

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



1 Kings 18:17-39  
November 5, 2023



 SCAN ME

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

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## GATHERING

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- **Prelude** **Roxanne Groff**
- **Office of the Acolyte and Ringing of the Bell**
- **Welcome** **Pastor Mel Musser**

- **REMEMBERING OUR SAINTS**

P: In holy baptism God makes us saints and gives us a new identity. In Holy Communion God forgives the sins of all the saints. In the assembly today, we give thanks for all the saints “who from their labors rest.” Recalling our own Baptism, we remember we have been sealed by the Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. We will read the names of our dearly departed saints in groups of 3. After each group of names is read the bell will toll. Please respond in faith that they are “**Here with Us.**”

*(The list of names is read aloud...)*

**All Saints Day List 2023**

*See Attached List*

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- \* Please stand if able
  - Please be seated

**\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

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

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

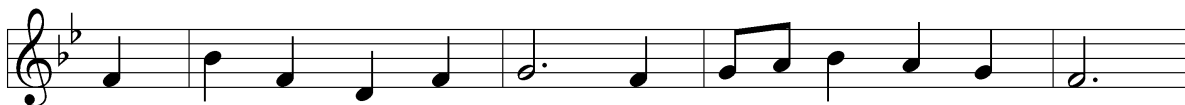
P: God whose reign is just,

**C: We acknowledge that our actions and inactions have led to the oppression of our neighbors. We have willingly benefitted from privileges that cause harm to others. We have failed to heed your call to lead from a place of humility, and to care for our communities in a way that makes is possible for all to flourish. Forgive us our fear of scarcity and love of power, and keep us ever mindful of the needs of others.**

P: The reign of God has come near to you! In Christ Jesus, we are reconciled to God, and therefore God forgives us all our sins. Let God guide us to work for God’s justice.

**C: Amen.**

**\* GATHERING SONG “For All Your Saints, Oh Lord” LBW 176**



1 For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to live,  
2 For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to die,  
3 They all in life and death, with you, their Lord, in view,  
4 For this, your name we bless and hum - bly pray a - new  
5 To God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, ev - er blest,



who fol - lowed you, o - beyed, a - dored, our grate - ful hymn re - ceive.  
who count - ed you their great re - ward, ac - cept our thank - ful cry.  
learned from your Ho - ly Spir - it's breath to suf - fer and to do.  
that we like them in ho - li - ness may live and die in you.  
the One in Three, the Three in One, be end - less praise ad - dressed.

**\* 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.

**C: And also with you.**

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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# \* KYRIE



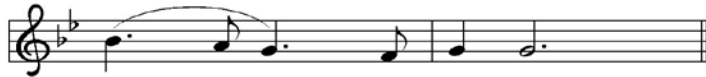
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



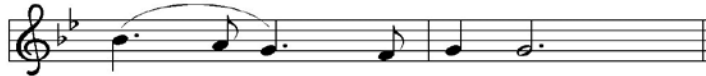
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



**A - men.**

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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\* **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... Mighty God, day by day we are witnesses to your miracles, big and small, whether we are even aware of them. Draw our attention to your action in the world, that we might proclaim your goodness. In Jesus name we pray.

C: Amen.

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**WORD**

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\* Please stand if able

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## • CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



**Theme:** Worshiping the one true God

**Materials:** A blue ribbon that could be given as a prize.

**Scripture:** 1 Kings 18:17-39

Have you ever tried to solve a maze? Some mazes are harder than others. Sometimes life can seem like a maze. I've had times in my life when I didn't know which way to turn. It's scary to feel like you're lost and you haven't even left home! One thing that I find helps me when ever I feel like I'm lost. No, not my GPS on my phone, although my phone does help me a lot. I'm talking about praying... When I have too many choices and none of them seem like real good choices, it's time for prayer. When I have clear choices, it's time for prayer. When I don't think I have any choices, it's time for prayer. Do you get my point. It's always a good time for prayer.

My favorite prophet, Elijah must have thought he was in a maze with no good choices. It seemed to Elijah that all the people had turned away from God and were worshipping a false god the people called Ba'al. Elijah wanted to show the people Ba'al was a fake god so he decided to hold a contest to see which god was the true living God and which one was fake. He told the prophets of Ba'al to build an altar of wood and to place a sacrifice on their altar. He told all 450 prophets of this fake god Ba'al to pray for their god to come down and consume their sacrifice with fire. They prayed and danced around until they came up with a limp. Guess what happened... That's right, absolutely nothing happened because Ba'al was a fake god.

Now Elijah built an altar made of stones. He put the sacrifice on his altar and told the people to flood his altar with water. They even dug a ditch around the altar and they poured so much water into the altar it filled up the ditch. Then Elijah prayed to the God of Abraham, Isacc, and Jacob. Guess what happened... That's right. Not only did God send fire from heaven to consume the sacrifice, it burned up the stones and even dried up all that water.

Elijah knew the one true and living God, but he was sad because his people thought the fake god Ba'al was a real God. By praying to God, Elijah proved to the people their God was the real God and Ba'al was the fake god. After that all the people said This is the real God and we will serve God.

I have a maze for each of you to solve when you have the time. I hope you are able to figure it out just like Elijah did.

Let's pray... Dear heavenly Father, thank you for always hearing and answering our prayers. When we pray we know you hear us and sometimes you surprise us with the way you answer our prayers. Remind us to pray first when we are lost and don't know which way to turn. Amen.

• **SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Kings 18:17-39**

P: Our scripture reading is from the Book of 1<sup>st</sup> Kings, Chapter 18.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup> When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, “Is it you, you troubler of Israel?” <sup>18</sup> He answered, “I have not troubled Israel; but you have, and your father’s house, because you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and followed the Baals. <sup>19</sup> Now therefore have all Israel assemble for me at Mount Carmel, with the four hundred fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel’s table.”

<sup>20</sup> So Ahab sent to all the Israelites, and assembled the prophets at Mount Carmel.

<sup>21</sup> Elijah then came near to all the people, and said, “How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.” The people did not answer him a word. <sup>22</sup> Then Elijah said to the people, “I, even I only, am left a prophet of the Lord; but Baal’s prophets number four hundred fifty. <sup>23</sup> Let two bulls be given to us; let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it; I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it. <sup>24</sup> Then you call on the name of your god and I will call on the name of the Lord; the god who answers by fire is indeed God.” All the people answered, “Well spoken!” <sup>25</sup> Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first, for you are many; then call on the name of your god, but put no fire to it.”

<sup>26</sup> So they took the bull that was given them, prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, crying, “O Baal, answer us!” But there was no voice, and no answer. They limped about the altar that they had made. <sup>27</sup> At noon Elijah mocked them, saying, “Cry aloud! Surely he is a god; either he is meditating, or he has wandered away, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened.” <sup>28</sup> Then they cried aloud and, as was their custom, they cut themselves with swords and lances until the blood gushed out over them. <sup>29</sup> As midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice, no answer, and no response.

<sup>30</sup> Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come closer to me”; and all the people came closer to him. First he repaired the altar of the Lord that had been thrown down; <sup>31</sup> Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord came, saying, “Israel shall be your name”; <sup>32</sup> with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord. Then he made a trench

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

around the altar, large enough to contain two measures of seed. <sup>33</sup>Next he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. He said, “Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood.” <sup>34</sup>Then he said, “Do it a second time”; and they did it a second time. Again he said, “Do it a third time”; and they did it a third time, <sup>35</sup>so that the water ran all around the altar, and filled the trench also with water.

<sup>36</sup>At the time of the offering of the oblation, the prophet Elijah came near and said, “O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your bidding. <sup>37</sup>Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so that this people may know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.” <sup>38</sup>Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust, and even licked up the water that was in the trench. <sup>39</sup>When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, “The Lord indeed is God; the Lord indeed is God.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ (*Spoken*)**

• **SERMON**

**Pastor Mel Musser**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from God’s Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, Our Savior and our Lord, amen.

When I was a kid it seemed like there was a gas station on every street corner. Slowly over the years many of those gas stations have been replaced by Pharmacies. Now there’s a pharmacy on nearly every street corner. Perhaps the only rival to the number of pharmacies in a town is the number of donut shops... I wonder if there’s a correlation there... The more donut shops, the more pharmacies that are needed... In the ancient times of the Old Testament I’m not sure they had either pharmacies or donut shops. Under King Ahab they did have a

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temple on every street corner and high place. You see King Ahab, who was Israel's 7<sup>th</sup> king, if you're counting, had allowed the worship of the Asherah god, Ba'al, into his realm. When Ahab married Jezebell he made a critical miscalculation. He thought he could still worship the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, while also worshipping the pagan god Ba'al. Now, as you know, I've been a Cleveland Browns fan all my life. One of the saddest days of my life was the Sunday when the original Browns played their final game in the old Cleveland Municipal Stadium. I remember going there to see Browns games with my dad when I was about 5 or 6 years old. (SLIDE) On that final Sunday game at Municipal Stadium, I remember the fans tearing up the wood from the bleachers in the Dog Pound and throwing them onto the field... The next season those same Browns players wore the uniform of a blackbird. Now, considering all the animosity between these two teams, I don't believe you can be a fan of both the Browns and that other team from Baltimore. It's got to be one or the other... Don't even get me started on the Steelers or that team from Denver... You all know where I stand... Now the same thing goes with worshipping Yahweh. You can't be on team Yahweh while also worshipping other pagan gods.

That's the message delivered in such dramatic fashion by the Prophet Elijah. Elijah is my favorite prophet. (SLIDE) I have this marvelous olive wood carving

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- \* Please stand if able
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of the prophet that I purchased in Israel. I hope one day soon the fighting is over and peace returns to the Holy Lands. Back when you could still travel to Israel one of the first stops was always at the top of Mount Carmel. This is known as the mountain of Elijah because from here you can see where the Elijah challenged the 450 prophets of Ba'al. Mount Carmel is on one side of Israel and from the top you can see another famous mountain. (SLIDE) This is Mount Tabor. This mountain is believed to be the site where Jesus was transfigured. If you recall from the story of the transfiguration, Jesus met with Moses and Elijah to talk about the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. When you're standing at the peak of Mount Carmel you can almost hear the words of Elijah echoing off these two opposing mountains. In the middle you can also see another piece of real estate so important to the state of Israel right now. (SLIDE) This is an Israeli Air Force Base...

OK, enough looking at my vacation pictures from almost 20 years ago... Besides my main point about picking what side you're on, maybe there's something relevant for us in this story about King Ahab, Queen Jezebel, and the prophet Elijah. (SLIDE) I say this story is about Ahab, Jezebel, and Elijah, but it's really just about Israel's God, Yahweh. Let's look at the situation a bit more closely. First off, who doesn't like a good fight. I remember back in Junior High, these two girls got into a fight behind the school during lunch. These were two

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girls that nobody really liked, but they sure drew a crowd on the day of the big fight. There was slapping of faces and pulling of hair. There was swearing and foul language. It was the biggest event at our school in months! Everyone gathered around like it was a main event bout. The fight between Elijah and the prophets of Ba'al was the main event for Israel. The entire nation gathered around to witness this epic face off. It wasn't really a fair fight. First off, it was 450 to one! Who would take those odds? Secondly, the offering was a bull. That was the typical sacrifice offered to Ba'al. The sacrifice offered at the Temple in Jerusalem was an unblemished lamb or maybe a pair of turtle doves. Then there was Ba'al, who was worshipped by the Asherah peoples. Ba'al was the god of lightening, so the priests were praying that Baal would do something he had long been credited with doing. All they had to do was call down just one lightening bolt, set the wood on fire and prove once and for all times Ba'al is greater than any other god. The only problem was the sheer silence. Ba'al wasn't answering. Hello, Ba'al! Where are you? Elijah's comments are dripping with sarcasm. Maybe Ba'al is meditating. That's what our English translation says, but the Hebrew says maybe Ba'al is taking care of business or possibly relieving himself. What!?! At such a crucial time the Asherahian god is relieving himself... Or maybe, Ba'al is not a god after all, but no more than a man-made idol. No matter how high the odds

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were stacked against poor ol' Elijah, the one true and living God certainly put Ba'al and all his worshippers in their place. (SLIDE) One little prayer from Elijah and poof!!! It's all gone, even the water in the ditch is gone, gone, gone... Our story stops here, but if you read on, Elijah immediately kills every last one of those prophets of Ba'al with the sword. This is why Elijah is often depicted with a sword high over his head. (SLIDE) Here's another view from atop Mount Carmel from my vacation photo album. This tiny stream is called the Wadi Kishon. This is the site where Elijah killed all 450 of those prophets of Ba'al.

The story of King Ahab is tragic. He had some success militarily, but is considered a very evil king according to the Rabbinical historical records. Upon his death, it was reported that dogs licked his blood from the battlefield. Other sources also claim pigs licked up his blood as well. Since Jews believe any contact with pigs makes you unclean, King Ahab is believed by devout Jews to be excluded from the eternal Kingdom of God.

Before we get too judgy, let's remember how easy it is to fall into idolatry. (SLIDE) Martin Luther said, "that to which your heart clings and entrusts itself is, I say, really your God." For us today that could mean our Jobs or our hobbies. For far too many we allow our families to become our idols. God requires all of our body's strength, all of our mind's thoughts, and all of our soul's worship. We're

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Yahweh's and Yahweh's alone. Now for these three in the front row; Mercedes, Claire, and Devyn, this decision you're making today, that you will continue to belong to God, is not a light matter. Just think of the commitment your parents, families, and sponsors or God Parents made on your behalf when you were a baby. All the time and effort put in on your behalf to get you prepared for this day... Judging by how you three have turned out I'd say all those who stood up for you at your Baptisms did an outstanding job and they deserve a round of applause... Before I say the final amen on this sermon I want you to know this is not your graduation from Sunday School. Your 2 years of Catechism barely scratched the surface when it comes to knowing Jesus. You have built a firm foundation for a faith that will last your whole life. Yes, we studied the Bible, but the Bible says something new to me every time I read it. So, I advise you to keep on reading it. Also, having friends at school is one thing, but ask anyone here if they can rely on their family here at Trinity. Your school friends might last until one or both move away to college. These friends and sisters and brothers in Christ in this congregation will always be there for you. For your sake and for the sake of the Gospel, don't let this be the last time you come to the services of God's House... Not because the Church needs you, but because you need the Church. After all this time studying about God and learning God's Word, in just a few moments you'll

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get the opportunity to affirm your faith, your trust in this Lord of ours. This Lord who can bring down fire from heaven, but instead loves us and gives us his gifts of Grace and mercy. This is the day you get to stand up for yourself and proclaim along with all the people of ancient Israel, “The Lord indeed is God; the Lord indeed is God.”

May we draw near and listen to the Word of God every time we’re able. May neither the prophets of Ba’al nor the lure of modern-day idols ever come between you and the Lord your God. Amen.

*Silence may be kept for meditation...*

- **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

*Confirmands gather at the Baptismal Font. A representative of the congregation presents the candidates:*

Dean: Devyn Thobe, Claire Hein, Mercedes Angles have been instructed in the Christian faith and desires to make public affirmation of their Baptism.

P: Dear children of God, we rejoice that you now desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission in the world.

- **RENUNCIATION OF EVIL**

*The minister addresses those who have been presented.*

P: Brother and Sisters in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you a member of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from God’s Word, God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been called to be a witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

**C: I do.**

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

**\* PROFESSION OF FAITH**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.\* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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**

*The congregational representative may return to his/her seat. Confirmands kneel at the railing.*

L: With confidence that God's justice is sure, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

L: Powerful God, through the prophet Elijah you demonstrated that there is no other God but you. Give us confidence in your presence not just in times of upheaval, but even in the small things of life. God of Justice,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: You made fire to be an integral part of the health of the beautiful woodlands you created. Teach us appropriate ways to manage forests to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire while carefully stewarding the natural burning process. God of Justice,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: Give courage to those who hold fast to your call to speak truth to power, even in the face of overwhelming opposition. God of Justice,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: Your presence in the midst of our pain is sure. Help all who face the uncertainties of chronic illness or grief to know you are there with them, *(especially...)* God of Justice,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

L: We thank you for those who draw, paint, sculpt, and design. Work through

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

them to inspire and challenge us with their visual expressions of the world around us. God of Justice,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: We remember those in our lives whose words or actions proclaimed to us that you are God. In gratitude to them, let us carry their proclamation into the world without fear. God of Justice,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

P: Merciful God, we turn all these things over to your tender care, trusting you hear and answer all our prayers, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

- **COMMITMENT**

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Each confirmand answers in turn.*

C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

- **PRAYER OF BLESSING**

*Those making affirmation kneel. A brief silence is kept for prayer...*

P: Let us pray... Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made *Devyn, Claire, and Mercedes* your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**C: Amen**

- **LAYING ON OF HANDS**

*The presiding minister lays both hands on the head of each person:*

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in *Devyn, Claire, and Mercedes* the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm *his/her* faith, guide *his/her* life, empower *him/her* in *his/her* serving, give *him/her* patience in suffering, and bring *him/her* to everlasting life.

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated



*Each confirmand answers:*

**C: Amen**

• **MENTOR COMMENTS**

P: This is the time we set aside for a few brief comments from each Confirmand's Mentor...

• **QUILT SQUARE PRESENTATION**

*All return to their places.*

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**MEAL**

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\* **OFFERING PRAYER**

*While the congregation is still standing say:*

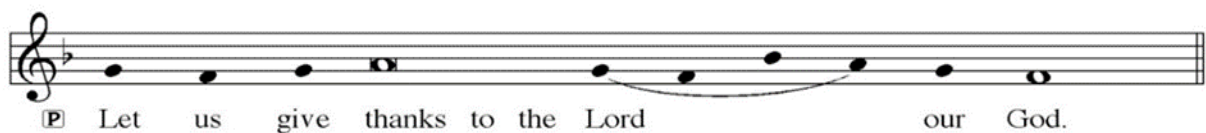
P: As we collect our offering here in person, those worshipping with us through the internet, may you go to our website located at [www.pitsburgtlc.org](http://www.pitsburgtlc.org) where you'll find a button labeled "Give to Trinity." You can make your offering to God through our secure website.

P: Let us pray for the offerings we receive this day.... Holy God, as you used Elijah's offering a sign of your power, so employ the gifts we bring in service to our neighbors and the whole of creation, that all might proclaim your goodness and mercy throughout the world.

**C: Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

\* **DIALOGUE**



\* Please stand if able

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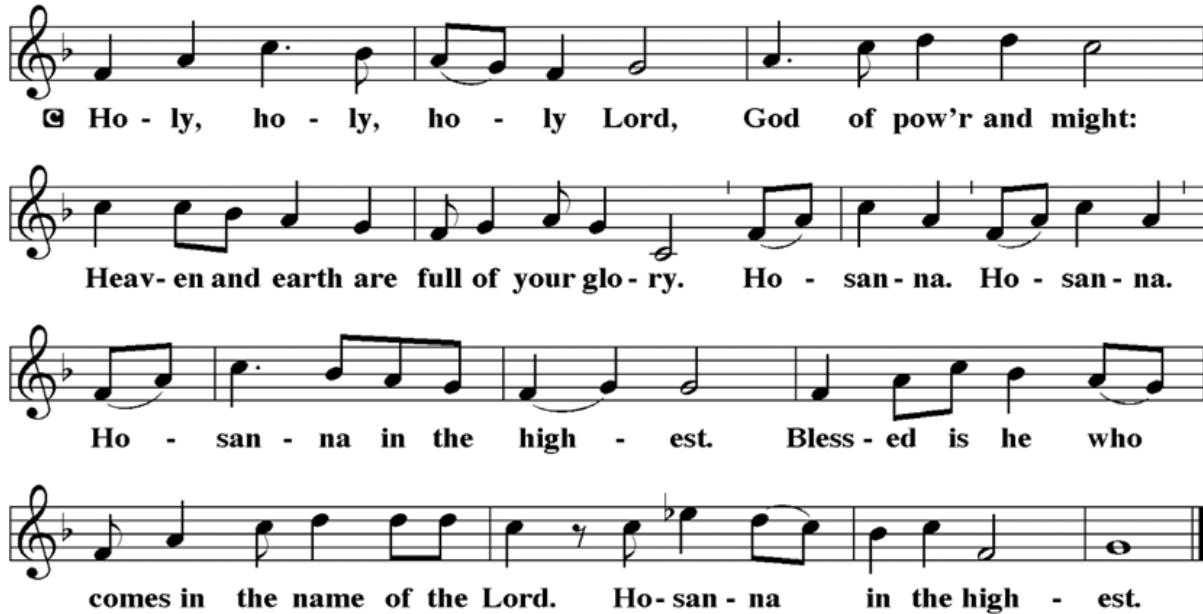
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**\* THE PREFACE**

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, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\* THE SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san - na in the high - est.

**• EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P: We praise you, all-holy God, our maker, our lover, our keeper, our Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of Truth, for the universe beyond our knowing, for seas and forests and fields, for the waters of Wittenberg and for flowers in this place, for creatures seen and unseen, for animals both wild and tame, for our ancestors and godparents from around the globe, and for the places we humans call home, for cities and churches and schools, for seminaries and missions and fellowship halls.

We praise you for your covenant people, for David and for Solomon, and for centuries of faithful Christians, for Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul, for Luther, Melanchthon, Muhlenberg, and Cranach, for Katie Luther and for Bach, for Kierkegaard, Bonhoeffer for Bishops and Pastors and for all servants of the Reformation.

We praise you, O God, for Jesus Christ, who saves us from sin and from evil, embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free, who:

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\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

*On the night before he died, 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.*

And so we remember your Word, his life, his death, and his glorious resurrection, his presence in this meal around the world, and we proclaim the mystery of our faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. We pray, O God, for your Spirit, your breath, your fire, your wisdom, your law, your grace, your freedom. Bless this meal and all those who share it; inspire your people for service; continue the reformation of your churches; and renew the world with your mercy, with your healing, your justice, and your peace, with the joy of life in your household.

We praise you, all-holy God, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, mighty Fortress, victorious Champion, powerful Shield, today, tomorrow, and forever.

**C: Amen!**

- **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: We are united together by this heavenly food, which is the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. So, let us pray as Jesus taught...

**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 God whose power consumed Elijah's offering also raised Christ Jesus from the dead, destroying death forever. God, in Jesus, invites you now to feast on bread and wine in remembrance of the resurrected one. Come, for all is prepared.

● **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

*In addition to reaffirming her Baptism, Claire is also celebrating her First Communion today. We now invite Clair and her family to kneel at the railing. After Clair’s family has communed, the rails will be removed and the remaining congregation will commune “By Station”. Please come down the center aisle and return to your seats by the side aisles. 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.

C: **Amen.**

\* **POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**



● **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray together...

C: **We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

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**SENDING**

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\* Please stand if able

● Please be seated

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• **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

• **SENDING BLESSING**

P: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

C: Amen.

\* **SENDING HYMN “Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand” LBW 351**



1 Oh, hap - py day when we shall stand in heav - en with the  
2 Oh, bless - ed day when Christ shall come and show him - self as  
3 Oh, what a might - y rush - ing flood of joy and love and  
4 O Lord, your grace is ev - 'ry - thing; your love has made us



saved; all peo - ples at the Lord's right hand shall  
Lord, and thou - sands meet in their new home which  
peace will roll down o - ver us with good and  
free to stand a - mong the saints and sing the



find their names en - graved, shall find their names en - graved.  
Je - sus has pre - pared, which Je - sus has pre - pared.  
bless - ed - ness and grace, and bless - ed - ness and grace.  
glo - ry that we see, the glo - ry that we see.

\* **DISMISSAL**

P: 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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\* Please stand if able

November 5, 2023

• Please be seated

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Scripture readings for next Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
Hosea 11:1-9

**Health Tips for the Week**

**MIND:** Make a family tree.

**BODY:** Know your stroke risks.

**SPIRIT:** Pray for your church family.

**Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff**

Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Organist	Roxanne Groff
Lector	Confirmands
Acolyte	
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser
Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
Facebook Live Recorder	PJ Musser
Altar Flowers	Given to the Glory of God by Pastor Mel & PJ Musser in honor of the Confirmands.

**AROUND THE PARISH**

**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
- Please be seated

**This Week @ Trinity – November 5 thru November 12, 2023**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
<b>Sun, Nov. 5</b>	9:30 am	Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts)
	10:30 am	Worship Service w/Communion
	11:30 am	Annual Congregational Meeting
	3:00 pm	Christmas Auction at Erdmann's, 1385 Littles Rd.
<b>Mon, Nov. 6</b>	7:30 pm	Dartball at Trinity vs. Painter Creek COB
<b>Tues, Nov. 7</b>		<b>ELECTION DAY</b>
<b>Wed, Nov. 8</b>	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class
<b>Thurs, Nov. 9</b>	10:0 am	Prayers & Squares Quilting
	3:00 pm	Community Blood Drive
<b>Fri, Nov. 10</b>	3:30 pm	FISH Choice Food Pantry
<b>Sat., Nov. 11</b>		<b>VETERANS DAY</b>
<b>Sun, Nov. 12</b>	9:30 am	Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts)
	10:30 am	Worship Service – Women's Thankoffering Sunday
	12:15 pm	Acolyte Training

**SAVE THE DATE!**

- **November 12 – Women's Thankoffering Sunday**
- **November 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> – Acolyte Training** (Open to anyone who can reach all the candles!)
- **December 3 – First Sunday of Advent**
- **December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, & 20<sup>th</sup> – Soup Suppers with Advent devotion**



**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.

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- \* Please stand if able
  - Please be seated



### Trinity Contact Info

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- \* Please stand if able
  - Please be seated