

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



Luke 11:2-4
June 9, 2024



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

GATHERING

- **Prelude** ...
- **Office of the Acolyte and Ringing of the Bell**
- **Welcome** **Pr Mel Musser**

* **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.



1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
 2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
 3 We do not live by bread . . . a - lone, but by



righteous - ness, and all these things shall be
 you shall find; knock and the door shall be
 ev - 'ry word that pro - ceeds from the



add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 mouth . . . of . . . God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

* **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.

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY.**

P: Let us pray... Sovereign God, your holy reign of peace and justice is not confined to some far-off future, but is present in the here and now. Jesus taught us to ask for your kingdom to come every time we pray, not that we might hasten the end of all things, but that we might, with your help, bring it into being among us. Guide us toward actions that will facilitate the breaking in of your reign today and every day. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

WORD

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

June 9, 2024

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• CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



Theme: The Kingdom of God

Materials: Knock-Knock Jokes

Scripture: Luke 11:2-4

Hello boys and girls. I hope you all had a great week. School's out for the summer now, right? Are any of you going on vacation this summer? I hope you get to enjoy the sun and the warm weather! Today we're going to talk about the Kingdom of God... First I have a couple of knock-knock jokes for you... Do you know what Knock, Knock jokes are? They're pretty simple. Knock, Knock jokes are fun and use words that sound alike. Lets try one together so you will know how it's done. OK....Here we go... Knock, knock. Children reply, "Who's There?". It's Doris. Children say, "Doris Who?" The Doris locked, that's why I'm knocking... Lets try another one. Ok? Knock, Knock... Who's there? Stan... Stan Who? Stan back, I think I'm going to sneeze... Here's another one. Knock, Knock... Who's There? Noah... Noah Who? Noah good place to get out of the rain... Ready for another? Knock, Knock... Who's there? Heaven... Heaven Who? Heaven we heard enough Knock, Knock Jokes?

Last week we started to learn the Lord's Prayer. Today we're going to talk about one of the things we pray for in the important prayer Jesus taught us. Jesus said we should ask for God's Kingdom to come here on earth. That's pretty weird, isn't it? I mean most people think everyone who loves Jesus is going to another place we call heaven to be with God forever. That's not what Jesus said though. Jesus said we should pray for the Kingdom of Heaven to come here.

What would things be like if God's Kingdom, heaven, was really here on earth? Everyone would love each other... Nobody would do anything bad. We wouldn't have to be afraid because everyone would only do kind and nice things. Even the animals would all get along. That's what the Bible says.

When we pray for God's Kingdom to come, we're really asking God to use us to make this world more like the way things already are in heaven. Can you think of anything you might be able to do to help make God's Kingdom come? Maybe you could be kind to your siblings, or helping someone who is sick? Maybe you can just smile at everyone, especially someone who's frowning and sad. There's lot's of things every one of us can do. This week I want each of you to talk about this with your parents. Maybe they can help you find ways to make heaven come a little bit closer.

Let's pray... Dear Jesus, thank you for this world and for all the wonderful people and things around us. Help us find ways to make this world a little bit like heaven. Amen.

- **A READING OF SCRIPTURE: Luke 11:2-4**

R: Our scripture reading is from the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 11.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord!

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

- **SERMON**

Pr Mel Musser

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the one who shows us the Kingdom of God here and now, Jesus Christ our Savior and our Lord, amen.

I remember playing hide and seek as a child. (SLIDE) It was great fun. I was never very good at hiding, but I loved being the one to go looking for everyone else. I would finish counting, so quickly my friends said I must have skipped a few numbers, but I just counted really fast... Then I would announce at the top of my lungs, “READY OR NOT, HERE I COME!” When our granddaughter, Emery was about 3 years old she always wanted to play Hide and seek. She could never stay hidden though. If you didn’t come and find her within a few seconds, she’d come out from behind the curtain or from behind the recliner chair and announce, “Here I am!” It was like she couldn’t wait to be found.

I think we’re all a lot like that. I mean we all want to be found. (SLIDE) The alternative is to remain separated from God, from those we love, and to be all alone. Almost every day I see folks poking their heads out from behind a curtain

of pain and sorrow. Every word, every gesture is like they're crawling out from behind a rock or a hard place where life's circumstances have had them penned in. If you're the one hiding, or the one seeking, or even the one sticking your head out from your hiding place, ready to be found, one thing is certain, ready or not, here comes the Kingdom of God! When Jesus began his earthly ministry, that's the first thing he announced, "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is near!" (SLIDE)

That's how Martin Luther took it, anyway. In his explanation of the Second Petition or the Lord's Prayer in his Small Catechism, Luther says this: "The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer..." In other words, "Ready or not, God's kingdom is coming." It's happening, with or without our prayer. "But we pray in this petition," Luther goes on to say, "that God's kingdom may come to us also." We're praying that God's kingdom, His reign and rule, would become personal and real in our own lives. And it does. God's kingdom does come to us by grace, because God reigns.

When we talk about the kingdom of God, there are three ways we might consider His reign and rule. First is called the kingdom of power. (SLIDE) This is God's rule over all of Creation. God made it. God sustains it. God keeps it together. God does all this in spite of creation's rebellion against Him. The second way we can think about God's reign is what we call the kingdom of grace. (SLIDE) This is His reign in and through Christians. The Holy Spirit ignites a

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faith within us to repent and trust in Jesus as our Lord and as our Savior. Because of God's free gift of the Holy Spirit within each of us, we can live sanctified lives. All that means is that God considers us to be pure and Holy simply because the Holy Spirit lives in us. We live in that grace until Christ comes again, which brings us to our third kingdom. The kingdom of glory. (SLIDE) The kingdom of glory is God's reign in eternity when God will reconcile all things to Himself. While our eternal life in Christ has already begun, we won't fully experience the kingdom of glory until Jesus returns; on the last day, in the resurrection.

Now, whenever we look at these three (SLIDE) the kingdom of power, the kingdom of grace, and the kingdom of glory—we see they're very much intertwined. God reigns in Christ Jesus and Jesus came to do kingdom work. In His first message in the Gospel of Mark, Jesus said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." In other words, the kingdom of God, the reign and rule of God is right here, right now, and can be found by looking at Jesus Christ of Nazareth. It's like Jesus was saying, "Ready or not, here I come." From there on, Jesus goes on doing kingdom work. (SLIDE) He displays authority in the Kingdom of Power walking on water, calming storms, feeding thousands upon thousands, and healing a broken and diseased world. He displays authority in the Kingdom of Grace (SLIDE) as He forgives sinners, as He chooses to not condemn, as He proclaims a message of love

and compassion, as He seeks the lost of this world, and as He promises the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. He even displays His authority in the Kingdom of Glory (SLIDE) through His very presence among us as He reveals to us in so many parables, what the Kingdom of God is like... Jesus raises the dead to life giving us a glimpse of eternity with Him. This is God's Kingdom of Glory.

In a variation of the old Hide and Seek children's game, Jesus sends His disciples out to do kingdom work, too. (SLIDE) They, and we, get to proclaim a message of good news, just like Jesus did 2000 years ago. We get to pray for healing, feed and clothe the least of these among us, and care for all of creation that God loves. Jesus' whole ministry, even through His disciples, is all about kingdom work—bringing the reign of God to bear on a lost and rebellious world.

It was precisely this kingdom work that would bring Jesus to a cross. "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up," Jesus had said. So, they decided to put Him to the test, but we know how the story ends! His kingdom is not OF this world, it doesn't look like anything this world had ever seen! His kingdom is not of this world, but it is OVER this world and it is FOR this world. (SLIDE) God desires all people to be saved. Jesus died for all the world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. His kingdom is not OF this world, but it is FOR US, and His kingdom comes THROUGH US now, too!

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You see, we are kingdom people, now. We are sons and daughters of the King! In Baptism, we have been given a “noble birth.” As Saint Paul says in 1st Corinthians, chapter 1, “...not many of you were of noble birth...” Emphasis on the past-tense word, meaning the opposite is true, now. You weren’t of noble birth, but now you are! (SLIDE) Now, you have royalty running through your veins! We are kingdom people, now, and as such, Jesus calls us to live as citizens of His kingdom. So, our real home, our true citizenship is not of this world, as Jesus famously told Pontius Pilate. If we’re citizens of the Kingdom of God that Jesus says is not of this world, what does it look like when Jesus followers live and work in this Kingdom?

Well, the 10 Commandments might be a great place to start to look at how to live as Kingdom people. That’s where Martin Luther started with his Small Catechism. (SLIDE) To summarize the 10 Commandments, Jesus said to love God and love your neighbor as yourself. Care for them. Speak well of them. Protect them. Basically, live out your calling as a redeemed child of God in any and every situation in life. Our Kingdom work involves serving the physical as well as the spiritual needs of our neighbor. Now, not everyone is a pastor, but we all still have the responsibility of caring for the physical and spiritual needs of those around us. There are a lot of people out there looking to be found. There are

a lot of people, even in these pews, who need to experience the love of Jesus in a new way.

Dieterich Bonhoeffer wrote of the Kingdom work of the church in this way. He said, “The church that does not exist for others is no church at all.” See, as kingdom people, a kingdom of priests, we exist for others. When we pray, “Thy kingdom come,” we’re praying for a few things all at once. (SLIDE) We’re asking for God’s kingdom of power to work in Creation. We’re asking for His kingdom of grace to come to us by His Spirit, that we might live sanctified, holy lives. And we’re asking for Jesus to return soon, in His kingdom of glory, that we might enjoy eternity with Him. We’re asking for even more. When we pray, “Thy kingdom come,” we’re also praying that others be brought into the Kingdom, by grace through faith. We’re asking God to use us personally, to use this congregation, and to use this Church Building as our tool to bring them in.

So, again, how do we do this? How do we live as kingdom people? Well, Jesus came proclaiming the Good News, and helping others. He sent His disciples out to proclaim the Good News, and to help others. Guess what He’s calling us to do, now... To proclaim the Good News, and help others. To simply be the living Body of Christ, living our individual vocations, caring for the needs of those around us. To exist for others. That’s why our ministries here at Trinity are so vital. We’re not just helping the less fortunate, we’re doing Kingdom work.

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(SLIDE) May the Lord bless the work and ministries of this congregation.

May the Lord continue to raise up new leaders to face the challenges of each new day. May your Kingdom come and may we be included as God's workers as we proclaim for God, Ready or Not, Here we come! Amen.

Silence may be kept for meditation...

* **HYMN OF THE DAY** "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" **LBW 439**



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

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*** 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.

➤ *Or, He descended to the dead.*

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L: Together with our siblings in Christ throughout the world, we pray for the needs of all that God has made.

A brief silence.

L: God of all, you are among us at all times and in all places, fully present in the world even when it appears otherwise. Help us to recognize you in our neighbors, and to work to reveal your love and justice to all the world. God, our shepherd,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: You have redeemed not just humanity but all of creation by Jesus' death and resurrection. Help us to care for the natural world as a neighbor, and see our interdependence as a blessing to be preserved. God, our shepherd,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: You are the highest and best of all leaders, Sovereign God. Help human leaders at every level to recognize your divine will, and work to bring about your kingdom of peace on earth. God, our shepherd,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: You are our hope and our healer. Hold all who experience health challenges of any kind in your loving arms, (*especially...*) Renew and restore them, and all of us, each day. God, our shepherd,

C: Hear our prayer.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

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L: You have set the stars and planets in motion, and the seasons change by your design. As summer begins, be with all whose schedules change, and all who travel during this time. God, our shepherd,

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: You are the ruler of the living and of the dead. Help us to remember those who have gone before with gratitude, that they might give us the hope of eternal life in you. God, our shepherd,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Confident that you care for all our needs, we lift these prayers, spoken and unspoken, into your loving hands.

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 ...God, our ruler, in your lovingkindness you lavish upon us all good things. Accept now these, our gifts and our tithes, out of what you have first given us. Use them for the work of bringing the kingdom of God into the world here and now.

C: Amen.

* **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: United into one through Jesus Christ Our Lord, we 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.

* Please stand if able

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SENDING

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- * **SENDING BLESSING**

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

- * **SENDING HYMN** **“God of Grace and God of Glory”** **LBW 415**



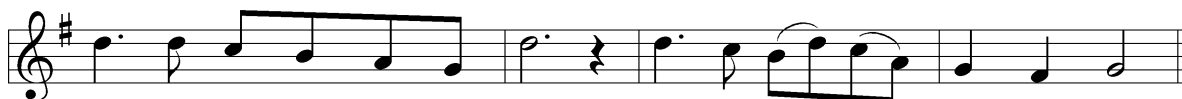
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

- * **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!**

- * Please stand if able

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- Please be seated

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Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ministers | All the People of Trinity |
| Organist | Roxanne Groff |
| Lector | Kathy Kathman |
| Parrish Nurse | PJ Musser |
| Acolyte | Jackson Baker |
| Custodian | Mark Groff |
| Secretary | Sharon Fourman |
| Facebook Live Recorder | PJ Musser |



Scripture readings for next Sunday, June 16th
 Luke 11:2-4

Health Tips for the Week

BODY: Frozen grapes are a great snack to curb the appetite.

MIND: Listen intently.

SPIRIT: Maintain an open mind.

This Week @ Trinity – June 9 thru June 16:

| DATE | TIME | EVENT |
|-----------------------|-------------|---|
| Sun, June 9 | 9:30 am | Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts) |
| | 10:30 am | Worship Service |
| Thurs, June 13 | 10:00 am | Prayers & Squares Quilting |
| Fri, June 14 | 3:30 pm | FISH Choice Food Pantry |
| Sun, June 16 | 9:00 am | Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts) |
| | 10:30 am | Worship Service |

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Save The Date!

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Wednesday, June 19 @ 10:00 am | GGRC Soup Kitchen |
| July 9 & 11 @ 6:00 pm | Vacation Bible School |
| July 14 – After Worship | Trinity Carry-In/Picnic/VBS Celebration |
| July 21 – 9:00 am | Breakfast & Presentation by Oesterlen Services for Youth of Springfield, Ohio |

ULTIMATE CLEANING CLOTHS now available from WELCA ladies! You just wet them, wring them out as much as you can, wipe your surfaces and walk away. Just rinse them out good and reuse again. They are guaranteed for years.

--- 1 for \$7.00, 2 for \$10.00 or 5 for \$20.00 ---

---Portia Boord and Diane Warner



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.

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.

Trinity Contact Info



| | |
|---------------|--|
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| Email: | pastor@pitsburgtlc.org |
| Cell Phone: | 937-626-7100 |
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| Office Phone: | 937-692-5670 |
| Website: | www.pitsburgtlc.org |

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