

Hearts sing
for joy

when they
are in tune
with our Creator.



Sing, O heavens: and be joyful, O earth.

Isaiah 49:13

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11th / October 12th 2020

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

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Trinity Ev. Lutheran School

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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)

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

1 Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed his blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am his and he is mine!

(Hymn 385 vv. 1,2,3,5)

2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love,
Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity,
Love that found me —
wondrous thought! —
Found me when I sought him not.

3 Only Jesus can impart
Comfort to a wounded heart:
Peace that flows from sin
forgiv'n,
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.

5 Strengthen me, O gracious
Lord,
By your Spirit and your word.
When my wayward heart would
stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.

Please rise

Confession of Sins

P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Assurance of Forgiveness

C: Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated

Epistle Lesson

When God tells us to examine ourselves to see if we are in the faith, what does he want us to find?

Amazingly, when any Christian looks into their heart, we find Jesus there! Think about what that means. Through faith, we have been changed. Instead of being powerless, condemned sinners, we are children of God filled with the Holy Spirit! It doesn't matter what we look like on the outside. It doesn't matter what anyone else thinks of us. It doesn't matter how we feel about it—we are filled with the power of God.

That means that the Word of God from our lips is working powerfully in the hearts of those who hear it. That means that God's kingdom is moving through our faithful work. That is a reason to celebrate. That is a reason to sing God's praises out loud. That's a reason to keep doing God's work, whether it looks like its working or not. No matter what it looks like on the outside, God works within. He works in us and he works through us.

Look into your heart. Wherever you find faith, you find Jesus. Wherever Jesus is, we find forgiveness and life.

2 Corinthians 13:5-8 (EHV)

⁵Examine yourselves to see if you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not know this about yourselves: that Jesus Christ is in you—

unless perhaps you fail the test? ⁶ But I hope that you will recognize that we are not failing the test.

⁷ We pray to God that you may not do anything evil, not so that we may appear to have passed the test, but so that you may do what is good, even if we may seem like those who are failing to pass the test. ⁸ To be sure, we can do nothing against the truth, but only for the truth.

Gospel Lesson

“What do you think?” That’s what Jesus asked the Pharisees. He wanted them to change their minds. He wanted them to repent. Jesus loved the Pharisees. He still does. He still wants us to understand that it’s the forgiven who are in God’s family, not the ones who think they’re good.

Notice the phrase that Jesus repeats in verses 29 and 32. The son who did his father’s will is the one who changed his mind. Jesus is urging the Pharisees to do the same. To change one’s mind is to repent. First our attitude is changed, then our actions change. The first son recognized his sin and changed his mind. God does that through his word. He changes our minds and he changes our hearts. When he does that he changes our life and our eternity!

The second son thought he was good and remained in his disobedience. That’s what sin does. It deadens our mind and hardens our heart. Then we remain spiritually dead and lost. Jesus didn’t want that to happen to the Pharisees. Jesus doesn’t want that to happen to anyone. He wants to change dead hearts and give life. He wants everyone to repent and to live. He paid a dreadful price to make that possible. Now he works tirelessly through his word to bring forgiveness and eternal life. The tax collectors and the prostitutes believed. The Pharisees did not. What do you think?

Matthew 21:28-32 (EHV)

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go work today in my vineyard.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ He came to the second and said the same thing. The second son answered, ‘I will go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?”

They said to him, “The first.”

Jesus said to them, “Amen I tell you: The tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him. Even when you saw this, you did not change your mind and believe him.

1 Jesus sinners does receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and heaven
wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve —
Jesus sinners does receive.

3 Sheep that from the fold did
stray
Are not by the Lord forsaken;
Weary souls who lost their way
Are by Christ, the shepherd, taken
In his arms that they may live —
Jesus sinners does receive.

6 Oh, how blest it is to know,
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By your blood and bitter passion,
For these words I do believe —
Jesus sinners does receive.

7 Jesus sinners does receive.
Even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave —
Jesus sinners does receive.

Old Testament/Sermon Text:

What do you think brings more joy to God's heart? Punishing unrepentant sinners or forgiving repentant ones? Considering the expense and the effort he put into saving sinners, it's pretty clear that God would rather forgive than punish. He will do both—he is perfectly just and perfectly merciful, but he tells us that he takes no pleasure in the death of sinners. In fact, he sent his Son to rescue us from death. He offers to give us a new heart and a new spirit.

God created every living soul. Every single person is precious to him! He died so we can live.

Now the God of the universe is pleading with sinners to repent. "Why should you die, O house of Israel? Repent and live!"

God will judge every single soul perfectly fairly. The soul that sins will die. The soul that is cleansed by the blood of Christ will live!

We know which one brings more joy to God's heart. Repentance and forgiveness bring joy to ours, too.

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32 (EHV)

The word of the LORD came to me.

²What do you mean, you who keep repeating this proverb concerning the soil of Israel, "Fathers eat sour grapes, and their sons' teeth are set on edge"? ³As surely as I live, declares the LORD God, you will never again use this proverb in Israel. ⁴Indeed, all souls are mine. The soul of the father is mine just like the soul of the son. The soul who sins is the one who will die.

²⁵ But you say, “The LORD’s way is not fair.” Listen now, house of Israel. Is it my way that is not fair? Is it not your ways that are not fair? ²⁶ If a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and practices unrighteousness, he will die because of it. Because of the unrighteousness that he has practiced, he will die.

²⁷ But if a wicked man turns from his wickedness that he has done and practices justice and righteousness, he will preserve his life. ²⁸ Because he has seen and turned away from all the rebellious acts that he had committed, he will surely live, and he will not die. ²⁹ But the house of Israel says, “The LORD’s way is not fair.” Is it really my ways that are not fair, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not fair?

³⁰ Therefore, I will judge each one of you according to his ways, O house of Israel, declares the LORD God. Repent and turn away from all your rebellious acts, so that you will not set out a stumbling block that makes you guilty. ³¹ Throw off from yourselves all your rebellious actions by which you have rebelled, and obtain a new heart and a new spirit for yourselves. Why should you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies, declares the LORD God. So repent and live!

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Prayers for Our family and Friends

On Sunday October 4th **Alvin Lundberg** peacefully passed away.

⁷The LORD will watch to keep you from all harm. He will watch over your life. ⁸The LORD will watch over your going and your coming from now to eternity. ~ Psalm 121:7-8

The Beaumont Family, Milferd Behnke, Ashleigh Bourdelais, Ardice Cerney, Gladys Constine, Geri Garbrecht, Jean Harper, Dorothy Johnson, Rose Karr, Noah & Kristin Olson, Lisa Schmitt, Marjorie Urbaniak, Aaron Wood and Jesse Zach

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).
Firefighter: Steve Campbell.

Police: Greg Haemker, Raymond Cashaw (Pastor Sonnemann's niece's husband) and **David Peterson** (Jamie Tesch's uncle). 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.*

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 sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: (spoken) Amen.

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.

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

(Hymn 372 v. 1)

1 I lay my sins on Jesus,
The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us
From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus
To wash my crimson stains
White in his blood most precious
Till not a spot remains.

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."*