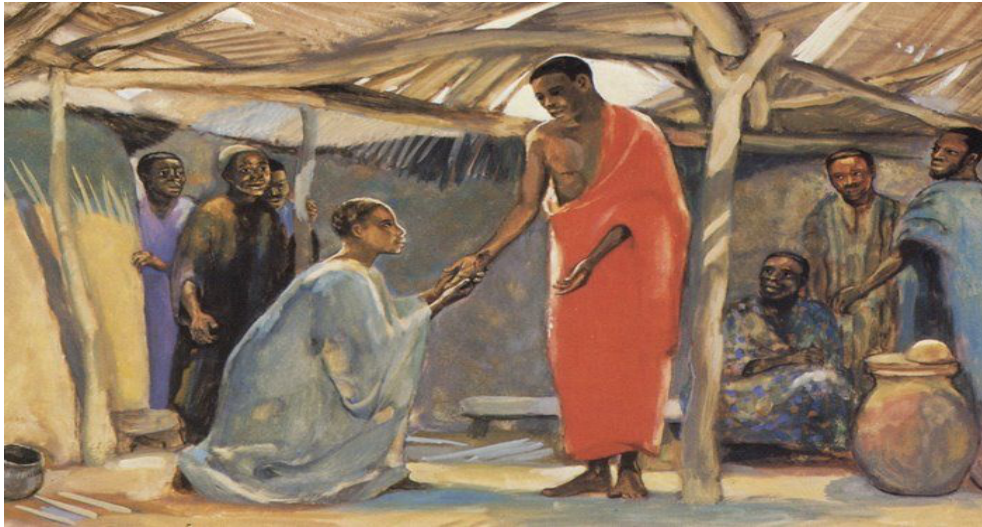


Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 27, 2025 ~ 11:00 AM



Trinity Lutheran Church



195 Claremont Avenue | P.O. Box 15303

Jersey City, New Jersey 07305

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The Rev. Dianne L. Lewis, Pastor

Order of Service

~ Gathering ~

† Welcome

*† Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection, and self-examination.)

P: Holy God,

C: You search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin – our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. 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.

C: Amen

*† Entrance Hymn: "This is the Day" TFBF 262

This is the day, this is the day

That the Lord has made,

That the Lord has made

*Congregation Standing
Bold Font: Congregation Response

We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it
This is the day that the Lord has made
We will rejoice and be glad in it
This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made

(Repeat ALL)

***† Greeting**

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

C: And also with you.

***† Kyrie**

A: *In peace, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: *For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: *For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: *For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.*

C: Lord, have mercy,

A: *Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.*

C: Amen

***† Hymn of Praise**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

***† Prayer of the Day**

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

~God's Word~

† First Reading: Acts 5:27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

† Psalm: 118:14-29; refrain, Ps. 118:28

Refrain: You are my God, and I will exalt you.

¹⁴ The Lord is my strength | and my song,
and has become | my salvation.

¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:**

*Congregation Standing
Bold Font: Congregation Response

- “The right hand of the | Lord acts valiantly!**
- ¹⁶ The right hand of the Lord | is exalted!
The right hand of the | Lord acts valiantly!”
- ¹⁷ **I shall not | die, but live,
and declare the works | of the Lord. R**
- ¹⁸ The Lord indeed pun- | ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.
- ¹⁹ **Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks | to the Lord.**
- ²⁰ “This is the gate | of the Lord;
here the righ- | teous may enter.”
- ²¹ **I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me
and you have become | my salvation. R**
- ²² The stone that the build- | ers rejected
has become the chief | cornerstone.
- ²³ **By the Lord has | this been done;
it is marvelous | in our eyes.**
- ²⁴ This is the day that the | Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.
- ²⁵ **Hosanna! | O Lord, save us!
We pray to you, Lord, pros- | per our days! R**
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the Lord;
we bless you from the house | of the Lord.
- ²⁷ **The Lord is God and has giv- | en us light.
Form a procession with branches up to the corners | of the altar.**
- ²⁸ You are my God, and | I will thank you;
you are my God, and I | will exalt you.
- ²⁹ **Give thanks to the Lord, for the | Lord is good;
God’s mercy en- | dures forever. R**

† **Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-8**

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

*Congregation Standing
Bold Font: Congregation Response

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

***† Gospel Acclamation**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th Chapter

C: Glory to you, Glory to you, Glory to you, O Lord

***† Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31**

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed

are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise be to you, Praise be to you, Praise be to you, O Christ

† **Choir Anthem: “He’s So Real”**

† **Sermon: The Reverend Dianne L. Lewis, Pastor**

† **Sermon Hymn: “He Rose”**

*1 They crucified my Savior and nailed him to the tree,
they crucified my Savior and nailed him to the tree,
they crucified my Savior and nailed him to the tree,
and the Lord will bear my spirit home.*

Refrain:

*He rose, he rose, he rose from the dead,
he rose, he rose, he rose from the dead,
he rose, he rose, he rose from the dead,
and the Lord will bear my spirit home.*

*3 Sister Mary, she came running, a-looking for my Lord,
sister Mary, she came running, a-looking for my Lord,
sister Mary, she came running, a-looking for my Lord,
and the Lord will bear my spirit home. [Refrain]*

*4 An angel came from heaven and rolled the stone away,
an angel came from heaven and rolled the stone away,
an angel came from heaven and rolled the stone away,
and the Lord will bear my spirit home. [Refrain]*

~ Prayer ~

***† The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.*

On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***† Prayers of the People**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world,
and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the good news of the
resurrection. Inspire deacons and pastors, lay leaders and bishops to boldly proclaim your
love for all people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily lives on the well-being of creation. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to complex challenges in our local and global communities (*current issues of concern may be named*). Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way (*especially*). Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across differences in race, religion, sexuality, gender identity, and economic situation. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination, and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We remember the faithful departed from all times and places. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

***† Sharing of the Peace**

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

C: **And also with you.**

***† Offering Canticle**

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.*

*Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence.
Give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

***† Offertory Prayer**

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

~ Meal ~

***† The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

A: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord.

Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

***† Words of Institution**

***† 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

† Holy Communion

P: The gifts of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

† Communion Hymn: "He is Lord"

*He is Lord, he is Lord,
he is risen from the dead
and he is Lord;
ev'ry knee shall bow,
ev'ry tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.*

*He is Lord, he is Lord,
he is risen from the dead
and he is Lord;
ev'ry knee shall bow,
ev'ry tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.
(Repeat ALL)*

*† Post Communion Blessing

(After all have returned to their places:)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

*† Post Communion Canticle

*Congregation Standing
Bold Font: Congregation Response

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of all people. A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Glory 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.

***† Post Communion Prayer**

A: Let us pray.

Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name. **Amen.**

† Welcome, Acknowledgment of Visitors, and Announcements

***† Benediction**

***† Sending Hymn: "Glory, Glory Hallelujah"**

*1 Glory, glory, hallelujah!
since I laid my burden down.
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
since I laid my burden down.*

*2 I feel better, so much better,
since I laid my burden down.
I feel better, so much better,
since I laid my burden down.*

*3 Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!"
since I laid my burden down.
Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!"
since I laid my burden down.*

*5 Ev'ry round goes higher and higher,
since I laid my burden down.
Ev'ry round goes higher and higher,
since I laid my burden down*

***† Dismissal**

A: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

*Congregation Standing

Bold Font: Congregation Response

Announcements

- ◆ Trinity's **Weekly Bible Study** meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 7PM via Zoom. Next session will resume Wednesday, May 14th at 7:30PM - **Meeting ID: 822 8031 9117 Passcode: 709073**
- ◆ Trinity's **Adult Sunday School** meets every first and third Sunday at 9:45 AM. Next session will be Sunday, May 4th
- ◆ Trinity's **Children Sunday School** meets every Sunday at 11AM. Contact Valerie Slack or Pastor Dianne if you like to volunteer.
- ◆ Trinity's **Food Pantry** will be Friday, May 9th from 2PM - 3:30PM
- ◆ Trinity & Grace **Women of the ELCA** meets monthly. Next meeting will be Saturday, May 3rd at 10AM
- ◆ Trinity's **Church Council Meeting** will be Thursday, May 8th at 7:30PM
- ◆ Trinity will host **Seniors Shuffle**, a fun dance and exercise social, on Tuesday, April 29th, 12:30PM - 2:30PM
- ◆ **WELCA's Women's Day celebration** will be Sunday, May 18th at 3PM
- ◆ **NJ Synod Assembly** will take place in person on June 5th - 7th at the Hilton East Brunswick Hotel. Registration deadline is 4/21/2025. www.njsynod.org/assembly
- ◆ *Save the Date!* **Dinner Dance** celebrating the Ministry of Bishop Tracie Bartholomew Sunday, June 29th 5PM - 10PM at the Hyatt Regency Princeton. Tickets are \$50/pp
- ◆ Trinity's **Pew Rededication** fundraiser... Join in the Anniversary Celebration. Your donation supports the pew restoration labor and the installation of a personalized legacy name plate on your selected pew. \$500 for center aisle; \$300 for window aisle. Contact Tina Richardson at 201-435-9807 for more info.
- ◆ **Join in our Fundraisers:**
 - ◆ **Walk in Faith - Donation:** Pledge a multiple of your shoe size (i.e. if your shoe size is a size 9, pledge \$9, or \$18, or \$90, or \$900, etc.)
 - ◆ **Operational Expenses Fund - Donation:** any amount
- ◆ You may pay your Tithes & Offerings online at <http://www.trinityjerseycity.com> OR text **GIVE** to 844-930-5787 from your mobile phone
- ◆ **For pastoral care call Pastor Dianne Lewis at 201.435.9807**