

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET
STEPHENS CITY, VA

[540] 869-4019
9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG
JULY 11, 2021 PENTECOST 7

PRELUDE

Praeambulum

Heinrich Scheidemann (1596-1663)

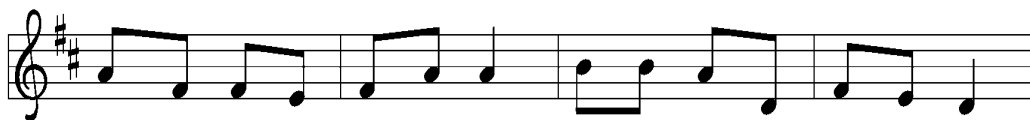
HYMN STORY

GATHERING SONG

Jesus Loves Me!



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.

Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Amos 7:7-15

Anne Vermillion

A reading from Amos.

⁷This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,

“See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;
⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.’”

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

A reading from Ephesians.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

GOSPEL: Mark 10:13-16

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

¹³ People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it."

¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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 parent, you welcome your people into one family and gather all things to yourself. Bestow your grace upon your beloved church, lavish your wisdom upon us, and redeem us from our faults, that by our witness all might praise your glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving parent of the child Jesus, we pray for children around the world. Alert us to the struggles that many children endure. With your generous and tender care, grant to all children compassionate adults who will shield them, feed them, and help them to grow strong and skilled, joyful and free. Empower family members and all caregivers with adequate resources and a daily renewal of wisdom and patience and assure them of their holy vocation as guardians of your dear ones, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of strength, you are near to those who endure difficulty. We pray especially for David, Martha, Eileen, Edwin, Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Rodney, Yvonne, Ruby. Comfort all who are survivors of violence, guard the refugee and the immigrant, and protect all those who are victims of prejudice and discrimination. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the grace of Lord Jesus Christ, our savior and friend;
May the love of God, binding us together and building us up;
May the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, knitting us together as a church family;
Be with us until we meet again. **Amen**

HYMN STORY

SENDING SONG

Children of the Heavenly Father: Tryggare kan ingen vara



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Conclusion

Francois Fétis (1784-1871)

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TRENDING @ TRINITY

BIBLE CHALLENGE



Have you accepted the challenge yet? Time to get on board!

“I’m challenging myself and our community of Trinity Lutheran to enter a year of bible reading. I think this will be fun and inspirational to do together as individuals and families of the congregation. Together we will experience the scriptures in a new way, become aware of the depth and breadth of the entire, great salvation story of our faith, grow in our spiritual relationship with God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and support one another in our growth as disciples of Christ. Won’t you join me in this adventure with the Holy Scriptures?” -- *Pastor JMe*

The electronic sign-up option was emailed the last of June. Anyone may call the church office or sign up on the list here at church. Choose your start date: August 1, or September 1. Once you’re signed up you will be able to download or pick up a copy of the reading plan. This is for all ages; families are encouraged to read together. And you don’t have to *read*, there are audio and video options out there if you’re adventurous and willing to look for them.

Christmas in July! Trinity’s Hymn Stories-His Story will celebrate Christ’s birth on July 25. Pull out your favorite Christmas cookie recipe(s) and bring some cookies for the fellowship time following worship that Sunday.

Trinity’s Community Outreach Team is asking for donations of any type of laundry detergent. Your donations may be placed in the same bins as food donations.

Pastor JMe will be out of the office on medical leave beginning July 21. Her hope is to be back in the pulpit on August 1.

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/trinitylutheranchurchstephencityva/live/>

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

Hymn Stories ~ His-story
Celebrating the Children of God
July 11, 2021

Opening Hymn: “Jesus Loves Me!”

Anna and Susan Warner lived in a lovely townhouse in New York City where their father, Henry Whiting Warner, was a successful lawyer. But the ‘Panic of 1837 wrecked the family’s finances, forcing them to move into a ramshackle home on Constitution Island on the Hudson, right across from West Point Military Academy.

Needing to contribute to the family income, Anna and Susan began writing poems and stories for publication, launching parallel literary careers which resulted in 106 publication, eighteen of them co-authored. One of their most successful joint projects was a novel titled *Say and Seal* in which a little boy named Johnny Fox is dying. His Sunday School teacher, John Linden, comforts him by taking him in his arms, rocking him, and making up a little song: ‘Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so...’

The novel became a best seller, second only to *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*; and when hymnwriter William Bradbury read the words of John Linden’s little song (written by Anna), he composed a childlike musical score to go along with them. “Jesus Loves Me” soon became the best-known children’s hymn on earth.

Morgan, Robert J. (2010) *Then Sings My Soul:150 Christmas, Easter, and All-Time Favorite Hymn Stories*, p. 185

Closing Hymn: “Children of the Heavenly Father”

Carolina (“Lina”) Sandell was a Lutheran pastor’s daughter in Froderyd, Sweden. She was very close to her father and, during her childhood, she enjoyed playing quietly in his study as he worked.

She began writing hymns at an early age. When she was 26 years old, tragedy struck. She and her father were passengers in a boat crossing Lake Vattern when the boat lurched and her father fell overboard. As Lina watched in horror, her father drowned before anyone could mount a rescue effort.

When tragedy strikes, some people allow it to destroy them, but Lina’s faith saw her through the tragedy. Her grief gave her music a new depth and sensitivity.

During her lifetime, Lina wrote 650 hymns. “Children of the Heavenly Father” is the one that is most familiar to English-speaking congregations.

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