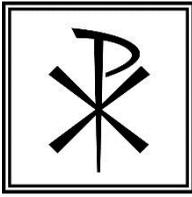




**Trinity Evangelical
Lutheran Church
of Abita Springs, Louisiana**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2017 — Risen to Free Us from Ignorance



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

Jesus does not want to be the world's best kept secret. He wants everyone to know that he is their only hope. Yet, it is easy to be ignorant. This ignorance does not only impact non-Christians. We see this ignorance on display from the sins in our lives. Jesus lives, and he lives to free us from ignorance.

SERVING OUR LORD TODAY

Service Leader: Les Palliser

Sermon Reader: Bill Blake

Ushers: Bill Blake and Chip Rusich

Greeter: John Filipowicz

Music: Jan Blake

Fellowship Refreshments: Anya Nebeker

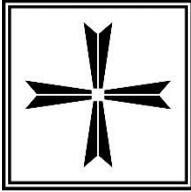
Church Cleaning: Regina Benton

Church Office: (985) 892-4880

Pastor's Cell: (985) 502-4021

Pastor's Email: freesepts@gmail.com

Trinity's Website: www.trinityabita.org



SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

Just as I Am, Without One Plea

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STAND

L: 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

L: 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.**

L: 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.**

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

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-tory 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 - ing 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-tory for our God,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

Father of lights, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Inspire us to think those things that are true and long for those things that are good, that we may always make our petitions according to your gracious will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. ²⁵And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. ²⁶From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. ²⁷God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

²⁹"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone-- an image made by man's design and skill. ³⁰In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 66

Read Responsively

L: Shout with joy to God, all the earth!

C: **Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious!**

L: Praise our God, O peoples,

C: **let the sound of his praise be heard.**

L: He has preserved our lives

C: **and kept our feet from slipping.**

L: Come and listen, all you who fear God;

C: **let me tell you what he has done for me.**

L: If I had cherished sin in my heart,

C: **the Lord would not have listened;**

L: but God has surely listened

C: **and heard my voice in prayer.**

C: **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.**

SECOND LESSON

1 John 3:13-18

¹³Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. ¹⁴We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. ¹⁵Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.

¹⁶This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. ¹⁷If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia. (John 14:23)



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

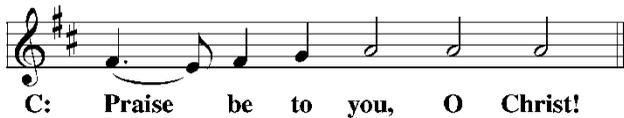
THE GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

¹⁵"If you love me, you will obey what I command. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-- ¹⁷the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY

343

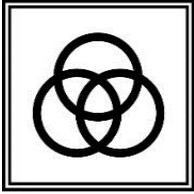
Christ Is the World's Light

SERMON

Acts 17:22-31

Risen to Free Us from Ignorance

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

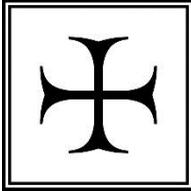
PRAYER HYMN

Take the World, But Give Me Jesus

355

STAND

L: 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

L: 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
Blessed Are They, Forever Blest

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THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

TODAY (May 21, 2017)

10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Refreshments

MONDAY (May 22, 2017)

5:30 pm Catechism

WEDNESDAY (May 24, 2017)

7:00 pm Midweek Bible Class

THURSDAY (May 25, 2017)

7:30 pm Hope² Life Coaching Class (ages 20 and up)

NEXT SUNDAY (May 28, 2017)

9:00 am Bible Information Class
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Potluck

SERVING OUR LORD NEXT WEEK (May 28, 2017)

Service Leader: Pastor Patrick Freese
Ushers: John Filipowicz and Eric Schwefel
Greeter: John Filipowicz
Music: Jan Blake
Fellowship Refreshments: Potluck
Church Cleaning: Regina Benton

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 500th 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.
- ❖ **Pastor Freese on Vacation:** Pastor Freese is returning from vacation this evening. If you have an emergency that requires pastoral assistance, Pastor David Sternhagen has made himself available. You can reach him at (504) 259-9862.
- ❖ **Hope² Life Coaching at Trinity:** Trinity is hosting Hope² Life Coaching every Thursday evening from May 4 through June 1. The class for ages 20 and above meets 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.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **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 study 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 meets on Wednesday nights.
- ❖ **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.

- ❖ **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.

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

