

APRIL 7, 2024 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Good Morning and welcome! We invite you to worship with us often, and ask if you need any assistance! If you are visiting us today, please sign the Guest Register in the Narthex, please include your address and phone number. Please place your offering envelope in the plate in the Narthex. Thank You!

Remember in your prayers:

Lynn Wolfgang, Lorna Shaner, Ricky Farrington, Angie Smith, Erika Zaiser, Brandon Stauffer, Betty Moore, Barbara Stewart, Kathy Gamler, Bill Brensinger, Richard Eck, Becky Yescavage, Caleb Walsh, BillyRay Pearce, Sr., Linda Bewley, Kathy Sell, Dennis Brooke, Alice Weller, Betty Hallman, Donna Day, Shirl Stone, Linda Allmendinger, Karen Essig, Donna Repko, Elaine Dotterer, Bob Eshbach, Jeff Reitnauer, Pete Schmoyer, Barbara Kreiser, Helen Heydt, Glenn Haas, Jerry Bryce and Suzanne Kerchner.

Friends & Family:

Michelle Hiriak, Donald Hays, Linda Stark, Martha Van Parys, Michael Groff, Gary Yoder, Ward Smith, Kaiden Lanz, Noah Carpenter, Ed McCarthy and John Groves.

Families Of:

Linda Leister, Roy Romig, Gary Moss, Bob Eichert, Chris Miller, Elmer Gilbert and Jim Tribbett.

Also members, relatives and friends in the community who are serving in the military including:

Christopher Heffner, BillyRay Pearce, Jr., Michael McHugh, Ben Rhode, Steven Herbst, David Crews, Jeff Lydic, Jory Huie, Seth Kurtz, Clinton Bowen, Eli Abner, Benjamin Dirsa and Johnne Knepp.

Our sister congregation, the Marienkirche in Borna, Germany.

(Website: Kirche-bornaer-land.de)

Please note: Names of friends and family will be kept on the bulletin prayer list for one month. If still in need of prayers, these names will then appear in the newsletter prayer list. Names on the friends and family list will normally be kept on the newsletter prayer list for one year. If you wish for names to remain longer, please speak to Pastor Gene, Linda Ritter or contact the Church Office. Thank you for helping us keep the prayer list current!

This morning we share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite everyone to the Lord's table who recognizes Christ's presence in His holy sacrament. We will be communing using the continuous method this morning. When the time comes, the usher will direct you forward-simply receive the bread from the Pastor and move to the side to the communion server to receive the wine (or grape juice). When you have received both elements, please return to your seat by the side aisle.

The worship and music committee has decided to print the Gospel reading in the bulletin again so that people can follow along with the pastor's presentation if they want to, reference it during the sermon, and bring it home with them for further reflection. If anyone has any feedback regarding this, they are welcome to speak to the pastor or a member of the worship and music committee. Pastor Gene will continue to offer the Gospel lesson by heart each Sunday.

April 7, 2024 - 2nd Sunday of Easter

Today's Worship Assistants:

Assisting Minister: Jennifer MacDonald

Server: Linda Ritter

Ushers: Dan Ritter* & Bob McElwee

Lector: Laura Moser
Acolyte: Diane McElwee

The Altar Flowers are presented to the glory of God by Mrs. Cathy Yoder, in Memory of her Husband Dennis Yoder and also by Mrs. Louise Wolfgang, in Memory of her Husband, Robert Wolfgang.

The Extra Bouquet of Flowers are presented to the glory of God by Oscar & Angie Smith, in Memory of Angie's Mother.

The Bulletins are presented to the glory of God by Gerard Bryce, in Memory of Wife Carolyn Bryce.

(those who are able may stand)

Prelude "Prelude"

J. S. Bach

Announcements and Concerns

Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen
- P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

• Processional Hymn LBW# 132 "Come, You Faithful Raise the Strain"

Greeting

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

C And also with you.



Kyrie





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





A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

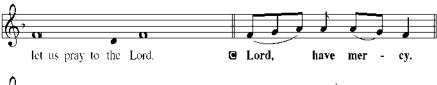


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





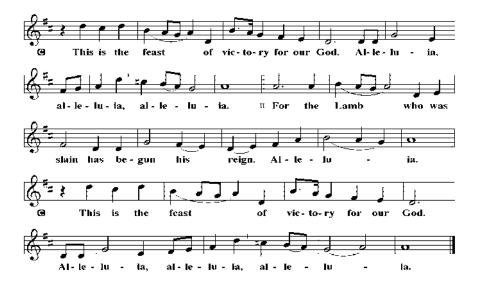
A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,





• Hymn of Praise





• Prayer of the Day



P Let us Pray . . .

C Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the festival of our Lord's resurrection. Graciously help us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

In today's reading, the church glimpses the life of the first Christian community. Here the author of Acts describes the social dimension of Christian life. Animated by the Spirit of the risen Lord, the body of Christ cares for those in need and holds all things in common.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

PSALM: Psalm 133

Oh, how good and pleas- | ant it is, when brethren live togeth- | er in unity!

²It is like fine oil up- | on the head that runs down up- | on the beard,

³Upon the | beard of Aaron,

and runs down upon the collar | of his robe.

⁴It is like the | dew of Hermon that falls upon the | hills of Zion.

⁵For there the LORD has or- | dained the blessing: life for- | evermore.

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1--2:2

This letter of John begins with poetic testimony to Jesus as the word of life. Through him we have firsthand experience of God and know for certain that God loves us and forgives us our sin.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life--²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us--³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light,

we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

One week after Easter, Christ still comes to those who believe in him; he seeks any who may have missed his offer of peace and life through his resurrection.



P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter



Presentation of the Gospel by Heart

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Senior Choir Anthem

"Here at Thy Table Lord"

L. Smith

Sermon

• **Hymn of the Day** WOV# 671 "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"

• 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, by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
- 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.
- With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

• The Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God, in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

After each portion of prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy.

C hear our prayer

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

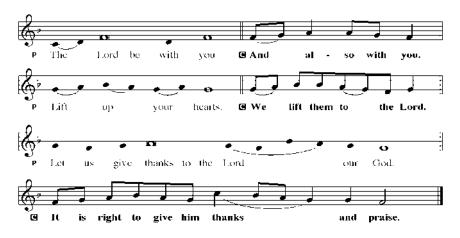
C Amen

• Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

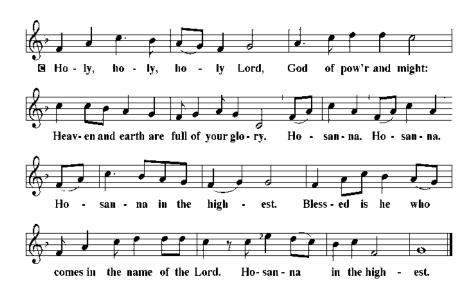
C: And also with you.

• The Great Thanksgiving



• The Proper Preface

P It is indeed right and salutary... (Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding) ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



• Eucharistic Prayer

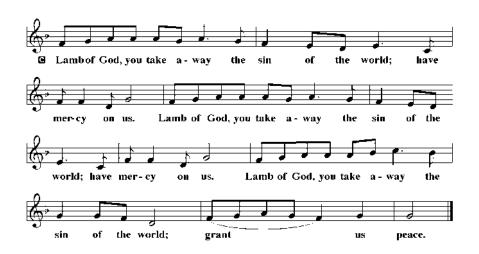
P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

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.

The Lord's Prayer (Sung by Choir & Congregation, See Insert)



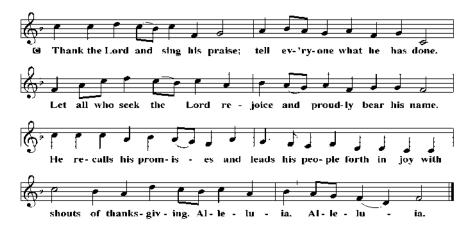
Communion

Post-communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

• Post Communion Canticle



Post-communion Prayer

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

- Our Mission Statement
- P People of Trinity, what is our mission?
- C We shall, as individuals and as a congregation, strive through word, worship, and witness to further the kingdom of God by knowing and sharing Christ's Love in our hearts, in our homes, in His church, in the community, and in the world.
- Benediction
- P The Lord bless you and keep you.

 The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen, Amen, Amen
- Recessional Hymn WOV# 649
 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"
- Dismissal
- P Go in peace, serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Postlude "The Easter Day with Joy was Bright!"

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A Special Thank You to Becky Yescavage for her many years of service with the Card Ministry. Thanks to you, you have brought so many smiles to the shut-ins and those in need with special cards. We welcome Karen Irey to the Card Ministry as she will continue to share this special ministry.

The Oley Lutheran Cluster is planning a Mission Trip May 20th-May 25th to Eastern Kentucky. Anyone interested in attending, please see Pastor Gene.

There will be a Mother/Daughter Banquet Committee Meeting, Today, Sunday, April 7th, following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. If you wish to help with this banquet, please make plans to attend. The Mother/Daughter Banquet is Saturday, May 11th.

The deadline for the May Newsletter is Sunday, April 21st, please submit your information to Karen in the Church Office.

Prayer Listing-If you wish to make any changes to the Prayer List, please contact Linda Ritter, Pastor Gene or the church office, in order for the change to be made in the May Newsletter. There will be a Prayer Circle Meeting on Sunday, April 21st. All members, please make plans to attend.

Free Will Offerings will be received the 3rd Sunday of every month for various organizations. The next Free Will Offering will be Sunday, April 21st for Lutheran Disaster Relief. Thank you for your support.

The 2023 Financial Statements are available. If you wish to receive a statement, there is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex, or you can contact Ruth Weiser or the church office.

Social Ministry provides meals for shut-ins/members who are in need of meals. If a meal is needed, please contact Kathy Kuser at 610-754-6293.

Need a ride? We have volunteers in the congregation who are willing to provide transportation to medical appointments, etc., for those who can't find a ride. Please contact Pastor Gene 610-322-0901 if you need a ride or would like to volunteer as a driver.

Trinity Gift Card Program —Orders will be taken before and after the church service the first Sunday of the month and will be distributed at church the second Sunday of the month. Order forms for Redners, Giant, and Scrip will be available at church and the Scrip order form is also found on Trinity's website. Please note: Weis Markets cards (\$25, \$100) can be ordered through Scrip for those who physically shop at the store. Weis cards cannot be used for online orders. KOHL'S GIFT CARDS CANNOT BE USED TO PAY YOUR KOHL'S CHARGE. We apologize for any inconvenience. Payment must be submitted with your order; checks should be made out to Trinity Lutheran Church. Be sure to include your phone number on your order form.

You may sponsor Altar Flowers, the cost is \$32.00 for one vase and \$64.00 for 2 vases, please contact Mary Snyder. If you wish to sponsor flowers and that date is not available, you can always sponsor an extra bouquet of flowers for \$40.00. When sponsoring flowers, please use a flower envelope found in the rack in the narthex or clearly mark the envelope "Flowers". If you sponsored flowers in the past but no longer wish to, please let Mary Snyder 610-473-8885 or the church office know. You may also sponsor the bulletins for \$15.00 per week, this helps offset the cost of printing them.

WAWA Hoagie Coupons Available 1st Sunday of the month at the Scrip Table or see Dan Ritter or Kathy Kuser. Coupons are also available in the church office Monday—Thursday, 9:00AM-2:00PM. Tickets are \$5.00. This project benefits the Social Ministry.

Scout Troop 511 Hoagie Sales: Orders are due by the 2nd Tuesday of the month (April 9th) pick up will be on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (April 17th) at Trinity 10:30-11:30AM. 8" Hoagies are made from Dan's Deli, Cost \$6.50. There are ham w/onion, ham no onion, turkey w/onion, turkey no onion, Italian w/onion, Italian no onion, cheese hoagie w/onion, cheese hoagie no onion, mayo, Italian dressing, no tomatoes, no lettuce, no cheese. There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. For more information, please contact Dennis Schaeffer at 610-369-1628.

Scout Troop 511 Country Meats Fundraiser—Beef Stick \$1.50. There are Sweet BBQ, Sweet Annie Brown, Beef Teriyaki, Ghost Fire, Hot Cajun, Mango Habanero, Sweet Maple Bacon, Original Smoked Hickory, Country Delight, Pepperoni, Old #9, Sweet Fire, Pickle Stick, Buffalo Style. There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board. For more information, please contact Dennis Schaeffer at 610-369-1628.

Trinity's events for the upcoming week:

Sunday, April 7th
8:00 Cont. Worship Service

w/Communion

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Worship Service

w/Communion

Mother/Daughter Banquet

Committee Meeting

Monday, April 8th
Tuesday, April 9th
6:30 Scouts

7:00 Church Council Mtg.

Wednesday, April 10th-6:30 TLC Stitchers

Thursday, April 11th
6:30 Sr. Choir Practice

Sunday, April 14th
9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Worship Service

Prayer Circle Mtg.

Next Week's Worship Assistants: Sunday, April 14th

Ushers: Sharon Renninger* & Oscar Smith

Lector: Diane McElwee Acolyte: Mark Sheetz

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS: Easter 03/31/2024 7:00 AM

Attendance	Offerings		
Worship	<u>General</u>	Hunger	
59	\$2,835.00	\$55.00	
	Benevolence	Bldg. Maint.	
	0	0	

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS: Easter 03/31/2024 10:30 AM

<u>Attendance</u>	Offerings				
Worship	General	Hunger			
70	\$1,615.00	0			
	Benevolence	Bldg. Maint.			
	\$5.00	\$10.00			

Total	Attendance		Total	Offering	
	129		\$4	.450.00	

THE CREATIVE PATH TO SSSSS RAISERIGHT (SCRIP)
FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY



PLAN! WHEN? END OF PREVIOUS MONTH. WHAT? EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS (CVS, Staples, Walmart, WAWA, cards) GROCERIES (Giant, Redners, Walmart, Target, Visa cards) BIRTHDAYS (Amazon, Starbucks, Gap, Old Navy, Macy's cards) HOME IMPROVEMENTS (Home Depot, Lowes, Ace Hardware cards) VACATIONS (Hotels, Airlines, Cruises, Fuel cards) ANNIVERSARY'S (Long Horn Steakhouse, Macy's, AMC theater cards)

IMPLEMENT! FILL OUT THE FORM! WRITE A CHECK OR BRING CASH! TURN IN AT THE SCRIP TABLE ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH! COLLECT YOUR CARDS THE SECOND SUNDAY!

GET CREATIVE) THINK OUTSIDE THE BOXT ADD'L GIFT CARDS ON THE WEBSITE raiserieht.com

Monthly Free-will Offerings 2024

A free-will offering is scheduled for the third Sunday of each month. They are as follows:

April 21 – Lutheran Disaster Relief

May 19 – geraniums for Pentecost

June 16 – In Ian's Boots

July 21 – Samaritan's Purse Shoe Boxes

August 18 – Save the Children

September 15 – Boyertown Area Multi-Service

October 20 – Eastern Berks Fire Dept.

November 17 – Elf Bags (Multi-Service)

December – No free-will offering. Thank you for supporting the various Christmas giving opportunities.

The Community Clothing Rack Schedule

1st Wednesday Donations Accepted

2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesdays Shoppers Welcome

> **2nd Thursday** Shoppers Welcome 6:00PM-8:00PM

5th Wednesday CLOSED

Hours 1:00PM-4:00PM

Summer Hours Only June-August 9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed on all major holidays.
In the case of inclement weather,
Refer to Boyertown Area School district closure.
CCR is a ministry of St. Luke Lutheran Church
Our mission is to serve Jesus Christ by providing
necessary clothing to the underserved.

www.StLukeGilbertsville.org

Readings for Personal Devotion



M Jonah 1:1-17

T Jonah 2:1-10 Jonah's

W Matthew 12:38-42

Th Judges 6:36-40

F 1 Corinthians 15:12-28

Sa Psalm 114

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Eugene C. Zaiser, DMin.,
Pastor

Ms. LaRue Sheetz, Director of Music Mrs. Karen J. Smith, Parish Secretary Mrs. Catherine M. Yoder, Sexton The Members of this Congregation are its Ministers

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Or by Appointment)

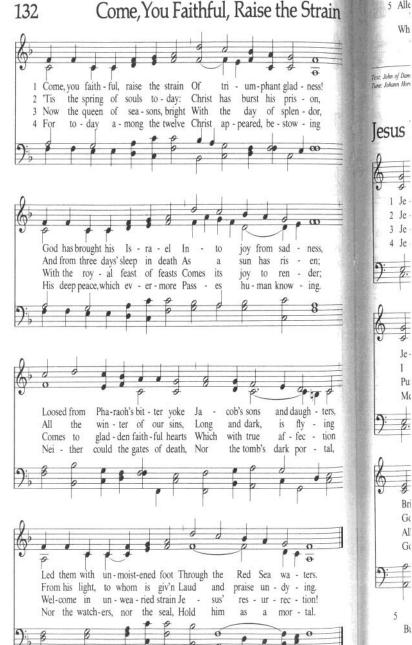
1749 South Main Street, Bechtelsville, PA
19505
610-369-1281

Church Office E-Mail: trinitybech@outlook.com

Pastor Zaiser's E-Mail: pastorzaiser@outlook.com

Website: www.trinitybech.com





Text: Christian Tune: Johann C

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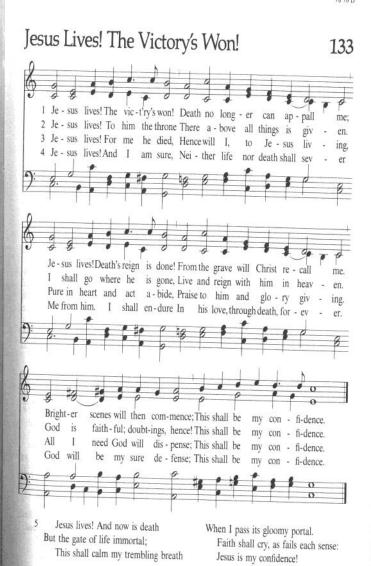
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5 Alleluia! Now we cry To our King immortal, Who, triumphant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark portal.

Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness! God has brought his Israel Into joy from sadness!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Tune: Johann Horn, c. 1490-1547

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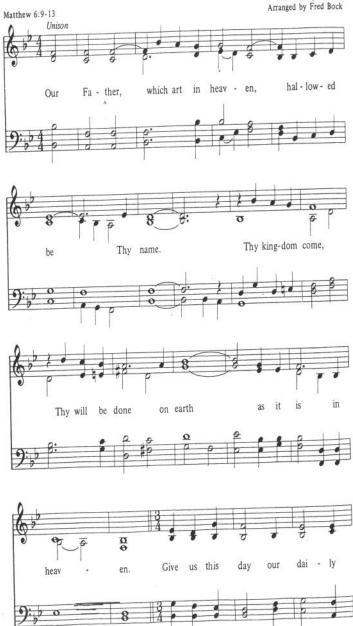




The Lord's Prayer

And when thou hast shut thy door, pray to the Father . . . - Matthew 6:6

MALOTTE Albert Hay Malotte



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