



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
www.trinitylutheran.ca

June 15, 2025
Trinity Sunday

Announcements

Juice boxes are still needed at Street Help Shelter. The Welcome Centre Shelter for Women needs granola bars, fruit rollup-type items and another snack item for snack packs for children at the centre. Please leave donated items on the table in the Narthex.

New socks are being collected for the Downtown Mission on an on-going basis. Bring them to a Sunday service or call the office to arrange a drop-off.

Coming Up

Wednesday Café takes place on Wednesday. Come have coffee with the pastor and anyone else who happens by. Coffee, tea and juice will be available during these times of fellowship and conversation. The Café takes place from 10-11:30 a.m. in front of the main entrance (or in the Narthex if it's raining). The café is planned to run for the summer, but if successful it could be offered year-round. Come, have a chat and a nosh.

Also Happening

June 22 – Healing & Belonging Service

July 12 – Clothing Giveaway, 10 a.m – 2 p.m.

We Remember in our Prayers

In Residence: Cordelle

Members: Bunny, Donna, Ed, Joan, Susan, Connie, Brenda

Friends & Family: Anna, Asdis, Dot, Jean, Ken, Randy, Roger, Rose, Jeff

Introduction to the day

“O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!” Today we celebrate the holy Trinity. Paul writes that through Jesus we have peace with God, whose love pours into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, giving us lasting hope. We celebrate the gracious One-in-Three, eternal Three-in-One, as we worship in community; as we share water and word, bread and wine; and as we bring God’s love and hope to our neighbours.

Hymns

ELW #875 Praise, praise, praise the
Lord

ELW #412 Come, join the dance of
Trinity

ELW #414 Holy God, we praise your
name

ELW #673 God, whose almighty word

Prayer of the day

Almighty Creator and ever-living God:
we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-
One, and we praise your power,
majestic One-in-Three. Keep us
steadfast in this faith, defend us in all
adversity, and bring us at last into your
presence, where you live in endless joy
and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

AMEN

First reading Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

¹ Does not wisdom call,
and does not understanding raise
her voice?

² On the heights, beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her
stand;

³ beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she
cries out:

⁴ "To you, O people, I call,
and my cry is to all that live.

²² The LORD created me at the



beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.

²³ Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of
the earth.

²⁴ When there were no depths I was
brought forth,
when there were no springs
abounding with water.

²⁵ Before the mountains had been
shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth

—
²⁶ when he had not yet made earth
and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.

²⁷ When he established the heavens, I
was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of
the deep,

²⁸ when he made firm the skies
above,

when he established the fountains
of the deep,
²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its
limit,
so that the waters might not
transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations
of the earth,
³⁰ then I was beside him, like a
master worker;
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,
³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.”

Psalm: 8

¹ O | LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in | all
the earth!—
² you whose glory is chanted above
the heavens out of the mouths of in- |
fants and children;
you have set up a fortress against
your enemies, to silence the foe | and
avenger.
³ When I consider your heavens, the
work | of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have
set | in their courses,
⁴ what are mere mortals that you
should be mind- | ful of them,
human beings that you should |
care for them?
⁵ Yet you have made them little less |
than divine;
with glory and hon- | our you crown
them.

⁶ You have made them rule over the
works | of your hands;
you have put all things un- | der
their feet:
⁷ all | flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts | of the field,
⁸ the birds of the air, the fish | of the
sea,
and whatever passes along the
paths | of the sea.
⁹ O | LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in | all
the earth!



Second reading: Romans 5:1-5

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by
faith, we have peace with God through
our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom
we have obtained access to this grace in
which we stand; and we boast in our
hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And
not only that, but we also boast in our

sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Gospel: John 16: 12-15

[Jesus said,] ¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

Sermon

Pour out love

The peace that comes through grace be with you this day and always

Trinity Sunday is when Jesus invites listeners to consider and marvel at the full expansive nature of God.

We heard Jesus tell the disciples in the room the three parts of the Triune God ... Father ... Jesus ... Spirit. Father ... Son ... and Holy Ghost in the Trinity lingo of our childhoods.

Finer preaching scholars than I offer sermon writers the instruction ... DO NOT EXPLAIN THE TRINITY!

They warn of the possibility of biblical heresy because no one ever gets it right ... because we aren't meant to fully comprehend the concept of God as the great one-in-three and the three-in-one.

Of course, some do not take the advice.

There is a video on YouTube entitled: “The TRINITY Explained Without Confusion - Finally Understand God!”

In about five minutes, you can comprehend the wonder of the Triune God. And ... since it's on the Internet ... you know that it must be true.

I just hope they avoided any heresy along the way.

It would seem that accepting that we cannot adequately understand the Trinity ... the Internet notwithstanding ... calls for some faith.

So, rather than commit a little heresy ourselves ... perhaps, we can accept that there are some things we cannot fully ... or even partially ... understand.

In an age when information is at our fingertips and when we want all the answers so we can master something fully and completely before we move on ... accepting such a limitation is hard and requires us to linger awhile. But it seems more prudent than to claim to understand God.

What might be better for us to consider on Trinity Sunday is WHAT Jesus' lesson calls us toward ... or HOW God is made known in the world through the Trinity.

For the past several weeks, we have witnessed how John's gospel unfolds Jesus' nature to the disciples ... and to us ... in bits and pieces ... keeping the disciples interested as they continually try to figure things out.

Jesus performed abundant miracles wherever he went during his three years with the disciples.

Just to mention a few: he turned water into wine at a wedding festival, he calmed a storm to save his disciples who were in a boat, he fed a hungry crowd of five thousand, he healed the sick and raised Lazarus from the grave.

Through it all, we see a God who loves all of us and wants to be known by us.

Now, in that room, he offers last instructions to the disciples before he begins the final journey to the cross and tomb.

In the room, Jesus shares a meal with the disciples ... Jesus has modelled humble service by washing their feet ... he has foretold the betrayal and denial by two of their number ... given them a new commandment ... and has foretold his departure.

But three years of teaching and ministry isn't enough for him to explain everything they need to understand. More will come to them.

The Trinity acts in such a way that it is the constant unfolding of God's promises that go beyond time and space.

Jesus' words to the disciples in that room ... and to the disciples who follow

... are part of the constant unfolding of what Jesus is about.

You can almost hear Jesus say: "But wait there's more ... you're not done yet."

God's revelation of God's self was not complete.

Jesus seems to be saying to his disciples: "But there is so much for you — and for those who will follow in your footsteps — to learn about God and God's will for humanity. But it is simply too much for you to bear, now, all at once.

"And so, I will send the Holy Spirit, who will teach you and guide you into a fuller, deeper understanding of God's truth." (Bishop Gene Robinson)

Jesus says that Spirit will guide them into all truth and speak for him ... that all that the Father has is Jesus' and the Spirit will that a declare it to the disciples. The Spirit will not speak on its own, and will be carried within their hearts.

Jesus wants to calm the disciples' fears and comfort them in their grief over his departure ... he wants them to know that through the Spirit ... he will remain an abiding presence in their lives.

The gift of the Trinity is that the disciples will not be left alone ... that the community can continue even after Jesus has gone ... as long as they continue to forge and keep relationships ... as long as they love.

Jesus tells the disciples that the Spirit will make visible the presence of God ... that the Spirit will glorify Jesus ... and

God ... by declaring Jesus' words to the disciples and through them to the world.

John's gospel presents a God who wants to know us ... and to be made known to the world.

Lutheran professor Karoline Lewis describes the Trinity as:

"The way in which we speak about the visibility of God ... of how we experience God."

The way the disciples experience God will change and how people will experience God will change following the resurrection and the appearance of the Spirit.

This is what Paul offers in this portion of his letter to the Romans this morning.

This passage was one of those that set Martin Luther on his path that led him from the Catholic church and the practices that he believed went against God's intent.

Paul tells the listeners in Rome of God's plan for salvation stretches from Abraham to Jesus.

The Apostle tells them that redemption is the work of God ... and only God. There is nothing they ... or we ... can do to earn the gift of redemption ... of grace ... other than having trust in God and faith in his Son, Jesus.

Regardless of what we do ... we have received grace. Regardless of whatever works we perform ... we don't receive more grace.

Grace is what frees us ... to serve others as an act of love not as an act of obligation or self-interest.

In that grace, Paul says, we hope to share the glory of God ... when we fully and deeply love others that is when God is glorified.

Spirit as a wellspring of God's love ... poured into our hearts to guide us in our relationships with and in the world. In this love, people find hope.

To properly discern the Spirit, requires that love is at the centre of our lives. Love becomes the mark of our right actions ... love then ... through such actions ... leads us to peace ... both in our hearts and in the world.

The Spirit ... the Advocate ... the final part of the Trinity ... is what interprets grace for us. Through the Spirit, God remains active in the world ... through the disciples.

How do we make God knowable to the world ... how are we part of the continual process of the unfolding of Jesus' nature and desires for humanity?

If the Spirit of Truth is the Spirit of discernment ... interpreting God's call for us.

To Jesus in John's gospel, that truth is love.

To Paul, that truth is the mark of a new creation ... the reconciliation of peoples and with God.

Love comforts the afflicted and fearful ... it carries hope within it ... it brings mercy and forgiveness.

It helps people endure because it gives them a glimpse of a different way of living.

Earlier, Paul tells the Romans that “God gathers his love into us.” That ... says Paul ... is the Spirit at work.

Love is God’s promise and call to us.

In love, God promises that we will not be left alone ... that God has not left us alone to face the whims and capricious nature of the world.

In love ... there is hope ... in love we are called ... to pour out the contents of our hearts ... to work for justice and mercy ... to make the Triune God known ... even if there is more to learn each day.

AMEN

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

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,
and claimed us as children of the light,
strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord’s face shine upon you with

grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favour
and give you + peace.

AMEN



**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCE PROGRAM**

AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize *Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*, 1215 Parent Avenue, Windsor, ON N8X 4J1, to cause a cheque to be drawn on my account, each month as a contribution by me to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, as follows:

Total *monthly* contributions to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of:

_____ (\$ _____ .00) per month
Distributed as follows:

Current Giving/Benevolence \$ _____ per month

Global Hunger and Development Agency (GHDA) \$ _____ per month

Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) \$ _____ per month

ELCIC World Missions/Volunteers in Mission \$ _____ per month

Specify _____ \$ _____ per month

Specify _____ \$ _____ per month

Specify _____ \$ _____ per month

Total Monthly Giving: \$ _____ per month

Contributor's name _____ Envelope # _____

Bank/Trust/Credit Union Name _____

Branch Address: _____

Account Number _____ Type of Account _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

This authority may be changed or cancelled by the contributor at any time.

To ensure accuracy, a sample cheque marked "VOID" must accompany this form.

The transfer of contributions to the ministry of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church will begin in the month *following* receipt of this authorization.