Trinity Lutheran Church

May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter

217 Brackenridge Southwest Sleepy Eye, MN

Website www.trinity sleepyeye.org

Phone: (507) 794-5051

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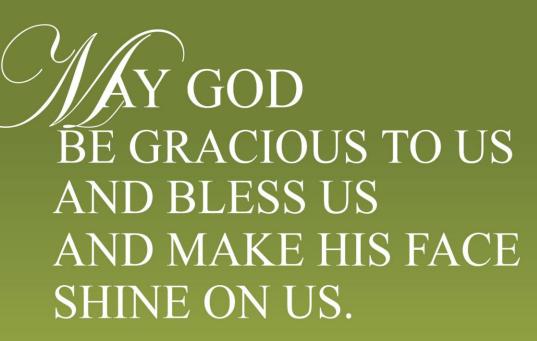
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Brittney Scharpe 507 227-2627 education@trinity sleepyeye.org

Custodian
Patrick Lowther



PSALM 67:1



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER HOLY COMMUNION AND BACCALAUREATE

9:00 A.M. ~ Sunday, May 14th, 2023



Greetings and Welcome to All! Today we honor our graduating High School Seniors. We pray and ask for God's blessing and guidance upon each graduate as they anticipate the next step in their lives. Following our service everyone is invited to partake in the fellowship and a reception to honor the 2023 graduating Seniors in the Library, where you can share your personal blessing.

WORSHIP AIDS

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available from an usher ask the usher.

ACTIVITY BAGS for young children are on a stand at the rear of church; please return after services. Thanks.

PREFERENCE to receive grape juice is indicated by raising your index finger to the server.

GLUTEN FREE wafers are available. Simply tell the server you wish to receive *gluten free*.

GATHERING

WE PREPARE: Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

PRELUDE / RINGING OF THE BELL / ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

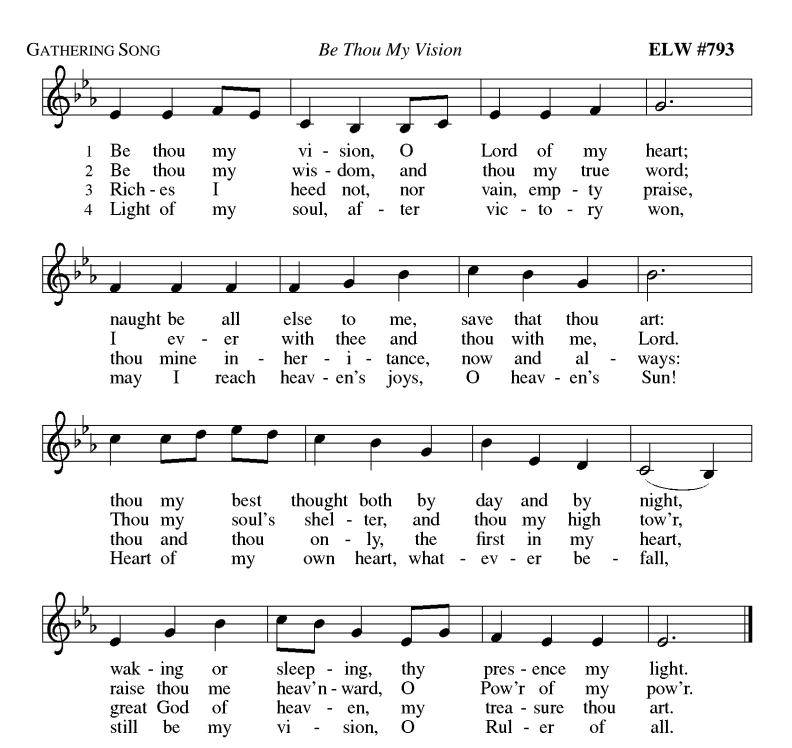
Blessed be the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**



GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**.

SECOND READING 1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?

But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION THY WORD



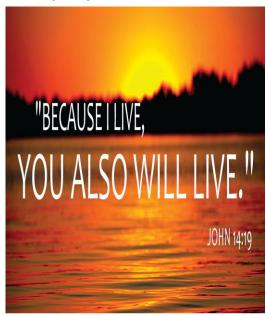
GOSPEL John 14:15-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord."

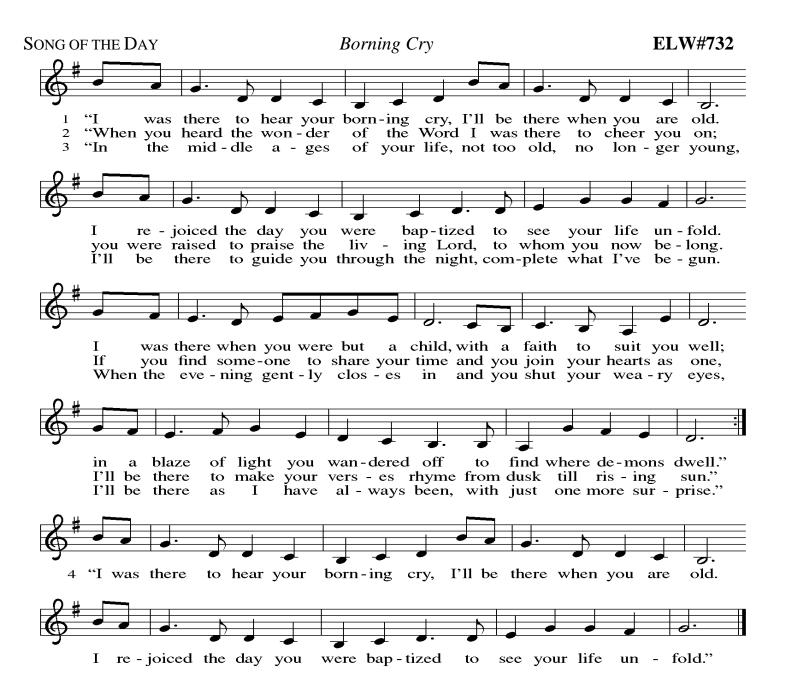
If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ



Pastor Tim Mason



CREED

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

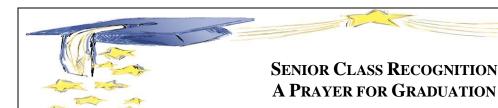
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of 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



Trinity Choir





O God of life, in their baptism you blessed our sons and daughters with your Spirit, promised your aid, and called them into discipleship. For this everlasting blessing,

We give you thanks, O God.

For those who are entering new lives after graduation, help them use the gifts you have given that their lives would glorify what you have given and what you have yet to give.

We give you thanks, O God.

For those graduating into lives of full employment, lead them to work which honors you, benefits the needs of others, and inspires their spirit. God of daily labor, **Hear our prayer.**

For those continuing their studies, increase their knowledge with the gifts of wisdom and love that they, too, may serve you through their learning. God of truth and understanding, **Hear our prayer.**

For those who have yet to perceive where life is leading them, grant them patience in the struggle, hope for the future, and the confidence that you will guide them righteously. **Hear our prayer.**

Protect our graduates who are younger from any enticement that may tempt and lead to harm. Keep those who are older from the cynicism and despair that so often follows disappointment and failure. Help all to embrace their mistakes with repentance and misfortunes with restoration, so that your word of constant and abundant love would lead them ever closer to your kingdom. God of faithfulness, **Hear our prayer.**

Help parents and others who share concern for the dangers and decisions that will be faced beyond their caring eyes. Grant them reassurance and heal any regrets as they entrust their daughters and sons to your watchful care. God of grace, **Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, send your witnesses to care for the sick and stricken. Stir up within us your compassion for all who are in need as we pray on behalf of your servants among us, including: Sherry, Audrey, Kali, Jerry, Beth, Rodney, Dave, Harold, OraDell, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Milo, Carlos, Dorothy, Story, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Julia Ann, Linette, Tammy, John, Tony, Ted, Connor, Ed, Kimora, and Mary Jo and all people according to their needs...Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

And now, O Gracious Lord, we commend this year's graduating class: **Brooke Arneson, Kaleb Butenhoff, Gunny Coulson, Nolan Domeier, Adam Johnson, Alex Joramo, Mason Myers, Jacob Price and Jade Sellner** to your care and guidance. By your unceasing Spirit help each of them make their light so shine before others that they may see their good works and give glory to you, the Lord of heaven and earth. **Amen.**

MEAL

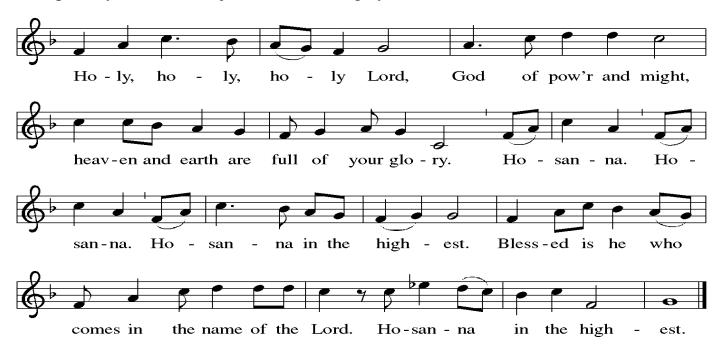
THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave Himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with the earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.





(Please sign the Welcome Pads and pass to your neighbor.)

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER

Let us pray. Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. **Amen.** (The offering is brought forward by the ushers to the acolyte)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. 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 Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

RECOGNITION AND BLESSING (at the Altar railing)

We invite the parents of the graduates to come forward and lay your hands upon the head of your daughter or son in blessing, just as Isaac blessed his son, Jacob.

(Students kneel at the altar railing with their parents standing behind them with hands upon the heads of their child for this blessing)

Holy Father, we thank you for these young women and men kneeling here before you. We know it's a mixed up world into which we send them. It is a world filled with conflicts, threats, and even the turmoil of terrorism. Yet, just as Jesus prayed that night in the Garden for his disciples that you not take them out of the world, but protect them and keep them from the evil one—so we pray for these young people.

As the Lord of hopefulness, be a mighty fortress to protect us from the enemy, the rock of ages upon which we can always stand, the Good Shepherd who guides us, the light that directs us, and who is with us to the end of the age. Continue to reveal yourself to these young people as you have done for your children throughout the ages.

Bless them, O Lord, and use the hands of their fathers and mothers to bestow upon them the rich blessings of the faith into which they have been baptized and nurtured. Bless them with the strength to keep their faith in you and in your holy church as they celebrate the joys of their salvation given them through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.** (Parents are seated)

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES AND QUILTS

And now, we present to each of you symbols of God's love.

First, the members of Trinity Lutheran Church, represented by Brian Polesky, Executive Director, present you with the Bible. It's time for you to apply God's Word to your lives as adult believers. It is our hope that just as you were given previous Bibles, that this too, will be a "*lamp to your feet and a light unto your path*" to guide you in faith according to Psalm 119:105.

And further, receive your quilt made by the Trinity Church Women and presented by your church mentor or significant member. I want you to be aware that each stitch and tie in your quilt represents the love God has given us to share with each other. May this be a symbolic act of this congregation's continuing commitment to support you in living-out your baptismal promises that were begun the day your parents, out of obedience to Christ, brought you to the waters of Holy Baptism. May your quilt be a reminder not only of your parents' love, but also of God's love and the care you have received through the body of Christ that we know as Trinity Lutheran Church.

And now, as we have thanked and asked for God's Divine blessing, we also thank God for each of you. Wherever you go, you will be part of us. Wherever you go, our love goes with you. Whatever you do, you will be in our hearts. For nothing can separate you from the love of God in Christ. And therefore, we bless you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

(Mentors and Graduates are seated)

The peace of the risen Christ be with you all!



SENDING

DEPARTING BLESSING

The blessing of the living God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. **Amen.**

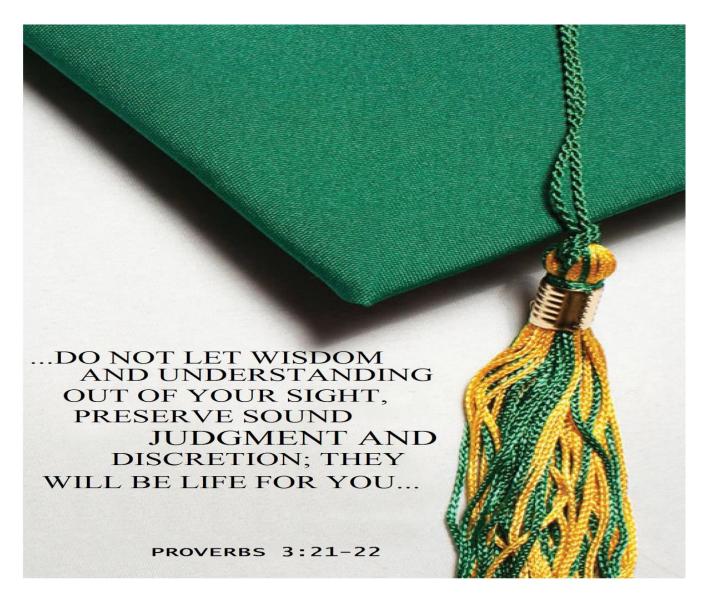




DISMISSAL You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**Bell

Our thanks to all who serve the Body of Christ

our thanks to all who serve the body of office		
SUNDAY	9:00 Worship	
Accompanist	Mary Mulry	
Acolyte	Kaden Braun	
Readers	Gunny Coulson, Jade Sellner	
Communion Assistant	Adam Johnson	
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen	
Greeters	Larry & Diane Evers	
Ushers	Brian Polesky, Dave Vosbeck	
Altar Guild	Nicole Stevermer & Nikki Nachreiner	



TODAY WE HONOR OUR GRADUATING SENIORS The Class of 2022 includes...

▶ Brooke Arneson **▶** Kaleb Butenhoff **▶** Gunny Coulson Nolan Domeier Adam Johnson Alex Joramo Mason Myers Jacob Price Jade Sellner



We wish you all God's very best in the future. Each graduate Congratulations, will receive a bible and a quilt, hand made by the Women of Iraduates! Trinity. Refreshments and cake will be served in the library after our Worship service. ALL ARE WELCOME!

The Christian Education is seeking people willing to organize and help during this summer's Vacation Bible School on June 7th. Please email education@trinitysleepyeye.com or swing by the office and let Brittney or Darlene know you are willing. We need help to make this a successful VBS.



MEALS THAT MATTER

With the delicious meals available in the freezer located in room 109 just off the dining room we now need your help. The meals are to be given to people who are experiencing some sort of life changing event, be it a new baby, illness, a death in the family, or anyone you think would benefit from a tasty, readymade dinner. Remember, you are the hands of Jesus in our world.



Thank you for being the hands of Jesus!



This summer the Board of Social Ministry would like to challenge our congregation to support Ivy House in New Ulm through donations both monetary and actual. Ivy House (formerly known as the Southern Minnesota Crisis Nursery) is a 24/7 crisis nursery which provides direct care to children aged 0-12 whose families are in crisis or a stressful situation. In addition to

providing up to 72 hours of direct care they also connect families with community resources. You can learn more about Ivy House from their website: ivyhousemn.org. Items needed by Ivy House include: Children's Activities: Play-Doh; Kinetic sand; Finger paints; Fidget toys. Personal Care: Pull-ups: Girls and boys (5T); Girls underwear sizes 10-12 or 14/16. House needs: Unscented laundry detergent; Clorox wipes, Dishwasher soap; Hand soap; Dish soap; Kleenex; Garbage bags. Office supplies: Postage stamps; Business size envelopes; Printer paper; HP 952XL toner - black and color. Other: Five point harness NEW car seats; New computer monitors. We will be collecting both monetary donations for Ivy House or individual items from this list. A basket will be placed in the narthex for your donations. We will be collecting donations through the end of August. Thank you in advance for your support.

Remember...Our Food Shelf Box is in the back of the Sanctuary. The Good Work of this Church continues!



Blood Drive Sleepy Eye Community Event Center

110 12th Ave NE Sleepy Eye, MN

Tuesday, May 23, 2023 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Sleepy Eye to schedule an appointment.





Get summer ready. Come give 5/20 through 5/31 for an exclusive Red Cross beach towel, while they last!





"Living in God's Garden"

Saturday, May 20th

10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Come spend the morning celebrating

the joys of spring!

*Learn about gardening with

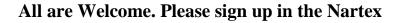
Master Gardener Lynn Hacker

*Plant a lovely container garden

* Enjoy a special luncheon

Adults - \$15.00

Children 10 and under - \$10.00



MAY 14, 2023

The Holy Spirit is our helper.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday John 14:15-21 The promise of the Holy Spirit Monday John 14:23-27 The Spirit will teach you Tuesday John 16:5-16 The work of the Holy Spirit Wednesday 1 John 4:13-21 God has given us the Spirit Thursday Acts 1:1-11 The ascension of Jesus

Friday Hebrews 4:14-16 Jesus has gone through the heavens

Saturday Psalm 68:3-5, 17-20 Ascended on high

Sunday John 17:1-11 Jesus prays for his disciples



SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help you and always be with you. The Spirit will show you what is true."

John 14:16-17

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, please give us the Holy Spirit each day to be with us and in us. Lead us to do the things that you ask of us. Amen. (John 14:15-17)

Mealtime Prayer:

We thank you God, three-in-one, for these gifts from earth and sun.

May praise and honor be said and sung, to the Father, Spirit, and Son. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you the Holy Spirit, so that you love Jesus and obey him. Amen. (John 14:15-17)

CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Who has been helpful to you this past week? In what ways have you been of help to others?
- Jesus called the Holy Spirit our "helper" or "counselor." What does the Holy Spirit help us to do?
- How would you like the Holy Spirit to help you today?

DEVOTIONS

Psalm 66:19-20 says, "God has listened; and heard my prayer. Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer or hold back love from me." Begin a household prayer journal; a book in which to record your prayer points. In your home devotion times, share any prayer concerns you have and write these in the journal. Let these concerns guide your prayers during the week. Review the journal each week and cross off points when the need for prayer has passed. Always remember to give thanks for God's responses to your prayers.

SERVICE

Jesus told his disciples, "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." Find out how you can support a ministry to orphans in your own country or overseas. (For an example, visit www.watoto.com.) Pray this week for orphans and for those who care for them.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

This Thursday (May 29) is Ascension Day. This day marks the last appearance of Jesus to the disciples after his resurrection at Easter, and his bodily ascension into heaven. It is the fortieth day after Easter Sunday and always falls on a Thursday. The book of Acts (1:12) suggests that Jesus' ascension took place at Mount Olivet, located northeast of the town of Bethany. Plan a trip (by car or foot) to a "high place" in your area. While there, discuss what it might have been like to see Jesus ascend into heaven, and your picture of his return at the end of time. Take time to notice the clouds and see what shapes you can find. (There is an old tradition that the clouds on Ascension Day take the form of lambs, in honor of the Lamb of God.) Shout these words aloud: "Jesus has ascended, but he will return! Come, Lord Jesus, Come!"

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Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

Please take your Bulletin home for weekly family devotional time.



Trinity's Mission Statement

We are a community where Jesus is Lord: our mission is to invite, welcome, nurture, and equip all people to be disciples in His name.

TRINITY'S PRAYER CHAIN Send an email to <u>secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org</u> or call the office at 507 794-5051. Leave a message. TRINITY'S WEBPAGE Send an email to the church office at <u>secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org</u> and let Darlene know you want your newsletter

TRINITY IS NOW ON FACEBOOK CHECK IT OUT!!

via email!

"Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) Sleepy Eye MN"

The Trinity Tidings newsletter is now also posted on www.sleepyeyeonline.com watch this site for community news and events.



If you haven't already, please consider *Simply Giving*, an automated giving program for your offering. You determine the frequency of your offering which is deposited into Trinity's account the same day it is withdrawn from your account. It's a "hassle-free" way to give.

Talk to Pat or Darlene if you are interested. Thank You. Please pick up your statements and envelopes in your mailbox. Thank You!

Last week at Trinity

Weekly Worship Attendance: 90
Weekly Giving: (5480.00 Needed) \$3930.57
May Giving: (\$22,920.00.Needed) \$3930.57

Budget Contributions needed \$103,140.00 2022 Approved Budget \$298,000.00

This Week's Prayer Concerns

<u>Pray for the Church</u>...that the Holy Spirit would empower us to live in the image of God so that we would speak and act in every way bringing glory to God before all the nations and peoples with what we have been given...

Pray for our World... that pain of this Covid-19 pandemic, which has penetrated so many lives that your light Lord would help us to see your presence and that the Spirit would lead us to seek the truth and practice grace for all who are hurting...

<u>Pray for all who are ill, afflicted, or recovering...</u>that the Holy Spirit would give comfort and daily strength to Sherry, Audrey, Kali, Jerry, Beth, Harold, Rodney P., Dave M., OraDell, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Milo, Ed, Carlos, Dorothy, Story, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Julia Ann, Linette, Tammy, John, Tony, Ted, Connor, Kimora, and Mary Jo.

<u>Pray for the beloved...</u> who now rest from their labors in God's mercy and for all who mourn the personal loss of loved ones that God would fill each one with the hope of our Lord's promise to bring us to a new heaven and earth where suffering, crying, pain and death will be no more....

<u>Pray for all families...</u>that the Holy Spirit would bring compassion and mercy to all who are separated from one another and each would give way to mercy, love and reconciliation...

<u>Pray for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces</u> <u>and those far from home</u>...for **Brady Augustin** and his wife ...and for all of our military Veterans that the Holy Spirit would guard them in safety and keep their hearts stayed in Christ...

<u>Pray for the missionaries of our church (ELCA)</u>...that they proclaim their witness of the Gospel throughout the world.

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