January 31, 2021
9:30 Worship
Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

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)
Email: churchadmin@trinitykenosha.org
Phone 262-694-5050

Jesus ruffled feathers by eating and healing on the Sabbath. But he knew the laws had outgrown their purpose. It was time for God's laws to serve people, and not the other way around.

The mission of God is life. Hope replaces despair. Faith replaces fear. Life replaces death. How are you participating in God's mission of life?

WELCOME

AM: Good morning. Welcome in the name of the Lord 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. Our new member team leader, Joe Falduto, is eager to listen and answer your questions about our ministries. Please feel free to email him. Welcome to worship!

GATHERING SONG

♫ ***Way Maker*** Egbu

You are here moving in our midst; I worship you, I worship you.
You are here working in this place; I worship you, I worship you.

You are here moving in our midst; I worship you, I worship you.
You are here working in this place; I worship you, I worship you.

Way maker, Miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness,
My God, that is who you are.
Way maker, Miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness,
My God, that is who you are.

You are here, touching every heart; I worship you, I worship you.
You are here, healing every heart; I worship you, I worship you.

You are here, turning lives around; I worship you, I worship you.
You are here, mending every heart; I worship you, I worship you.
Way maker, Miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness,
My God, that is who you are.
Way maker, Miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness,
My God, that is who you are.

That is who You are. That is who You are.
That is who You are. That is who You are.

That is who You are. That is who You are.
That is who You are. That is who You are.

Way maker, Miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness,
My God, that is who you are.
Way maker, Miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness,
My God, that is who you are.

FORGIVENESS AND CONFESSION

P: We gather in the name of Holy Triune God-Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Amen.

Trusting in the abundant mercy and everlasting love of God, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: God of light,

C: ...You light a fire within us and ask us to shine, but we are quick to hide and make excuses. We shrink from challenges, avoid responsibility, and deny the goodness of your creation. We seek hollow praise and then don't believe it. Forgive us for hiding our God-given light and remaining self absorbed.

P: Children of God, never fear, for you have always lived in the mercy of your creator. Hear the words of absolution and believe then: you are forgiven, you are made whole, you are restored to God. Hallelujah!

All: Amen

SONG OF PRAISE

♫ Reckless Love Culver/Asbury/Jackson

Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me.
You have been so, so good to me.
Before I took a breath, You breathed Your life in me.
You have been so, so kind to me.

O, the overwhelming never-ending reckless love of God.
O, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety nine.
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it, still You give Yourself away.
O, the overwhelming never-ending reckless love of God.

When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me.
You have been so, so good to me.
When I felt no worth, You paid it all for me.
You have been so, so kind to me.

O, the overwhelming never-ending reckless love of God.
O, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety nine.
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it, still You give Yourself away.
O'the overwhelming never-ending reckless love of God.

There's no shadow You won't light up,
mountain You won't climb up coming after me.
There's no wall You won't kick down,
Lie You won't tear down coming after me.

There's no shadow You won't light up,
mountain You won't climb up coming after me.
There's no wall You won't kick down,
Lie You won't tear down coming after me.
O, the overwhelming never-ending reckless love of God.
O, it chases me down fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety nine.
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it, still You give Yourself away.
O, the overwhelming never-ending reckless love of God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: ...you gave the law to free your people, not sink us further into bondage. May we seek your Spirit of truth in all that we do, that our lives may glorify you always, for the sake of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

AM: Scriptures today will be read by D'Arcy Pye.

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

A reading from the book of Psalms. (Psalm 92)

[1]It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

[2]to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,

[3]to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

[4]For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

[5]How great are your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are very deep!

[6]The dullard cannot know, the stupid cannot understand this:

[7]though the wicked sprout like grass and all evildoers flourish, they are doomed to destruction forever,

[8]but you, O Lord, are on high forever.

[9]For your enemies, O Lord, for your enemies shall perish; all evildoers shall be scattered.

[10]But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox; you have poured over me fresh oil.

[11]My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies; my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.

[12]The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

[13]They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God.

[14]In old age they still produce fruit; they are always green and full of sap,

[15]showing that the Lord is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

L: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

A reading from the gospel of Luke. (Luke 6:1-16)

One sabbath while Jesus was going through the grainfields, his disciples plucked some heads of grain, rubbed them in their hands, and ate them. [2]But some of the Pharisees said, "Why are you doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" [3]Jesus answered, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? [4]He entered the house of God and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and gave some to his companions?" [5]Then he said to them, "The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath."

[6]On another sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. [7]The scribes and the Pharisees watched him to see whether he would cure on the sabbath, so that they might find an accusation against him. [8]Even though he knew what they were thinking, he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come and stand here." He got up and stood there. [9]Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to

destroy it?” [10]After looking around at all of them, he said to him, “Stretch out your hand.” He did so, and his hand was restored. [11]But they were filled with fury and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.

[12]Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. [13]And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: [14]Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, [15]and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, [16]and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON **Pastor Tom**

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

♫ The Church of Christ, in Every Age ***Hymn 729***

The church of Christ, in ev'ry age beset by change, but Spirit led,
Must claim and test is heritage and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
For shelter and for bread to eat, and never live before they die.
Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be
A partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.

For he alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood,
And teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.

We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord;
To care for all, without reserve, and spread his liberating word.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

AM: Please text your prayer requests to 287-8098.

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: God of truth,....**"Hear our prayer"**

AM: Loosen our grip on the letter of the law and how we can use it against others. Instead, open us to the spirit of your law of love, which knows when and how to act on behalf of justice. God of truth,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Reform unjust systems and shatter structures of power which trample upon the people they were intended to serve. May your ways be our ways, and may we find new paths forward by your power. God of truth,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: As grain provided for the needs of the disciples, so have you provided all that we truly need for life. Join us with the land and creatures who exist alongside us and free us to live in harmony with them. God of truth,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Be with those who have lost jobs and other sources of livelihood, assuring them that their needs will be provided. Send your Spirit of healing to all those who we know need it, especially… God of truth,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Our true home lies in heaven with you, where all the saints of all the ages glorify you eternally. Inspire us to live each day fully here

on earth, in assurance of that time when all will be reunited in your love. God of truth,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: (*Here other petitions are offered*) God of truth,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Receive our prayers and shed light on our path as we seek to walk in your ways and bring glory to you through your son Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

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

AM: During this season of "together while apart" your financial gifts given to the glory of God are especially precious and needed. There are 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

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 - Pastor Tom

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father +Son and Holy Spirit bless us and keep us, guiding our thoughts and our actions in the grace of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen

♫ Son of God, Eternal Savior ***Hymn 655***

Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race,
You, our head, who, throned in glory, for your own will ever plead:
Fill us with your love and pity, heal our wrong, and help our need.

As you, Lord, have lived for others, so may we for others live.
Freely have your gifts been granted; freely may your servants give.
Yours the gold and yours the silver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of your bounty held in solemn trust will be.

Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion, bit its cruel discords cease.
By your patient years of toiling, by your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, stem our selfish greed of gain.

Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race:
By your praying, by your willing that your people should be one,
Grant, oh, grant our hope's fruition: here on earth your will be done.

DISMISSAL

AM: Go. Walk in the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.