Trinity Sunday June 7th / June 8th 2020

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Welcome to Trinity!

We're glad you're here to worship!

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Tesch (715-587-8521) or Principal Danell (715-732-2956) They will be happy to hear from you.

Hymn: 195 vv.1,3,4 (Holly, Holly, Holy! Lord God Almighty)

Confession of Sins:

P: 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.

Assurance of Forgiveness

P: 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.

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God and Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, filling and renewing all creation by your eternal Spirit, and manifesting your saving grace through our Lord Jesus Christ: in mercy cleanse our hearts and lips that, free from doubt and fear, we may ever worship you, one true immortal God, with your Son and the Holy Spirit.

Old Testament Lesson

If you've ever had any doubt whether or not God is in control, go back to Genesis One. Not only is God in control, he's the only One who can be! Everything that exists was his idea. He designed it. He created it. He arranged it all to work together. We marvel at God's imagination and his organization. God thought of everything! It was perfect!

And then he gave it to us for our perfect home.

It's not perfect anymore. God's perfect order has been distorted into disorder. Instead of love for people, there is anger and hatred. Instead of caring for God's creation, there is waste and abuse. Instead of the world's working perfectly together to make a perfect home, there are parts of creation that are dangerous. Microbes can be dangerous. Chemicals can be dangerous. People can be dangerous.

Sin ruins everything.

Let's go back to our Heavenly Father. Let's witness his power again in creation. Then, let's drop to our knees in worship because he used that power to rescue us.

Let's contemplate His Son, our Savior. He sacrificed everything to fix what sin broke. Then, let's raise our voices in praise.

Let's seek out the Holy Spirit. He works through Word and sacrament to call, enlighten, sanctify and keep us in the true faith. Then, let's live according to it.

Let's be amazed again at God's creativity and generosity. Let's remember the home that he created just for us. Let's delight in his bringing us back into his family. Then, let's live for him.

Let's take care of his creation, love people as he loves us, and life according the faith he gave us.

Genesis 1:1-2:3 (EHV)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was undeveloped and empty. Darkness covered the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

³ God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good. He separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." There was evening and there was morning—the first day.

⁶ God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters, and let it separate the water from the water." ⁷ God made the expanse, and he separated the water that was below the expanse from the water that was

above the expanse, and it was so. ⁸ God called the expanse "sky." There was evening and there was morning—the second day.

⁹ God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together to one place, and let the dry land appear," and it was so. The waters under the sky gathered to their own places, and the dry land appeared. ¹⁰ God called the dry ground "land," and the gathering places of the waters he called "seas." God saw that it was good. ¹¹ God said, "Let the earth produce plants—vegetation that produces seed, and trees that bear fruit with its seed in it—each according to its own kind on the earth," and it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth plants, vegetation that produces seed according to its own kind, and trees that bear fruit with its seed in it, each according to its own kind, and God saw that it was good. ¹³ There was evening and there was morning—the third day.

¹⁴ God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to divide the day from the night, and let them serve as markers to indicate seasons, days, and years. ¹⁵ Let them serve as lights in the expanse of the sky to give light to the earth," and it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷ God set these lights in place in the expanse of the sky to provide light for the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ There was evening and there was morning—the fourth day.

²⁰ God said, "Let the waters swarm with living creatures, and let birds and other winged creatures fly above the earth in the open expanse of the sky." ²¹ God created the large sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their own kind, and every winged bird according to its own kind. God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them when he said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the waters of the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ There was evening and there was morning—the fifth day.

²⁴ God said, "Let the earth produce living creatures according to their own kind, livestock, creeping things, and wild animals according to their own kind," and it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals according to their own kind, and the livestock according to their own kind, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its own kind. God saw that it was good.

²⁶ God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that crawls on the earth."

²⁷ God created the man in his own image. In the image of God he created him. Male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ God said, "Look, I have given you every plant that produces seed on the face of the whole earth, and every tree that bears fruit that produces seed. It will be your food. ³⁰ To every animal of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. There was evening and there was morning—the sixth day.

The heavens and the earth were finished, along with everything in them. ² On the seventh day God had finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had been doing. ³ God blessed the seventh day and set it apart as holy, because on it he rested from all his work of creation that he had done.

Gospel Lesson

How should a Christian respond to the riots and the violence that have become so prevalent in our nation?

First, we drop to our knees in worship because we have a Triune God who is big enough to take care of us and our entire world, who is wise enough to establish justice and truth, and is loving enough to do something about it.

Second, we have to recognize the cause of violence, chaos, hatred, and injustice. The cause is sin. There is always plenty of that on all sides. We recognize that sin is always wrong and we condemn it. It doesn't matter which of God's commandments someone wants to break. Sin is always wrong.

Third, we have to resist sitting in judgment on people. It's easy to point fingers one way or another, but God has not called us to judge people outside the church. That's his job. Only God has the information, perspective, and wisdom to judge people anyway.

Finally, we look to God for what to do. What God has commanded us has not changed because the world has not changed. People have not changed. The need for salvation has not changed.

God commands us to rescue people from sin and to heal contaminated hearts. He tells us to accomplish that by using his power. Only God has the power to bring people out of sin and into repentance and forgiveness. Only God's Word can change hatred into love. Only God's Word has the power to reconcile people lost to sin. All authority rests in Christ. Our own power will never be enough.

We've seen the futile efforts of the power of mankind to make the world better. Outside the love of Christ, there is still violence and injustice. There are still wars and rebellion. There always will be.

God wants us to rescue people from sin and bring them into the peace and safety of his presence. That means God's Word and Sacraments. We share the life-changing, peace-giving, reconciliation-making, Gospel in both word and in action. We show people what God's love looks like and then we share his word.

It might seem like a daunting task, but Jesus is always with us. Nothing is impossible with him.

Matthew 26:16-20 (EHV)

¹⁶ The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some hesitated because they were uncertain. ¹⁸ Jesus approached and spoke to them saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and gather disciples from all nations by baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and by teaching them to keep all the instructions I have given you. And surely I am with you always until the end of the age."

Athanasian Creed:

P: Whoever wishes to be saved must, above all else, hold to the true Christian faith.

C: Whoever does not keep this faith pure in all points will certainly perish forever.

P: Now this is the true Christian faith: We worship one God in three persons and three persons in one God,

C: without mixing the persons or dividing the divine being.

P: For each person – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – is distinct,

C: but the deity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one, equal in glory and coeternal in majesty.

P: What the Father is, so is the Son, and so is the Holy Spirit.

C: The Father is uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;

P: the Father is infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;

C: the Father is eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal;

P: yet they are not three who are eternal, but there is one who is eternal,

C: just as they are not three who are uncreated, nor three who are infinite, but there is one who is uncreated and one who is infinite.

P: In the same way the Father is almighty, the Son is almighty, and the Holy Spirit is almighty;

C: yet they are not three who are almighty, but there is one who is almighty.

P: So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;

C: yet they are not three Gods, but one God.

P: So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;

C: yet they are not three Lords, but one Lord.

P: For just as Christian truth compels us to confess each person individually to be God and Lord,

C: so the true Christian faith forbids us to speak of three Gods or three Lords.

P: The Father is neither made nor created nor begotten of anyone.

C: The Son is neither made nor created, but is begotten of the Father alone.

P: The Holy Spirit is neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeds from the Father and the Son.

C: So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.

P: And within this Trinity none comes before or after; none is greater or inferior,

C: but all three persons are coequal and coeternal,

P: so that in every way, as stated before, all three persons are to be worshiped as one God and one God worshiped as three persons.

C: Whoever wishes to be saved must have this conviction of the Trinity.

P: It is furthermore necessary for eternal salvation truly to believe that our Lord Jesus Christ also took on human flesh. Now this is the true Christian faith:

C: We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.

P: He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh,

C: equal to the Father as to his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity;

P: and though he is both God and Man, Christ is not two persons but one,

C: one, not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God;

P: one, indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person;

C: for just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being, so God and man are one Christ.

P: He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead.

C: He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, and from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: At his coming all people will rise with their own bodies to answer for their personal deeds.

C: Those who have done good will enter eternal life, but those who have done evil will go into eternal fire.

P: This is the true Christian faith.

C: Whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved.

Epistle Lesson

Do you spend enough time with your family? It probably depends on what your family is like.

In the very last verses of his God-inspired letter to the Corinthians, Paul greeted that congregation as brothers—as family. God created the family and, when it functions as he designed it, you have a place like no other. So, what is a family supposed to be?

Notice the five commands that Paul uses for His Corinthian church family. "Rejoice. Set things in order. Be encouraged. Agree with one another. Be at peace."

When God created family, he made a place where we can share joy. Family will reflect it, share it, and intensify it. That's why we love to share good news with family. That's why our Christian family worships together. We share the joy of God's grace and salvation.

Next, family is a place where things are put back the way they're supposed to be. When your heart is broken, when your hopes are

dashed—when life just isn't the way it's supposed to be—you come to family. That's where people care. They will listen to you, support you, stick with you, correct you, and help make things right again. And when it's your own fault, family forgives you. That's why our Christian family learns together and admonishes each other. We grow together to be more like Christ and to share his love and his grace. Jesus came to make things right between us and God. We share that grace with each other.

Third, he tells them to be encouraged. Pursing life can be a frightening proposition. Family reminds you that you can do it, that you're not alone, that they will be right there with you, rain or shine. In our Christian family, God encourages us to remember that He is with us. With God, nothing is impossible. Our Good Shepherd is leading us right to the gates of heaven.

Then he commands them to agree with one another. That doesn't mean that there are no individual thoughts in a family. It means that there is such a thing as truth, God's truth. We share that truth. That foundation of truth makes it possible for people with disparate opinions and personalities to support each other and to love each other. There is such a thing as right and wrong—and God wants us to live in the truth he reveals in His Word. That's why we study Scripture—God reveals his truth to us and we walk together in it.

Finally, He tells us to be at peace. Our family is our safe place. Family is where we belong, regardless of what anybody else thinks of us—even what we think of ourselves sometimes.

Family is possible because God is with us—with his grace, his love, and his fellowship.

Let's get together with our family soon—and often. God has opened the doors. And he is there with us.

2 Corinthians 13:11-4 (EHV)

¹¹ Finally, brothers, rejoice. Set things in order. Be encouraged. Agree with one another. Be at peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. ¹³ All the saints greet you.

¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Corinthians 13:11-14

God's Family

Special Prayer regarding Coronavirus

Jesus Christ, our Great Physician,

We come before you in great need. We ask that you would end this plague on our world. We do not ask because we are worthy, but because you are gracious and merciful. If it is your will, heal those who are afflicted. Comfort those who are suffering. Grant wisdom and success to those who are treating and researching this disease.

Teach us to celebrate your blessings and your love. Help us not to take for granted our health or the connections we have among family and friends.

In your name we come to you. Amen.

Prayers for Our family and Friends

Milferd Behnke, Ashleigh Bourdelais, Gladys Constine, George Dumke, Geri Garbrecht, Dorothy Johnson, Lisa Schmitt, and Pastor Martin & Deb Spaude.

Prayers for those called to protect

Military: Jesse Adams (Sue Connor's son), Greg Carow (Dennis Carow's godson/nephew), Aeron Forsberg (Linda and Gene Erickson's grandson), Dayton Godfrey (Dave & Cindy Schacht's great-nephew), Joshua Jansen (Isaac Jansen's cousin), Jesse Johnston (Jim & Laurie Johnston's son), Patrick Noppenberg (Denis & Deb Vieth's son), Aaron Stocker Jr. (Martina (Dura) Stocker's husband), Dylan Vanko, (Roy and Grace Chmela's grandson), and Thomas Weirich (Mary Bush's nephew). Steve Campbell (firefighter), and Greg Haemker (police). Ask the Lord to bless them, strengthen them, and keep them safe.

The 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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion:

P: We who trust in Jesus Christ for our full and free salvation can give no higher honor to our Lord than to believe and to do what He has commanded us. For that reason we have come here to obey Jesus' gracious invitation, partaking in His Holy Supper according to His words and commands.

P: Consider carefully the words of the Lord and diligently examine your heart's condition in view of His Word. Jesus said, "This is My body, which is given for you...this cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

P: Jesus is telling us that this supper is for sinners. It is for sinners who grieve over their sin, its offense to God and its sentence to death. It is for sinners who long for the forgiveness of sins. It is for sinners who believe Jesus died the death our sins deserve. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe this.

P: Jesus' clear and simple words also reveal a great mystery. In this Supper of bread and wine Jesus actually gives every communicant just what His words say: His body and blood that was crucified for you. Jesus' gifts of His body and blood are God's official seal that God Himself makes a covenant with each one who eats this bread and drinks this wine.

P: In this covenant God promises each communicant that his sins are forgiven and that he is God's child. The Bible states this truth also with warning. Anyone who comes to the Lord's Supper, but "eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself" for he is "guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord." Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe this.

P: Jesus said: "Take and eat..this do in remembrance of Me." And, "all of you drink of the cup..do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me." Here Jesus invites us and commands everyone who calls Him Lord to come to this blessed Supper frequently. He also instructs us to do it while remembering and celebrating the central truth of our faith – Christ Crucified!

P: Every time you commune you declare that Christ is your greatest treasure. That Jesus is your life. This confession by your actions encourages your fellow believers, proclaims the Gospel to a dying world and praises Jesus who commanded you to do this in memory of His death. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe this.

P: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of all compassion and the God of all comfort. For all this was not revealed to you by man, but by our Father in heaven. You are blessed to believe this.

P: In this Supper Jesus will forgive your sins, strengthen your faith, draw you into close communion with the Living God and His holy people, fill your heart with thankful joy, and renew your zeal to walk as a child of Light, loving each other as Christ loved you.

Words of Intuition

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

P: Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sin. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The Lord's Supper

We now have the incredible privilege of approaching the Lord's altar at his invitation to receive His body and blood in the sacrament. We come, not because we are worthy, but because He invites us.

Come, for all things are now ready:

The Benediction:

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.

Amen.

Hymn: 194 vv.1,5 (Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices)

TRINITY'S CORE MISSION

Shining the Light of the Gospel in our community.

John 8:12 - "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Matthew 5:16 - "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.