

Pastor Cantu with the Cherub Choir, 1992

May 5th, 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 10 A.M. WORSHIP



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Lifting Up, Reaching Out

WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY!

We are so glad you are joining in our worship. Whether this is your first time or you are a regular participant, we are happy to welcome you today.

MY MOTHER & MARY

My mother loves to play in the dirt.

She has gray hair and smile lines,

But still you'll find her out in her garden like a child on her knees—
elbows muddy, hands dirty, smile lines in full flex.

I think my mother and Mary would have been friends.

For on their darkest days,

Both have gone to the garden.

So I imagine that on their darkest days,

Both Mary and my mother

Have willed new life from earth's cold ground—

meticulously tending stubborn soil while praying for a miracle—

praying that seeds will grow into flowers

that will take our breath away and remind us again that we are small.

And lo and behold,
As sure as the sun rises,
Those seeds grow.
And lo and behold,
As sure as the sun rises,
Those flowers will always take my breath away.
And when they do,

You'll find my mother
Out in her garden, elbows muddy, hands dirty, smile lines in full flex—
reminding me of Mary, reminding me of God, reminding me of the gift of new life.
And I feel small. And it takes my breath away. And my smile lines are in full flex.

Poem and Liturgy by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

PRELI	UDE Invention in E
ANNO	DUNCEMENTS
CALL TO WORSHIP	
Please stand as you are able	
P	They went to the cross,
C	And watched you breathe your last.
P	So they ran to the upper room,
C	And locked the door in fear.
P	Then, on this day so many years ago,
	some women went to the tomb,
C	But you were not there.
P	You were not there.
C	You were already set loose in the world—spreading a holy type of love.
P	So find us here.
C	Spread love here.
P	Family of God, Christ is risen!
C	Alleluia! Amen!
CALL TO CONFESSION	
P	Easter is a story of transformation—
_	Death to life; despair to hope; betrayal to forgiveness.
	We need that type of transformation—every day and all the time.
	So join me in the prayer of confession, for in our truth-telling with the
	divine, we are transformed.
P	Let us pray—
	God of new life,
	We need Easter like the desert needs rain.
	For you give us unending love, and we turn it into a commodity.
	You give us mystery, and we force it into certainty.

You give us community, and we set rules about who is in and who is out.

You give us grace, but we hold grudges against our neighbors.

You give us light and we ration it out to those we believe deserve it.

God of grace,

Forgive us for our shortcomings.

Dwell among us like rain in the desert—holy and unexpected—until new life grows here. Gratefully we pray,

C Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P Family of Faith—

In the act of the cross, Jesus Christ experienced almost every type of hardship humans can inflict on one another—isolation, abandonment, physical and emotional abuse, shame, betrayal. You name it, he faced it.

And still—

and still-

He came back for us.

Friends-

No matter what you have done or left undone, you are known and loved by a God of unimaginable grace. Like rain in the desert, your sin is washed clean.

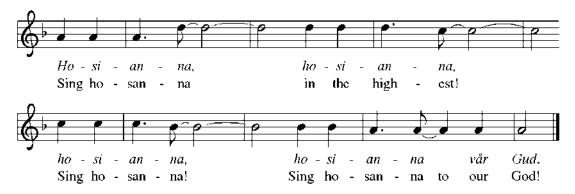
So on this Easter day, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

C Thanks be to God.

GATHERING HYMN



(Continued on next page)



^{*} May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÄR HELIG. Per Harling
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South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

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GREETING

- Р God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth. Come, let us offer praise and thanks to God for fulfilling the resurrection promise.
- C Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Р Let us pray.
 - O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

A Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

I Can Only Imagine (1999).......Written and recorded by Bart Millard arr. by Dan Galbraith
Christus Choir

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not

burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

- A Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God

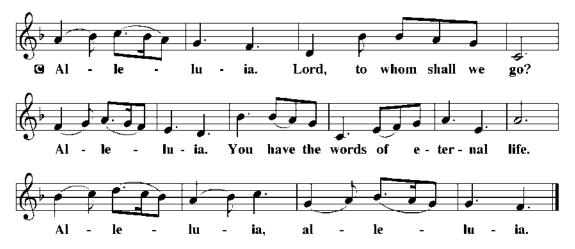


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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE......Vicar Allison Vincent-Beckman

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia.....WOV Setting 5

Please stand as you are able.



GOSPEL READING: John 15:9-17

- P The Holy Gospel according to John, the tenth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

[Jesus said:] ⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that

the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

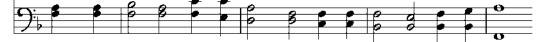
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON......Pastor Philip Carl

MESSAGE HYMN



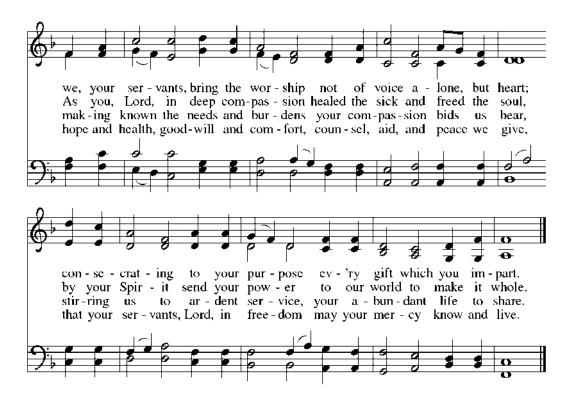
- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi sion, till your love's re veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,





who up - on the cross, for - sak - cn, worked your mer-cy's per - feet deed: still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead. in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight, to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;





Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985 Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortiess.

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APOSTLE'S CREED

- A Lord, help us comprehend and affirm our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.
- \mathbf{C} I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven. he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

- A Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- A You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered

- species and help us to care for all your creatures. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. (*We pray especially for.....*) God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Watch over our military and members of agencies serving to keep us safe and free. Bless, strengthen and defend them with your heavenly grace, give them courage in the face of peril, and grant them a sense of your abiding love and presence wherever they may be throughout the world. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Watch over all your children, Lord, including any who have not felt welcomed by the members of your church. Help us to truly be a Reconciling in Christ congregation: a welcoming and safe community for all. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation (*ministries may be named*), that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us (*especially*). At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

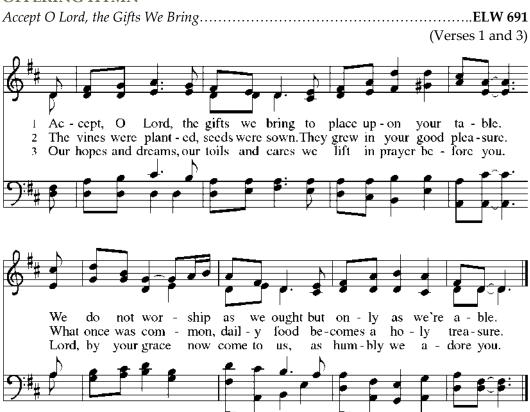
C Amen.

PEACE

- P The peace of the risen Christ be with you.
- C And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord, and then be seated. Please also sign the red Friendship Register and pass it to the next person in your pew.

OFFERING HYMN



Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957 Music: BARBARA Al, LEN, English folk tune; arr. Alice Parker, b. 1925 Text © 1900 and arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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Your offering can be received in many ways. You may use the offering plate in the Sanctuary, give a gift at <u>www.holytrinityfallschurch.org/giving</u>, or mail your offering to the church.

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able

A Let us pray.

God of Hallelujahs—

You have given us purpose and hope, forgiveness and grace, a place to belong and a job to do.

You have given us all that we could need and more, so we wonder—how do you repay someone for that?

How do you repay someone who died for you?

The obvious answer is that we could try living for you.

So today we lift up this offering as a gesture of our love for you.

We pray that you can use it to bring about your promised day where all are known, all are loved, and all are safe—where swords are beaten into plowshares and justice runs like a river.

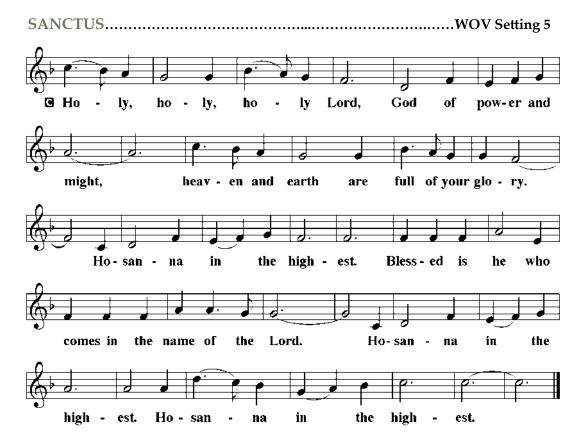
In your name we live, and in your name we pray.

C Amen.

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.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P God,

You are like the earth—for just as the earth never stops rotating around the sun, you never stop running toward us. And God, you are like the wind—for we can't see you, but we can feel you. We feel you when we come together, when joy escapes our bones in the form of laughter, and when we hold a newborn.

And God, you are like the feeling of coming home—for no matter how long we are away, or how much time has passed, the doormat still says, "welcome," and there is still a place for us at the table.

So today we bow our heads and close our eyes, hoping to feel you as strongly as we feel nostalgia and fear, or love and loss, which permeate our bones. We hope to feel you as strongly as the wind and the sun, for faith and doubt have always been intertwined for us.

Wonder stands at the heels of praise and joy has the memory of suffering.

C So God of the grave, we pray— Be among us in our darkest moments.

P Be among us in our miscarriages and divorce, in our stress and anxiety, in our fear and doubt.

Be among us in our loneliness and grief, in our isolation and our regret. Be among us in our addictions and depression, in bullying and self-doubt. Be among us when Easter feels far away and the grave feels too close.

C God of life after death— Enable us to be Easter people.

People who live into joy, wonder, and gratitude as a spiritual practice.

People who acknowledge death in the world, but do not fear it.

People who trust that nothing can separate us from your love.

God you are like the sun, and the wind, and the feeling of coming home.

You are all too great for us and simultaneously present in our midst.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

So rise again in our suffering, and rise again in our joy. Hear our songs of praise today and know that we love the way you love and long to live the way you lived. And while you linger here, please pour out your Spirit on this Table so that this ordinary bread and cup can remind us of your love. Pour out your Spirit on this Table so that in this meal we get a glimpse of your promised day—where all are welcomed, all belong, and all are fed. And pour out your Spirit on us, for we long to be your Easter people.

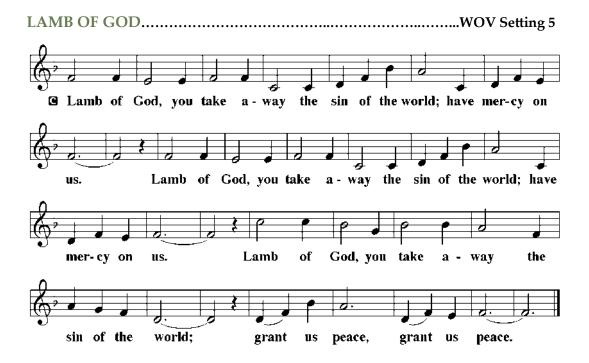
C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P And now, in gratitude for your consistent presence among us, we join our voices together in the prayer you taught us to pray, saying—
- C Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

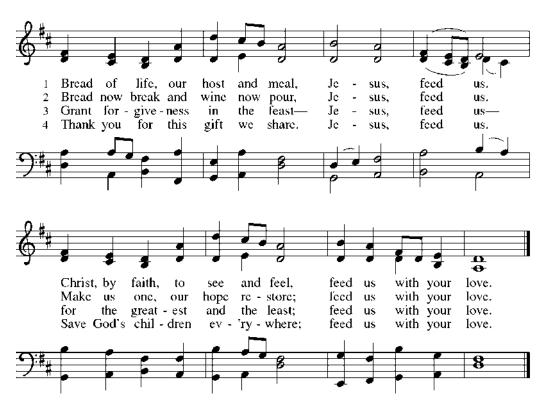
- P No matter where you are in your journey of love and faith, you are welcome here.
 - For Jesus Christ who died on the cross, died for you, and you matter. You belong here. There is a seat saved for you.
 - So come to this Table with your fears and your hopes and your heart on your sleeve; for this is God's Table. It is real, and it is strong, and it is for you. All are welcome here.
- C Amen.



- P This is the body of Christ, given for you.
- C Amen.
- P This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.
- C Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal (1996).....ELW 464



Text: Ray Makeever, h. 1943; Rusty Edwards, b. 1955 Music: JESUS, FEED US, Ray Makeever; arr. Rusty Edwards Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188, All rights reserved, Used by permission.

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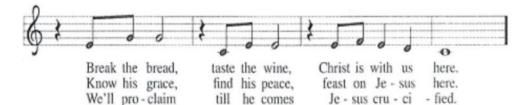
COMMUNION HYMN

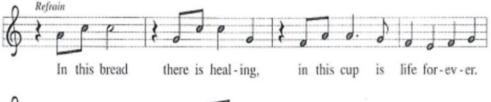
Here is Bread (1991)......ELW 483



- 1 Here is bread,
- here is wine,
- Christ is with us,
- he is with us.

- Here is grace,
 Here we are,
- here is peace, joined in one,
- Christ is with us, Christ is with us,
- he is with us. he is with us.







lext: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950 Music: Graham Kendrick

ext and music @ Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as you are able

P Let us pray.

God of Grace-

There are simply not enough ways to say thank you.

We want to thank you for the way you designed joy to be contagious, for sunsets and sunrises, and for the air in our lungs. We want to thank you for summer rains, starry nights, and home-cooked meals shared together.

We want to thank you for this sacred space, this Table, and for this day—which all hold the promise that love is enough.

God, you give us new life, beautiful life, full life—and there are not enough ways to say thank you.

So we start by acknowledging that our gratitude overflows.

We start by acknowledging just how much we need you.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P God of love,

There are so many words in a day -

To-do lists and stress, self-talk and notifications.

There are so many words, and yet the only words we really need are yours.

So today we pray—drown out every voice but your own.

Drown out every voice but your own, and speak to us through this text, for we are craving good news. We are desperate for your risen love.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN



Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

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SENDING

- P Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Mercy Street......Peter Gabriel

Program note: arranged by Herbie Hancock for his 1995 album "The New Standard"

Please extend a warm welcome to our guest Presiding/Preaching Minister today, Pastor Philip Carl. Pastor Carl served 30 years of ministry in Ohio before he and his wife, Marilyn, moved to Reston to be close to their son. Following 14 years of service to Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Reston and his retirement in 2022, he has just completed a one-year interim at New Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Lovettsville, VA. He enjoys biking, sailing, and people. Their home is in Ashburn.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Piscataway, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

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PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

Presiding/Preaching Minister Pastor Philip Carl

Assisting Minister Allison Vincent-Beckman
Tech Team Ben French and Jeff Taylor

Musicians Josh Brown, Director of Music, Cantor, and

Christus Choir Director

Christus Choir The Praise Project:

Greg Bloy, Keyboards and Winds

Bill Merkel, Guitar; Caleb Merkel, Guitar; Brent Stone, Bass;

Bill Richards, Percussion; Jonathan Hill, Saxophone;

Mark Shoun, Trombone and Piano

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Prayers are requested for Judy Baker's brother Steve who is under hospice care in Florida. Prayers for comfort, reassurance and consolation for Steve and the family. Prayers for safe travel for Judy and her sister Kathy.

Prayers for John Kress's sister, Liz Shashoua, undergoing treatment following cancer surgery.

Prayers of healing for Lynn Tedesco, recovering from surgery.

Prayers for safe travels for Joan Buscher's son, Mike.

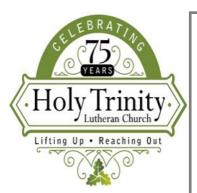
Prayers of healing and strength for Kathy Chelsen. (Kathy would appreciate phone calls from HT members. Please contact the HT office for details.).

Prayers also for Joel and Donna Cook (health concerns); Anne Simmons' husband, Rich (liver transplant); and Rita Juhasz (ongoing health concerns).

The CHOSEN Bible Study

Pastor Mike is leading a discussion of *The Chosen* (on Netflix and Amazon Prime) for a special spring Bible Study series. The viewing began on Sunday, April 28th, and will continue for 8 weeks.





In 2024, Holy Trinity is celebrating our 75th Anniversary! Each month we will be celebrating a different decade of our history.

April: The 1980s

Our thanks to Tina Bertrand, Joanna & Jason Forbes, and Tracy Strunk for leading us thru the 1980s.

May: The 1990s

Our Celebration Team: Dan Bergman, Jill Cockerham-Sisk, Phil Loar, and Stella Daniels.



Cherub Choir, 1992



Carillon Ringers, 1990s



Luther Ringers, 1990s

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