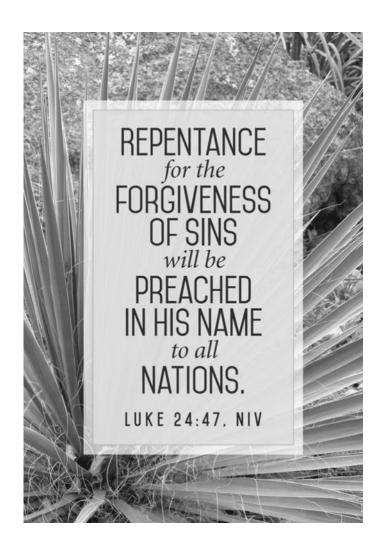
Seventh Sunday of Easter May 12, 2024



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church & School 8781 Brunswick Road Minocqua, WI 54548

(715) 356-2255 E-mail: Trinity@trinityminocqua.org Website: www.trinityminocqua.org

TRINITY Ev. LUTHERAN CHURCH

MINOCQUA, WISCONSIN

Seventh Sunday of Easter May 12, 2024



Resurrection Reality Christ's Ascension Means He Is Closer than Ever

Conventional wisdom would say if Christ has ascended into heaven, he is further away from his followers than when he was visibly on earth. The resurrection reality is that it is the other way around. Now that Christ has ascended, he is closer than ever. The living and ascended Savior has reassumed full use of all his divine power.

So if you need Christ's help, you don't need to hunt for him in Galilee. You call to him in prayer, wherever you are, whenever you want, and he hears and acts. You want to hear Jesus speak? You don't need to chase him down. Open his Word and listen to his powerful, life-giving voice.

The ascension marks the completion of Jesus' earthly mission, but it does not signify the end of his work. With Christ's help, may we carry out our mission to be Christ's ambassadors of grace to the world.

Jesus lives!

Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

July Letteld

Welcome to all—both guest and member alike! May our gracious God fill your heart with joy, peace, and hope through the message of forgiveness in our living Savior, Jesus Christ!

- If you are in need of restrooms, they are located on the left as you leave church.
- Parents please use the welcome center or church fellowship hall to quiet an upset child.
- Please silence all cell phones and devices before worship.
- Please limit your conversations in the sanctuary and narthex.
- Please do use the welcome center to greet one another.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP: SETTING TWO

OPENING HYMN: 476 "On Christ's Ascension I Now Build"



- 1 On Christ's as cen sion I now build the hope of my as -
- 2 Since Christ re-turned to claim his throne, great gifts for me ob-
- 3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, re call ing your as -



cen - sion. This hope a - lone has al-ways stilled all doubt and ap - pretain - ing, my heart will rest in him a - lone, no oth - er rest recen - sion, that I may serve you faith - ful - ly, in thanks for my re-



hen - sion, for where the head is, there as well I know his main - ing, for where my trea-sure went be - fore, there all my demp - tion; and then, when all my days will cease, let me de-



mem - bers are to dwell when Christ shall come and call them. thoughts will ev - er soar to still their deep - est yearn - ing. part in joy and peace in an - swer to my plead - ing.

Text: tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873-1964, alt.; Josua Wegelin, 1604-1640

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524

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Tune: Public domain

Please stand.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just

and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY Kyrie

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



GLORIA—"O Lord, Our Lord"



Text: Christian Worship, 1993 Tune: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–1993

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Tune: © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712324

THE WORD

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON Acts 1:1-11 (EHV)

Before Jesus ascends, he promises to send his disciples the Holy Spirit so that he could continue to carry out his saving work through the Church.

I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching ² until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God.

⁴ Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which you heard from me. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶ So when they were together with him, they asked, "Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹ After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

TRINITY SCHOOL CHILDREN: "An Ascension Song"

Why stand ye here idly gazing up to the heavens above? Know ye not that time is wasting, time for telling His message of love? This same Jesus who has gone into heav'n shall in like manner come again. He shall come to take all those who believe to His home in heav'n.

Why stand ye here idly saying that there is nothing to do? Know ye not that time is wasting time for telling His message of truth? Time for telling that He's God's only son come down to earth to take our place. Time for telling that our sins are forgiv'n through this act of grace.

So stand ye here no longer waiting, waiting with nothing to do. Go forth and tell the love of our Savior.
Tell what you know in your heart is the truth.
Go forth and tell God's truth.

Words and Music by Janine Swain 1982

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 4:7-16 (EHV)

St. Paul explains the power and purpose of Christ's ascension. Jesus left this world for our good. He ascended so that he could give gifts to his people and build up his Church.

⁷ But to each one of us grace was given, according to the measure of the gift from Christ. ⁸ That is why it says, "When he ascended on high, he took captivity captive and gave gifts to his people." ⁹ Now what does it mean when it says "he ascended," other than that he also had descended to the lower parts, namely, the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things. ¹¹ He himself gave the apostles, as well as the prophets, as well as the evangelists, as well as the pastors and teachers, ¹² for the purpose of training the saints for the work of serving, in order to build up the body of Christ. ¹³ This is to continue until we all reach unity in the faith and knowledge of the Son of God, resulting in a mature man with a stature reaching to the measure of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ The goal is that we would no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, when people use tricks and invent clever ways to lead us astray. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we would in all things grow up into Christ, who is the head. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, being joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows in accordance with Christ's activity when he measured out each individual part. He causes the growth of the body so that it builds itself up in love.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPELACCLAMATION John 14:18







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GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53 (EHV)

The risen Savior ascended, and his disciples responded with joyful worship.

⁴⁴He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms."

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He said to them, "This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: 472 "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"



- Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, and be our future great reward. Alleluia, alleluia! Then, throned with you forever, we shall praise your name eternally.

 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
- O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord. Alleluia, alleluia! You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.

 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Text: tr. composite; The Venerable Bede, 673–735, abr.

Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON Luke 24:44-53

Ascension Matters

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Please he seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS

Please sign the friendship registers at the ends of the pews during the musical selection.

HYMN: 747 "Christ High-Ascended"



Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Tune: Antiphoner, Paris, 1681

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Tune: Public domain

PRAYER

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

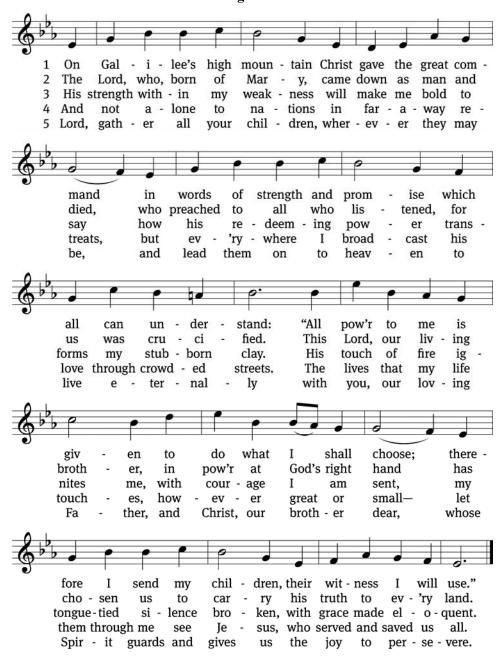
BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Please be seated

CLOSING HYMN: 742 "On Galilee's High Mountain"



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Serving God and Us Today

Presiding Minister: Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

Organist: Mr. Jim Brace

Choir: Trinity School Children

Last Weekend's Worship Attendance

• 187 (Sunday—146; Monday—41)

Stewardship Encouragement from Scripture

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Lessons for Next Sunday (Festival of Pentecost—Confirmation Sunday)

"Resurrection Reality: Christ Has Not Left Us Alone"

- Ezekiel 37:1-14
- Acts 2:1-21
- John 15:26-27; 16:4b-11

Prayers: If you would like your name on the prayer list, or you have a friend you would like to add, please call or e-mail the church office.

Offerings: You may leave your offering in the offering plate as you walk out today. You may continue to mail in your offering, give online at www.trinityminocqua.org, or on the Vanco Mobile app. On the app, search for Trinity Evangelical Lutheran or search for Minocqua.

Special Presentation: This morning, a special presentation will be given regarding an opportunity that one of our members, Rachel Burns, has to go on a mission trip. This summer, Rachel and two friends will be part of a team of veterinarians, vet techs, veterinary students, and support volunteers going on a weeklong mission trip to the Navajo Nation in Arizona through the organization Christian Veterinary Mission. The goal of this mission trip is to use veterinary care as a gateway to sharing God's word and saving grace to the Navajo people. Enjoy the presentation and consider assisting Rachel in her work with the Christian Veterinary Mission.

Bible Class & Sunday School: this morning will be our final Bible Class & Sunday School. Both classes will resume in September.

Book Club: Our next Book Club meeting will be on Tuesday, May 21, from 12:00-1:00 pm. We will discuss the book, "In for a Penny" by Kelsey Brown and Nancy Naigle. Join us!

Sound System: Recently, Trinity's sound system has been upgraded. With these upgrades, there are some adjustments that will need to be made. We are aware of the issues both in the church and fellowship hall, as well as online when livestreaming on YouTube or watching a recording of the service. We ask that everyone give us some time on working the bugs out as we learn and adjust to the new system.

Meditations: Copies of the newest edition of *Meditations* are available on the table in the fellowship hall and in the rack in the welcome center. This copy begins June 2 and goes through August 31. Each booklet is \$3.00.

Men's Hymn Sing: Men's Hymn Sing will meet on Thursday, May 16 at 6:30 pm. This will be the final meeting for the group before taking a break for the summer. All men are invited to attend, no matter your level of singing ability.

Fellowship Friends: Our next Fellowship Friends will be held on Tuesday, May 28 from 1:00-3:00 pm. We will have a presentation from John Bates on "Birds of Northern Lakes and Rivers." John is a local author and writes a bi-weekly column for the Lakeland Times. He conducts various outdoor classes and owns Trails North, a naturalist guide service. All are welcome to attend this informative program.

Property Maintenance Updates and Funding: The shingled roofs on the church and school gym were recently replaced due to insurance reasons. Also, the parsonage needs some significant repairs for which we are awaiting quotes. These expenses were unplanned and we do not have room in our operating budget to include them. We ask that you prayerfully consider supporting these projects beyond your normal offering. Donations can be made to the Building By God's Grace Fund, which is dedicated to additional property management needs such as these.

Trinity, Wabeno—125 Years of Grace: Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wabeno, WI will be holding an anniversary service on May 19th at 2:00 PM. You are invited to join your brothers and sisters in Christ to hear God's Word and give Him thanks for 125 years of grace. Reverend Kevin Westra of Hortonville, WI will serve as the anniversary preacher. A meal will be served following the service.

St. John, Phelps—75th Anniversary: The members of St. John Lutheran Church in Phelps, invite you to join them in giving thanks and glory to God for 75 years of gospel ministry in our congregation and community. Two special worship services will be held: Sunday, June 2, with worship at 9:00am and a brief reception to follow and Sunday, August 4 with an outdoor worship at 9:00 am at Wavering Park and an anniversary meal to follow.

	Opportuniti	es to Grow & Serve at Trinity This Week	
Sunday	9:00 am	Worship	
-	10:30 am	Bible Class & Sunday School	
Monday	6:30 pm	Worship	
Wednesday	8:15 am	Midweek Chapel	
	9:30 am	Quilters	
	12:15 pm	Lunch Break Bible Class	
	4:00 pm	Public School Confirmation & Bible History	
Thursday	6:30 pm	Men's Hymn Sing	
Sunday	9:00 am	Confirmation Sunday—Worship w/Holy Communion	
Monday	6:30 pm	Worship w/Holy Communion	

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Easter season finds us working through the theme: "Resurrection Reality"

• May 19/20 = Resurrection Reality: Christ Has Not Left Us Alone (Pentecost/Confirmation **Sunday)** Sermon Text/Theme: Ezekiel 37:1-14 "Dry Bones, Spirit's Breath" The Season after Pentecost ushers in the second half of the Church Year. Worship focuses on the

teachings of the Christian faith. Through the end of June, we'll focus on the theme: "A Top-Down Faith."

- May 26/27 = A Top-Down Faith: Only a Triune God Can Deliver What a Triune God Can Offer Sermon Text/Theme: Isaiah 6:1-8 "Holy, Holy, Holy Is The Lord Almighty!"
- June 2/3 = A Top-Down Faith: Rest Is a Gift, Not Something to be Earned Sermon Text/ Theme: Psalm 62 "At Rest, At Last"
- June 9/10 = A Top-Down Faith: The Devil Does His Worst, Yet Jesus Always Wins Sermon Text/Theme: Revelation 20:1-6 "Let's Talk About The Millennium!"

Worship Online: Sunday worship is recorded and posted online at our church website. You can also find the worship folder and a printed copy of the sermon there. Printed copies of each week's sermon can also be found in the Fellowship Hall. Find us on YouTube© by searching the handle @trinityminocqua. Please subscribe and share! We're streaming our Sunday services live!

Bible study opportunities:

- Wednesday "Lunch Break" Bible study (Wednesday, 12-15 1:15 p.m.) "The Book of Judges: God's Grace in the Midst of Disorder"
- Pastor's "Wednesday Encouragement" blog, continues to be found on Trinity's Facebook page and on our church website. You can also have this devotion sent to your email each Wednesday.
- Sunday Bible Study (and Sunday School) Sunday School is for children PreK3 through 4th grade. Adult Bible Study continues with "Christ: He Is My Lord." Today is the final day of classes until Fall sessions resume.

Ministry Updates:

- Thank you to the 18-ish teens and adults who participated in our Hwy 47 clean up on May 1! Many hands made for light work!
- The school year is rushing to a close! Graduation is set for Thursday, May 23 at 4 pm. Last day of school is a half day on Friday, May 24.
- Summer VBS will be a one day event: "Camp Compassion." Saturday, July 27, likely from 9 am- 2pm. We've received a \$2500 grant for this effort from WELS Christian Aid and Relief! This will be a great opportunity to reach out to the community and share God's love. Stay tuned for more details and ways to be involved!
- Be sure to follow Trinity on Facebook. We're sharing content several days each week. The Wednesday blog post can be accessed in three ways (church website, Facebook, email from church office). You can follow our "Where's Marty?" campaign on Facebook and on Instagram at... trinitylutheranminocqua.

God keep you and yours in his gracious care, Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

Ascension Matters Sermon Notes on Luke 24:44-53

Series – Resurrection Reality

Ascension?

1.	What is Ascension?						
	A. The	of Christ's					
	B. Jesus commanded h						
	1) He gives his message of and		and	with			
	2) He	his					
	- No ordinary	;;	of his				
2.	2. Does Ascension matter?						
	A. Jesus isb	han					
	B of his _						
	C. A for _	here					
	D. An ongoing	with					

Join us following worship on

Sunday, May 12

for a presentation from

Rachel Burns

regarding a mission opportunity with



Christ's love expressed through veterinary medicine.

Rachel and two friends will be part of a team of veterinarians, vet techs, veterinary students, and support volunteers going on a weeklong mission trip to the Navajo Nation in Arizona through the organization Christian Veterinary Mission.

The goal of this mission trip is to use veterinary care as a gateway to sharing God's word and saving grace to the Navajo people.

Enjoy the presentation and consider assisting Rachel in her work with the Christian Veterinary Mission.





Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

www.wels.net

Pastor

Rev. Stephen Luchterhand Cell: (602) 377-0940

Email: stephenluchterhand@gmail.com

Visitation Pastor

Rev. Glenn Schwanke Cell: (906) 869-6101 Email: yooperrev@gmail.com

Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:00 am Mondays at 6:30 pm

Welcome to Trinity

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. If you have any questions during your time with us today, please ask an usher for assistance. If you would like to know more about our church, our teachings, our Christian school (grades K-8), our preschool (3-4 year old) or the studies and programs offered at Trinity, please introduce yourself to our pastor. He would be delighted to speak with you and serve you in whatever way he can.

"Our mission at Trinity Lutheran Church is to teach the Word of God, to train believers for lives of Christian service, and to tell the good news of Jesus Christ to the Northwoods community and to the world."

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