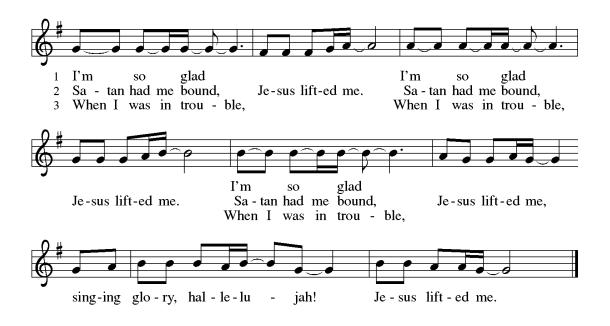
A Te damos gracias, Dios todopoderoso, porque tú nos has renovado con el poder sanador de este don de vida; y te suplicamos que, en tu misericordia, nos fortalezcas por este don, en fe hacia ti y en ferviente amor mutuo; por Jesucristo nuestro Señor.

C Amén

## **BENDICIÓN**

 P Que la Santísima Trinidad, el Santo Dios aumente tu esperanza, fortalezca tu fe, profundice tu amor, y + te conceda su paz.
 C Amén. **SENDING HYMN** 

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me.....ELW 860



Text: African American spiritual Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

#### DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Christ is with you.
- A Thanks be to God

#### DESPEDIDA

- P Vayan en paz. Cristo está con ustedes.
- C Demos gracias a Dios

**POSTLUDE** *Oh, Happy Day....*Philip Doddridge Program Note: *This is the second best-selling gospel recording of all time, recorded in* 1967 by the Edwin Hawkins Singers.

#### PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

Preaching/Presiding Minister	Pastor Mike Gutzler
Assisting Minister	Vicar Allison Vincent-Beckman
Tech Team	Ben French and Jeff Taylor
Musicians	Josh Brown, Director of Music & Cantor
	The Praise Project:
	Greg Bloy, Piano;
	Bill Merkel, Guitar;
	Caleb Merkel, Guitar;
	Brent Stone, Bass;
	Bill Richards, Percussion;
	Jonathan Hill, Saxophone;
	Mark Shoun, Trombone and Piano
	Christus Choir
Lectors	Carrie Haase, Scoutmaster
	Brian Fleck, Assistant Scoutmaster
Greeters	Various Scouts of Troop 140
Offering Presenters	Various Scouts of Troop 140

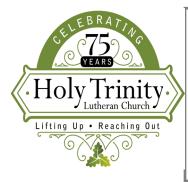
The Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting's Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. Scout Sunday also provides an opportunity to recognize Holy Trinity as our Chartering Organization and to thank the church for providing us meeting and storage space.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Piscataway, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home. **REMEMBER IN PRAYER** - Prayers are appreciated for Joe Anderson, recovering from surgery and for Katie Blomquist's mother, recovering from surgery.

Prayers for strength and comfort for Joanna Forbes and her family as her father's health declines.

Prayers of healing and strength for Kathy Chelsen. (Kathy would appreciate phone calls from HT members. Please contact the HT office for details.).

Prayers also for Joel and Donna Cook (health concerns); Anne Simmons' husband, Rich (liver transplant); and Rita Juhasz (ongoing health concerns).



In 2024, Holy Trinity is celebrating our 75th Anniversary! Each month we will be celebrating a different decade of our history.

**February: The 1960s Our Celebration Team:** Bill Richards, Laura Daugherty, and Sharon Tope

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