

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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STEPHENS CITY, VA

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9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG  
JUNE 13, 2021 PENTECOST 3

**PRELUDE**      *God Who Made the Earth and Heaven*      Allan Mahnke (b.1944)

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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 sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
Most merciful God,

**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.**

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. **Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG vs. 1, 2

*How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;  
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind  
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,  
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.  
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

## 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

1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
2 Christ, . . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
Chris - te e - lei - son.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Marcie Stern

A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig  
from the lofty top of a cedar;  
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one  
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it  
on a high and lofty mountain.

<sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it,  
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,  
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;  
in the shade of its branches will nest  
winged creatures of every kind.

<sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know  
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,



I make high the low tree;  
 I dry up the green tree  
 and make the dry tree flourish.  
 I the LORD have spoken;  
 I will accomplish it.

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17**

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Come, Holy Spirit, Descend*

\*Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, de - scend on us, de -  
 scend on us. We gath - er here in Je - sus'  
 name. (hm)

\*Additional verses ad lib:  
 Come, Breath of heaven, . . .

## **GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34**

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.<sup>28</sup> The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

<sup>30</sup>He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples. 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**

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Give comfort to Edwin, Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Rodney, Yvonne, Ruby, the Nichols family, the family of Carroll Long. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for all church musicians especially Ricky Gearhart. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. **Amen.**

## PEACE

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

## OFFERING

### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG v. 3, 4

### *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;  
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind,  
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,  
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.  
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Voluntary*

William Boyce (1710-1779)

# TRENDING @ TRINITY



*All* are welcome to gather in the upper parking lot after Worship this morning for a Pot Luck in the Parking Lot. Trinity's first congregational social gathering since early 2020. Everyone come and enjoy! A word of thanks to Diann Dailey and her crew for organizing this special event.

♪ ♪ Trinity's Director of Music, Ricky Gearhart, is ready to start rehearsing the hand chime group. If you have an interest in participating, speak to him this morning or email him at [music@trinitychurchvirginia.org](mailto:music@trinitychurchvirginia.org). Rehearsals begin immediately after worship next Sunday. ♪ ♪



Trinity is joining with Stephens City United Methodist Church for **Wilderness Escape** Vacation Bible School this year. The VBS will run June 27-July 1, 6-8:15PM. **Parents:** If you have children age 4-12, go to the Stephens City UMC website to enroll your students. They are still looking for at least one more adult volunteer. If you are interested in helping, contact Jacquetta Owen [jacquettaowen@gmail.com](mailto:jacquettaowen@gmail.com) or speak to Pastor JMe.

An update from the Social Ministry Team: The Knights of Columbus are back on track with the wonderful donations that we have been getting to continue with feeding the community. June 8 and 9 we received a total of 5 pickup truck loads of food. Chicken, bread, canned goods galore we are estimating easily \$3000.00 in food donations. And that doesn't count the wonderful donations that come in from our own congregation.

These donations have been distributed to the elderly, veterans, homeless and the local school families. We have also been able to share with the Love Church Food Pantry the items that we knew we couldn't find homes for fast enough. As they assist families every Monday night with a Drive Thru Food Pantry. God's Work Our Hands. Teamwork makes light work!

Trinity will be having another food basket pick up (like Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter) for the end of the school year on June 26. These "baskets" are given to families in the school system identified through the Guidance program. Thank you all for allowing us to meet these needs.

**Zoom to Worship**, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 0840 5981 Passcode: 321080

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89308405981?pwd=TDY0SkxiUWgvNHpUZDBHdGk0aWRqZz09> Dial +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

**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**, First Sunday of the month 11AM Phone 1-971-224-6593 Code: 423612