

**Third Sunday of Easter  
May 4, 2025**

Welcome

**P** This is the day that the Lord has made!

**C** Let us rejoice and be glad in it!



Confession and Forgiveness

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

**P** Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

**P** God of grace and glory, **you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

**P** Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves you and ☩ frees you from your sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever! **Amen.**

Praise Songs

*Please stand if you are able*

**Open Our Eyes Lord**

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him.  
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen,

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

*Repeat*

### **Blessing, Honor and Glory**

Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.  
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.  
Death could not hold him down,  
For he is risen, seated upon the throne.  
He is the Lamb of God.

*Repeat*

### Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray together. **Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### The Peace

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

### First Reading *Acts 9:1-6*

*Please be seated*

Meanwhile, Saul was still spewing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest, seeking letters to the synagogues in Damascus. If he found persons who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, these letters would authorize him to take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. During the journey, as he approached Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven encircled him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice asking him, "Saul, Saul, why are you harassing me?"

Saul asked, "Who are you, Lord?" "I am Jesus, whom you are harassing," came the reply. "Now get up and enter the city. You will be told what you must do."

....*The Word of the Lord*

***Thanks be to God.***

### Psalm 30

<sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**

<sup>3</sup>You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

<sup>4</sup>**Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.**

<sup>5</sup>God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy

comes in the morning.

**<sup>6</sup>While I felt secure, I said, “I shall never be disturbed.**

<sup>7</sup>You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.” Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

**<sup>8</sup>I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

<sup>9</sup>“What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

**<sup>10</sup>Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper.”**

<sup>11</sup>You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

**<sup>12</sup>Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

### Second Reading *Revelation 5:11-14*

Then I looked, and I heard the sound of many angels surrounding the throne, the living creatures, and the elders. They numbered in the millions—thousands upon thousands. They said in a loud voice, “Worthy is the slaughtered Lamb to receive power, wealth, wisdom, and might, and honor, glory, and blessing.”

And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea—I heard everything everywhere say, “Blessing, honor, glory, and power belong to the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb forever and always.” Then the four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshipped.

*....The Word of the Lord*

***Thanks be to God.***

### Gospel Verse

*able*

***Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?***

***You have the words of eternal life, alleluia.***

*Please stand as you are*

*The Holy Gospel according to John, the 21st chapter.*

*(sung) Glory to you, O Lord.*

### Gospel *John 21:1-19*

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to

Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught."

So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

....*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*(sung) Praise to you, O Christ.*

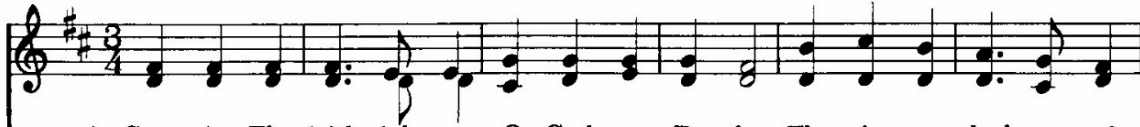
Youth Time

*Please be seated*

Sermon

Hymn *(next page)*

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness 28

*His compassions fail not. They are new every morning. Lam. 3:22, 23*

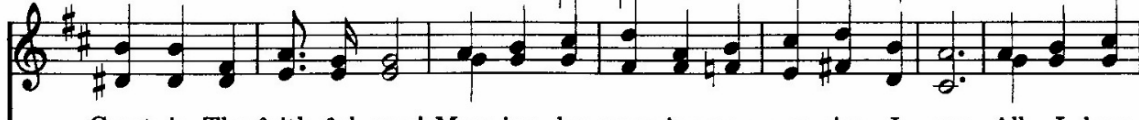
1. Great is Thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther, There is no shad-ow of
2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and springtime and har-vest, Sun, moon and stars in their
3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, Thy own dear pres-ence to



turn - ing with Thee; Thou chang-est not, Thy com - pas-sions they fail not;  
 cours - es a - bove Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit-ness  
 cheer and to guide; Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

*Refrain*

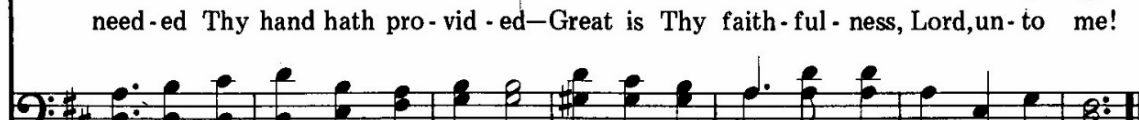
As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love. Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!  
 Bless-ings all mine, with ten thousand be - side!



Great is Thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have



need-ed Thy hand hath pro-vid-ed—Great is Thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!



WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923  
 MUSIC: William M. Runyan, 1923

FAITHFULNESS  
 11.10.11.10 Ref.

### The Apostles' Creed

**A** Let us profess our faith through the words of the Apostles Creed.

**C 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 to the dead. 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.**

### Prayers of the Church

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and streams so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local water sources.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those impacted by war and violence, for our men and women in the armed forces, and for all first responders. We also ask for your blessing on Glenda, Ralph, and Arlen, and for those for whom we now pray, either in our hearts or aloud:

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of TOL, Augustana, Good Shepherd and Pr. Sohail's South Asian worshiping community, and give us courage to share your love for all people beyond our walls.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand as you are able*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn (*sung*):

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray. **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 Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.}*

Communion Song

*Please be seated*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*Communion: Please be seated until the usher directs your row to the communion rail. Please come forward and stand or kneel. If you do not wish to receive communion, please come for a blessing. All who share our confession that Christ is present in the Sacrament are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. If you would like a gluten free wafer, please let Pastor know.*

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Post-Communion Blessing

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

**A** Let us pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

Blessing

**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. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn (next page)

*Please stand as you are able*



## Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

### Dismissal

**A** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**A** Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Liturgical elements: Sundays & Seasons, Augsburg Fortress-License No. SAS026761

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Pastor's Study: 716-836-4990      Email: [pastor\\_tol@verizon.net](mailto:pastor_tol@verizon.net)

Website: [www.trinityoldlutheran.com](http://www.trinityoldlutheran.com)

Music Minister: Don Grabau

Media Minister: Jeff Ward

Today's Worship Assistant: Charlie Schmidtke

Today's Prayer Partner: Velma Achenbach

Today's Ushers: Kelly Barker and Noah Barker

### **Prayers and Announcements**

#### **Prayers**

**Welcome:** We extend a very warm welcome to everyone worshipping with us today. If you are visiting, we are delighted to have you here, and we hope you enjoy your worship time.

**Prayer Partner Ministry:** If you are in need of additional prayer, please come to the Parents' Room in the back of church following worship. Prayers are confidential. Today's prayer partner is Velma Achenbach.

**Offering:** Thank you for your gifts to TOL. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you send your offering through the US mail, please use checks only—please don't mail cash. We also have online giving through [tithely.com](http://tithely.com), which can be accessed through TOL's website ([www.trinityoldlutheran.com](http://www.trinityoldlutheran.com)) or on your smartphone.

**Altar Flowers:** Today's flowers are given to the Glory of God from Sharon Wall in loving memory of her husband Dick on his birthday.

**Mission for May – Justice Center:** The Family Justice Center of Erie County provides services and support to individuals in unhealthy relationships, and provides the education needed to break larger cycles of relationship abuse. Their comprehensive service model tears down barriers to service, enabling clients to heal and cultivate hope. Please donate through [tithely.com](http://tithely.com), or place your donations in an envelope (located in the narthex) or mail your check to the church office. Indicate on your check that it is designated for Family Justice Center. Thank you.

**Pastor Fred on Vacation:** Pr. Fred and Anne will be on vacation Thursday, May 8 through Saturday, May 17. During that time, if you are in need of pastoral care, please contact Rev. Johanna Andritz at 716-870-8518.

**Coffee Hour:** Please join us in the Fireside Lounge for a coffee hour **following the worship service today**. All are welcome!

**Grief Support Meeting at TOL:** For those who have experienced the death of a child or grandchild. We meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month, next on **Tuesday, May 6**. The meetings begin at 10 am until 11:30.

**Women's Luncheon Group:** We will meet this **Thursday, May 8** at 12:30 pm at Buffalo Olde Brewery, 1221 E. Lovejoy, Buffalo. If you need a ride, please contact Judy Menz at 716-435-6077 or Barb Maugans at 716-692-8116. All are invited!

**Guest Speaker Night:** The Women's Group is inviting everyone to join us here at TOL on **Tuesday, May 13** at 7 pm. Charlie Schmidtke will be our guest speaker, and he will talk about the "Myths and Realities of Aging." In lieu of a Men's Breakfast this month, all men are invited to join us at this event, which will be held in the church sanctuary. Come and find out which stereotypes about aging are true and which ones are false!

**Adult Education:** The final class for this semester is on **Monday, May 19 at 1 pm**. The topic is Jesus and Mary Magdelene. **Please contact Charlie Schmidtke if you need a Zoom invite.**

**Sermon Discussion/input:** Meets again on **Wednesday, May 28 at noon**. Please let Pastor Fred know if you are interested in discussing the texts for the next month of sermons.

**Volunteer Evening at Friends of Night People:** Join us for a volunteer evening on **Friday, May 30!** Our volunteers will be serving food, cleaning the dining hall or working in the donation center. If you feel called to serve, please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. For more info, talk to Matt Grabau or check out the info in the May Trinity Tidings. We continue to give thanks to our volunteer teams who prepare and deliver 100 sandwiches each week! You can help the homeless by donating clean clothing, hygiene items, and travel mugs. Please place donations in the blue barrel in the hallway. Thanks!

**Adult Retreat Coming in October:** The annual Adult Retreat will take place at beautiful Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center the weekend of **October 3 - 5**. This year's theme is "Do You Hear What I Hear." There is a display in the narthex with photos and memories of last year's retreat. If you are interested, there is a sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board.

**Augustana Book Club:** For May, we are discussing James: A Novel, by Percival Everett. This story re-imagines The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn from the perspective of Jim, the slave. Gathering at Augustana on **Thursday, May 29** at 7 pm. (Weather permitting, we may meet outside! Bring a chair, if you can.)

**Operation Christmas Child:** The suggested donations for May are washcloths, soap and band-aids. Thank you!

**Book and Puzzle Sale:** Please visit our Book Sale in the Resource Library, which is the first room in the hallway near the main bulletin board. Books and puzzles are always being added, and are available for a fraction of the cost at retail. No cost for the greeting cards available. Proceeds are used for church building interior improvements, such as carpeting, door mats, etc.

***This week's calendar***

<p><i>Please notify the Church Office of any schedule changes, member illness, prayer request, etc., so church staff can respond accordingly. Office hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 am–12 noon.</i></p> <p><i>For a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Fred. For office related matters, please leave a voice mail message or send an email.</i></p>	Sun	5/4	9:30 am 11 am 12 noon 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Coffee Hour Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting
	Mon	5/5	10 am 5:45 pm	OA Meeting Yoga
	Tues	5/6	9 am 10 am 5:45 pm 7 pm 7:30 pm	Sandwich Team #5 Parents' Grief Support Chair Yoga Tri-Church Meeting at Good Shepherd CoDA
	Wed	5/7	5:45 pm 6 pm	Yoga Holy Rest Board Meeting at TOL
	Thurs	5/8	9:30 am 12:30 pm 5:45 pm 7 pm	Yoga Women's Lunch Group Yoga GA Meeting
	Fri	5/9	10 am	South Asian Lutheran Community
	Sat	5/10		
	Sun	5/11	9:30 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting

**Announcements:** If you'd like to submit a bulletin or Tidings announcement, please send to [trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com](mailto:trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com) or call 716-836-4868 by Wednesday morning.

***TOL's Free WiFi and Password:***  
*N7W7y; Password = limp82hewer43dig*



