

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Just as God's work of creation never ends,
so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day.
Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life:
for water to bathe in, and for water to drink,
for the rain, the snow, and the water in the ground.

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

P: We give you thanks, O God for the waters of this place:
the Finger Lakes, the Genesee River, and Lake Ontario;
for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder,
for water that gives life to our planet.

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of wonder.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
and for all who gather in this place;
for godparents and baptismal sponsors,
for children and grandchildren,
for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to
whom we are bound.

C: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for water, for life, for grace, for
forgiveness, for resurrection and for eternal life.

**C: We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
Amen.**

Gathering Hymn Surely It Is God Who Saves Me
(For music see Hymn 634 - 635 in the Blue Hymnal)

1. **Surely it is God who saves me;
I shall trust and have no fear.
For the Lord defends and shields me
and his saving help is near.
So rejoice as you draw water
from salvation's healing spring;**

**in the day of your deliv'rance
thank the Lord, his mercies sing.**

- 2. Make God's deeds know to the peoples;
tell out his exalted name.
Praise the Lord, who has done great things;
all his works God's might proclaim.
Zion, lift your voice in singing;
for with you has come to dwell,
in your very midst, the great and
Holy One of Israel.**

Text: Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. 1944, Text copyright 1982, 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Skinner Chavez-Melo, 1944-1992, Music copyright 1985 Estate of Skinner Chavez-Melo

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

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.

Gathering Dialog (Romans 10)

A1: The word is near you,

C: on your lips and in your heart.

A2: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

C: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

A3: Faith comes from what is heard,

C: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

Prayer of the Day "Pry Me Off Dead Center" from *Guerillas of Grace* by Ted Loder, copyright 1981 Augsburg Books

A1: Let us pray...

O persistent God,

deliver me from assuming your mercy is gentle,

Pressure me that I may grow more human,

not through the lessening of my struggles,

but through an expansion of them

that will undamn me

and unbury my gifts.

A2: Deepen my hurt

until I learn to share it

and myself

openly,
and my need honestly.

A3: Sharpen my fears
until I name them
and release the power I have locked in them
and they in me.

A1: Accentuate my confusion
until I shed those grandiose expectations
that divert me from the small, glad gifts
of the now and the here and the me.

A2: Expose my shame where it shivers,
crouched behind the curtains of propriety,
until I can laugh at last
through my common frailties and failures,
laugh my way toward becoming whole.

A3: Deliver me
from just going through the motions
and wasting everything I have
which is today,
a change,
a choice,
my creativity,
your call.

A1: O persistent God,
how much it all matters

A2: pry me off dead center
so if I am moved inside
to tears
or sighs
or screams
or smiles,
or dreams,
they will be real

A3: and I will be in touch with who I am
and who you are

and who my sisters and brothers are.

C: Amen

† WORD †

First Reading 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

[Paul writes] Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 93 (read responsively)

A: Lord, you reign with glory,
draped in splendor, girt with power.

**C: The world stands firm,
not to be shaken,**

A: for your throne, ageless God,
has stood from of old.

**C: Onward roll the waves, O God,
onward like thunder,
onward like fury.**

A: Thundering above the waters,
high above ocean breakers,
you, God, rise with might.

**C: Your decrees stand unshaken;
the beauty of holiness
fills your house for ever, Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation (2 Corinthians 4:1)

C: Alleluia. Therefore since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. Alleluia

Gospel Reading John 4:46-54

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 4th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

⁴⁶Then he came again to Cana in Galilee where he had changed the water into wine. Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in Capernaum. ⁴⁷When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." ⁴⁹The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my little boy dies." ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way. ⁵¹As he was going down, his slaves met him and told him that his child was alive. ⁵²So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and they said to him, "Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him." ⁵³The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So he himself believed, along with his whole household. ⁵⁴Now this was the second sign that Jesus did after coming from Judea to Galilee.

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Child of the Water

CCL#3163678

(for music, please turn to Hymn 5 in the Songbook)

**Refrain: You're a child of the water, child of the word,
guided by promise and stories you've heard.
God of the wounded knows you by name
and carries you home ev'ry day.**

**1. From your first breath to the last step, all of the dance;
down deep in your laughter, whatever your fears,
try to remember: Refrain**

2. **Life is a gift, time carries on, and you will grow;
amidst your believing and throughout your doubt,
something is sure: Refrain**

3. *Instrumental*—————
**We journey together as children of God,
sealed by the cross: Refrain**

Text and Music: Hans Peterson, used by permission of the composer.

‡ BAPTISM ‡

Baptisms of Hannah Mary Matison and Sawyer Ann Matison
Please turn to the Service of Holy Baptism on page 227 in the front of the Red Hymnal.

‡ THANKSGIVING ‡

Offering

Hymn of Thanksgiving As the offering is brought forward the congregation sings:

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil
For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your Word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard,
break the stone away.
When my heart is cold,
warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost,
lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray:

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

A: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

(For music turn to Hymn 858 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear
Now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!**
2. **Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning.
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen**

**All that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?**

**3. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you.
Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.**

Ponder anew

**What the Almighty can do
If with his love he befriend you.**

**4. Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!**

Let the amen

**Sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!**

Text – Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878; Tune Erneuwerten Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665; arr. Heidi Griffith

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

A Christian is in a peculiar situation. In himself he is altogether sinful, but according to the Word and faith he is without sin -he is pure and righteous.



Martin Luther

House Postil, Trinity 21

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Laura and Rob Stroup
Acolyte	Ben Deibler
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan
Counters	Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern
Coffee Hour	Children's Sunday School

Worship assistants for next Sunday, April 29

Greeters and Ushers	Sue Kaufman and Linda Flood
Acolyte	Scott Wilmot
Altar Care	Liz Brown
Communion Assistants	Bruce and Diane Boncke
Nursery Care	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Coffee Hour	Beth Perdan

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