



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity**
Cocoa and Granada Avenues
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033
(717) 533-2467

**The Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 17, 2026**

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Let us prepare for Worship.

GATHERING PRELUDE:

Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me (Sanctuary Choir) K. Lee Scott
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus..... Paul Manz

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation stands. All may make the sign of the ✝ cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

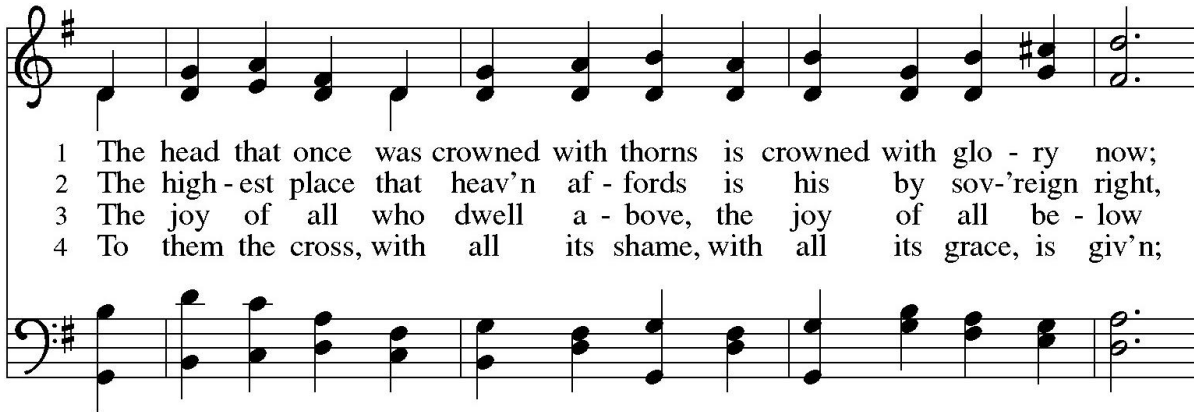
All: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

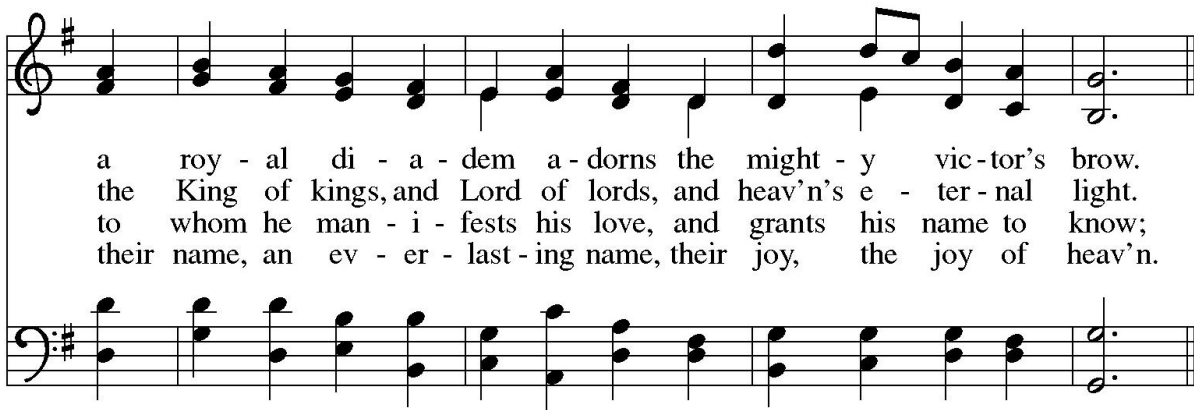
All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: *The Head That Once Was Crowned* ELW 432

Follow the cross as the procession passes by.



1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;
2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords is his by sov'-reign right,
3 The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low
4 To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is giv'n;



a roy - al di - a - dem a - dons the might - y vic - tor's brow.
the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heav'n's e - ter - nal light.
to whom he man - i - fests his love, and grants his name to know;
their name, an ev - er - last - ing name, their joy, the joy of heav'n.

5 They suffer with their Lord below;
they reign with him above;
their profit and their joy to know
the myst'ry of his love.

6 The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him;
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme!

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *This is the Feast*

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 blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - 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

P: Let us pray... O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The congregation sits.

⁵ In your holy habita- | tion, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defend- | er of widows;
⁶ **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners | into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in | desert places.**
⁷ O God, when you went forth be- | fore your people,
when you marched | through the wilderness,
⁸ **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the | God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the | God of Israel.**
⁹ You sent a bountiful | rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance | when it languished.
¹⁰ **Your people found their | home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision | for the poor. R**
³² Sing to God, O kingdoms | of the earth;
sing praises | to the Lord.
³³ **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the | ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice, your | mighty voice.**
³⁴ Ascribe pow- | er to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is | in the skies.
³⁵ **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O | God of Israel,
giving strength and power to your people! | Blessed be God! R**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia

Refrain:

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

Verse:

I will not leave you orphaned,¹ says the Lord.* I am com- | ing to you. *Alleluia.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

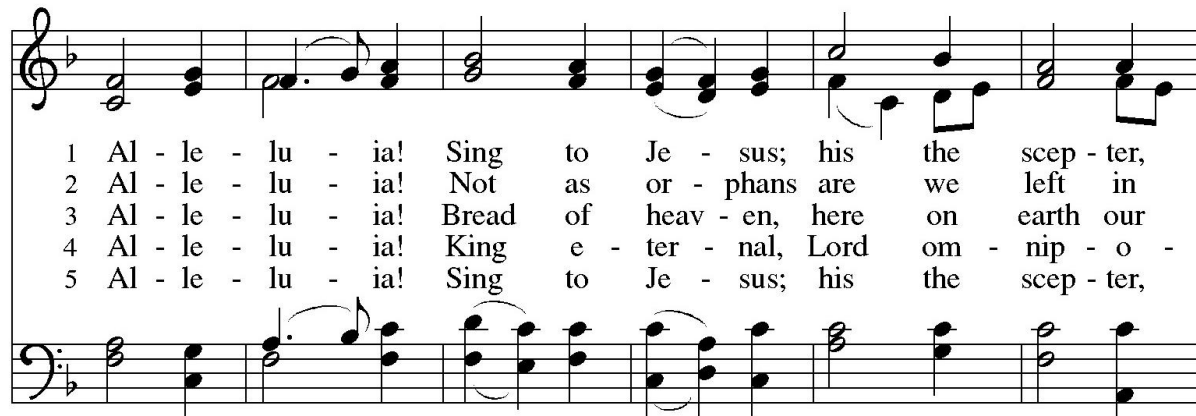
The congregation sits.

SERMON

Silence for reflection.

The congregation stands.

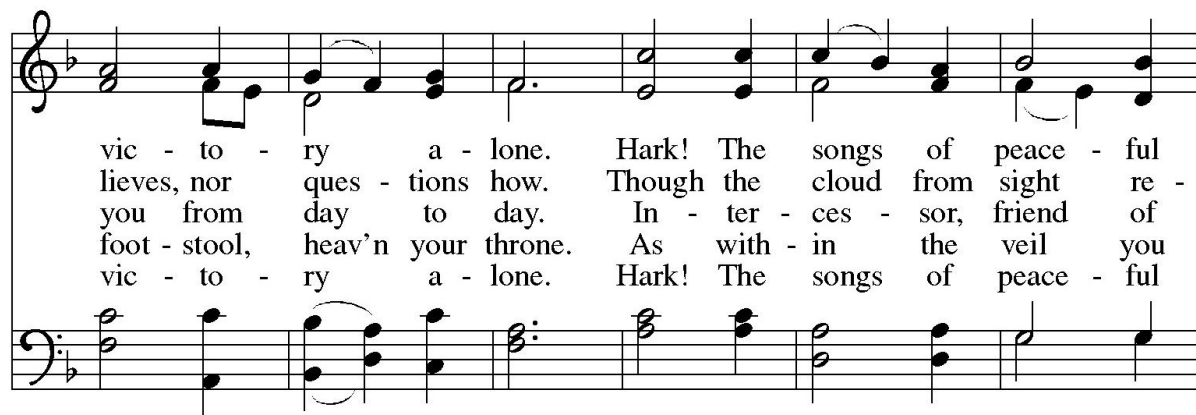
HYMN OF THE DAY: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus ELW 392



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus

out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

The congregation sits.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Merciful God,
All: receive our prayer.

SHARING OF PEACE

The presiding minister and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
All: **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry at Holy Trinity. Offering can be placed in the Offering Plate at the entrance to worship or in the Offering Box on the table with the bulletins.

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands (verses 4 and 5)..... ELW 370*
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

The congregation stands.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A: Let us pray . . . Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

All: **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

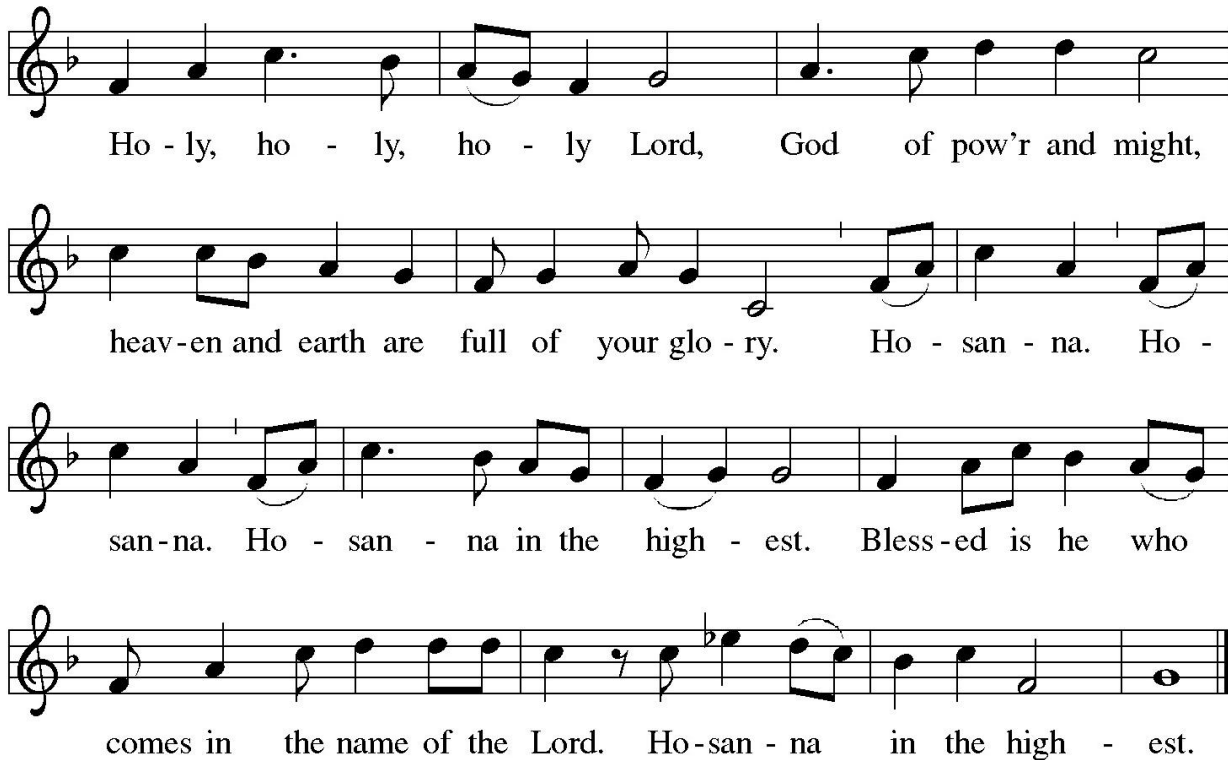
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P:And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

The congregation sits.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN: *Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor*..... ELW 475
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

The congregation stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

All: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray...Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

All: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit bless you and raise you to newness of life, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Follow the cross as the procession passes by.



1 Rise, O Sun of righ - teous - ness; with your
 2 Rouse our hearts from slum - ber deep; may your
 3 Gath - er in your scat - tered flock; give us
 4 Burst the bars of stub - born pride; make the
 5 Hon - or, praise, and glo - ry be to the



might cre - a - tion bless. Shine up - on your church to - day,
 word with - in us leap. Give us voic - es to pro - claim
 wa - ter from the rock. Bless the u - ni - ty we share
 heav'n - ly path - way wide. Raise us up from sin and death
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty! May your gra - cious will be done:



show - ing all your gen - tle way. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 prais - es to your ho - ly name. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 in our shep - herd's lov - ing care. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 with your Spir - it's liv - ing breath. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 make us one, as you are one. Have mer - cy, Lord.

Text: Christian David, et al.; tr. Frank W. Stoldt, b. 1958
 Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE: *Soone der Gerechtigkeitt* Werner Grama

IN THE CHURCH TODAY

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Jeff and Lynn Budgeon and with grateful appreciation for the people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister:Rev. Pamela J. Carnes
Director of Music Ministries/Organist:Alan Hair
Assisting Minister: John Smith
Reader: Danielle Mariano
Communion Assistants:..... Lisa Buettner and Jonice Storer
Crucifer:..... Will Mariano
Torchbearers:..... Gabby Gniady and Kiva Fox
Livestream Team:Kirk Sponaugle, Jordan Paul, and Adam Gardner



Dear Lord Jesus, When You walked upon this earth, You healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, caused the lame to walk, and raised the dead. Now we come to You on behalf of those who are in need today and pray that You would send them Your healing power. Hear our prayer for Your name’s sake. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Prayer Concerns: Barbara Ehrhart, David Ehrhart, Sharon Ellis (friend of the Dunham’s), Roger Fletcher (friend of the Knols), Bill Fosnacht, Michael Fox,, Herb Huebner, Father Michael Hutsko, Ann Jonell (friend of the Dunham’s), Matthew Kulbacki, Carol Miller, Jessica Noeske (Derek Dunham’s cousin), Chris Ruff, Edward Sellard, Kay Smith and Pastor Frank Terhune.

DAILY PRAYERS

Virginia Frank, Dean Huebner, Evadne Kopp, Dennis Lubold, Chip Murray, Sharon Murray, George Trump, Bob Warden (friend of Mary Ann Kelly), Vwawa Congregation of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and all our Homebound members.

Members of Armed Forces and their families: Evan Briggs, Marshal Fox, Michael Kristian, Riley Litman, and Tory Young.

Please continue to pray for the work of the **Call Committee** and its members: Nathan Paul, Jen Keeler, Derek Dunham, Donna Artley, Ruth Gardner and Danielle Mariano.

We invite you to pray for all on our prayer list. Please contact the office by email at htluth@comcast.net or leave a message on the office phone (717-533-2467) if you have any changes to the prayer list.

Now they know that
everything you have
given me is from you;
for the words that
you gave to me
I have given to them.

John 17:7, NRSV

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