

September 6, 2020
9:30 Worship
Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
“Participating in God’s mission of life”
7104 - 39th Avenue
Kenosha, WI 53142

*We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation
(All are welcome here)*

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Phone 262-694-5050

“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God...”

God’s mission of life looks like this: during a global pandemic, homebound members are called, prayers are gathered, food is collected for local pantries, worship services are streamed, groceries are delivered to the vulnerable, offerings are given to the glory of God; during times of injustice, voices of the oppressed are lifted up and listened to with respect, oppressors recognize their complicity and repent from wrong doing, and all come together to work for a more just world. God’s mission of life is happening all around and through each of us.

WELCOME

AM: Good morning, welcome to Trinity Kenosha. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who welcomes and affirms all persons into the life of our faith community.

We extend a special welcome for those watching who are new to our faith community and invite you to explore our ministries by visiting our website at trinitykenosha.org. Pastor Tom and our new member team leader, Joe Falduto, are eager to listen and answer your questions about our ministries. Please feel free to email them.

Welcome to worship!

GATHERING SONG

♪♪ *Stars* (J. Cooper, K. Cooper, S. Mosley, J. Ingram)

*You spoke a word and life began,
Told oceans where to start and where to end.
You set in motion time and space,
But still You come, and You call to me by name.
Still You come, and You call to me by name.*

*If You can hold the stars in place,
You can hold my heart the same
Whenever I fall away, whenever I start to break.
So here I am, lifting up my heart
To the One who holds the stars.*

*The deepest depths, the darkest nights
Can't separate, can't keep me from Your sight.
I get so lost, forget my way,
But still You love and You don't forget my name.
If You can hold the stars in place,
You can hold my heart the same
Whenever I fall away, whenever I start to break.
So here I am, lifting up my heart*

*If You can calm the raging sea,
You can calm the storm in me.
You're never too far away,
You never show up too late.
So here I am, lifting up my heart
To the One who holds the stars.*

*Your love has called my name.
What do I have to fear?
What do I have to fear?
Your love has called my name.
What do I have to fear?
What do I have to fear?*

*If You can hold the stars in place,
You can hold my heart the same
Whenever I fall away, whenever I start to break.
So here I am, lifting up my heart
If You can calm the raging sea,
You can calm the storm in me.
You're never too far away,
You never show up too late.
So here I am, lifting up my heart
To the One who holds the stars.
You're the One who holds the stars.*

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: We gather in the name of God the Creator, God the Redeemer, and
God the Sanctifier who journeys with us. **Amen.**

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Guiding God,

C: ...you have shown us how to live a good life, yet we think we can do better on our own. We do not honor you or our neighbors, instead choosing to follow our selfish desires. We long to be free and yet hold others' wrongs against them. Release us from this endless cycle of guilt and poor choices. Restore us to yourself again, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: We are God's beloved children and we have been forgiven! Now live in the joy which this grace provides, and share the good news with others.

All: Amen

SONG OF PRAISE

♪♪ Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here Hymn 358

*Great God, your love has called us here,
As we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
Though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
Your call to hear, your love to find.*

*We come with self-inflicted pains
Of broken trust and chosen wrong,
Half free, half-bound by inner chains,
By social forces swept along,
By powers and systems close confined,
Yet seeking hope for humankind.*

*Great God, in Christ you call our name
And then receive us as your own,
Not through some merit, right, or claim,
But by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat*

And find you kneeling at our feet.

*Great God, in Christ you set us free
Your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
To turn from guilt and dull despair,
And offer all that faith can do
While love is making all things new.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM: Let us pray together the Prayer of the Day. Merciful God,

C: ...you know the frailty of our souls even when we will not admit it. Give us courage to be honest about our faults, so that we can truly receive the forgiveness you have freely offered, for Jesus' sake, Amen.

(Scriptures today will be provided by Kirsten Carson via audio file)

L: Through the proclaimed word of God, the holy Spirit moves to instill and deepen faith.

A reading from the Gospel of John. (John 15:9-11)

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

L: A reading from first John.

(1 John 4:7-21)

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God's love was revealed among us in

this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, "I love God," and hate their siblings, are liars; for those who do not love a sibling whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹ The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their siblings also.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor Tom

A moment of silence follows the sermon for the movement of the Holy Spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY

♪♪ *We Are Called* *Hymn 720*

*Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!*

*We are called to be light for the kingdom,
To live in the freedom of the city of God.*

*We are called to act with justice,
We are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another,
To walk humbly with God.*

*Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
So hatred and blindness will be no more.*

*We are called to act with justice,
We are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another,
To walk humbly with God.*

*Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love.*

*We are called to act with justice,
We are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another,
To walk humbly with God.*

APOSTLES CREED

AM: Let us confess our faith together with the words of the Apostles
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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

AM: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: Forgiving God,....**"Hear our prayer"**

AM: Admitting our faults is risky, O Lord, and we are not eager to do it. Humble us that we might be open to the blessings which mercy offers and live more fully as your people. Forgiving God,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Strengthened by the power of love, let us create space in this world so that our siblings who live on the underside of history may join us in all the abundance this life has to offer. Forgiving God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Bless all workers and those who strive to keep employment fair and sustainable. We give you thanks for people who do necessary jobs which we ourselves would rather not do, and we pray that all would find joy and satisfaction in their daily activities and those with whom they interact. Forgiving God,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the ministries of our partner ELCA congregations in the Kenosha-West Racine cluster and their pastors as they seek to proclaim the gospel and do justice. Embrace them with our love, deepen their faith and give them strength:

- Cross Lutheran in Burlington and Pastors John Brink and Elizabeth Lee
- Peace Lutheran in Burlington and their pastor Susan Bowen
- North Cape Lutheran in Franksville and Pastor Brad Brown
- Grace Lutheran and Pastor Jonathan Barker
- Lakeside Lutheran and Pastor Jim Lynch
- Lord of Life and Pastor Carol Jeunnette
- Spirit Alive! and Pastor Kevin Beebe
- St. Mary's and Pastor Paul Petersen
- St. Paul's and Pastor Cindy Aasen
- Christ Lutheran in Salem and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt
- Messiah Lutheran in Twin Lakes and Pastor Melody Brink
- Norway Evangelical Lutheran in Wind Lake and Pastors Mark Jaramillo and Kristie Jaramillo Forgiving God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: It is difficult to face the extent of the damage we have done to this planet, and how much effort is necessary to begin restoring it. Give us repentant hearts so that we can move forward responsibly and in full awareness of the consequences of our actions. Forgiving God,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Extend the same healing to us which Jesus granted to those whose souls he mended by pardoning their sins, that we might know a renewed and closer relationship with you. Send your Spirit to those who need it this day, especially... Forgiving God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Your saints were not perfect people, and neither are we. We thank you for using us in the midst of our shortcomings, to carry out the good work of your kingdom on earth. Forgiving God,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: *(Here other petitions may be offered)* Forgiving God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: For these and other things which we need but for which we do not yet know how to pray, we ask you, O Lord, in your infinite wisdom and mercy, in the name of Jesus our savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

AM: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

AM: If you are gathered with friends or family, share a word of peace with one another.

OFFERING

During this season of “together while apart” your financial gifts given to the glory of God are especially precious and needed. Three ways to give:

1. Mail a check to Trinity, 7104 - 39th Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53142
2. Text a dollar amount with dollar sign (i.e. \$20) to: 262-429-9785
3. Select the “Giving” button on our homepage,

www.trinitykenosha.org

Thank you, and thank God for you!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

AM: Let us pray:

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light

we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

AM: As we pray together the Lord's Prayer, please use the version that best nurtures your faith.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

♪ *Hold Us Together* (M. Maher, S. Wilson)

*And love will hold us together
Make us a shelter to weather the storm
And I'll be my brother's keeper
So the whole world will know that we're not alone.
And love will hold us together
Make us a shelter to weather the storm
And I'll be my sister's keeper
So the whole world will know that we're not alone.*

*This is the first day of the rest of your life
This is the first day of the rest of your life
Cause even in the dark you can still see the light
Gonna be alright, it's gonna be alright.*

*This is the first day of the rest of your life
This is the first day of the rest of your life
Cause even in the dark you can still see the light
Gonna be alright, it's gonna be alright.*

*And love will hold us together
Make us a shelter to weather the storm
And I'll be my brother's keeper
So the whole world will know that we're not alone.
And love will hold us together
Make us a shelter to weather the storm
And I'll be my sister's keeper
So the whole world will know that we're not alone.*

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DISMISSAL

AM: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.