



**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**502 Bardshar Road  
Sandusky OH 44870  
419-626-0204**

**Sunday, April 28, 2024  
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Service of Word and Prayer**

***Gathering***

*The Holy Spirit gathers us into a community of prayer.*

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

## Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,  
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.  
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.  
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.  
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.  
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea  
into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official  
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection  
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.  
We rejoice with glad hearts,  
giving all honor and praise to you,  
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

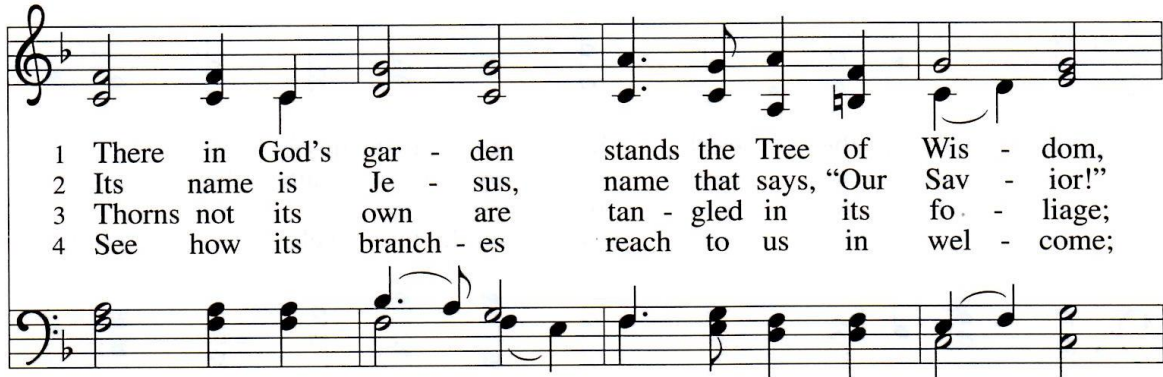
**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Opening Hymn: There in God's Garden

No. 342

## 342

## There in God's Garden



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,  
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"  
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;  
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:  
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;  
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.  
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -  
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man  
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -  
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.  
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.  
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.  
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

## 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.**

The word is near you,

**on your lips and in your heart.**

If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

**and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead,  
you will be saved.**

Faith comes from what is heard,

**and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.**

## Prayer of the Day

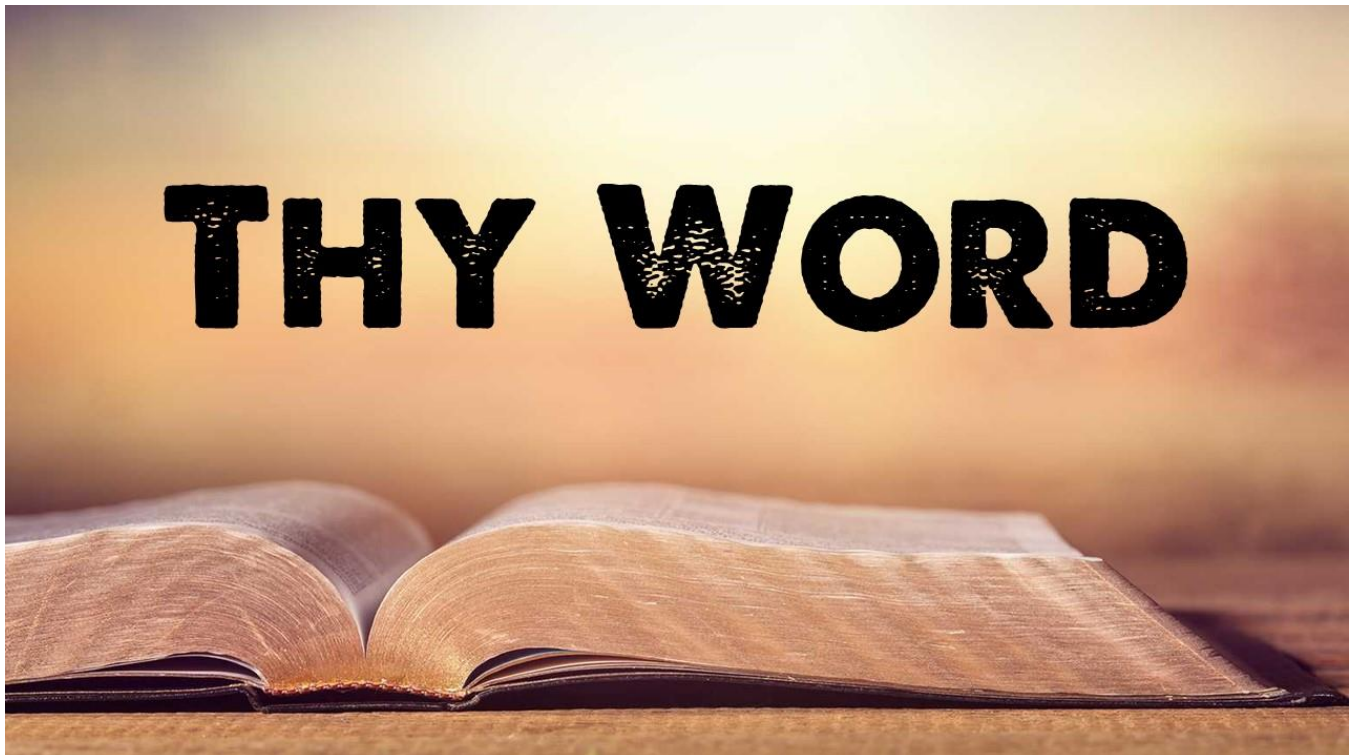
O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live.

Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Hymn of the Month: Thy Word**

**No. 144**



*Refrain*

F C<sup>7</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> C<sup>7</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> F

Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

C Gm Dm Am B<sup>b</sup> C

1 When I feel a-fraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right be-

B<sup>b</sup>/F F C Gm Dm Am

side me, and noth-ing will I fear as long as you are near.

B<sup>b</sup> C Dm D A/C# Csus C<sup>7</sup> *Refrain*

Please be near me to the end.

C Gm Dm Am B<sup>b</sup> C

2 I will not for-get your love for me, and yet my heart for-ev-er is

B<sup>b</sup>/F F C Gm Dm Am

wan-der-ing. Je-sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and

B<sup>b</sup> C Dm D A/C# Csus C<sup>7</sup> *Refrain*

I will love you to the end.

## **Word**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, silence, reflection, and song.*

### **First Reading: Acts 8:26-40**

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

<sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 22:25-31**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

**Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
who rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

## **Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21**

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Next Page**

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

### **Gospel: John 15:1-8**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Children’s Message**

### **Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day: Abide with Me**

**No. 629**



629

## Abide with Me

1 A - bid e with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid e.  
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, oh, a - bid e with me.  
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bid e with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bid e with me.  
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bid e with me!  
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bid e with me.

## Thanksgiving for the Word:

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.

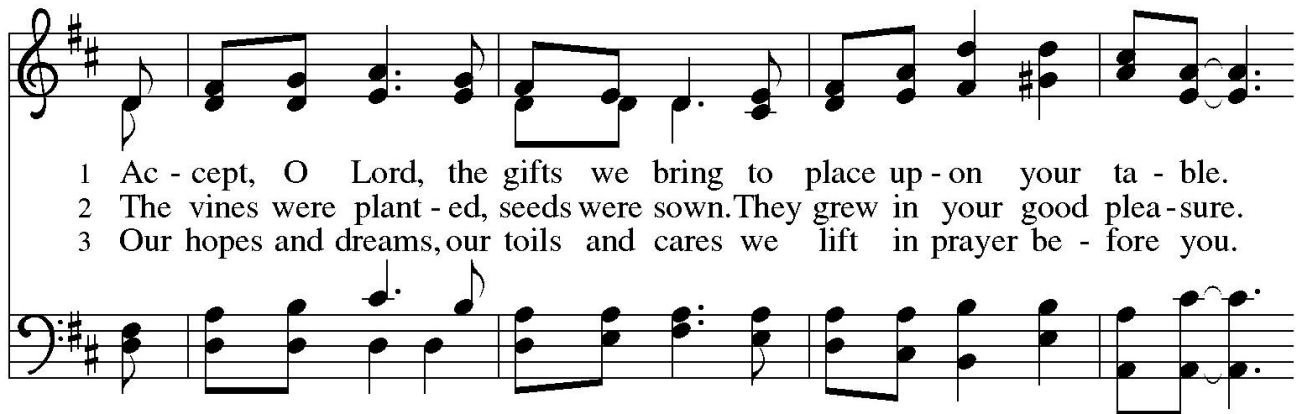
**Amen.**

**Offertory** (Usher please bring the offering to the altar)

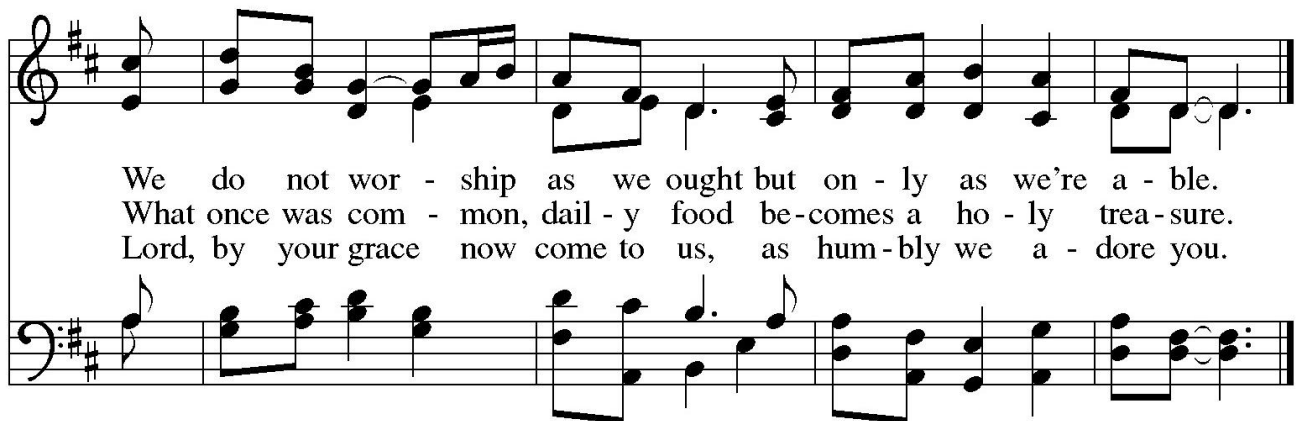
**Offertory Song – Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring**

**No. 691**

### Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.  
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.  
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957

Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune; arr. Alice Parker, b. 1925

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## **Prayer:**

*The Holy Spirit prays with us and through us.*

## **Apostles' Creed**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he was descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

In Christ Jesus we meet the God who knows our weakness and bears the wounds of the world.

Therefore, let us be bold as we pray,

trusting that God draws near to those in any kind of need.

## **Silent Prayer**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters (*local bodies of water may be named*). Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.  
**Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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***

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

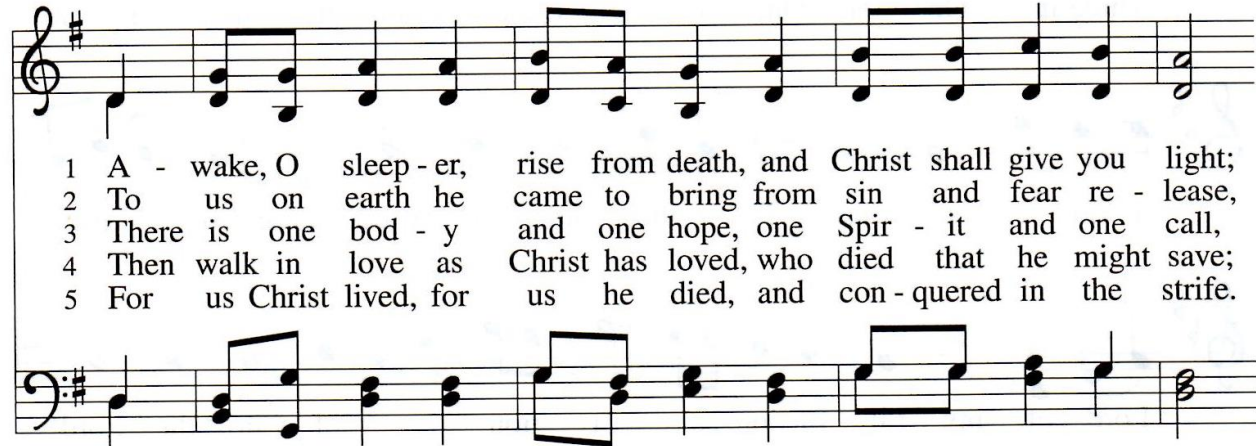
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**Amen.**

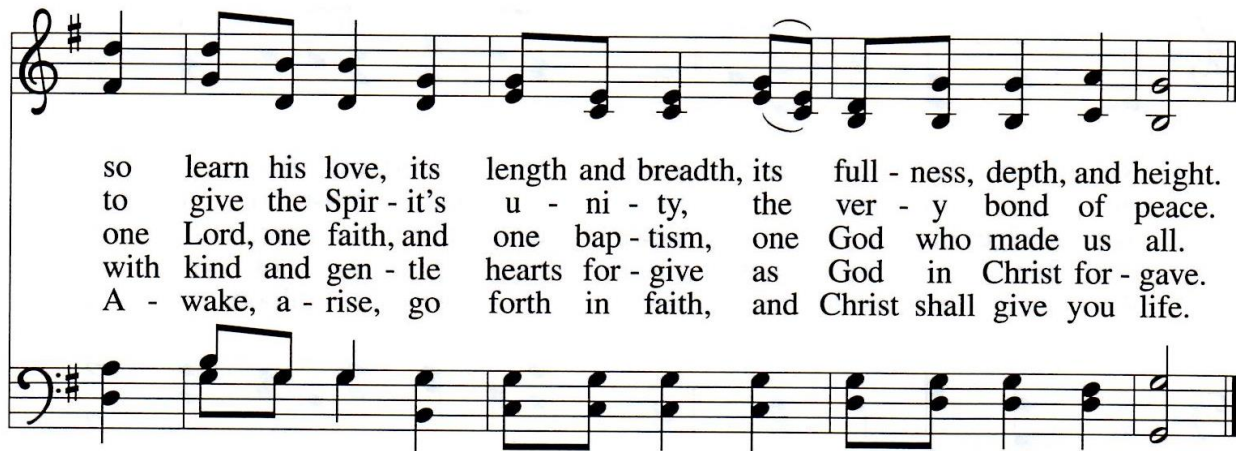
Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937  
 Music: John C. Ylvisaker  
 Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

OUIMETTE  
 87 87 87 11

# 452 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;  
 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,  
 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,  
 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;  
 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.  
 to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.  
 one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.  
 with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.  
 A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

## Dismissal.

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

At 8:00...

Pastor:	Pastor Jen Herrmann
Lectors:	Erica Miller
Usher:	Mark Wiedenheft & Guy Miller
Acolyte:	Lincoln Smith

At 10:30...

Pastor:	Pastor Jen Herrmann
Lectors:	Candy Beatty
Usher:	Bill Bertsch & Charles Howard
Acolyte:	Eli Conner

April Altar Care:	Pat Wiedenheft
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## PRAYER CONCERNS

The family and friends of Sonny Schonhardt who passed away last Sunday;  
To all affected by the war in Israel and Ukraine; for all directly or indirectly  
effected by earthquakes, tornadoes, and flooding, Covid,  
Mass Shootings happening nationwide;  
FAITH members, including, Judy Welser;  
our brothers and sisters in Christ in the congregations of the Sandusky area;  
the staff and those served by the Volunteers of America Crossroads Shelter.

**Pastor Jen can be contacted at 419-822-7630 or [jen.herrmann@gmail.com](mailto:jen.herrmann@gmail.com)**

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God and in celebration today, our granddaughter, Brenna Carrozzino's 13<sup>th</sup> birthday from Tom and Peggy Kingsborough.

**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 Current Expenses Fund. **LOOSE CHECKS** will support our Current Expenses Fund unless designated otherwise on the check memo line.

## This Week at Trinity

TODAY	Service of Word & Prayer Sunday School Parsonage Open House after each service	8:00 am & 10:30 am 9:15 am
WEDNESDAY	“We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.)	7:00 pm
THURSDAY	Council	7:00 pm
SATURDAY	“We All Belong” (Narcotics Anon.) Memorial Service for P. Jen’s parents in Indiana	11:00 am
SUNDAY	Communion Service Sunday School	8:00 am & 10:30 am 9:15 am

### **ATTENDANCE**

APRIL 21 = 48 + 24 = 72

### **OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S GOODNESS**

General Fund - \$2,689.00

Building Improvements - \$460.00



Pastor Jen would like to invite you to an open house of the parsonage today after each service. Come see the updates and improvements that you graciously approved for the house.



### **PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW**

if you have discontinued your home phone or have a new address or phone number.

**THE YOUNG AT HEART** are planning on attending the Firelands Chorus Concert on Friday, May 17. The concert begins at 7:30 pm. The doors open at 7:00 pm. They plan to meet at Zion Lutheran Church. If you need transportation, please call the church office and they will arrange transportation for you.

**THE YOUNG AT HEART** are scheduled for a "cruise" on The Mystic Belle in Vermilion, Ohio on Wednesday, June 12 at 2:00 pm. This is the cruise they were rained out of last August. They will meet at the church at 1:00 pm on that day and carpool to Vermilion. The cruise is limited to 22 people. Watch for the signup sheet on the Young at Heart bulletin board.

**Firelands Chorus Inc.,**

*presents*

# Songs We Like To Sing!

Jeffrey Kearney  
Director

Karen Finton  
Accompanist

**Friday, May 17th & Saturday, May 18th  
at 7:30 p.m. (Doors open at 7:00 p.m.)**

**Zion Lutheran Church  
503 Columbus Ave. • Sandusky, Ohio**



FREE CONCERT ★ FREEWILL OFFERING COLLECTED