Fifth Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church & School 8781 Brunswick Road Minocqua, WI 54548

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TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH Minocqua, Wisconsin

Fifth Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024

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Resurrection Reality The Living Lord Produces Active Faith

Generally, our actions are shaped by our beliefs. People who eat low-carb diets do so, probably not because they hate pasta, but because they believe it healthiest. If a man buys stock in a company, it probably is because he believes in their business plan. Our beliefs shape our behavior. We believe that Christ's resurrection means our resurrection to a glorious eternal life is guaranteed. That inevitably shapes how we will act now.

However, it is not simply the facts of the resurrection that shape our behavior. It is the person of the resurrection. Jesus is not some wise, dead sage whose advice is contained in dusty books. Jesus lives! Through his Word, he is able to work on our minds and hearts, molding them to his perfect will. Here is a resurrection reality. Jesus fills us with his Spirit, not only so that we have faith, but also so that we produce the fruits of faith he seeks.

Jesus lives!

Helle W Litteb

Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

Welcome to all—both guest and member alike! May our gracious God fill your heart with joy, peace, and hope through the message of forgiveness in our living Savior, Jesus Christ!

- If you are in need of restrooms, they are located on the left as you leave church.
- Parents please use the welcome center or church fellowship hall to quiet an upset child.
- Please silence all cell phones and devices before worship.
- Please limit your conversations in the sanctuary and narthex.
- Please do use the welcome center to greet one another.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP: SETTING ONE



Text: Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

Tune: Irish

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Please stand.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord. Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY Kyrie

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



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GLORY BE TO GOD



THE WORD

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 4:32-37 (EHV)

In the early church, as the apostles preached the resurrection of Christ, the living Lord produced the fruits or unity and generosity.

³² The whole group of believers was one in heart and soul. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they held everything in common. ³³ The apostles continued to testify about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ with great power, and abundant grace was on all of them. ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them. For from time to time those who were owners of lands or houses sold them, brought the proceeds received from what was sold, ³⁵ and laid it at the apostles' feet. It was distributed to each one according to what anyone needed.

³⁶ Joseph, who was called Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated "son of encouragement"), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, ³⁷ sold a field that belonged to him. He brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 63C



earnestly I / seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being / longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no / water. I have seen you in the sanctu- / ary and beheld your power and your / glory. Refrain Because your love is bet- / ter than life, my lips will glori- / fy you. I will praise you as long / as I live, and in your name I will lift / up my hands. Because you / are my help, I sing in the shadow / of your wings. Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit, as it was in the be- / ginning, is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

Text: Hal H. Hopson Tune: Hal H. Hopson Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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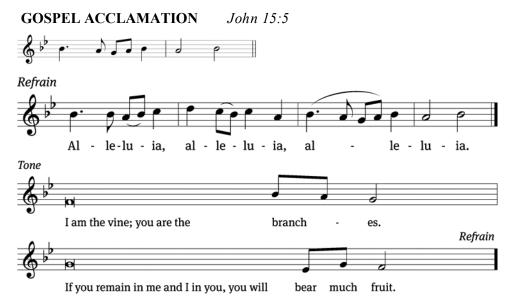
SECOND LESSON

St. John encourages us to demonstrate living faith in loving words and actions.

¹⁸ Dear children, let us love not only with word or with our tongue, but also in action and truth.
¹⁹ This is how we know that we are of the truth and how we will set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰ If our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God. ²² We also receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commands and do what is pleasing in his sight. ²³ This then is his command: that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another just as he commanded us. ²⁴ The one who keeps his commands remains in God and God in him. This is how we know that he remains in us: We know it from the Spirit, whom he has given to us.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.



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Please stand.

GOSPEL

Jesus is the vine who gives us, his branches, the ability to produce fruits of faith.

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit, he is going to cut off. And he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so that it will bear more fruit.³ "You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.⁴ Remain in me, and I am going to remain in you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Likewise, you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ "I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him is the one who bears much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers. Such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this: that you continue to bear much fruit and prove to be my disciples.

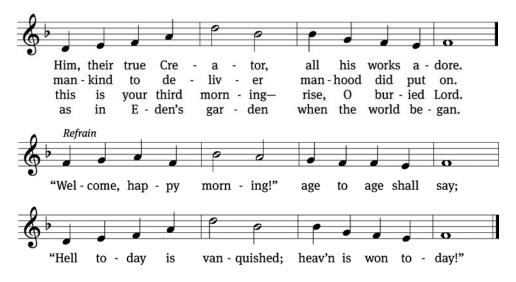
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"Wel - come, hap - py morn - ing!" age shall sav: 1 age to Mak - er Re deem - er, life and health of all, 2 and Source of all things liv - ing, you came down to die. 3 Free the souls long pris - oned. bound with Sa - tan's chain: 4 0 "Hell to - dav!" to - day van - quished; heav'n is is won God from heav'n be - hold - ing na-ture's fall, hu - man plumbed the depths of hell to raise high. us up on all that now is fall raise life a - gain. en to Ð the dead is liv - ing, Lo. God for - ev - er more! of God - head the Fa - ther's vou, the on - ly Son. and faith - ful. come, ful - fill your Come, then, true word: Show your face in bright - ness: shine in ev - 'rv land

HYMN OF THE DAY: 469 "Welcome, Happy Morning"



Text: tr. John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.; Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530–609, abr. Tune: Enchiridion Geistlike Lede und Psalmen, Lübeck, 1545 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Love Without Limits

1 John 3:18-24

Please 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.

Please be seated.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near. **Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

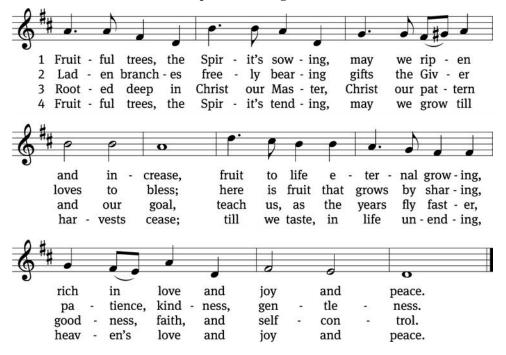
Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again. Amen.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS

Please sign the friendship registers at the ends of the pews during the musical selection.

HYMN: 595 "Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing"



Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, b. 1932

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PRAYER

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.**

Please be seated

CLOSING HYMN: 444 "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"



Text: tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–1897, alt.; Christian F. Gellert, 1715–1769, abr. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

Serving God and Us Today

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Stephen Luchterhand
Organist:	Miss Lynn Schmidt

Last Weekend's Worship Attendance

• 245 (Sunday—219; Monday—26)

Stewardship Encouragement from Scripture

"But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings...Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it" (Malachi 3:9-10).

Lessons for Next Sunday (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

"Rethinking Religion: Jesus' Business is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours"

- Acts 9:36-42
- 1 John 4:7-11, 19-21
- John 15:9-17

Prayers: If you would like your name on the prayer list, or you have a friend you would like to add, please call or e-mail the church office.

Offerings: You may leave your offering in the basket as you walk out today. You may continue to mail in your offering, give online at www.trinityminocqua.org, or on the Vanco Mobile app. On the app, search for Trinity Evangelical Lutheran or search for Minocqua.

Meditations: Copies of the latest edition of *Meditations* are still available on the table in the fellowship hall and in the rack in the welcome center. This copy began March 3 and goes through June 1. Each booklet is \$3.00.

Highway Cleanup: We will conduct our annual highway clean-up along Hwy 47 on Wednesday, May 1 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Come early (5:30 p.m.) for a pizza supper! We're inviting our High School Youth Group and 8th graders (incoming high schoolers) to help complete this cleanup. However, we need several adults to help with transportation and cleanup as well. Please contact Pastor Luchterhand if you are willing and able to join us.

Trinity Fish Fry Social: Trinity Lutheran Church & School adults are invited to attend a fish fry at the Norwood Pines in Minocqua on Friday May 3rd. Seatings will be offered at 5:30 pm and another round at approximately 7:00 pm. You will be able to order what you wish and pay via separate checks. **Please RSVP to Matt Kock via phone or text at 715-892-3712 by May 2nd.** Hoping that many of you will be able to attend – great opportunity to interact with others from the church and school family in a social setting!

Book Club: Our next Book Club meeting will be on Tuesday, May 21, from 12:00-1:00 pm. We will discuss the book, "In for a Penny" by Kelsey Brown and Nancy Naigle. Join us!

Trinity Seedlings: Trinity Seedlings will meet for the final time this school year, this Friday, May 3 from 8:30-9:30 am in the school library. This program for children ages 1-3 to come and learn about Jesus. We invite any family who has a 1-3 year old to join us. Invite If you have any questions, please contact Sue Ziebart.

Entertainment Evening: The students of Trinity Lutheran School will be performing "It's Saturday!" for their upcoming Entertainment Evening. It will be held on Friday, May 10 at 6:00 pm. Refreshments will be served following the play. All are invited to attend and support our Trinity students.

Property Maintenance Updates and Funding: The shingled roofs on the church and school gym were recently replaced due to insurance reasons. Also, the parsonage needs some significant repairs for which we are awaiting quotes. These expenses were unplanned and we do not have room in our operating budget to include them. We ask that you prayerfully consider supporting these projects beyond your normal offering. Donations can be made to the Building By God's Grace Fund, which is dedicated to additional property management needs such as these.

	Opportunities to Gr	ow & Serve at Trinity This Week
Sunday	9:00 am	Worship
·	10:30 am	Bible Class & Sunday School
Monday	6:30 pm	Worship
Wednesday	8:15 am	Midweek Chapel
•	9:30 am	Quilters
	12:15 pm	Lunch Break Bible Class
	4:00 pm	Public School Confirmation & Bible History
	5:30 pm	Pizza Dinner for Highway Clean Up
	6:00-8:00 pm	Highway Clean Up
Friday	8:30-9:30 am	Trinity Seedlings
·	5:30 & 7:00 pm	Fish Fry Social at Norwood Pines
Sunday	9:00 am	Worship w/Holy Communion
	10:30 am	Bible Class & Sunday School
Monday	6:30 pm	Worship w/Holy Communion

Hymns and liturgy: Reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net #A-712324 and CCLI #3208360. The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version[®] (EHV[®]) copyright © 2018 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. www.wartburgproject.org Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. **Trinity, Wabeno—125 Years of Grace:** Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wabeno, WI will be holding an anniversary service on May 19th at 2:00 PM. You are invited to join your brothers and sisters in Christ to hear God's Word and give Him thanks for 125 years of grace. Reverend Kevin Westra of Hortonville, WI will serve as the anniversary preacher. A meal will be served following the service.

St. John, Phelps—75th Anniversary: The members of St. John Lutheran Church in Phelps, invite you to join them in giving thanks and glory to God for 75 years of gospel ministry in our congregation and community. Two special worship services will be held: Sunday, June 2, with worship at 9:00am and a brief reception to follow and Sunday, August 4 with an outdoor worship at 9:00 am at Wavering Park and an anniversary meal to follow.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Easter season finds us working through the theme: "Resurrection Reality"

- May 5/6 = **Resurrection Reality: Jesus' Business is Love; Therefore, So Is Ours** Sermon Text: 1 John 4:7-14 Sermon Theme: "The Cross Proves God's Love"
- May 12/13 = Resurrection Reality: Christ's Ascension Means He Is Closer Than Ever Sermon Text: Luke 24:44-53 Sermon Theme: "Ascension Matters"
- May 19/20 = Resurrection Reality: Christ Has Not Left Us Alone (Pentecost/ Confirmation Sunday) Sermon Text: Ezekiel 37:1-14 Sermon Theme: "Dry Bones, Spirit's Breath"

Worship Online: Sunday worship is recorded and posted online at our church website. You can also find the worship folder and a printed copy of the sermon there. Printed copies of each week's sermon can also be found in the Fellowship Hall. Find us on *YouTube*[©] by searching the handle *@trinityminocqua*. Please subscribe and share! We're streaming our Sunday services live!

Bible study opportunities:

- Wednesday "Lunch Break" Bible study (Wednesday, 12-15 1:15 p.m.) "The Book of Judges: God's Grace in the Midst of Disorder"
- **Pastor's "Wednesday Encouragement" blog**, continues to be found on Trinity's Facebook page and on our church website. You can also have this devotion sent to your email each Wednesday.
- Sunday Bible Study (and Sunday School) Sunday School is for children PreK3 through 4th grade. Adult Bible Study continues with "Christ: He Is My Lord." Today, we'll continue in the truth that Christ is both God and Man. Come, join us for study and discussion and application.

Ministry Updates:

- **Trinity Book Club** meets Tuesday, May 21st, from 12-1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The group will be discussing "In for a Penny" by Kelsey Browning and Nancy Naigle.
- **Highway Cleanup** is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1st, from 6-8 p.m. High schoolers are involved, as are some adult chaperones. Join us! Pizza supper available beforehand.
- Summer VBS will be a one day event: "Camp Compassion." Saturday, July 27th. Stay tuned for more details and ways to be involved!
- Be sure to follow Trinity on Facebook. We're sharing content several days each week. The Wednesday blog post can be accessed in three ways (church website, Facebook, email from church office). You can follow our "Where's Marty?" campaign on Facebook and on Instagram at... trinitylutheranminocqua.

God keep you and yours in his gracious care,

Hele We Little

Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

Love Without Limits Sermon Notes on 1 John 3:18-24 Series – Resurrection Reality

Hallmark Holidays...

1.	Th	e gift of		
	A.			
		1) Our us		
		2) God is than our		
		3) Look to the		
	B.			
		1) Look to,, the		
		2) Is there you need to?		
2.		is more than just		
	A.	God's is in (1 Corinthians 13:4-8a)		
	B.	Genuine and		
		1) Don't		
		2) Don't throw, but get and		

Love one another...



Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) www.wels.net

Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:00 am Mondays at 6:30 pm Pastor Rev. Stephen Luchterhand Cell: (602) 377-0940 Email: stephenluchterhand@gmail.com

> Visitation Pastor Rev. Glenn Schwanke Cell: (906) 869-6101 Email: yooperrev@gmail.com



Welcome to Trinity

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. If you have any questions during your time with us today, please ask an usher for assistance. If you would like to know more about our church, our teachings, our Christian school (grades K-8), our preschool (3-4 year old) or the studies and programs offered at Trinity, please introduce yourself to our pastor. He would be delighted to speak with you and serve you in whatever way he can.

"Our mission at Trinity Lutheran Church is to teach the Word of God, to train believers for lives of Christian service, and to tell the good news of Jesus Christ to the Northwoods community and to the world."

