



Trinity Lutheran Church
Saturday, May 2, 2026
5th Week of Easter
Paul's Sermon at Athens
*Indicates please stand as you are able

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

John Zundel
setting by Joel Raney
©2003 Hope Pub CCLI # 5754236

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

"10,000 Reasons"

ACS #1097
Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin
©2011 Thankyou Music CCLI #6016351

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name .

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O my soul;
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name (twice)

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name,
worship Your holy name,
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name,
worship Your holy name,
worship your holy name.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the unknown, Your mysteries are astounding. Give us knowledge where you see fit, and let us sit comfortably with that which we can never understand. Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & OFFERING

Pastor Rick

GOSPEL READING

Acts 17:16-31

L: The Gospel according to Acts 17

¹⁶ While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸ Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this pretentious babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities." (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) ¹⁹ So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰ It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means." ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new. ²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.' ²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.

³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

L: The Good News of God.

C: **Praise be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Mark LaChonce

SONG OF THE DAY

“Citizens”

Jon Guerra

©2020 Jaguerra Songs CCLI #7151432

1. I have a heart full of questions
Quieting all my suggestions
What is the meaning of Christian
In this American life
I’m feeling awfully foolish
Spending my life on a message
I look around and I wonder
Ever if I heard it right

Pre-Chorus 1

Coming to you ‘cause I’m confused
Coming to you ‘cause I feel used
Coming to weep while I’m waiting
Tell me you won’t make me go

Chorus 1

I need to know there is justice
That it will roll in abundance
And that you’re building a city
Where we arrive as immigrants
And you call us citizens
And you welcome us as children home

2. You were alone and rejected
Misunderstood and detested
You gave it all, didn't hold back
You even gave up your life
How can we call ourselves Christians
Saying that love is a tension
Between the call of the cross and
Between the old party line

Pre-Chorus 2

Coming to you for the mothers
Who are all running for cover
There is a flood from their weeping
Tell me you won't make them go

3. There is a man with a family
He has a wife and a baby
He broke the law just to save them
Working for three bucks an hour
Truly you said we were equal
Everyone's heart is deceitful
Everyone born is illegal
When love is the law of the land

Pre-Chorus 3

Coming to you for the hungry
Eating the scraps of this country
Didn't you swear you would feed them
Tell me you won't make them go

4. There is a wolf who is ranting
All of the sheep they are clapping
Promising power and protection
Claiming the Christ who was killed
Killed by a common consensus
Everyone screaming Barabbas
Trading their God for a hero
Forfeiting Heaven for Rome

Pre-Chorus 4

Coming to you 'cause I'm angry
Coming to you 'cause I'm guilty
Coming to you 'cause you've promised
To leave the flock for the one

Chorus 2

I need to know there is justice
That it will roll in abundance
And that you're building a city
Where we arrive as immigrants
And you call us citizens
And you welcome us as children home
Where we arrive as immigrants
And you call us citizens
And you welcome us as children home

5. Is there a way to love always
Living in enemy hallways
Don't know my foes from my friends and
Don't know my friends anymore
Power has several prizes

Handcuffs can come in all sizes

Love has a million disguises

But winning is simply not one

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.

SENDING SONG

"Surely"

Paul Zach, Kate Bluett,

Isaac Wardell & Nick Chambers

©2023 Kate Bluett Music, Paul Zach Publishing

PG Songs And Hymns (All Admin. by Integrity Music) CCLI #7226830

Oh ooh, oh ooh, oh ooh, oh ooh

[Chorus]

Surely it is God who saves us

Surely it is God who saves us

Trust the Lord, don't be afraid,

He's lifting us up (twice)

1. With joy, with joy,

We will draw water from the well

We will draw water from the well of salvation

2. With joy, with joy,

He will set a table for us all,

Pouring the wine now let it flow in celebration

[Chorus]

Surely it is God who saves us

Surely it is God who saves us

Trust the Lord, don't be afraid,

He's lifting us up (twice)

3. And we'll fly, we'll fly

Through the morning and the night

Through the darkness and the light to salvation

4. Yes, we'll fly, we'll fly

When He makes our darkness bright,

Where the bridegroom meets the bride in celebration.

[Bridge]

Lift up your hearts,

Lift up your hearts

Lift up your hearts in celebration! (twice)

[Outro]

We lift them up to the Lord,
We lift them up to the Lord,
We lift them up in celebration.

SENDING

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

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

To watch a recorded service, go to <https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranFC>
Or visit our website and click on "To view recorded services click HERE!"

Prayer List

Members

Mourning for Pastor Paul
Carol Arnold
Mary Ann Miller
Jack Hautaluoma
Mary Ann Armstrong
Marilyn Hartig
Polly Sersen
Tim Anderson
Eric Biedermann
Jean Purath
Shirley Garvin
Madyson Hopkins

Friends & Family

Ivy Hansen, niece of Bruce & Carrie Hansen
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
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

Preaching: Pastor Mark LaChonce
Worship Assistant: Sherry Albertson-Clark
Communion Prep: Sherry Albertson-Clark
Welcome Table Host:
Fellowship Host: Rob Schmidt
Prayer Writer: JoAnne Gearhart
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	Music Coord. & Organist
Tessa Espinosa	Chancel Choir Director
Clinton Ellerbe	Saturday Worship Leader
Austin Naylor	Bells of Trinity Director
Brenda Harju	TLC Preschool Director
	Financial Manager
Deana Andrist	Office Administrator
Amanda Backsen	Director of Communications & Volunteer Coord.
Claire Pickerel & Chad Carpenter	AV Technicians
Jennifer Reeve	Shared Children's Minister
Tiffany Klijewski	Nursery Coord.
Zoe Klaman	Shared Nursery Attendant

Staff Emails are available on our website

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

Monday (May 4)

9:30 am Trinity Readers-Fireside
12 pm Sermon Discussion-Fireside
6:30 pm (5) NoCo Male Spirituality

Tuesday (May 5)

7:30 am Men's Breakfast @ Breakfast Club
5:30 pm Social/Eco Justice-Room 2
6:15 pm 301FP Social/Justice-Room 2

Wednesday (May 6)

5:15 pm Bells of Trinity-Room1
6:30 pm Chancel Choir-Choir Room

Thursday (May 7)

11 am 301FP Clergy Mtg
3 pm Spanish Class-Room 2

Friday (May 8)

10 am Quilting-Room 2

Saturday (May 9)

5 pm Saturday Worship

Sunday (May 10) *Mother's Day*

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

Coming Up:

June 7
Outdoor Worship

VBS-Step Right Up!
June 8-11 9am-12pm

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

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
301 E. Stuart St., Fort Collins, CO 80525 (970) 482-1226
Website: www.trinitylutheranfc.org email: office@trinitylutheranfc.org
TLC Preschool - 221-9852



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