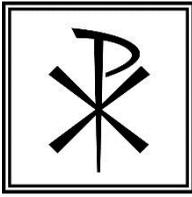




**Trinity Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
of Abita Springs, Louisiana**

**Third Sunday of Easter**  
*April 30, 2017 — Heaven is My Home*



# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

*Abita Springs, Louisiana*

*The mission of Trinity Lutheran Church is to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and to go and share the good news of Jesus Christ until he returns to take us home.*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

*Welcome! We consider it a privilege to worship the Lord with you this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word. If you are looking for a church home, we are happy to share ours with you. Please come again and worship with us very soon!*

- ❖ **Bring the kids.** Children are always welcome at our worship services. If your child is having a difficult morning, there is a speaker in the Fellowship Hall that will allow you to hear the service.
- ❖ **Restrooms** are located in the Fellowship Hall next door.
- ❖ **Don't feel obligated.** Our members give offerings to the Lord as an expression of thanks for his love. When the offering plate is passed, you're not expected to give an offering; it's your choice. While the offering is gathered, we'll ask you to sign our Friendship Register. Leave any information you're comfortable giving us—we use it simply to thank you for coming and to invite you back.
- ❖ **Make yourself at home.** After our services, we normally join together in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, snacks, and conversation. We'd be honored if you could join us!

## BEFORE WORSHIP

*As you prepare to worship your Lord today, spend a few quiet moments in prayer before the service. Helpful prayers, including the one below, may be found in the front section of the hymnal, pages 10-11 and 134-139.*

O Lord—our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter—we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy Word. We pray that you open our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of your Word we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus, and grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP THEME

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be. As we live as strangers in a strange place, we remember what things matter and what things are not as important. I'm but a stranger here, heaven is my home.

## SERVING OUR LORD TODAY

**Service Leader:** Pastor Patrick Freese

**Ushers:** Chip Rusich and Lester Palliser

**Music:** Jan Blake

**Fellowship Refreshments:** Potluck

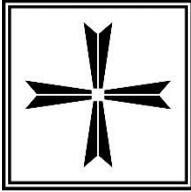
**Church Cleaning:** Bill and Jan Blake

**Church Office:** (985) 892-4880

**Pastor's Cell:** (985) 502-4021

**Pastor's Email:** freesepts@gmail.com

**Trinity's Website:** [www.trinityabita.org](http://www.trinityabita.org)



## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### OPENING HYMN

226

*To Your Temple I Draw Near*

STAND

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me, according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, Whose  
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, And  
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, And  
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might Be to  
5 For the Lamb who was slain Has be -

*Refrain*



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.  
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

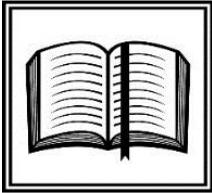
**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*BE SEATED*



## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

**Acts 24:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Five days later the high priest Ananias went down to Caesarea with some of the elders and a lawyer named Tertullus, and they brought their charges against Paul before the governor. <sup>2</sup>When Paul was called in, Tertullus presented his case before Felix: "We have enjoyed a long period of peace under you, and your foresight has brought about reforms in this nation. <sup>3</sup>Everywhere and in every way, most excellent Felix, we acknowledge this with profound gratitude. <sup>4</sup>But in order not to weary you further, I would request that you be kind enough to hear us briefly.

<sup>5</sup>"We have found this man to be a troublemaker, stirring up riots among the Jews all over the world. He is a ringleader of the Nazarene sect <sup>6</sup>and even tried to desecrate the temple; so we seized him. <sup>7</sup> <sup>8</sup>By examining him yourself you will be able to learn the truth about all these charges we are bringing against him."

<sup>9</sup>The Jews joined in the accusation, asserting that these things were true.

<sup>10</sup>When the governor motioned for him to speak, Paul replied: "I know that for a number of years you have been a judge over this nation; so I gladly make my defense.

M: This is the Word of our Lord.

# PSALM OF THE DAY

# Psalm 67

*Refrain*



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.

Let all the peo - ple praise you.

*Psalm tone*



## *Refrain*

May God be gracious to us and **bless** us  
and make his face shine upon us;

may your ways be **known** on earth,  
your salvation among all **nations**.

May the nations be glad and **sing** for joy,  
for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations **of** the earth.

## *Refrain*

Then the land will yield its **harvest**,  
and God, our God, will **bless** us.

God will **bless** us,  
and all the ends of the earth will **fear** him.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the **beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.****

## *Refrain*

## SECOND LESSON

## 1 Peter 1:17-21

<sup>17</sup>Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. <sup>18</sup>For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. <sup>20</sup>He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.

<sup>21</sup>Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

M: This is the Word of our Lord.

### VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia. (Luke 24:32)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

<sup>13</sup>Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup>As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; <sup>16</sup>but they were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup>He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup>One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

<sup>19</sup>"What things?" he asked. "

About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup>The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup>but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. <sup>22</sup>In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup>but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."

<sup>25</sup>He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup>Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup>And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

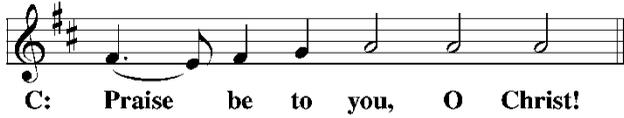
<sup>28</sup>As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

<sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

<sup>33</sup>They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together <sup>34</sup>and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." <sup>35</sup>Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



**BE SEATED**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**417**

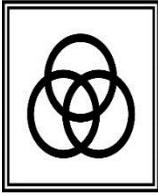
*I'm But a Stranger Here*

**SERMON**

**1 Peter 1:17-21**

*Heaven is My Home*

**STAND**



## THE 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.**

*BE SEATED*

## THANKSGIVING

### THE OFFERING

*Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.*

*STAND*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### 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.

*BE SEATED*

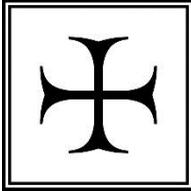
### PRAYER HYMN

*Welcome, Happy Morning*

163

STAND

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## WE DEPART WITH THE LORD'S BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



BE SEATED

**CLOSING HYMN**  
*Go, My Children, With My Blessing*

332

**THIS WEEK AT TRINITY**

**TODAY (April 30, 2017)**

10:00 am	Worship
11:00 am	Potluck

**MONDAY (May 1, 2017)**

No Catechism, Circuit Meeting

**WEDNESDAY (May 3, 2017)**

7:00 am	Men's Group
7:00 pm	Midweek Bible Class

**THURSDAY (May 4, 2017)**

6:00 pm	Hope <sup>2</sup> Life Coaching Class (ages 15-19)
7:30 pm	Hope <sup>2</sup> Life Coaching Class (ages 20 and up)

**FRIDAY (May 5, 2017)**

5:00 pm	Crawfish Boil
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**NEXT SUNDAY (May 7, 2017)**

9:00 am	Bible Information Class
10:00 am	Worship
11:00 am	Bible Class/Fellowship

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE LAST WEEK (April 23, 2017)

Sunday Worship	42
Sunday Offering	\$1,258.00
2017 Weekly Goal	\$1,770.00

*"Praise the Lord, and forget not all his benefits" Psalm 103:2*

## SERVING OUR LORD NEXT WEEK (May 7, 2017)

**Service Leader:** Pastor Patrick Freese

**Communion Assistant:** Dave Schwefel

**Ushers:** Grant Closson and John Filipowicz

**Greeter:** John Filipowicz

**Music:** Jan Blake

**Fellowship Refreshments:** Jan Blake

**Church Cleaning:** Les and Karen Palliser

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **Welcome to guests and visitors!** We are glad that you are here and hope that you will join us again soon. If you have any questions about anything Trinity related, feel free to contact Pastor Freese at freesepts@gmail or (985) 502-4021.
- ❖ **2017 at Trinity:** As we look forward to this new year, we also take a look back at our roots. This year marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the nailing of the 95 Theses by Martin Luther. This year we will explore our Lutheran identity while we also look forward to the future.
- ❖ **Hope<sup>2</sup> Life Coaching at Trinity:** Trinity is hosting Hope<sup>2</sup> Life Coaching beginning this Thursday, May 4 through June 1. Ages 15-19 will meet from 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm. Ages 20 and up will meet from 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm. If you're looking to improve communication skills, positive decision making, overcome obstacles in life, improve self-esteem, or improve your planning, this is the course for you. For more information, contact Indelethio Nebeker at 985-630-4102 or indy.nebeker@gmail.com.

- ❖ **Crawfish Boil:** Our annual Crawfish Boil will be held on Friday evening, May 5<sup>th</sup>. You can start arriving around 5:00 pm. If you're interested in joining us please RSVP on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in front of the church.
- ❖ **Save the Date:** Our Vacation Bible School will be held on July 17-21 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Children ages 3-11 are welcome to join us as we marvel at how our God is a Mighty Fortress.
- ❖ **Church Cleaning:** Are you looking for an opportunity for service at Trinity? If so, you can help Trinity by volunteering to clean the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. A suggested list of cleaning instructions is posted in the Sacristy. Cleaning supplies are provided in the Fellowship Hall pantry. If you would like to help clean, there is a sign-up sheet located at the entrance of the church. Contact: Karen Palliser.
- ❖ **Midweek Bible Class:** You know 10 Commandments are important, but do you know the 10 Commandments? If you don't, this class will be a great opportunity to the 10 Commandments and how they apply to your life. If you do know the 10 Commandments, this will still be a great opportunity to review these important truths. This study will meet Wednesday nights though April and May.
- ❖ **Stain Glass Window Update:** Trinity invites you to participate in our stain glass window renovation. Offering envelopes toward the stain glass window project have been distributed in the mailboxes located at the entrance of the church. Please prayerfully consider donating toward this effort, over and above your regular offerings. An \$800 donation would restore a complete window. Smaller donations add up.

Phase 1 has been completed. Take a look at the north and south windows to see the work that was done. Phase 2 work is envisioned to begin around July 2017.

<b>Total Cost for Phase 2:</b>	\$6,186.90
<b>Contributions from Individual gifts:</b>	\$3,292.23
<b>Remaining Cost for Phase 2:</b>	\$2,894.67