ACTORY! Death has been swallowed up in victory. 1 Constitions 15:54

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 West Arch Street, Pottsville, PA 570-622-9910 Pastor Chris Rothharpt

THE VIGIL OF EASTER Saturday, March 30, 2024 - 7:30 P.M.

Welcome to the "Vigil of Easter", one of the most ancient services in Christendom. As last night's Tenebrae Service ended in darkness, so does this evening's service begin that way.

The climax of what began on Maundy Thursday is reached in this service, which is full of contrasts between darkness and light, death and life, chaos and order, slavery and freedom. The cross is vindicated as the Lord's throne, and the fullness of salvation finds expression. Through the Word, the Sacraments are revealed as the means of God's salvation.

Four sections comprise the Vigil of Easter. The Service of Light, The Service of Readings, The Order for Holy Baptism, and The Celebration of Holy Communion.

The Service of Light begins with the lighting of the Christ Candle. The opening prayers remind us that 'this is the night' when Christians remember and celebrate God's activity to rescue us.

The Service of Readings from the Old Testament recalls God's action as the Creator and the Restorer of Life - as He rescued His people and renewed their relationship with Him.

Remembering the Sacrament of Holy Baptism reminds us that in this Sacrament, we are joined to the death and resurrection of Christ our old self is 'drowned' and we are then 'raised up' to new life. In the ancient church, this was the only service of the year at which Baptisms took place. We use tonight's service as an opportunity to remember our own Baptismal vows. The Service of Holy Communion starts with the announcement of the resurrection, and the celebration begins!

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

Pastor:

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death.

> After the Christ Candle is lit, it is brought into the Sanctuary, at which time the following is said:

Pastor:

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Congregation: Amen.

As the Christ Candle is carried to its position in the chancel, we will pause 3 times to say the following:

Pastor: The light of Christ, Congregation: Thanks be to God.

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION

Pastor:

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels; rejoice now all creation; sound out, trumpet of salvation and celebrate the triumph of our King.

Rejoice, O Church, clothed in the brightness of this light. Let this house ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of God's people.

To all of you who stand near this marvelous and holy light, join with me, I ask you, in praising the loving kindness of Almighty God; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and rules with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you. Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. Congregation: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Pastor:

It is indeed right and salutary that we should always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, sing praise to You, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and Your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for He is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover, paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by His blood, delivered Your faithful people.

Pastor:

This is the night in which, in ancient times, you brought our forebearers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night in which the darkness of sin has been taken away by the rising brighness.

This is the night when all who believe in Christ are rescued from evil and the gloom of sin, and are renewed in grace and are restored to holiness.

This is the night when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

This is the night which shines like the day, when wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away.

This is the night in which innocence is restored to the fallen and joy to those who mourn.

Evil is humbled; discord is banished, and peace is offered to all the world.

This is the night when earth and heaven are joined and we are reconciled to God.

We pray, therefore, Holy Father, that this candle, lighted to the honor of Your name, may continue to burn brightly and dispel all the darkness of our night.

May Christ, the Morning Star which never sets, find it ever burning—He who gives light to all creation and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Congregation: Amen.

THE SERVICE OF READINGS

First Lesson: Genesis 1:1-2:2

Silence For Reflection

Prayer:

Pastor: Almighty God, You wonderfully created...

... Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

Second Lesson: Exodus 14:21-31

Prayer:

Pastor: O God, whose wonderful deeds of old...

... through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

Hymn - When Israel Was In Egypt's Land

1. When Israel was in Egypt's land, let my people go; Oppressed so hard they could not stand, let my people go.

Refrain:

Go down Moses, way down in Egypt's land, Tell old Pharaoh; let my people go.

2. The Lord told Moses what to do, let my people go;

To lead the childr'n of Israel through, let my people go. (Refrain)

3. The pillar of cloud shall clear the way, let my people go.

A fire by night, a shade by day, let my people go. (Refrain)

4. As Israel stood by the water side, let my people go.

At God's command it did divide, let my people go. (Refrain)

5. When they had reached the other shore, let my people go.

They sang the song of triumph o'er, let my people go. (Refrain)

Third Lesson:

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Prayer

Pastor:

O God, by the Passover of the Son.

... through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregation:

Amen.

Gospel: John 20:1-18

Pastor:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Congregation:

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Fanfare:

Dennis Eliot

Hymn - #366 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

Victory

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. The strife is o'er, the battle done; now is the victor's triumph won!

Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

2. The pow'rs of death have done their worst;

Jesus their legions has dispersed. Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

3. The three sad days have quickly sped, Christ rises glorious from the dead.

All glory to our risen head! Alleluia!

4. Christ closed the yawning gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high portals fell. Let hymns of praise his triumph tell. Alleluia!

5. Lord, by the stripes which wounded you, from death's sting free your servants too, that

we may live and sing to you. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

Pastor:

The Lord be with you.

Congregation:

And also with you.

Pastor:

Let us pray:

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection, stir up in Your Church that spirit of adoption which is given to us in

Baptism; that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship

You in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,

now and forever.

Congregation:

Amen.

Sermon

Hymn: #367 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Lasst uns erfreuen

(next page)

367 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

Pastor:

Dear Friends in Christ:

As the people of God who are gathered together by the Holy Spirit, we confess as a church that we are buried with Christ by Baptism into His death, and raised with Him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to remember the promises of Holy Baptism.

Pastor:

The Lord be with you.

Congregation:

And also with you.

Pastor:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation:

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor:

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, and 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 the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now

and forever.

Congregation:

Amen.

Pastor:

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Pastor:

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Congregation:

I renounce them.

Pastor:

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Congregation:

I renounce them.

Pastor:

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Congregation:

I renounce them.

Pastor:

Do you believe in God the Father?

Congregation:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

Congregation: 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.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

Congregation: I believe in the Holy Spirt,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Pastor: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a

new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of

sins, keep us in eternal life by His grace, in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

Offering

Solo: Alleluja from Exultate, Jubilate W.A. Mozart

Mary Nell Starner

Offertory Response: #185 Create in Me

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Prayer Hymn-#752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Prayers

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor

Pastor The Lord be with you.

Congregation:(sung) And also with you.

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

Congregation:(sung) We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation:(sung) 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection open to us the way of ever lasting life. And so with all the choirs of angels, with the church on

earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their un

ending hymn:

Congregation:(sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth

are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and

gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying; Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remem

brance of me.

Pastor The Peace of the Lord be with you all.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor Greet one another with the peace of the Lord.

Hymns during communion:

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Have mercy on us.

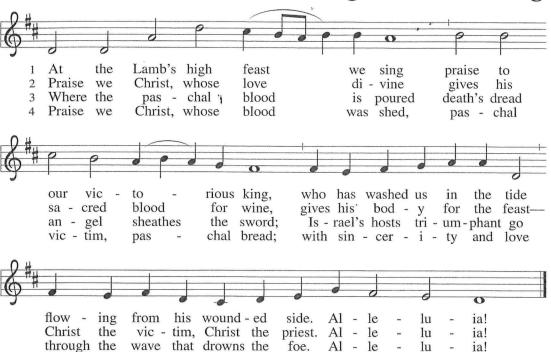
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Grant us peace.

Communion hymn: #362 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (next page)

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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



a - bove. Al - le

5 Mighty victim from the sky, hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie; you have conquered in the fight, you have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

man - na

from

eat

- 6 Now no more can death appall, now no more the grave enthrall; you have opened paradise, and your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy, this alone can sin destroy! From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!

lu

ia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, your name we praise. Alleluia! **Pastor**

May the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus

Christ Strengthen You and Keep You in His Grace. Amen.

Post Communion Canticle Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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.

Blessing

Pastor:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation:

Amen.

Dismissal

Worship Assistant:

Rejoicing in the power of the Spirit, go in peace to love and serve

the Lord.

Congregation:

THANKS BE TO GOD. ALLELUIA!

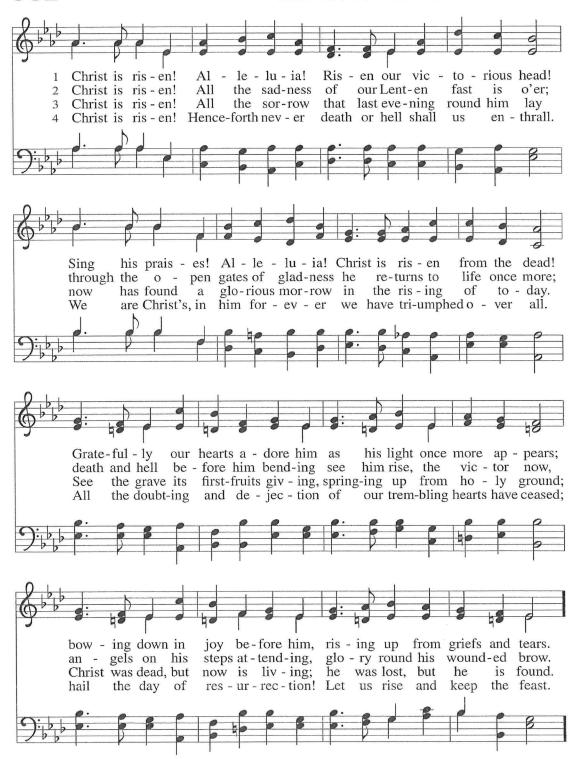
Recessional Hymn: #382 Christ is Risen? Alleluia!

Morgenlied

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Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!





Organ Postlude:

Any songs published in this bulletin:

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Danielle Crestuk, Administrative Assistant: dcrestuk@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com
Barbara Miller, Church Council President
Michael Kiehner, Organist & Choir Director
Jim Honicker, Sexton

Active Prayer List

Members of Trinity with immediate concerns: George Albert, Brain Bohr, Judi Barton, Pam Brennan, Ron Brennan, Doug Camodeca, Josephine Cicero, Susan D'Ambrosio, Debbie Ebert, Gene Ebling, Joel Ebling, Sharon Fessler, Christopher Fredericks, Margaret Gretsky, Edward Helman, Barbara Hoffman, Arline Hufnagle, Megan Kimmel, Jodi Klein, Andrea Madara, Thelma Mansfield, Margie Mataka, Cindy McGeever, Ray Moyer, Diane O'Leary-Hughes, Suzanne Rich, Ruth Russell, Paula Ryan, Ron Schaeffer, Peg Schappell, Kay Shaw, Jack Shuey, Donald Smith, Margaret Snyder, Dorothy Thomas, Edna Uranko, Barbara Wagner, Helen Walasavage, Walter Whalen, David White

Members of Trinity with ongoing concerns: Ruth Bensinger, Brian Bohr, Sam Carroll, Barbara Conrad, Carole Coyle, Dennis Fredericks, Carolyn Gauntlett, Jarred Heckart, Betsey Lord, Dennis Lord, Camie McGonigle, Adam Morrow, Chester Moyer, Marilyn Reed, Jill Schaeffer, Albert Schneider, Linda Seiwell, Cindy Seltzer, Sally Spotts, Colin Studlack, Jill Weaver, Brock Weber, Ellen Wesnoski, Kerry Willard, Ivan Willard, Mary Jane Wilson, Sissy Wilson, Haley Wiscount, Sadie Wiscount, Donna Wood, Karen Wood, Damon Yost

<u>Shut-Ins:</u> Merle Amos, Delight & Paul Ashembrier, Jeanette Augustine, Mickie Bair, Leah Brokhoff, Earlamay Downing, Marsha Ehlers, Mary Evans, Sandy Fessler, Pat Haluska, Helen Harvey, Robert Heffner, Dolores Hoffman, Richard & Carole Kline, Faye Krasinsky, Nancy Pauzer, Terry Pugh, Nancy Schriner, Carolyn Spiess, Ann Spotts, Carolyn Wire, Kathryn Wodack, Darlene Zeller

<u>Nursing Home/Personal Care Residents:</u> Yvonne Blankenhorn, Hope Fisher, Tom Fredericks, Louise Gradwell, Larry Haffey, Dianna Hutton, Mollie Katchur, Cheryl Kephart, Mary Leary, Shirley Morgan, Anna Stinner, Frances Thomas, Judy Thomas, Shawn Thomas

Military Personnel: Brett Allison, Jacob Barton, Jason Beach, Audrey Burke, Christopher & Savannah Butler, Tim Campbell, Elizabeth Chattin, Andrew Clancey, Ryan Devaney, Jeff and Katie Dittmar, Noah Elison, Brian and Joshua Fetterman, Joshua Fredericks, Kevin Gregory, Sean Grube, Seth Grube, Joshua Hager, Wil Hanson, Aaron Lesher, Edward Mady, Tom McMurtrie, Ryan Miller, Ashton Muncy, Allison Ney, John Nomland, Aaron Oswald, Eddie Padinski, Kevin Potts, Larry Reedy, Zachary Reichert, Michael and Stephen Reier, Steven Sleva, Nicholas Starner, Matthew Tobin, Jamie Watt

Family Members/Friends: Ada, Karen Alban, Michelle Ambrose, McKenna Archibald, Millie Bachert, Brianne Barket, Sando Barnes, John Barnetsky, David Bechtel, Timothy Beissel, Olivia Bensinger, Heather Boltz, Linda Borchardt, Ron Boris, Rose Brehony, Doug Broughton, Joan Buehner, Connie Burns, Irene Conway, Betty Coyle, Donna Dando, Ellsworth Davis, Hayden Daubert, Alice Davis, Eliana Denning, Lynn Denmon, Justin Dicello, Marilee Ebert, Gaylene Ebling, Margaret Ebling, Tracey Ebling, Scarlett Ecckers, Virginia Ehrich, Dale Felker, Betty Gerinda, Charlie Gerinda, Kim Gerthoffer, D. J. Greenholt, Nancy Gullob, Connie Hale, David Hallman, Maureen Hill, Helen Holley, Vicki Jarvis, Warren Jefferson, Lindsay Kastner, Barry Kellner, Cody and Kime Kimberlin, Kaylynn Klunk, Blayke Kopinetz, David Krall, John Kruss, Diane Laine, Butch Lasco, Phil Lasco, Margaret Ledford, Regnal Leibensperger, Kenneth Leister, Bernadette L. Lord, Lorrraine, John Olfhinski Sister Jo Magdalinski, Gladys & Joseph Matz, Maria Masteller, Shawn Matz, Paige Marshall, Melissa Martin, Rose Maurer, Melissa L. Martin Lenny, Larry Lonergan, Karen McHugh, Joe McNulty, Alethia Meyer, Ariel Miller, Marie Minder, David Mohn, Alyssa Morissey, Joan Moyer, Vincent Murray, Charlotte Naley, Brenda Nungst, Mark Oshman, Pastor Peggy Sue Pfeffer, Robert Pomian, Kathy Pritchard, Jack & Dot Rebuck, Debbie Reed, Jerry Reed, Bryan Reinhold, Tina Robinson, Nancy Roshannon, Don Roth, Dave Rothermel, Milly Sheehan, Lisa Schaeffer, Julia Schemanski, Sandy Schlemmer, Pastor Jim Seifert, Adam Selfridge, Aimee & Ethan Selfridge, Brian Shishlo, Donny Smith, Joshua Sophy, Ann Marie Souchak, Allen and Jack Spotts, Lindsay Spotts, Jessica L. Steward, Diane Sumoski, Jack Thomas, Shirley Uhler, Charlie Wagner, Barry Ward, Glynn Ward, Emily Wetzel, Andy Wollyung, Anne Schock Womack, Mike Zawaski

Those who mourn: Especially the family and friends of Robert Thomas

STATEMENT OF CONGREGATIONAL MISSION

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Lutheran Church is a worshipping, learning, witnessing, and serving community of baptized Christians. It is a welcoming place where the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are celebrated according to the Gospel. As a community of believers, we challenge each other to respond to the call of our Lord to love and minister to persons at home and throughout the world. We encourage each other to share our time, our talents, and gifts to further the mission of our Lord Jesus Christ. In these ways, we bear witness to the love we have first received from God through Jesus Christ.

Adopted by the Congregation January 25, 1998

TRINITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Saturday, March 30	7:30	Easter Vigil	
Sunday, March 31	8:30 / 11:00	Easter Service	
Monday, April 1	Office Closed		
	6:30-8:30	Adult Volleyball	
	6:30pm	Strategic Planning Meeting	
Tuesday, April 2	9:30am	Lily Pick Up	
	10-11:00	Adult Exercise	
	6:00pm	Evangelism Committee Mtg.	
	6:00pm	Staff and Records Mgt.	
Wednesday, April 3	1pm-6pm	Red Cross Bloodmobile	
Thursday, April 4	8:00am	Pottsville Business Assoc. Mtg	
	12:00pm	Circle V Meeting	
Friday, April 5	10am-11am	Senior Exercise	
Saturday, April 6	6:00pm	Youth Led Worship	
Sunday, April 7	9:30am	Youth Led Worship	

Date:	Pastor/Vicar:	Worship Assistant:	Lector:
Saturday, March 30 (7:30pm)	Pastor Chris	Christina Linder	
Sunday, March 31 (8:30am)	Pastor Chris	Bob Thomas (8:30)	
(11:00am)		Karen Wood (11)	Bob Wood (11)

"THE CONNECTING LINK" -

Sunday mornings, WPPA, 1360 AM at 11:00 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Guest Account

Password: TrinityWIFI (password is case sensitive)