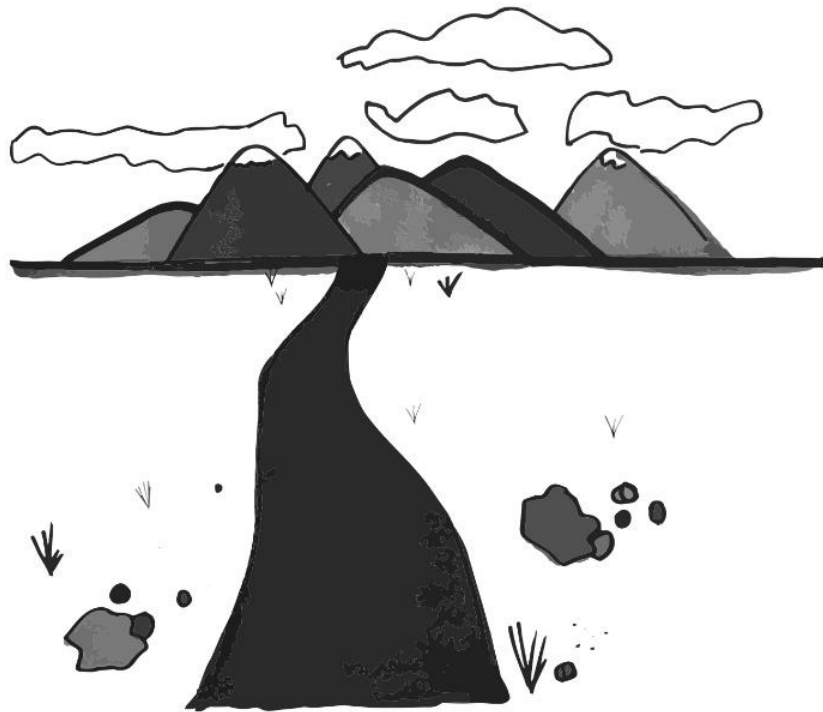


*Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
of South Newstead
May 3rd, 2026
5th Sunday of Easter*



As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

**PRELUDE – WELCOME –
ANNOUNCEMENTS – PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please stand as you are able

Thanksgiving for Baptism

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

ALL: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

ALL: Amen.

L: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still
waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We
thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

ALL: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you
thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and
sorrow. Blessed are you.

ALL: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that
divide us.

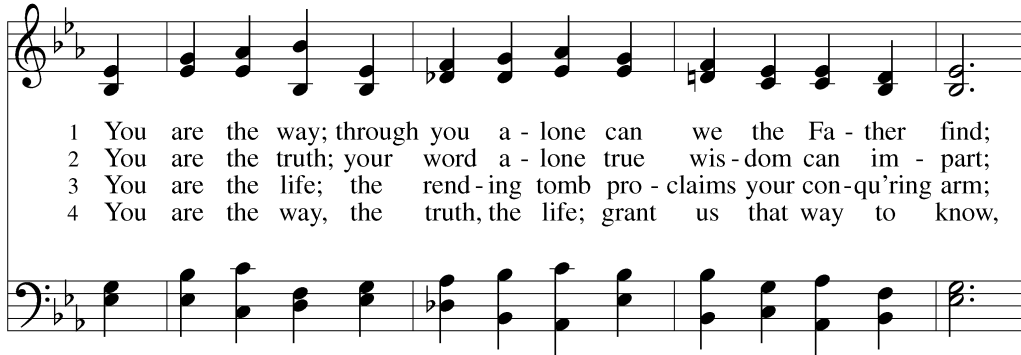
Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

ALL: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

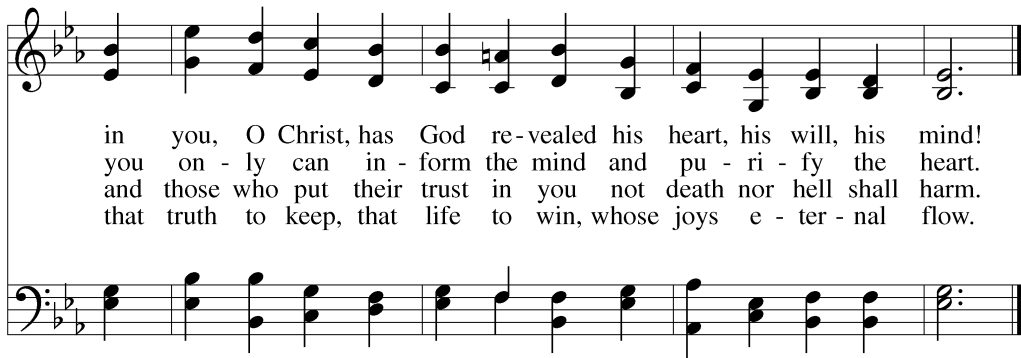
L: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN: You Are the Way
Green Book – 464**

You Are the Way



1 You are the way; through you a - lone can we the Fa - ther find;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



in you, O Christ, has God re - vealed his heart, his will, his mind!
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

GREETING:

L: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



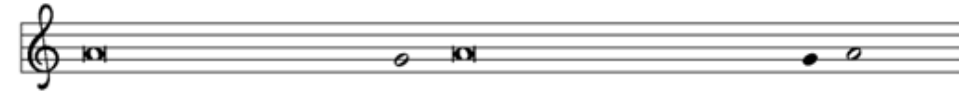
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



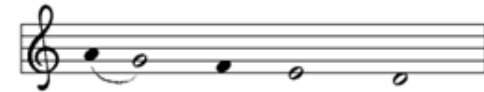
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



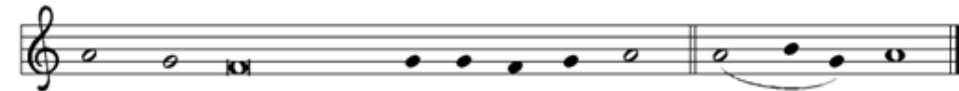
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister

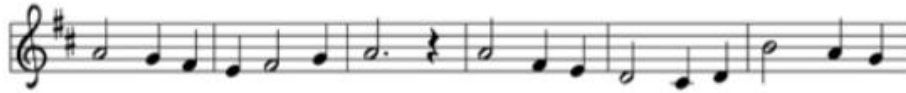


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

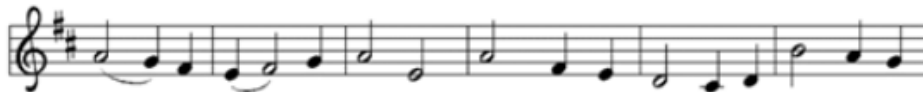
Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

L: Let us pray,

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60

L: ⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

L: The word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God**

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

L: ¹ In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

ALL: ² Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

L: ³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

ALL: ⁴ Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.

L: ⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

ALL: ¹⁵ My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

L: ¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

L: ² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"

⁸ and

"A stone that makes them stumble

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON: Erik Polkowski

HYMN OF THE DAY: O Jesus, I Have Promised

Green Book: 503

Please stand as you are able

APOSTLE'S CREED

L: L: We are God's people. Joining together, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed:

ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Continue to guide Trinity and Zion Lutheran Church in Gasport. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,

ALL: receive our prayer.

L: God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God,

ALL: receive our prayer.

L: God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God,

ALL: receive our prayer.

L: God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick (*especially those sick, injured or otherwise suffering...*). Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,
ALL: receive our prayer.

L: God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God,
ALL: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. Merciful God,
ALL: receive our prayer.

L: And God of understanding, hear us now as we lift up to you anything else on our hearts and minds in this time of silent prayer.

A moment for silent prayer.

L: Merciful God,
ALL: receive our prayer.

L: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
ALL: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
ALL: And also with you.

*You are invited to greet your neighbors
with a sign of Christ's peace.*

Please be seated

OFFERING



Any financial gifts you wish to give towards the ministry of Trinity may be placed in the offering plate as it is passed around or at the rear of the sanctuary. You may also give your offering online using the QR code provided or go to trinitysouthnewstead.org/give. We give thanks for your sharing of your offerings this and every day.

Please stand as you are able



OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray together, Merciful God,

ALL: accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

ALL: 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.

BLESSING

L: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,

✠ bless you now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: Alleluia! Jesus is Risen
Blue Book: 674

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987
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DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

ALL: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

About Today's Readings:

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

Worship liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com.

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WI-FI: To access our community wifi, go to 'Trinity Guest' on your device, and then when prompted, enter the password:

BeABeacon

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Akron, NY 14001

716-542-9828

Trinitysouthnewstead.org

trinitysouthnewstead@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Hold in Prayer:

To add someone to the prayer list in the bulletin/beacon, add them to the list in the back of the Sanctuary or contact the church office. If you would like your prayer concern to be shared through our One Call system, please call Sue Kidder at 716-542-2095.

We pray for healing, strength and patience for those we love going through difficult times:

Laura Pingitore

Jane Firestone

Trevor Beats

Rosemary Doyle

Sam Siebida
Sharon Ferraro
Betty Bergman
D. Stambros & family & friends
Norman Blosser (MaryLou's father)
Arlene Richardson
Betty Bergman
Becky Fix

We pray for patience, strength and support for the families and friends of:

Dottie Routledge
Shirley Roberts (Mary Lou's aunt)
Donna Roehling
Elaine Golden
Rose Zmuda (Annette Adamczak's mother)

Thanksgiving for: Good test results for Mike K!

Weekly:

Choir rehearsal at 8:30am
Sunday Worship at 9:30
Sunday School at 10:45
Bible Study: See list below

Food Pantry:

First Monday of the Month: setup @ 8am
First Tuesday of the month: distribution @ 8:30am

Council: May 12th @ 7pm

Office Info: Pastor Rick: Tuesdays 10:00-1:00 p.m. and by appointment

****Pastor will be away from 5/18-6/3. In case of a Pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Craig Rhodenizer.**

Tracy: Tuesdays: 9:30-2:30, Thursdays: remote. Call, text or email any time.

Bible Study

Trinity is part of the NOEL (Niagara Orleans Ev. Lutherans) cluster of churches' Bible Study. Consider this your invitation to join, make new friends, and gain new insights into the Word and faith.

Pastor Rick, Pastor Craig, and Pastor Sohail lead this Bible Study, which is at 10 am Thursdays.

The location rotates among the NOEL churches:

5/7 – Trinity Wolcottsville – 6369 Wolcottsville Rd. Akron

5/14- Zion - 4447 Central Ave, Gasport 14067

5/21- St. John's – 10213 Roosevelt Hwy, Lyndonville 14098

5/28/26- Here at Trinity

6/4/26- St. Peter – 1355 West Ave, Medina, 14103

Women's Social Group

Please join us for fun and girl talk at our next meeting, following worship, at **10:45am on May 24th**!

