

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET  
STEPHENS CITY, VA

[540] 869-4019  
9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG  
FEBRUARY 21, 2021 LENT I

## PRELUDE

*Erbalt Uns, Herr*

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.  
We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.  
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.  
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.  
Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.  
To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are  
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son  
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we  
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.  
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
and lead us out of death to life.

## GREETING

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

## KYRIE



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**  
*Lord, . . . have mer - cy:*



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **Christ, have mer - cy.**  
*Christ, . . . have mer - cy:*



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**  
*Lord, . . . have mer - cy:*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17

Sue Scheulen

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

## PSALM 25

Pastor JMe and Christine Cornwell

## **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22**

A reading from 1 Peter.

<sup>18</sup>Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

## **GOSPEL: Mark 12:28-34**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;

<sup>30</sup> you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’

<sup>31</sup> The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

<sup>32</sup> Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’;

<sup>33</sup> and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’ – this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

<sup>34</sup> When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

Pastor Jme Lowden

## **CREED**

**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**

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

In Jesus your realm has come near to us in every place and time. Give your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance; teach us to trust always in the good news of your salvation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth's creatures from destruction. Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the efforts of teachers, healthcare professionals, first responders and all those who find themselves in harm's way, especially, John, Stacy, Mike, Liz, Dixie, David, Evan, Bill, Helen, Emily and James. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Even in the wilderness you are with us. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer especially Theresa, Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Rodney, Yvonne, Carroll, Edwin, Ruby, Robert. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the covenant of baptism you claim us as beloved children. Nurture us in our baptismal identity and teach us to live within it for the sake of others. Strengthen this congregation's ministries of care and concern. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In baptism you join us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise you for all those who have died trusting in your faithfulness. Bring us with them to the fullness of your reign. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**VIRTUAL OFFERING** *If you have not already prepared your offering to mail to the church, please take a moment now to do so.*

## **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

*Bless Now, O God the Journey*



1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,  
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;  
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.  
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.  
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow.



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,  
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;  
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.  
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.  
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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### DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey* reprise

# TRENDING @ TRINITY

Each Wednesday in Lent at 7PM there will be a virtual worship service. Using the same phone numbers listed below for calling in to Sunday worship, use the following Meeting ID: 899 4797 0595 Passcode: 443220. **Use this log in information for all the Wednesday 7PM Lenten worship services.**

Those attending Pastor's Sunday Bible study at 1PM beginning today may call into Zoom using the same phone numbers listed below for calling in to Sunday worship, use the following (every week) Meeting ID: 821 4333 6302 Passcode: 370380

## Epiphanies:

On February 7 in her sermon Pastor JMe asked you to pass along "epiphanies" from your daily life/week. Here are some we've collected so far, please, keep them coming, they will uplift us all as we go through the pandemic days.

- ✝ Lonnie Cullers is delighted that the retirement community where he resides will begin on Feb. 21 allowing residents to leave "campus" and not have to quarantine for two weeks upon return. The announcement brings hope: that more are receiving the vaccine and that COVID numbers are decreasing.
- ✝ Trinity received another donation of food from the Knights of Columbus last week, enabling the congregation to continue to feed about 25-30 families per week.
- ✝ Trinity has received well over \$200 in monetary donations towards preparing an evening meal for WATTS on February 23rd.

## **Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89308405981?pwd=TDY0SkxiUWgvNHpUZDBHdGk0aWRqZz09>

Meeting ID: 893 0840 5981 Passcode: 321080

Dial +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

at the prompt, enter Meeting ID: 893 0840 5981 Passcode: 321080

**Facebook Live:** you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account

<https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>

**Call to Worship, Every Sunday 11AM** Phone # 1-712-832-8330 Participant PIN 3504615

Videos of the service are uploaded each week to Trinity's YouTube channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIYPLbYZ1RE\\_IZGJ9GDakIw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIYPLbYZ1RE_IZGJ9GDakIw)

**Children's Virtual Sunday School:**

