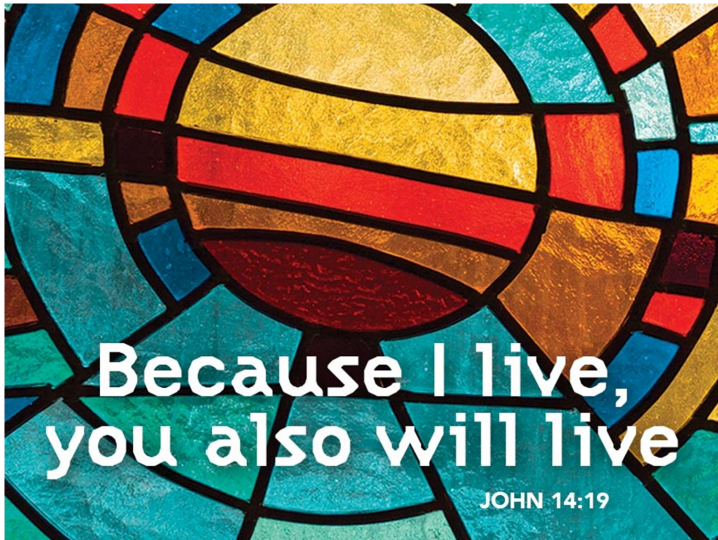


Sixth Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 17, 2020



TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

408 NORTH SIXTH STREET, ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA 16601

(814) 943-3972 | PASTOR HESS (814) 695-8346

E-MAIL OFFICE@TRINITYALTOONA.COM



VISIT TRINITY ONLINE

TrinityAltoona.com | Facebook.com/TrinityAltoona

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Every Member Ministers
Elizabeth Hess Pastor
Ralph Grove Organist
Cindy Finnegan Minister of Music

Lectors

..... 6:30 PM
..... 8:15 AM
..... 10:45 AM

Acolytes

..... 6:30 PM
..... 8:15 AM
..... 10:45 AM

Ushers

..... 6:30 PM
..... 8:15 AM
..... 10:45 AM



Donations from April 19 to May 9: Weekly average is \$2,800.00

A sincere thank you to everyone that has continued to give and for the additional donations during this unprecedented time.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRE-WORSHIP MEDITATION

PASTOR: Let us read together Mark 12:28-31 (the Jesus Rule)

ALL: **Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength. Love your neighbor as yourself.**

PASTOR: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

PRELUDE

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

ENTRANCE HYMN

***GREETING**

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

C **And also with you.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray....

C 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.

FIRST LESSON Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. 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. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he 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, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’

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. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

L The word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)

Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

**Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip. R**

For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

**You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

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

**I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats. R**

Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

**I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

**but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me. **R**

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 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, 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; 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. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for

all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 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. 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, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL John 14:15-21

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the Fourteenth Chapter

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Lord**

FOR THE CHILDREN

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

***APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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**

***PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Each of you shall bring such a gift as he can in proportion to the blessing which the Lord your God has given you" Deuteronomy 16:17

OFFERING

THE PRAYERS

A Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

A Lord in your mercy

C **hear our prayers**

The prayers conclude:

P Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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**

***BENEDICTION**

P The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace

C 
A - men

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of four notes: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on A4. The notes are connected by a slur. Below the staff, the word "A - men" is written, with a small square symbol under the first "A".

***CLOSING HYMN #**

***DISMISSAL**

Mark 12:28-31

C **Love God, Love others.**

***POSTLUDE**

***Congregation Stands**

PRAYER LIST

MEMBERS

Jim Aungst
Ted Baird
Tyler Bennett
Tina Chestney
Church HealthTeam
Church Council
Don Corl
Gary Crownover
Sondra Deffibaugh
Jane Eamigh

Jim Gosnell
Debbie Gracey
Paul Hamilton
Pastor Ralph Hamer Family
Ron Heiss
Kristina Henderson
Dave Hoover
Martha Jones
Janice Knee
Jessica McGraw

Bill McLaughlin
Cindy Murphy
Ken B. Myers
Ray Nycum
Jaden Rhode
Shannon Family
Bill Thompson Jr.
Jasmine Wilkins

SHUT IN MEMBERS

Chris Burda
Ron Green
Ken Kumpf
Marie Laich
Dawn Mangus
Bob Nearhoof
Arlene Roessing
Robert Streightiff

ARMED FORCES

Sarah Brown
Jason Buck
Jim Buchanan
Kyle Eberhart
Nathan Frank
Justin Patz
Jason Smith
Eric Sweet



FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Janet & Charlie Aungst
Scott Aungst
Sandy Badorrec
Deb Bender
Frank Bennett
Kris Bennett
Pat Burk
Dorothy Bush
John Bush
Tracee Cole
Scott Corl
Sandy Daddorek
Jim Deffibaugh
Jordan DeFrancisco
Audrey Deiluliis
Miles Dunkelbarger
Nancy & Bill Filler
Elisie Fogel
Haley Gehret
Dawn George
Amanda Gregg & Daughters
Ann Hanczaryk
Katie Hanczaryk
Charles W. Harpster

Don Haslem
Danielle Hatfield
Dave Hogan
Jack Hoyne
Judy Johnson
Tom Klevan
Pastor John Klingeman
Kaylee Kruise
Lucya Kunkel
Jean Lane
Janelle Lehr
Rauja Lind
Janet Luciano
Sharon Mayers
Barb McConnell
Bob McConnell
Eddie McGee
McGilvery Family
Sharon McKeehan
Vicki Medeiros
Janelle Messner
Denny Miller
Harry Miller, Sr
Moore Family

Morning Family
Debbie Muccitelli
Rudy Muccitelli
Wyatt Nite
Bob Noel
David Orr
Zach Porta
Abby Remendowski
Katie Riggleman
Carl Ruckinger
Michael Ruckinger
Bill Senitko
Melvin Settle
Ronald Settle
C. Richard Shaffer
Harper Sigrist
Denny Sullivan
George Sultage Sr
Robert Thomas Family
Paul Wallis
Mary Walter
James Wilt
Steve Wood

I'LL NOT TURN AWAY

It's all about the relationship of love. Love is the first and the greatest of commandments, according to Jesus. This is the gospel of the Lord!

The two men seemed dissimilar in almost every way: their color, their age, their education and careers, their families and sexuality, the worlds they knew and the lives they had lived. All of it registered as a natural, albeit unconsidered, divide. When circumstances they could never have anticipated brought them together, the two began to accompany one another through years of capsized lives. They walked side by side in body and spirit, carrying along one another's stories, fears, losses, regrets, and joys, each daring to let them slip into his heart. Amid the ebb and flow of seasons, the unlikely companions discovered in one another stories that were their own. Something of each of them was in the other.

Call this grace: the wretched demons of loneliness that had haunted both men stumbled, adrift in the wake of the companions' fellowship.

Still, they knew that parting was ahead. The days of walking, conversing, and trusting the companionship would soon come to an end. So they began to speak of their impending separation in this way: "This is my promise: I'll see you on the other side of this." It was repeated with other words, which always meant "I will not turn away from you." Call this the gospel story.

Grace is found in mystery, when strange circumstances confound expectations. Love is found in experience, when trust is discovered and nurtured. In a form we are not looking for, another—the Advocate, Comforter, Counselor, Spirit—will come to us.

"I will not leave you orphaned," says Jesus. "I am coming to you" (John 14:18). It's all about the relationship of love.

