

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

WELCA
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Thankoffering



November 10, 2024



SCAN ME

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** **PJ Musser**

* **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM** **PJ Musser**

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

L: Blessed be the triune God, who pours out love, justice, and mercy in abundance.

C: Amen.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

L: Joined by water to Christ and to creation, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font.

L: For all gifts of water,

C: We give you thanks, O God.

L: For rivers and lakes, for streams and oceans, for healing rains and clean water to drink:

C: We give you thanks, O God.

L: For Mariam's song of liberation on the far Bank of the sea, For Isaiah's invitation to "come and drink, without money and without price," For Jesus's baptism and commissioning in the waters of the Jordan, For the Samaritan woman, revived by living water, For the holy river that waters the tree of life:

C: We give you thanks, O God.

L: For the outpouring of the holy spirit, For baptismal waters, For the cleansing of our hearts, For the refreshment of our spirits, For waves of mercy, For justice, rolling like rivers:

C: We give you thanks, O God.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

* **HYMN OF PRAISE “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” LBW 423**



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
 still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
 by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
 stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
 that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

* **APOSTOLIC GREETING** **PJ Musser**

L: May the amazing grace of Jesus, the extravagant love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY** **PJ Musser**

L: Let us pray... God of Heaven and Earth, we are gathered here today to celebrate your abundance. We pray that you pour out on us your Holy Spirit, and your grace, love, mercy, and compassion to share with all of your people. Forgive us for the times we have failed to do so. Lord, bring healing into the lives of those seeking your comfort, bring peace to those who know conflict,

and bring strength to those everywhere who are working to bring about your kingdom here on Earth. Today we ask that you bring stillness to our hearts and minds as we reflect on the women of the Bible and their leadership, courage, and faithfulness; those whose names we know, and those who still are unknown to us. In your holy name we pray,

C: Amen.

• **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pam Oswalt

• **READINGS:**

Linda Baker

L: Today we are celebrating women of faith. We look to women in the bible as mentors and role models. These rich stories show us women who are mothers, sisters, daughters, and friends. We also hear of these early women serving as leaders, disciples, and in business.

Sarah (wife and mother). Genesis 18:9-14

Our first reading is from Genesis. Sarah and Abraham had been desiring to have a child for many, many years. God had promised Abraham descendants as numerous as the stars, yet they remained childless. Now in their old age, they receive news of an upcoming baby. Three visitors come to the tent where Abraham and Sarah are staying. We read from the book of Genesis, chapter 18, verses 9 to 14. ⁹The visitors said to Abraham, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ¹⁰Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. ¹¹Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" ¹³The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' ¹⁴Is anything too wonderful for the LORD?"

Naomi and Ruth (outsider). Ruth 1:7-16

Julie Kossler

Two books of the Bible are named for women. In the book of Ruth, Ruth is an outsider from the country of Moab. She and her mother-in-law Naomi are both widowed and travel to Naomi's hometown of Bethlehem. Ruth becomes the great grandmother of David, and an ancestor of Jesus.

We read from Ruth chapter 1, verses 7 to 16.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

⁷So Naomi set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. ⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. ¹⁰They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." ¹¹But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me...No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." ¹⁴Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. ¹⁵So Naomi said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." ¹⁶But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge, your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

Esther (leader and advocate)

Lexie Angles

Esther is the other book of the bible named for a woman. Esther is the story of an unlikely young woman becoming the queen and leading the people. She has hidden the fact that she is Jewish from her husband the king and problems arose for the Jewish people. This story is the basis for the Jewish holiday of Purim.

We read from Esther 2:15-18, 4:13-14.

When the turn came for Esther daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had adopted her as his own daughter, to go in to the king, she asked for nothing except what Hegai the king's eunuch, who had charge of the women, advised. Now Esther was admired by all who saw her... [and] the king loved Esther more than all the other women; of all the virgins she won his favor and devotion, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. ¹⁸Then the king gave a great banquet to all his officials and ministers — "Esther's banquet." He also granted a holiday to the provinces, and gave gifts with royal liberality... [In time, problems arose for the Jewish people. Esther's Uncle] ¹³Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. ¹⁴For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this."

Mary and Martha (sisters, disciples). John 12: 1-8

Theresa Sarver

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus spends time with Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha.

We read from John 6, verses 1 to 8.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor? ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Lydia (business woman). Acts 16:11-15

Callie Schmitmeyer

Lydia is one of the women we encounter in the book of Acts. She is a business person selling purple cloth, which was a very expensive commodity in her time.

We read from Acts chapter 16, verses 11 to 15.

Paul and Timothy set sail from Troas and [arrived at] Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

L: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C: Thanks be to God

• **SERMON**

PJ Musser

Wow- what beautifully bold powerful women we just heard in today's scripture readings. We just heard about Sarah, a wife and mother.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

Sarah's story was one filled with faith and fortitude. While she did not always say or do the right thing, she always seemed to find her way back to the promise God had for her life. God's promise to Abraham and Sarah was about making them the father and mother of nations. Sarah found her purpose through faith and patience. Sarah is a great example of how we can't rush God's will and purpose for our lives. Sometimes, the call on your life is to wait patiently and have faith through the ups and downs

Next, we heard about Naomi and Ruth. Ruth was a woman of God who lost everything she loved and valued. She had to overcome her husband's death. While life was unfair to her, she faced many tough decisions. She still looked to Naomi for guidance, wisdom, and friendship. Ruth found her purpose through loyalty and commitment to her family. If she had not gone with Naomi and remained committed to a relationship that had no guarantee of anything, especially a future, she would not have found her Boaz. Ruth's beautiful story of redemption can only be orchestrated by God in His great mercy.

Then there was Esther who was a leader and advocate for the Jewish people. Esther found her purpose through faith, courage, and a willingness to risk her life to save an entire race. She was strategic in her thinking and aware of her role in the lives of so many people. She did not back down from challenges or allow her misfortunes to take her away from the open doors right before her. Queen Esther was a powerful woman because she was humble and obedient. She was also courageous and able to stand up for what was right while maintaining honor and respect for her role as The Queen.

Then we heard about the sisters, Mary and Martha. They open their home to Jesus as he traveled with his disciples. As Martha hurried to ensure the preparations, Mary simply sits at the feet of Jesus and listens to the wisdom of Christ. Mary and Martha are two sisters with incredibly different focuses. While Mary soaks in the moments with Jesus, Martha can't think past the cooking and cleaning. Martha quickly becomes frustrated with all the work she is doing alone and complains to Jesus! Martha says to Jesus, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left

me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" Jesus replies, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." We can gain much insight into what it means to lean on God for our strength and power. Mary's humility and submission to The Lord can be seen as powerful.

Lastly we heard about Lydia a businesswoman. Biblical scholars believe she may have been the first Gentile convert in Europe and the first believer to open her home for worship for the early European Christians. Her generosity and hospitality benefited not just Paul and the early church but even future generations of believers. Lydia exemplifies determination, foresight, and true generosity that can encourage us today.

Powerful women are all around us, but they might not look like you'd expect. In the Bible, the most powerful women were often quiet and humble and never claimed to have all the answers. Power can look different for some people. I can have moments when my words and my

temper get the best of me. I have even been known to have an adult temper tantrum. While some people might think they know what bold powerful women look like, the Bible shows us that we need restraint to be powerful. A loud voice doesn't mean you have power, and even being smart or successful doesn't make you powerful. You might feel like you aren't strong enough. You might feel like you are too emotional to be powerful. But having emotions gives you a great superpower, including strength, empathy, and resilience. In those moments, you might feel weak, but remember, where you are weak, God is strong. Having the capacity to be powerful in the many different situations you face is a good thing. Hard times are inevitable in life. But leaning into your relationship with God will give you the power to overcome.

The woman's strength is found in her faith, hope, and love for those around her. The powerful woman understands the need for reflection and self-awareness to achieve spiritual growth.

The most important women in the world are those in the trenches, working to make a difference and change the culture around them.

Powerful Christian women read and study the Bible, allowing God's Word to mold them into the women God created them to be.

This is true across all generations. Young women may struggle with thinking they are not strong enough to withstand life's trials. Older women have a beautiful purpose: to help young women learn to be strong and find their purpose in life. When women help each other become powerful and endure life's trials and triumphs, they grow in their convictions and walk with God. The godly woman in our lives can help us find and fulfill our purpose and help us become stronger.

Strong women can be found everywhere in this life. Stop and look around this sanctuary. This place is abundant with bold powerful women. And yes- there is also an abundance of strong powerful men here in this place.

Remember that just like the women we heard about today we find our power through Christ Jesus. Amen

Silence may be kept for meditation...



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

* **APOSTLES' CREED**

Finley Schmitmeyer

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**

Kathy Kathman

L: May communities of faith worldwide be places of welcoming, affirmation, safety. God of welcome,

C:hear our prayer.

L: May refugees of climate and social circumstances find homes filled with hope in unexpected places. God of welcome,

C:hear our prayer.

L: May those who suffer or feel castaway be guided toward open hearts and communities of love. God of welcome,

C:hear our prayer.

L: May our community feel loved, blessed, and embraced by the never ending love of God. God of welcome,

C: hear our prayer.

L: For prayers spoken, silent, or given to the care of our community... We especially pray for God of welcome,

C:hear our prayer.

L: May we give thanks for all those who provide nurturing in our lives, that we may all find ways to love one another and see our neighbors as beloved children of God. God of welcome,

C:hear our prayer.

L: We pray this in the name of God who loves us so extravagantly and abundantly.

C: Amen.

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

*** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Kathy Kathman

(The Sharing of the Peace that began when the congregation arrived is now shared with the Pastor at this time...)

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

C: And also with you.

*** OFFERING PRAYER**

PJ Musser

While the congregation is still standing say:

L: 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.

L: So, let's pray for the offerings we receive this day. ... O God, we give you thanks for your overwhelming generosity toward all your children. We thank you for the ministry of the Women of the ELCA. Help us to continually heed your call to go out of this building, and into the neighborhood, that we might be for our communities signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

PJ Musser

L: Jesus is the "tie that Binds us together", 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.

• ANNOUNCEMENTS

PJ Musser

*** SENDING BLESSING**

PJ Musser

L: God has filled the hungry and thirsty with good things:

C: Let's give thanks to God, for God's mercy endures forever!

L: God has done wonderful works for all people:

* Please stand if able

• Please be seated

C: Let us rejoice in God's steadfast love!

L: God has looked upon us with grace and favor:

C: Let us remember God's mercy!

L: God has put into our hearts a song of Thanksgiving and freedom:

C: Let us join our voices in singing our praise!

L: The God of abundance, Creator, Redeemer, and Spirit, bless you and keep you, now and forever. "Amen."

*** SENDING HYMN "Praise and Thanksgiving" LBW 409**



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

*** DISMISSAL PJ Musser**

L: Thanks to all of you for coming today. Thanks also to our Viewers on social media. We're so happy you were able to join us today. Until the next time we gather 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

Trinity Worship Assistants and Staff

Ministers	All the People of Trinity
Organist	Roxanne Groff
Lector	WELCA Ladies
Parrish Nurse	PJ Musser
Custodian	Mark Groff
Secretary	Sharon Fourman
Facebook Live Recorder	PJ Musser

This Week @ Trinity – November 10 thru November 17, 2024

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sun, Nov. 10	9:30 am	Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts)
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	2:30 pm	Christmas Auction at Erdmann’s, 1385 Littles Rd.
Mon, Nov. 11	7:30 pm	Dartball at Trinity vs. EUM #1
Thurs, Nov. 14	10:30 am	Prayers & Squares Quilting
Fri, Nov. 15	3:30 pm	FISH Choice Food Pantry
Sun, Nov. 17	9:00 am	Confirmation Class
	9:30 am	Christian Conversations (Coffee/Juice and Donuts)
	10:30 am	Worship Service w/Communion
	12:00 pm	Trinity Troops



TODAY -- 2:30 PM at Erdmann’s Home, 1385 Littles Rd.

- * Please stand if able
- Please be seated

Save The Date!

November 19 @ 2:30 pm	Community Blood Drive at Trinity
November 21 @ 11:30 am	Ladies & Gents Luncheon @ Tolly's Gastropub, 644 Wagner Ave., Greenville
November 27 @ 7:00 pm	Thanksgiving Eve Service at Trinity
December 4, 11, & 18 @ 6:30 pm	Advent Soup Supper & Video Discussion
December 7 @ 10:00 am	Children's Christmas Program Practice
December 8 @ 10:30 am	Children's Christmas Program
December 13 & 14 @ 10 am-8 pm	Darke County Christmas Fund Drive
December 18 @ 9:30 am	GRCC Soup Kitchen
December 24 @ 4 \$ 10 pm	Christmas Eve Worship Services
December 29 @ 10:30 am	Ugly Christmas Sweater Sunday



Scripture reading for next Sunday, November 17th
Isaiah 6:1-8

Health Tips for the Week

BODY: Take a dance class.

MIND: Plan a family activity, such as researching your family history.

SPIRIT: Listen.



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.

- * Please stand if able
- Please be seated

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:

Pastor:	Mel Musser
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Cell Phone:	937-626-7100
Secretary:	Sharon Fourman
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- * Please stand if able
 - Please be seated