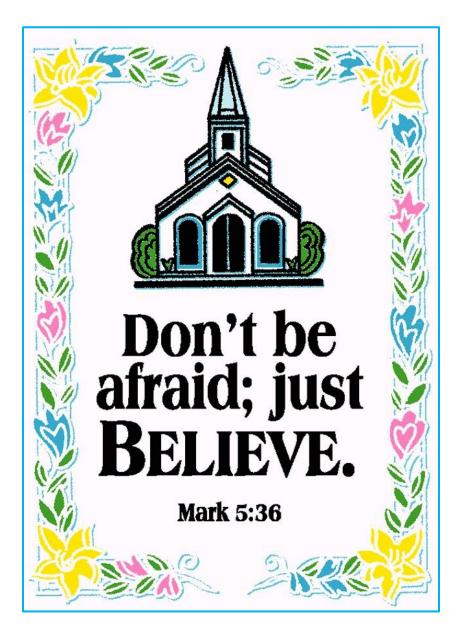
## Mission Congregation of the ELCA Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church P. O. Box 64 - 8520 Oakes Rd - Pitsburg, Ohio 45358



# Mark 5:21-43 February 4, 2024



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

#### • Prelude

#### **Roxanne Groff**

- Office of the Acolyte and Ringing of the Bell
- Welcome

#### **Pr Mel Musser**

#### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

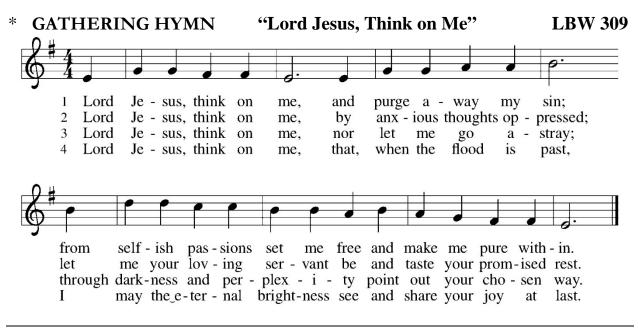
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Pause for silence and reflection.

- P: Guiding God,
- C: We have failed to follow you as we ought. We have not reached out to our neighbors with the selfless and sacrificial love you modeled for us. We have caused harm to others and your creation by our actions and by our unwillingness to act. Forgive us our sins and lead us back onto the path you have trod for the sake of others.
- P: In Christ, God meets us where we are and as we are and for his sake, God makes us whole and holy. Go forth to follow Jesus in the knowledge that your sins are forgiven.

## C: Amen.



\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

February 4, 2024 Page 2 of 21

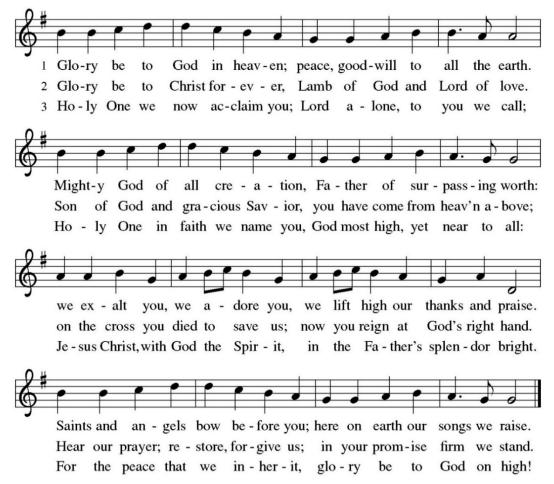
#### \* APOSTOLIC GREETING

- 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 be seated

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## \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... Mothering God, high and low, rich and poor, healthy and ailing, joyous and sorrowful, we come to you, knowing that in you is rest and restoration. Quiet our spirits that we might be open to receive your blessings in word and meal, for our own good and for the good of all. In Jesus' name we pray.

#### C: Amen.

#### \* Please stand if able

#### WORD

#### • CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



Theme: V Materials: A Scripture: M

With God All Things Are Possible A Bottle of Over the Counter Medicine Mark 5:21-43

Good morning girls and boys! I hope you all had a really great week. Have you ever been sick? I think all of us have been from time to time... I was sick a couple of weeks ago and I had to see my doctor. He prescribed me 2 medicines. After a couple of days I was feeling fine again. I'm glad God has called some really smart people to be doctors who spend their lives learning how to cure diseases.

Imagine if you were sick and all the time and you've been to all the best doctors and none of them can find out what's wrong or how to make you feel better. That's what happened to a woman in our Bible story for today. She had been sick for over 12 years. That's a longtime... After she had given up hope that any doctor could help her, she heard about Jesus. She heard he was in town and saw the crowds that followed him. She had heard he could heal people when no one else was able to. She thought to herself that if she could just get close enough to Jesus and touch the hem of his robe, his almighty power would cure her disease. Guess what? She was able to touch his robe and his power did heal her disease.

Jesus isn't around today in the same way he was back in the Bible times, but we can still learn from this story. We know we can trust in the promises of Jesus because when he was walking on the earth he loved people so much that he would stop whatever he was doing to help and cure them. The biggest way Jesus helps us is by forgiving us our sins and making the way clear for all people to live with God forever. Because of what Jesus did while he was alive here on earth we know He will take care of us always. With God, all things are really possible!

Let's pray... Dear Jesus, thank you for loving us, for healing us, and for never leaving us alone. Amen.

## • A READING OF SCRIPTURE: Mark 5:21-43

R: Our scripture reading is from the Gospel of Mark, Chapter 5.

## C: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>21</sup> When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. <sup>22</sup> Then one of the leaders of the

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if able

<sup>•</sup> Please be seated

synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet <sup>23</sup> and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live." <sup>24</sup> So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. <sup>25</sup> Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. <sup>26</sup> She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. <sup>27</sup> She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup> for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." <sup>29</sup> Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. <sup>30</sup> Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" <sup>31</sup> And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?" <sup>32</sup> He looked all around to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup> But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup> He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

<sup>35</sup> While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" <sup>36</sup> But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." <sup>37</sup> He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. <sup>38</sup> When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. <sup>39</sup>When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." <sup>40</sup> And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha cum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" <sup>42</sup> And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. <sup>43</sup> He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

## R: This is the Word of the Lord!

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

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if able

<sup>•</sup> Please be seated

#### • SERMON

#### Pr Mel Musser

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the God with skin on, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, amen.

There's an old story about a Lutheran pastor who grew up in a missionary family in Papua New Guinea. He recalls living through some of the tremendous thunderstorms common in that region. (SLIDE) As a child, he was very frightened when the storms came in the middle of the night. In the dark, he would cry out, "Mom, come quickly! I'm scared!" Immediately, mom would come and wrap her arms around him in the darkness. "Don't be afraid," she said. "It's all right. God is here with you." On one occasion, he remembers replying, "I know God is with me, but sometimes I just need God with skin on." That's exactly what we have in Jesus Christ - God with skin on! Our God came into this world to become one of us. He experienced first-hand trials, afflictions, and temptations. He witnessed the pain of his people caused by guilt and shame, by sickness and death. In our text, he witnesses first-hand the helplessness of a father who stood by while his only daughter lay on her deathbed. Don't let this God with skin fool you. He became a man like us to be our Savior. He experienced our every weakness except the weakness of sin. Jesus is a man, but He is still almighty God and able to help us in our times of need. In our scripture text for today, he invites us to do the same thing he invited Jairus to do... DON'T BE AFRAID! JUST BELIEVE!

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if able

<sup>•</sup> Please be seated

The Greek word we have translated as "believe" really means trust... Don't be afraid, just trust. I think trust sort of works like this. We start out not trusting. We start out hurting. We start out with a pain that grows and grows until we become so desperate we're willing to try anything. (SLIDE) I think that was the starting point for both Jairus and the nameless woman with the bleeding disorder. Jairus was a Synagogue leader. He was a very prominent citizen of the town and well respected. He was an important man. As the synagogue leader he could read and possible even write. He taught from the Torah. Yet, despite all he had going for him, Jairus could not save his precious daughter. The Bible says he fell at Jesus' feet. They say the bigger they are the harder they fall. I can't speak to the force with which Jairus hit the ground, but I can tell you he had a mighty fall. He fell all the way from the top of his intellect. He fell from atop a mountain of pride. He fell from the acme of everything he thought he knew about how religion and medicine worked. He fell from reliance on what he could do for his daughter and landed in the only place where he could find what he needed most. At the feet of Jesus, Jairus found the faith he needed to believe and to trust in the promise of Jesus.

I've heard many well meaning Christians say things like all you have to do is believe and you'll be saved... That sounds like such a small thing to ask of us, only believe... The problem we have is we all sit on top of that very same

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if able

<sup>•</sup> Please be seated

mountain of pride, and self-reliance from which Jairus had to fall. (SLIDE) It's not natural for us to cede control to someone else, even to God. We want to maintain the illusion we're the ones with all the power. If this doctor can't figure out what's wrong and fix me, then I'll find another who can... So, we fall at the feet of every doctor, self-help guru, and snake oil salesman we can find. Now don't get me wrong, I'm not saying all you have to do is fall down and worship Jesus in order to have all your needs and wants fulfilled. Life isn't that simple.

Life wasn't that simple for Jairus either... I mean he finally was able to overcome his pride and self-reliance. He fell at Jesus' feet and worshipped him. He finally was able to put his trust in this itinerate preacher for Nazareth. All seemed to be going his way. He got the attention of the travelling healer and Jesus had agreed to visit his daughter and make her well. The clouds were parting, and the sun was finally peaking through. Then the unthinkable happens... A no-account woman pushes through the crowd. She also has overcome her pride and self-reliance to come to the master. She has been doctor shopping for 12 years with nothing to show for all her efforts except a deflated bank account. She too finds herself at the end of her rope, with no place to go, except to Jesus. (SLIDE) Here's the rub... Her need is just as important to Jesus as that of the respected synagogue leader and her timing could not have been worse. As Jesus takes a few moments to speak to and heal this woman, Jairus' daughter dies.

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if able

<sup>•</sup> Please be seated

How many times do we pray, and pray, and pray, yet the situation never gets any better and may in fact get much worse. How do we react when our best efforts yield, bupkis? Do we give up and lose what little faith we have? I mean, can you imagine what must have been going through Jairus' mind? He thought he had finally found the one person who could save his daughter and before he can get the man to his house, word comes that his beloved has already died. No need to bother Jesus now. The girl is gone... Maybe you're in a situation right now where you prayed as hard as you could, only to find the test results haven't improved, or may have even gotten worse. Jesus says to you, "Do not be afraid, only believe." In the face of death itself, Jesus says to you, "Don't be afraid, only believe." In John's Gospel Jesus famously says "In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world." That's a really comforting Word!

Once more, put yourself in the shoes of Jairus... He falls at the feet of Jesus, giving up all his earthly head knowledge and prostrating himself flat on the ground. You can't get much more humble than that! When we humble ourselves before the Lord Jesus Christ the promise is Jesus will do for us what he did for Jairus. The promise isn't the healing of the daughter. The promise is in those 5 little words that come right after Jairus falling at the feet of Jesus. Those 5 little words are these, "So He went with him." "So He went with him." Jesus stopped what he was doing and went with Jairus. Jesus was there, with Jairus when the

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if able

<sup>•</sup> Please be seated

servant brought the news of the girl's death. Jesus was there when Jairus put one foot in front of the other and slowly made his way to his home. Jesus was there when the crowd told Jairus not to be any further bother to the teacher. Jesus was there when the little girl was brought back to life and given to her earthly father.

Jesus was God with skin on and was not capable of leaving such a pure, honest demonstration of faith unrewarded. Yet, these miracle stories were not the reason Jesus came. They were not the reason God put on skin and became human. Sickness and death are only the symptoms of a much deeper, more fundamental problem. We are all already dead in our sin. That's the real evil. Sin has invaded every pour of our bodies and made death inevitable for us all. As Jesus made his way to Jairus' house he was responding to the agony that was right there in front of his face. As the God with skin on, Jesus couldn't just ignore what was happening. He made things right. He temporarily eased the pain and suffering of Jairus, of the woman with the bleeding disease, last week it was the man possessed by a legion of demons, earlier in the Gospel, Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law. These were all miracles that only put a band aid on the real, underlying problem. Humans are sinful and the wages of sin is, and always will be, death. All these stories of Jesus healing and teaching, all the parables and even the arguments with the religious leaders; all of it were little more than band aids. They are like putting pressure on a deep, bleeding wound until the surgeon can sew up the bleed and bring real

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if able

<sup>•</sup> Please be seated

healing. The real healing humanity needs happened when Jesus finally made it to the cross. That's where Jairus' daughter, the woman with the bleeding disease, you and me, all of us, receive our true healing. God took on skin and died for us. God did it all for you and for me. Here's the part that really blows my mind. Jesus didn't just take on our trials and tribulations for those of us who, like Jairus fall at His feet. He did it mostly for those who are still sitting at the top of their mountain of pride and self-reliance. (SLIDE) Jesus lived and died for those in the crowd that day who tried to persuade Jairus to leave Jesus alone and even for those who laughed at Jesus when he told them the girl wasn't dead, but only sleeping. He came and died for those still today who can't or won't believe. Remember what Jesus said when they asked Him why he ate and made friends with tax collectors, prostitutes and sinners? He replied that doctors don't come for well people, but for those who are sick.

May we fall from our mountains of pride, and self-reliance and land at the feet of the one who takes away our sin. May the healing power of Jesus lift our souls straight out of the fires of hell and into the loving arms of the one who loved us before we were born. In our joy, may we show others the one and only source of eternal life, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To God be the glory, amen.

Silence may be kept for meditation...

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if able

#### \* APOSTLES' 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: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 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.

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

L: Trusting in the good news of Jesus Christ, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

#### A brief silence.

L: You gave aid and comfort both to a leader of the synagogue and a nameless woman in a crowd. Give us willing hearts to lovingly serve all people, regardless of background or status. God our teacher and healer,

## C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: So much of your beloved creation has been irrevocably lost to the ravages of pollution, habitat destruction, and climate change. Give us the urgency we need to meet these challenges head on and protect species and ecosystems on the brink of extinction. God our teacher and healer,

## C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: Inspire our leaders to work for just and equitable systems of healthcare, so that all people would have access to what is needed for a healthy, flourishing life. God our teacher and healer,

## C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: We uplift to you all who have lost children, or whose chronic health conditions go unresolved. Hold them in their grief and suffering, and help us to honor their feelings and those of all who struggle, (*especially*...) God our teacher and healer,

## C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

#### \* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

L: Shake us out of our complacency, O God, that we might strive for justice on behalf of all oppressed and marginalized communities. God our teacher and healer,

## C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

## Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: We thank you for all those who have gone before us proclaiming their stories of your healing love. With them, we reach for the hem of your cloak, knowing you have the power to transform our lives. God our teacher and healer,

## C: In mercy, hear our prayer.

L: Confident that in Christ Jesus you answer prayer, we lift to you all for whom pray, aloud and in our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our savior.

## C: Amen.

MEAL

## • 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.

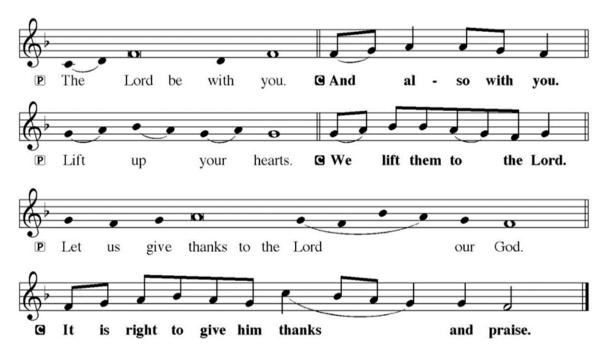
## \* **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: Let us pray for the offerings we receive this day ...Bountiful God, you provide for us every good thing that weed to have life and have it abundantly. With gratitude we return to you this small portion of your gifts, that you might use them for your holy work in this community and beyond.

## C: Amen.

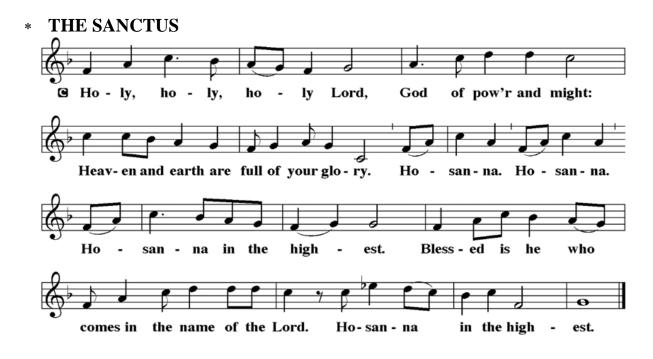
## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## \* **DIALOGUE**



#### \* 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. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



- \* Please stand if able
- Please be seated

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## \* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P: Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.
- 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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light. By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.
- 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: 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

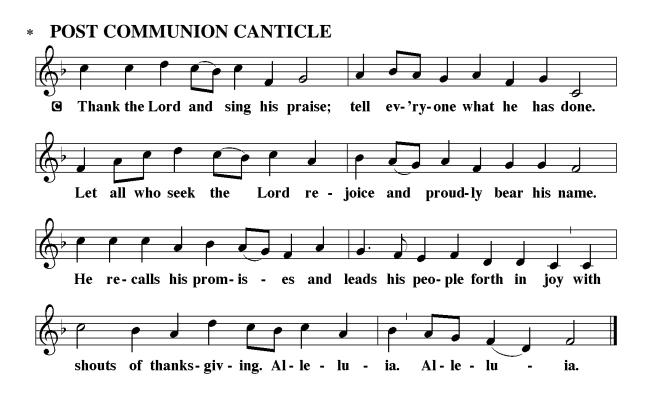
P: Jesus, whose touch means healing and wholeness, reaches out to you, takes you by the hand, and invites you to this holy table, where all are fed and nourished by his grace. Come and eat. All is prepared for you.

## • COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion is at the rail. 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 PRAYER

P: Let us pray... Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

#### C: Amen

#### SENDING

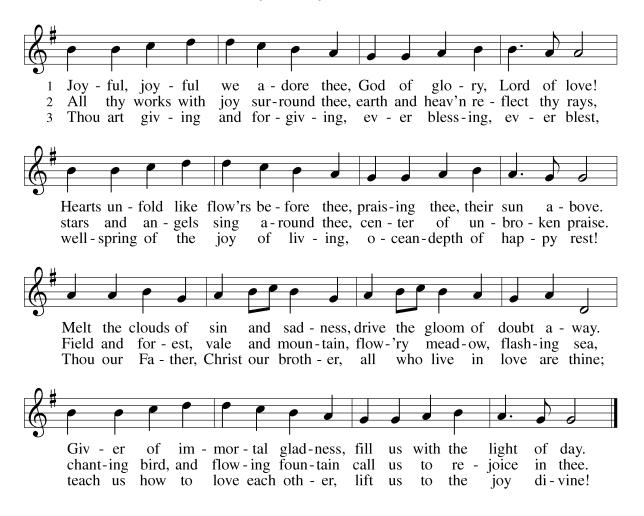
#### • ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \* SENDING BLESSING

- P: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, bless you and remain with you always.
- C: Amen.

#### \* Please stand if able

#### • 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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#### \* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

February 4, 2024 Page 18 of 21 Health Tips for the Week MIND: Visit the library. BODY: Try some chair exercises. SPIRIT: Start a prayer journal.

## **Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff**

| Ministers              | All the People of Trinity |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Organist               | Roxanne Groff             |
| Lector                 | Chris Cassel              |
| Parrish Nurse          | PJ Musser                 |
| Custodian              | Mark Groff                |
| Secretary              | Sharon Fourman            |
| Facebook Live Recorder | PJ Musser                 |
| Altar Flowers          |                           |



Scripture readings for next Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> Mark 8:27 – 9:8

## 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.

| DATE        | TIME     | EVENT   |
|-------------|----------|---|
| Sun, Feb. 4 | 9:30 am  | Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts) |
|             | 10:30 am | Worship Service                                   |
| Wed, Feb. 7 | 11:30 am | WELCA Meeting                                     |

This Week at Trinity – February 4 thru February 11

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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| Thurs, Feb. 8 | 10:00 am | Prayers & Squares Quilting                        |
|---------------|----------|---|
| Fri, Feb. 9   | 3:30 pm  | FISH Choice Food Pantry                           |
| Sun, Feb. 11  | 9:30am   | Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts) |
|               | 10:30 am | Worship Service                                   |

## Save The Date!

| Souper Bowl Sunday (Favorite Sports Team Jersey)           | Feb 11 @ 10:30 am       |
|--|-------------------------|
| Pancake Supper – Mardi Gras Celebration                    | Feb 13 @ 6:00 pm        |
| Ash Wednesday Worship                                      | Feb 14 @ 7:pm           |
| Trinity Troops (5 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> Graders) | Feb 18 After Worship    |
| Lent Midweek Soup Supper/Devotion                          | Feb 21, 28              |
|  | Mar 5, 12, 19 @ 6:30 pm |
| Palm/Passion Sunday  | Mar 24 @ 10:30 am       |
| Maundy Thursday Seder Meal                                 | Mar 28 @ 6:00 pm        |
| Good Friday  | Mar 29 @ 7:00 pm        |
| Easter Sunday Worship, Breakfast, Easter Egg Hunt          | Mar 31 @ 8:00 am &      |
|  | 10:30 am                |



## 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.

| Pastor:       | Mel Musser                |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| Email:        | pastor@pitsburgtlc.org    |
| Cell Phone:   | 937-626-7100              |
| Secretary:    | Sharon Fourman            |
| Email:        | secretary@pitsburgtlc.org |
| Office Hours: | By Appointment            |
| Office Phone: | 937-692-5670              |
| Website:      | www.pitsburgtlc.org       |

## **Trinity Contact Info**

\* Please stand if able

• Please be seated



<sup>\*</sup> Please stand if able