

This Week at Trinity

TODAY	Holy Communion..... 8:00 am and 10:30 am
MONDAY	Jesus Centered Life Discussion..... 7:00 pm
WEDNESDAY	Nar-Anon Family Group 7:00 pm “We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.) 7:00 pm
THURSDAY	Council Meeting..... 7:00 pm
SATURDAY	“We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.) ... 11:00 am
SUNDAY	Worship..... 8:00 am and 10:30 am

PASTOR: Philip A. Gardner - office: trinitypastor@bex.net
home: 419 625-6771...e-mail: pjgardner@bex.net

ORGANIST: Adele Hoffman

CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARY: Carol Dahs
congregation e-mail: trinityelca@bex.net

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Sally Warner

PRESIDENT: David Miller

VICE PRESIDENT: Candy Beatty

TREASURER: James Bertsch

WEBSITE: www.trinityelca.com

Our Response to God's Goodness

Current Expenses (first line) received July 8 - \$3,491.50
Benevolence Fund (second line) received July 8 - \$131.00
Building Improvements Fund (third line) July 8 - \$321.50

Attendance

July 8: 65 + 36 = 101 Sunday School:

Lessons for Sunday, July 22

Jeremiah 23:1-6, Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Year B



In God's Word for us this morning...

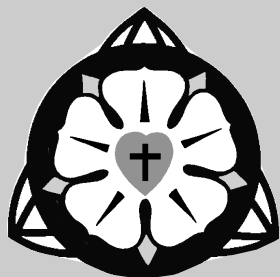
When Amos told what he saw when God held up the plumb line of justice next to Israel—that the poor were being trampled—he was a threat to the power of priests and king. John the Baptist also spoke truth to power, and Herod had him beheaded. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: that all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them.

Trinity

Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

502 Bardshar Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870 (419) 626-0204

a Firelands Lutherans Active in Mission (FLAMe) congregation
Northwestern Ohio Synod ✦ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



WELCOME!

OUR WEEKLY GATHERING to offer praise and thanks to God is the central event of our life together, and we are happy that you have come to take part in it! Guests are invited to fill out a visitor's card and place it in the offering plate. **ENLARGED PRINT** copies of the liturgy, lessons, and hymns are available at each entranceway. Ask any usher for assistance.

FIRST-TIME VISITOR? Or, would someone for whom you are asking prayer this morning like a gift to remind that he or she was remembered here? Please take a peace candle with you as you depart. The candles are in small bags hanging from the "apple" shelf in the elevator lobby at the southeast entrance to our worship space.

PLEASE ADD YOUR PETITION of need or thanksgiving for yourself, your family, or others to today's prayers by completing a blue "Prayer Concern" card found in the pew and giving it to Pastor Gardner when asked.

OUR BUILDING IS OPEN FOR PRAYER each Wednesday between 7:15 and 7:45 pm. Anyone wishing to use the sanctuary or the columbarium chapel for prayer is invited to do so.

2018: Synod Year of Prayer Memory Verse

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6

AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

At 8:00...

Acolyte Topanga Farlow
Lector Cindy Griffin
Communion Assistant Dave Miller
Ushers Guy Miller, Justin Stierhoff, Fred Wobser

At 10:30

Acolyte Eli Conner
Lector Barry Gill
Communion Assistant Barb Sessler
Ushers Dan & Amy Baum, Barb Sessler

July Altar Care: Amy Baum (chair), Sheryl Miller

SHOW YOU CARE and Share in the month of July by donating "Picnic Supplies": ketchup, mustard, salad dressing, and mayo to Care and Share. The Community Mission's team will be collecting something different each month for Care and Share. Thanks for your continued support of this mission project.

ERIE COUNTY SENIOR CENTER AND GRANDMA'S BACKYARD BBQ PRESENTS: Their annual Chicken BBQ fundraiser, today, Sunday, July 15, 2018 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Dine-In or Carry-Out. Cost \$10 includes: ½ chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Baked Beans, Dinner Roll and Lemonade (dine-in only). Tickets available at the Senior Center. Limited number of meals available at the door. Also, Model T car rides available for \$2 and Kona Ice will be here. All proceeds support the Senior Center's programs.

THERE IS STILL TIME to sign up for the trip to Maine on September 10 through 15. Departure is 7:00 am from St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sandusky. Call Norma Blackwell at 419-433-6122 or Donna Schoen at 419-626-5008 for more help with reservations.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #28914

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of
the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

ONCE AGAIN, WE WELCOME FLO GAST to our organ and piano this morning. We thank her for being with us. Adele Hoffman returns from vacation next Sunday.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Kevin Wobser from Fred & Mary Ann and Amy & Jim.

DONATIONS TO OUR “PENNY JUG” support the global relief and habilitation efforts of ELCA World Hunger, a mission of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

THIS MORNING’S LOOSE CASH OFFERING (money not in an envelope or given without other designation) benefits our Current Expenses Fund. **LOOSE CHECKS** will support our Current Expenses Fund unless designated otherwise on the check memo line.

PASTOR GARDNER will be on vacation through Sunday, July 29. Our Worship Resource Group members will conduct services in his absence; please support their efforts by planning to attend. And, should there be an urgent need, Pastor Stacy Lauer-Scovanner of St. John’s, Union Corners, will be providing care. Contact our church office during regular office hours, or, outside of office hours, reach Pastor Stacy at 419 680-0358.

THE JESUS-CENTERED LIFE discussion group will resume its gatherings tomorrow evening at 7:00 pm.

OUR NEXT MEAL FOR THE RESIDENTS of the Crossroads Homeless Shelter will be July 18. You can help monetarily by writing checks today to Trinity Lutheran Church and noting “Homeless Shelter Meal” on the memo line. There will be a list of food items needed to be purchased and you can sign up to pay for those items on the bulletin board in the office hallway. We will do the purchasing of the items. Volunteers will be needed to prepare the food on July 18, at 1:00 pm and deliver food by 3:30 pm.

Today’s Worship

July 15, 2018

WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION at worship today. Lutheran Christians believe our crucified and risen Lord is truly present in this meal, giving His Body and Blood in, with, and under the forms of bread and wine. Through this Meal, He forgives, unites, and gives new life to His people. All



who are Baptized and have communed in a Christian congregation are invited to the Lord’s Table. Participants may either kneel or stand; those unable to come forward may receive the elements where they are seated. Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available for those who, for medical reasons, must not consume wine or wheat bread. Pre-communicant children are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

Prelude

Silent Prayer and Office of the Acolyte

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

Amen.

Trusting God’s promise of forgiveness,
let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Eternal God our creator,

in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God + forgives you all your sins. **Amen.**

Hymn "Morning Has Broken"

No. 556

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: ⓐ Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Canticle of Praise



ⓐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



ⓑ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and



lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

Sending Prayer

Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

Amen.

Blessing

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope.

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

Amen.

Hymn "Praise to You, O God of Mercy"

No. 208

Silent Prayer and Office of the Acolyte

Dismissal

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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.

Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
 The body of Christ, given for you.
 The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond: Amen.

Communion Song (Lamb of God)

☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Additional Songs

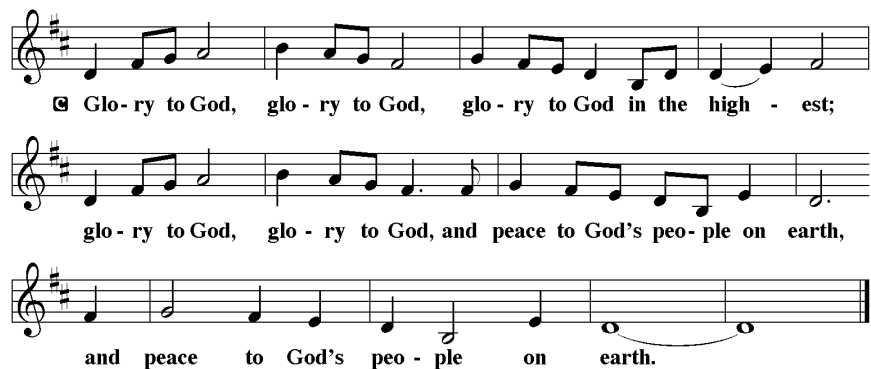
Nos. 813 and 805

Table Blessing

Song after Communion

☐ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
 one what God has done. Let all who seek the

☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
 ☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
 ☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
 ☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,
and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Special Music

Flo Gast

First Reading Amos 7:7-15

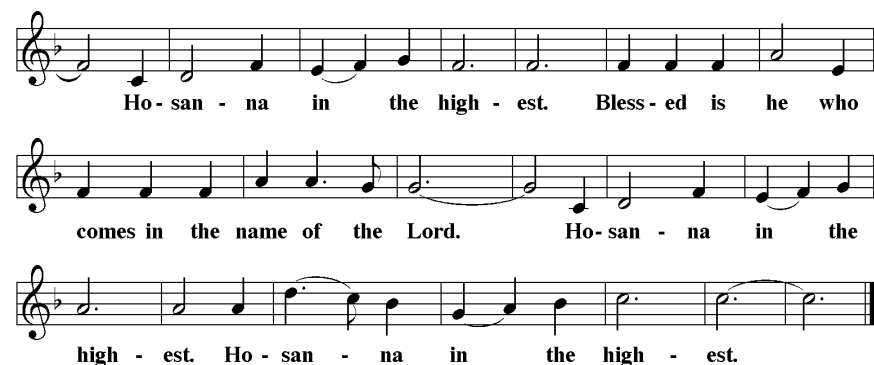
Amos was not the kind of prophet attached to temples or royal courts. Rather, he was an ordinary farmer from Judah (the southern kingdom) called by God to speak to Israel (the northern kingdom). God's word of judgment through Amos conflicted with the king's court prophet Amaziah, whom Amos encountered at Bethel.

A reading from Amos, the seventh chapter:

⁷This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."



Ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the
high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,**



Offertory Prayer

Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

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, through our Savior, Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:8-13

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

A reading from Ephesians, the first chapter.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who

has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel 6:14-29

As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John,

Prayers

We hear the admonition of the apostle Paul:

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)

Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place, praying for the world that God so loves.

...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

And, as we conclude our petitions, we offer thanks to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

Offering

Offertory

Offering Song

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were
 sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
 Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we

Sermon

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Parish Announcements and Prayer Concerns

Our petitions before God this morning include:

Viola Liptok and family, in the death of her sister, Inez Renner;
Linda Gantz, at home, following surgery;
our shut-ins, including; Joyce Cheek;
our brothers and sisters in Christ in the congregations of the Sandusky area;
the ministry of Victory Kitchen in feeding those in our area in need of a hot meal;

Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer."

²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.

²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Meditation

Sermon

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Parish Announcements and Prayer Concerns

Our petitions before God this morning include:

Viola Liptok and family, in the death of her sister, Inez Renner;
Linda Gantz, at home, following surgery;
our shut-ins, including; Joyce Cheek;
our brothers and sisters in Christ in the congregations of the Sandusky area;
the ministry of Victory Kitchen in feeding those in our area in need of a hot meal;

Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer."

²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.

²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Meditation