



Trinity Lutheran Church  
Saturday, April 18, 2026  
3rd Week of Easter  
Paul's Transformation

\*Indicates please stand as you are able

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

*"How Deep the Father's Love for Us with  
What Wondrous Love Is This?"*

Stuart Townend  
arr. Lloyd Larson

©2017 Thankyou Music/Hope Pub  
CCLI #1558110/ OL #149729

**GATHER**

**\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS\***

L: Loving God, we gather today to confess that we have failed to extend our kindness to the poor and to the hungry.

C: **We have accumulated enough wealth for our comfort and have been insensitive to the needs of the weak of our community. Forgive us, for we have comfortably closed our eyes to the cry of our neighbor. We have preached to the hungry your Word, without sharing our bread. We cling to our possessions, rather than to you. We keep a distance between Christian and non-Christian. We have failed to exercise the values of equality and justice.**

L: God, we seek your grace and mercy to forgive us. Unite our hearts to share our resources and stand for justice for all people. Through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG\***

*"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

**ELW #815**

Kathleen Thomerson

©1970, 1975 Celebration OL #00361

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2. I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY\***

**God who calls us into service, Transform us as you transformed Paul. Shape us into children who rejoice in knowing and proclaiming you to the world. Amen.**

**WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & OFFERING**

**Pastor Kaari**

**GOSPEL READING**

**ACTS 9:1-19A**

L: The Gospel according to Acts 9

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup> He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup> The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank. <sup>10</sup> Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered,

“Here I am, Lord.” <sup>11</sup> The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, <sup>12</sup> and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” <sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; <sup>16</sup> I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” <sup>17</sup> So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus.

L: The Good News of God.

C: **Praise be to God.**

## SERMON

**Pastor Kaari**

## SONG OF THE DAY

*“God Really Loves Us”*

Ben Glover, Dante Bowe,  
David Crowder, Jeff Sojka

©2021 Bethel Worship Pub, Maverick City Pub, Capitol CMG Pub CCLI #7174815

1 I've got a friend  
Closer than a brother  
There is no judgement  
Oh how he loves me  
I've got a friend  
And He is my strength  
He is my portion  
With me in the valley  
With me in the fire  
With me in the storm  
Let all my life testify

*Chorus*

Hallelujah

We are not alone

God really loves us God really loves us

Hallelujah

Oh praise my soul

God really loves us God really loves us

2. His mercy's enough

His grace is sufficient

So come if you're needing

Forgiveness or healing

His mercy's enough

Oh and this is our hope

The cross it has spoken

Death is no more

Christ is the Lord

Oh this is our hope

Bridge

(And oh) What a Father

What a Friend

(Oh) What a Savior He is

(Sing oh) What a Father

What a Friend

(Oh) What a Savior He is

**\*CREED\***

L: We believe in God

**C: who is older than eternity  
and younger than our next breath;  
who is beyond describing  
yet knows us all by name;  
who inspires faith  
yet cannot be contained by religion.**

L: We believe in Jesus Christ,  
Flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone;

**C: He came in the body  
To give worth to every human life.  
He touched the untouchable,  
Loved the unlovable  
And endured slander, persecution and death.**

L: We believe that God's Kingdom comes on earth  
Through Christ's suffering love.

**C: He rose from the grave as living proof  
That what is laid down in faith  
Will be raised in glory.  
He ascended to heaven  
To be present at all times to all people.**

L: We believe in the Holy Spirit,

**C: Who leads us into truth and freedom,  
Who gives good gifts to all God's children,  
Who works through prayer and politics,  
Through justice, care of creation  
And the healing of all nations.**

L: We celebrate the potential God has given:

**C: The life in our bodies,  
The yearning in our souls,  
The promise of good things in store  
For those who love and serve their maker.**

*Iona Abbey Worship Book ©2016 The Iona Community*

**\*PRAYERS\***

P: Merciful God.

**C: Receive our prayer.**

**\*SHARING OF THE PEACE\***

L: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**\*OFFERING\***

*If you have a monetary offering, please place in the plate as you leave worship today,  
or use this code to give electronically.*



**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER\***

L: Thank you, God, for the air.  
Thank you, God, for families that we can share with in good times and bad times.  
Thank you, God, for the gifts of other families, friends, visitors, and strangers.

C: **Amen.**

**MEAL**

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING\***

L: Beloveds. Beloveds. Beloveds.

We come to this Table because we are claimed in covenant Because we are still learning  
what covenant and togetherness means

how it looks and moves and feels

Because we long for liberation

Because we thirst for justice

Because we know the need—fierce and urgent—

for grace and freedom and nourishment in our flesh and our bones

Because this is not a table of a Lutheran table.

This is Christ's table

and you are invited to bring your whole lives

and all are welcome here. Period.

Because we remember:

On the night he was arrested

while the powers and principalities

of Empire, and supremacy, and dominance raged,

Jesus— a brown skinned, radical, healer, community organizer, insurrectionist—

gathered people, invited their fears and longings, invited people into radical solidarity,

justice-love-in-action, healing of and in the world to which, for which, he gave his life over

and over and over.

Jesus took bread broke it, shared it, and said:

C: **Take and eat: this is my body.**

**The bread of new life.**

**Share this, and remember.**

L: Then Jesus took the cup, blessed it, gave thanks for it, and said:

C: **Take and drink: this is the power of my life-blood.**

**The salve of salvation. The cup blessing.**

**Share this, and remember.**

L: And so, we do.  
We remember. We offer. We receive.  
And we share in this nourishing feast.  
Because we know how to nourish each other in ordinary and extraordinary ways.  
Because we need each other  
and we need this sacrament, this visible sign of life-giving grace, flowing and overflowing.  
So, come. Come. Come.

rev. anna bladel, *Enfleshed*

**\*LORD'S PRAYER\***

**Creator God in heaven, holy 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.**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION & COMMUNION\***

**COMMUNION**

**\*COMMUNION BLESSING\***

L: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.  
C: Amen.

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION\***

**Holy, holy, holy, in the wine and in the bread, in every open table, in solidarity. Holy in each embrace that heals and brings peace. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*BLESSING\***

L: May the abundant and unending grace of God, the love of God that doesn't tire, that was shown to our forebearers and the whole generation of the whole clan, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be upon you forever.  
C: Amen.

1. I thought I knew what I was talking about  
When I testified of your great love  
Well I was a soul on fire there was no doubt  
Bible believing saved and washed in the blood

Pre-Chorus

But it wasn't 'til I stumbled and made my mistakes  
That I could know in my soul how amazing was grace

Chorus 1

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy  
You turned my old song into a symphony  
And with your spirit living inside of me  
I'm a new creation  
(I'm a new creation)

2. And now I know what you were talking about  
Went from my head into my heart  
When I was broken at the bottom I found  
You're my healer and redeemer  
Jesus that's who you are

Chorus 2

You brought me blessings out of a tragedy  
You turned my old song into a symphony  
And with your spirit living inside of me  
I'm a new creation  
I'm a new creation (oh oh oh)  
I'm a new creation (oh oh oh)  
I'm a new creation

Interlude

Oh oh oh oh

## Ending

And with your spirit living inside of me

I'm a new creation

I'm a new creation

## **\*SENDING\***

**P:** Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

## Prayer List

### Members

**Mourning for Rufina Kaltenberger**

**Carol Arnold**

**Pastor Paul Schairer**

Mary Ann Miller

Jack Hautaluoma

Mary Ann Armstrong

Marilyn Hartig

Polly Sersen

Tim Anderson

Eric Biedermann

Jean Purath

Shirley Garvin

Madyson Hopkins

### Friends & Family

Julia Watkins and family, friends of Dan Merz

Robert Musselman, father of Sarah Sanchez

Luke Crosby, relation of Katie & Tasha Barron

Wendy Thomaschow, sister of Amy Jo Martinson

Tae, family of Clinton Ellerbe

Amy Oduor, daughter of Clinton Ellerbe

Joe Burt, brother-in-law of Clinton Ellerbe

Jennifer & Dale Barnett, friends of Marilyn Morrissey

Susie Kragmeier, daughter of Kate Stieben

Beth Barnett, daughter of Carolyn & Eric Biedermann

Erin Slocum, daughter of Patty & Don Heyse

**To all who gather:** We are Reconciling in Christ, which means we strive to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and to work for racial equity and to commit to anti-racist work.

We welcome believers, seekers, and the curious, regardless of religious background. God makes no distinction based on race; ethnicity; immigration status; economic status; physical, mental, or developmental circumstances; or other life circumstances. God loves and welcomes all people. Therefore, we welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

*From Pastor Rick:* This community affirms its welcome by accepting me in this place. Diagnosed with Huntington's (HD), my progressing symptoms and neurodiversity are displayed publicly. The uncontrolled movements (chorea) may limit my functionality, or appear in other ways; yet, it is an opportunity to learn and love alongside one another. HD is part of me, but I am not defined by the diagnosis. As for all of us, I am defined as child of God.

**Guests and Visitors:** All are invited to receive the gluten free bread and wine of Holy Communion (juice is also available). Your offering is your presence in worship. Please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate as you leave. Don't forget your 'Sweet Treat' plate from the welcome desk!

**Worship Note:** The red hymnal *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) page numbers are found in the front while song numbers are in the back. If you have any questions about worship or Trinity, our clergy or welcome table hosts are happy to help.

**Parents and Caregivers:** God's children of all ages are welcome in worship. If helpful, please use the Family Break Room outside the worship space or a "Worship Activity Bag" - available near the welcome table. On Sunday, if needed, we offer a fully trained Nursery; staffed by Tiffany K. and Zoe K.

**Special needs:** Hearing-assistance devices are available during our services. Holy Communion can also be brought to the seats of those who are unable to come forward. Our Welcome Table Hosts can help with any of these special needs.

### In Ministry Today

**Worship Assistant:** Debbie Schwartz  
**Communion Prep:** Debbie Schwartz  
**Welcome Table Host:**  
**Fellowship Host:**  
**Prayer Writer:** Ronda Simmons  
**Bread Baker:** Dan Merz  
**Flower Arrangement:** Volunteers from  
St Paul's Episcopal

### Trinity's Clergy Leader:

Pastor Rick Reiten & Pastor Kaari Nieuwlandt

### Trinity's Staff:

Carrie Hansen	<b>Music Coord. &amp; Organist</b>
Tessa Espinosa	<b>Chancel Choir Director</b>
Clinton Ellerbe	<b>Saturday Worship Leader</b>
Austin Naylor	<b>Bells of Trinity Director</b>
Brenda Harju	<b>TLC Preschool Director</b>
Brenda Moore	<b>Financial Manager</b>
Deana Andrist	<b>Office Administrator</b>
Amanda Backsen	<b>Director of Communications &amp; Volunteer Coord.</b>
Claire Pickerel	<b>AV Technician</b>
Jennifer Reeve	<b>Shared Children's Minister</b>
Tiffany Klijewski	<b>Nursery Coord.</b>
Zoe Klaman	<b>Shared Nursery Attendant</b>

*\*Staff Emails are available on our website\**

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

#### **Monday (April 20)**

12 pm Sermon Discussion-Fireside  
5:30 pm Trust-Zoom  
6:30 pm (5) NoCo Male Spirituality

#### **Tuesday (April 21)**

5:30 pm TLC Preschool Board Mtg-Fireside  
6:30 pm Council-Room 2

#### **Wednesday (April 22) Earth Day**

5:15 pm Bells of Trinity-Room1  
5:30 pm Pub Theology V3 @ O'Dells  
6:30 pm Chancel Choir-Choir Room

#### **Thursday (April 23) Synod Assembly**

9:30 pm Bible Study-Room Room 2  
3 pm Spanish Class-Room 2  
7 pm Immigration Social Justice-Zoom

#### **Friday (April 24)**

10 am Quilting-Room 2

#### **Saturday (April 25) Clothing Drive for Habitat**

5 pm Saturday Worship

#### **Sunday (April 26)**

9 am Adult Forum-Room 2  
9 am Confirmation-Room 8  
9 am Sunday School -Room 3  
9 am Youth Group-Room 6  
10:30 am Worship  
11:30 am Fellowship  
11:35 am (2) Faith Formation

### Coming Up:

**May 16 & 17**

**Celebrating Graduates &  
Farewell/Godspeed for Claire**

**May 24**

**Farewell for TLC Preschool**

## **Trinity Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.**

Trinity Lutheran – ELCA is a welcoming and inclusive faith community.

We are Reconciling in Christ, which means we strive to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and to work for racial equity and to commit to anti-racist work.

We welcome believers, seekers, and the curious, regardless of religious background. God makes no distinction based on race; ethnicity; immigration status; economic status; physical, mental, or developmental circumstances; or other life circumstances. God loves and welcomes all people.

Therefore, we welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

So, how can you learn more about Trinity?

Visit our website at [www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org)

Consider joining us for worship or one of our ministry events.

Contact one of our clergy for a chat.

We believe we are not a complete community, and that God is calling new people to join us and to find their place at Trinity.

We invite you join us on the journey of faith!

Saturdays at 5p.m. (Livestreamed & Recorded for Viewing)

Sundays 10:30 a.m. (Livestreamed & Recorded for Viewing)

**Trinity is a welcoming faith community living together in God's love to share the joy of Jesus Christ.**



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
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*Website: [www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org) email: [office@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:office@trinitylutheranfc.org)*  
**TLC Preschool - 221-9852**



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