

Paul taught that God's salvation was not dependent on people's ability or willingness to follow Jewish laws. No, God's salvation was a gift for all—no strings attached.

May 16, 2021
9:30 Worship
7th Sunday of Easter



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

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: Welcome and good morning to you. Trinity is a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We welcome and affirm all persons into the life of our faith community and extend a special welcome to those watching who are new to our faith community. We invite you to explore our ministries by visiting our website at trinitykenosha.org, or contacting Pastor Tom by email at ptom@trinitykenosha.org.

Welcome to worship.

GATHERING SONG

♪ *Glorious Day* Ingram/Smith/Stanfill/Couran

I was buried beneath my shame. Who could carry that kind of weight?

It was my tomb 'til I met You.

I was breathing but not alive. All my failures I tried to hide.

It was my tomb 'til I met You.

You called my name, and I ran out of that grave.

Out of the darkness into Your glorious day.

You called my name, and I ran out of that grave.

Out of the darkness into Your glorious day.

Now Your mercy has saved my soul.

Now Your freedom is all that I know.

The old made new, Jesus, when I met You.

You called my name, and I ran out of that grave.

Out of the darkness into Your glorious day.

You called my name, and I ran out of that grave.

Out of the darkness into Your glorious day.

*I needed rescue; my sin was heavy,
but chains break at the weight of Your glory.*

I needed shelter; I was an orphan.

Now you call me a citizen of heaven.

*When I was broken, You were my healing.
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing.
I have a future; my eyes are open.
'Cause when You called my name...*

*I ran out of that grave.
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day.
You called my name and I ran out of that grave.
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day.*

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: Risen Lord,

C: ...we admit that we are slow to believe, and even slower to follow where you lead us. We doubt your promise, divide your people, and fail to proclaim the power of your resurrection. We choose to live small lives when you have given us the biggest gift of all: your eternal life. Forgive us. Raise us up to a place where we can serve you faithfully.

P: Christ is arisen, bringing gifts of life, mercy and pardon for sin! Believe that you are forgiven, and go out and live in the joy of your Lord's resurrection in the power of God's Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: ...The only law you demand is the law of love. By your grace, show us the path we are to follow, to spread your message of mercy and live lives of discipleship, after your son Jesus. Amen.

WORD

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

AM: The Gospel Acclamation welcomes the gospel and prepares our hearts to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

♪ Now the Feast and Celebration#167

*Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!*

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God.

*Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!*

Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ forever.

*Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!*

For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God; to make all things new.

*Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!*

AM: Let us pray... Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from you. Bless Don Jambrek, who will read to us the scripture. Make us hunger for the Word of life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

A reading from the gospel of Luke.

(Luke 1:68-79)

⁶⁸“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. ⁶⁹He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, ⁷⁰as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, ⁷¹that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. ⁷²Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, ⁷³the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. ⁷⁶And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, ⁷⁹to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

A reading from Galatians.

(Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29)

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! ²The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? ³Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? ⁴Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing. ⁵Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

⁶Just as Abraham “believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” ⁷so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham. ⁸And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the

Gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you." ⁹For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed. ²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor Tom

A moment of silence follows to allow the Holy Spirit to instill and deepen faith in Jesus Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

♪ *We Walk By Faith* *Hymn 635*

*We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."*

*We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"*

*Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found:*

*For you, O resurrected Lord,
are found in means divine:
beneath the water and the word,
beneath the bread and wine.*

*And when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

AM: Please take a moment to text prayer concerns to 262-287-8098

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: Faithful God...**"Hear our prayer"**

AM: By grace alone have you delivered us, so let our proclamation be one of freedom and not of restriction. May the witness of our lives show forth your love and not our own preoccupation with unimportant matters. Faithful God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Empower those who write and enact laws, that your justice might rule their hearts and inspire them to protect and defend all people for the good of our peaceful coexistence upon this planet. Faithful God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: There is no division between us and them, insider and outsider, human and creature in your kingdom, O God. Unite us all under your law of love and may it be our guiding principle as we carve out relationships of mutual benefit. Faithful God,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Send your Spirit's comfort to those who have suffered from hate crimes and other extreme forms of discrimination. Heal our relationship with ourselves and others that we would no longer find it necessary to lash out in the face of difference. Mend the broken ones and tend those in need, especially... Faithful God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: For all your saints in light we give you thanks and pray that you would count us among them when you bring in your final kingdom. Faithful God,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: (Here other petitions may be offered.) Faithful God,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Incline your ear to our prayers and fill us with power to begin living out our faith, by the power of your Son our savior, Jesus Christ. 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.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS - Pastor Tom

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: 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,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the
resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we lift our praise to your holy name.

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 remembrance of me.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table
with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

With your Holy Ones of all times and places, we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

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

P: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

ALL: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father +Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

C: Thanks be to God!

SENDING HYMN

♪ *How Small Our Span Of Life* *Hymn 636*

*How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth till death:
A single beat within the heart, the catching of a breath,
A drop within the ocean's deep, a grain upon the shore,
A flash of light before we sleep to see the sun no more.*

*And yet our speck of life is spanned by your infinity;
Our tick of time on earth is caught in your eternity.
While suns and stars spin endlessly through depths of cosmic space,
While aeons roll and ages pass, you hold us in your grace.*

*O Christ, you left eternity to plunge in time's swift streams,
To share the shortness of our span, our mortal lives redeem.
You filled your cross-closed years with love; you love us to the end
And touch us with your risen life that ours may time transcend.*

*We thank you, God, for kindling faith that lights our transient years,
Illumining our pilgrimage through mists of doubt and fears;
For hope that sees a life beyond the swiftly passing days;
For love, both human and divine, that lifts our hearts to praise.*

DISMISSAL

AM: Go. Proclaim the good news. Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!