Mission Congregation of the ELCA Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church P. O. Box 64 - 8520 Oakes Rd - Pitsburg, Ohio 45358

THEN PETER SAID,
"SILVER OR GOLD I DO
NOT HAVE, BUT WHAT I
HAVE I GIVE YOU. IN
THE NAME OF JESUS

ACTS 3:6

Acts 3:1-10 April 14, 2024



Scan with your Smartphone and link to our web page, our Facebook page, and our YouTube Channel.

CHRIST OF NAZARETH,

GATHERING

• Prelude Roxanne Groff

- Office of the Acolyte and Ringing of the Bell
- Welcome Pr Mel Musser

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

- P: Risen God,
- C: We confess to you, to ourselves, and to one another that we have caused harm by the things we have said and done, and by the things we have not said and not done. Take away our sins that we might fully embody your commandment to love you with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.
- P: In grace and mercy, God forgives all our sins, and with joy and expectation calls us into new life for the sake of the world, through Jesus Christ our savior.

C: Amen.

* Please stand if able

April 14, 2024

Please be seated

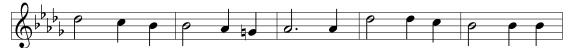
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GATHERING HYMN "When Peace, Like A River"





- When peace, like a riv er, at tend eth my Though Sa tan should buf fet, though tri als shou when way;
- als should come, let
- glo ri ous 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this thought; my
- And Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,



sor - rows, like sea bil-lows, roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it well, it well with my is is soul. and hath shed his own blood for help - less es - tate, soul. my more. Praise the Lord, praise the no Lord, O, my soul! Lord shall de - scend; e - ven it is well with my soul. SO



APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: 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.

* Please stand if able April 14, 2024

• Please be seated

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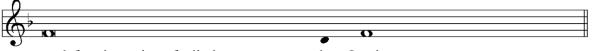


A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



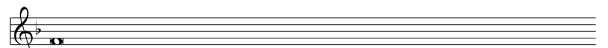


A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

April 14, 2024

* HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for ev er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... Merciful God, in and through Jesus you reached out in healing love to all who came to you for help. Empower us now to extend that same healing love to one another, our community, and the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

WORD

* Please stand if able

April 14, 2024

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



Theme: God hears, understands, and answers our prayers.

Materials: Mad Gab Bible Names

Scripture: Acts 3:1-10

Hello girls and boys. I hope you had a great week! Today we're going to play a game called Mad Gab. It's such a popular game, they made a Bible version. I'm going to show you some gibberish words and you are going to guess who the famous Bible character is.

Do you get it? OK, here's the first one...

- (SLIDE) Canon Hey Bell (SLIDE) Cain and Abel
- (SLIDE) Day Fit Angle Eye Hath (SLIDE) David and Goliath
- (SLIDE) Chose If Fan Mare He (SLIDE) Joseph and Mary

(SLIDE) Mad Gab is a game that's a lot of fun. It sounds like you are saying gibberish and crazy talk, but if you listen carefully it will makes sense to someone and they get the answer.

Today I want to talk to you about prayer. Sometimes when we pray we might think we said something wrong or it did not make sense or maybe we could have done a better job, but I want to tell you something. You can't pray in a wrong or incorrect way. In Romans 8:27 it says that "The Spirit intercedes for the Saints in accordance with God's will." Those are a few big words to say that the Holy Spirit hears whatever you say and understands and will make sure that God's will is be carried out. If you make a mistake, or don't pray the same way as someone else it is ok, because The Holy Spirit understands you.

In our Bible story for today there was a man who could not walk and he was asking for money to help him out. In Acts 3:6 Peter saw him and said, "Silver or Gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Guess what happened... Yep, the man got up and walked. This man was asking for help with money, but God answered him in a way that he never expected. God knew what he really needed and gave it to him.

Today I want to encourage you to pray, don't be shy, do your best and come to God because he loves to hear from you, you may not consider your prayer to be perfect, but God knows exactly what you need, so ask, pray, and God will understand.

Lets pray... Thank you God for the gift of prayer. Help us to learn to pray always and in every situation of our lives. Even when we don't know what we need look at us and hear us so we too can be healed. Amen.

* Please stand if able April 14, 2024

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• A READING OF SCRIPTURE: Acts 3:1-10

R: Our scripture reading is from the Book of Acts, Chapter 3.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

3 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. ² And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. ³ When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. ⁴ Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ⁵ And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶ But Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." ⁷ And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸ Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹ All the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

R: This is the Word of the Lord!

C: Praise to You, O Christ (Spoken)

• SERMON Pr. Mel Musser
Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the risen Jesus Christ,
our Lord and Savior, amen.

What a wild couple of weeks this has been. Our daughter, Melanie, gave us quite a scare. For about a week or a little more she was in critical condition brought on by pancreatitis. The normal treatment for pancreatitis is to rest your digestive system by taking nothing by mouth until the inflammation of the pancreas calms down. That treatment works for most normal people, but we all know Melanie is far from normal. On about the fourth or fifth night of watching helplessly as her whole body convulsed, I prayed until I ran out of words. At that

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point I simply started repeating The Lord's Prayer out loud for Melanie to hear. Eventually, I fell asleep with my head and arms over the top of her bed railings. While I was asleep, the word "withdrawal" kept coming into my head. There wasn't any fanfare or angel visitations, just the one word. I don't usually even remember my dreams, but when I woke up I actually remembered that single word. When the nurse came into the room, I asked her if Melanie could be going through withdrawal from her medications. She gave me some excuse that the doctors think her constant and continual convulsions were either pain related or caused by seizures. About 3 o'clock the next afternoon, the head doctor from the ICU visited Melanie and informed me that after observing her behavior, he is convinced she was going through withdrawal symptoms from at least three of her medications that should never be stopped abruptly. By this time her blood pressure was down to 59/49, her heart rate was well over 140 beats per minute and her oxygen levels were so low they had to place her on a bypap machine to help her breathe. At this point Melanie was completely limp and comatose. After placing a nasogastric tube to begin feeding her, they were able to begin crushing her meds and putting them into her NG Tube. Miraculously her symptoms began to subside and every day she showed great improvement. During this whole ordeal, doctors, nurses, and care givers of every kind, flocked to Melanie's bedside. She is so tiny and lovable, she immediately became everyone's favorite. They all gave her the absolute best care

^{*} Please stand if able

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[•] Please be seated

they could. I tell you this story, not to gain your sympathy, but to show you the power of your prayers. I am confident your prayers stirred God's Holy Spirit to work a great sign for Melanie and for me.

In our scripture reading for today, Peter and John, who represent the early Church, also prayed for a poor man who had been lame since birth. This man must have been the village favorite because the Bible says people would bring him every day to the "Beautiful Gate" so he could beg for alms. Most people wouldn't give the time of day to a poor beggar. For most people, especially back in ancient times, life was hard and there was no "extra" money nor "extra" time to care for the sick and lame. They were cast out and left on their own, but not this man. He was brought out every day so people would see him on their way to the temple. Melanie used to be a greeter at Abiding Christ many years ago. She was our social butterfly. I imagine that's the way it was with this man. He was everyone's favorite person.

In our reading Peter and John looked at the man intently. Perhaps others passed by and dropped a few coins into the man's jar without so much as a sideways glance. They didn't want to see him. Oftentimes I do the exact same thing. I often look the other way when I see beggars on the street. Even when I do respond to other's needs, I merely send money. We've sponsored 2 children through World Vision for many years, but I've never even taken the time to learn

* Please stand if able

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the names of the ones we're helping. It's like I'm trying to buy my blessing without getting too personally involved. I give without really seeing who I'm giving to. Peter not only saw this man, the Bible says he looked intently at him.

When Jesus would heal a person, he would usually say something like "Your faith has made you well." There's no faith requirement in our healing story today. Luke, who wrote both the Gospel of Luke and the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, never mentions the faith of the lame man. After the miraculous healing, the man entered the Temple and began jumping and leaping and praising God. His faith, at this point could not be contained. He wore it on his sleeve for everyone to see. Speaking of everyone... Everyone in or around the temple that day saw what happened and they were amazed.

Our story in these 10 verses doesn't show us what is happening behind the scenes with the early Church. All we see here is Peter and John acting for the rest of the Church. However, right before this story of the healing of the lame man, Luke lets us behind the curtain to see what the rest of the Church was up to. On the day of Pentecost Peter's sermon converted over 3000 people to Christ. In Acts, chapter 2, verse 42 it says, "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Learning, eating together, receiving Holy Communion, and praying were the orders of the day for the earliest Church. Those are not bad things for the Church today to focus on. When we

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^{*} Please stand if able April 14, 2024

needed to be with Melanie, you all did exactly that! You stayed focused on Worship, and prayer. I know that without your prayers Melanie would never have recovered either at all or certainly not so quickly. I know your prayers were responsible for my dream and I know your prayers were responsible for the head doctor of Soin Medical Center's Intensive Care Unit to finally come and see Melanie. Until then, many doctors, nurses, and other care providers had examined Melanie, but they didn't really see her. When one doctor did finally see Melanie, everything changed for her. He saw through all the preconceived diagnoses and actually looked intently at her. At that point he also was given the vision of what was wrong and how to go about healing her. This my friends was the turning point. I am convinced without the prayers of this Church and so many others, Melanie would not have recovered.

We can't thank you enough for your faith for your trust in the power of the Holy Spirit, and for the witness you all make to the love of God and in the power of prayer. Your prayers were our food for those two weeks. They encouraged us and gave us hope when our hope was all but gone...

It's not often we get to be part of God's signs and wonders in such a spectacular manner. We should all stop and take notice of what just happened. While we were all celebrating the resurrection and making merry, Melanie was in the fight for her life. For me and my family, the celebrating quickly turned into

^{*} Please stand if able

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wailing and dreading what might come next. It's hard to shift gears so abruptly. It's equally hard to hold both truths together at the same time. We live in a world where sin and death seem to go unchecked. Yet, at the exact same time we live in a world that experiences the love of God and the hope in the resurrection. We knew no matter which way Melanie's prognosis went, she was either going to come back to all the people who love her and whom she loves, or she would wake up with Jesus and be in the very presence of love incarnate. Either way, for Melanie it was a win-win situation. Thanks be to God she came back to us and is now, one more time, a living example of God's love and mercy.

I wish I had the power to perform miracles like Peter and John. I wish I could have been there to witness the ankles and the feet of that lame man become strong and agile. I wish I could have watched as he jumped and lept in the Temple that day. I confess that I don't feel much like a witness. I feel more like that lame man who was healed that day. Seeing the power of y'all's prayers restored and strengthened my faith and healed my soul. It's going to take some time to get the images of Melanie's suffering out of my mind. It's a kind of PTSD I pray none of you will have to endure. Even as I say those words I have to add that all we did was watch, it was Melanie who endured and who suffered, not me or PJ. Nevertheless, when those horrible images subside, I can guarantee I'll be the one doing some jumping and leaping around here.

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^{*} Please stand if able

May the Lord continue to use us to heal this lost and broken world. May we continue to encourage one another in fellowship, in love, and in prayer. May we continue to devote ourselves to the teachings of the Apostles and may we never be ashamed to jump and leap when God moves in our lives because in our joy we display our faith in the risen Lord Jesus for everyone to see. May our witness to the risen Christ kindle the fire of faith in others for the sake of the Gospel and for the sake of the world. Amen.

Silence may be kept for meditation...

* NICENE CREED

The Nicene Creed is said on all festivals and on Sundays in the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. The Apostles' Creed is said at other times. The Creed is omitted here if the service of Holy Baptism or another rite with a creed is used.

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Trusting in the promise of the resurrection, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

L: Healing God, by your power, Peter was able to liberate a man from the need to beg for his survival. Give us the power to transform lives and systems so that all your children have what they need to flourish. God of new life,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: Within the complexity and beauty of the world you created can be found sources of life and healing we have yet to encounter, but which could be transformative to humanity. Help us to preserve and protect the gifts you have given us in nature. God of new life,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: Move the leaders of wealthy nations to provide health and humanitarian aid wherever it is needed and commit them to addressing the international inequities that cause these health crises in the first place. God of new life,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: Strengthen all who are experiencing challenges to their health and wellbeing and all who provide care to them, (*especially...*) God of new life,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: We uplift all who do not have access to healthcare, both in our own country and throughout the world. Make us advocates for this most essential human right so that every one of your beloved children might be cared for as you would care for them. God of new life.

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: We thank you for all the departed saints who have been healers in our lives. In their footsteps, may we engage in the healing practice of our faithful presence with those around us. God of new life,

C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

P: We place in your arms all for whom we pray, out loud or in our hearts, confident in your mercy and grace, through Jesus Christ, our savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

* Please stand if able April 14, 2024

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OFFERING

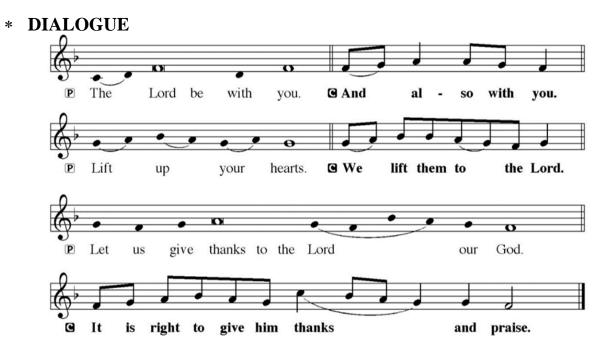
P: As we collect our offering here in person, those worshipping with us through the internet may go to our website located at www.pitsburgtlc.org where you'll find a button labeled "Give to Trinity." You can make your offering to God through our secure website.

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray for the offerings we receive this day ...Generous God, we return to you out of your abundant gifts these offerings of our possessions, as well as our time and our talents. Use them for the sake of a world in need to the glory of your holy name.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



* THE PREFACE

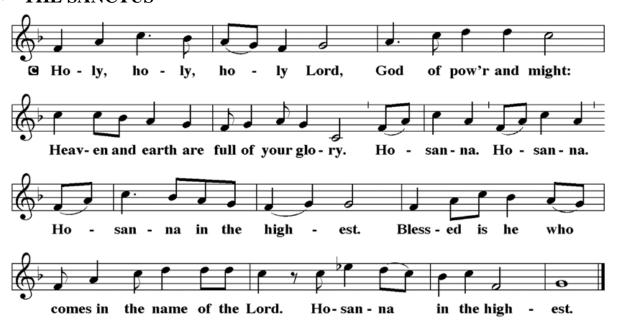
P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his 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:

* Please stand if able

April 14, 2024

• Please be seated

* THE SANCTUS



* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C: Amen

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: United into one through Jesus Christ Our Lord, we pray as Jesus taught...

* Please stand if able April 14, 2024

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C: 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.

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The one in whose name Peter healed now invites you to this feast of promise. In bread and wine, Jesus gives his very self to strengthen you in your life of faith. Come and eat.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion is by "Station". As the ministers give the bread and wine, they may say these words to each communicant:

The body of Christ, given for you.

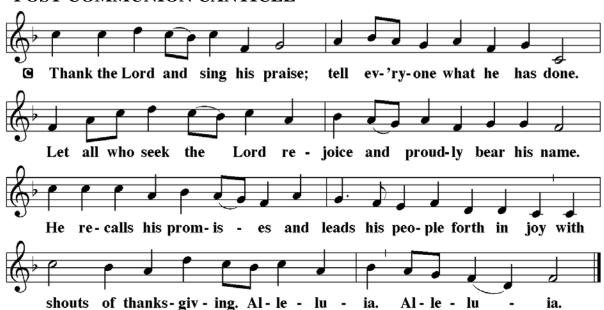
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: Amen.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May this body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever, amen.

* POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



* Please stand if able April 14, 2024

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* POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray... Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen

SENDING

• ANNOUNCEMENTS

* SENDING BLESSING

P: 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.



* Please stand if able

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Please be seated

* DISMISSAL

P: Thank you all for joining us to worship our great and gracious God! Thanks also to our Facebook and other social media viewers for joining us as well. We're glad you're with us today. Until the next time we gather together as God's people to offer our worship and praise, depart in Christ's Love.

C: Seeking, welcoming, and serving all. Amen!

* POSTLUDE Roxanne Groff

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Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff

Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Organist	Roxanne Groff
Lector	Peggy Didier
Acolyte	Jackson Baker
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser
Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
Facebook Live Recorder	PJ Musser



Scripture readings for next Sunday, April 21st Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Health Tips for the Week MIND: Write a poem.

BODY: Try a new hair style.

SPIRIT: Learn the story behind your favorite hymn.

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This Week @ Trinity - April 14 thru April 21:

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sun, Apr. 14	9:30 am	Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts)
	10:30 am	Worship Service
Mon, Apr. 15	Tax Day!	
Tues, Apr. 16	Newsletter Deadline	
Wed, Apr. 17	<mark>7:00 pm</mark>	Trinity Council Meeting No Council Meeting in
		April!
Thurs, Apr. 18	11:30 am	Ladies & Gents Luncheon at Huey Magoo's,
		9196 N. Main, Englewood OH
Fri, Apr. 19	3:30 pm	FISH Choice Food Pantry
Sun, Apr. 21	9:30 am	Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts)
	10:30 am	Worship Service w/Communion

Save The Date!

Sunday, April 28, 10:30 am	Youth Leading Worship
Sunday, May 5 th , 2 – 5 pm	Mother-Daughter-Friend Banquet
	(Men, if you can help serving or entertaining
	our Ladies, please see Pastor Mel!)
Saturday, May 18	Trip to the Ark Encounter in Kentucky

WELCA PIZZA/PRETZEL/SUB SALE – Order forms can be found on the table outside the office. Orders are due by May 19 and pickup will be June 9.



Trinity is on the Air at FM 88.3

If you are near the Church on Sunday morning, you can tune in to FM 88.3 at 10:30 AM and hear the sermon from your car.

Holy Communion Delivery Available to ALL:

If you or anyone you know would like to have Holy Communion delivered to a home or place of business, please call Pastor Mel at 937-626-7100. He will bring a prefilled communion chalice including both sanctified wine and a morsel of bread all prepackaged from the Concordia True Vine company. This is a safe way to stay connected to your brothers and sisters in Christ.

* Please stand if able April 14, 2024

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Trinity Contact Info

Pastor:	Mel Musser
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* Please stand if able

April 14, 2024