

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 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

I Worship You, Almighty God

I worship You, Almighty God, there is none like You.

I worship You, O Prince of Peace, that is what I want to do.

I give You praise, for You are my righteousness.

I worship You, Almighty God, there is none like You.

Great is the Lord

Verse

Great is the Lord, He is holy and just,
By His power we trust in His love.
Great is the Lord, He is faithful and true,
By His mercy He proves He is love.

Great is the Lord, and worthy of glory,
Great is the Lord, and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

Repeat Verse

Great are You, Lord, and worthy of glory.
Great are You, Lord, and worthy of praise.
Great are You, Lord, I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice:
Great are You, Lord! Great are You, Lord!

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray together. **O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, 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 11:1-18***

Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’

This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?"

When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

....*The Word of the Lord*

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

³Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

⁴**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,

⁶**who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

⁹mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**

¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

¹²**young men and maidens, old and young together.**

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

....*The Word of the Lord*

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse
able

Please stand if you are

***Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.***

*The Holy Gospel according to John, the 13th chapter.
(sung) **Glory to you, O Lord.***

Gospel ***John 13:31-35***

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

...*The Gospel of the Lord*

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

Youth Time

Please be seated

Choir Anthem ***The Heavens Declare***

Sermon

Hymn *(next page)*

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
 2 Your truth un - changed has ev - er stood; you plead with
 3 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
 4 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
 5 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our

life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
 all to call on you; to those who seek you, you are
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
 chang-ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -

parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
 good; to those who find you, life is new.
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
 turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.
 Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

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.

Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Send us forth as signs of your love, and bless the ministries of TOL, Augustana, Good Shepherd and Pr. Sohail's South Asian worshipping community.

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

Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places.

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

Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity.

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

Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness. Wipe away every tear.

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.**

Abide with all who are victims of racism, especially people who are doubly marginalized because of gender, sexuality, or ability. Destroy all forms of systemic oppression, and renew our commitment to healing the wounds of our collective body in this community and beyond.

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

We give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love. Guide us by their example, until we join them in your eternal home.

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

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

Dismissal

A Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

C Thanks be to God.

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

MINISTERS: All the Members of Our Congregation
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Pastor's Study: 716-836-4990 Email: pastor_tol@verizon.net
Website: www.trinityoldlutheran.com
Music Minister: Don Grabau Media Minister: Jeff Ward
Today's Worship Assistant: Lanny Repman
Today's Prayer Partner: Earlene Crocker
Today's Ushers: Kathy and Dan West

Prayers and Announcements

Prayers

Welcome: We extend a very warm welcome to everyone worshiping 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 Earlene Crocker.

Today's Altar Flowers: Are given to the Glory of God from Stephanie Seyse in loving memory of her mother-in-law Donna Pignatora, and from Jenna and Scott Edwards in celebration of Evelyn's birthday.

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 tithe.ly, which can be accessed through TOL's website (www.trinityoldlutheran.com) or on your smartphone.

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 tithe.ly, 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.

Adult Education: The final class for this semester is tomorrow, **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.

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.)

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!

Grief Support Meeting at TOL: For those who have experienced the death of a child or grandchild. We meet the first Tuesday of each month, next on **Tuesday, June 3**. The meetings begin at 10 am until 11:30.

Pizza Party Hosted by WWI: Everyone is invited to join us for a pizza party in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, June 8** following our worship service. Please sign up on the main bulletin board.

Women's Luncheon Group: We will meet next on **Thursday, June 12 at 12:30 pm** at Creekview Restaurant, 5629 Main Street, Williamsville. If you need a ride, please contact Judy Menz at 716-435-6077 or Barb Maugans at 716-692-8116. All are invited!

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.

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

<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. For a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Fred. For office related matters, please leave a voice mail message or send an email.</i>	Sun	5/18	9:30 am 9:45 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Sunday School Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting
	Mon	5/19	10 am 1 pm 5:45 pm	OA Meeting Adult Ed Yoga
	Tues	5/20	9 am 5:45 pm 7:30 pm	Sandwich Team #2 Chair Yoga CoDA
	Wed	5/21	5:45 pm	Yoga
	Thurs	5/22	9:30 am 5:45 pm 7 pm	Yoga Yoga GA Meeting
	Fri	5/23	10 am 6 pm	South Asian Lutheran Community Girl Scouts
	Sat	5/24	4 pm	South Asian Worship Service
	Sun	5/25	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 or call 716-836-4868 by Wednesday morning.*

TOL's Free WiFi and Password:

N7W7y; Password = limp82hewer43dig



