



# Holy Trinity

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### N A R B E R T H

*Growing in Faith - Making a Difference - Open to All*

### **The Fifth Sunday of Easter** **May 18, 2025**

196 Woodbine Avenue, Narberth, Pennsylvania 19072

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Pastor Daniel Smith - [pastor@holytrinitynarberth.org](mailto:pastor@holytrinitynarberth.org)/973-796-4845

Dale Morris, Office Manager - [holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com)

Christopher Ertelt, Music Director; Rob Tucker, Soloist

Virtual choir: Meredith Beck, Emily Bigelow, Lauren Cupples, Christopher Ertelt, Dawn Falato, Elizabeth Fenton,

Sarah Gliko, Paul V. Patanella, Brittney Marquand Sedgwick, Daniel Smith, Rob Tucker

*You are a child of God and you are welcome here: whatever your faith commitment, experience, or level of doubt, mental or emotional health, physical abilities, financial or employment status, race, ethnicity, or primary language; whatever your gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. We welcome you whether you are a parent or caregiver; whether you are a fussy baby, an energetic toddler, a 'tween, or a teen; whether you are an inquisitive young adult, exhausted adult, or wise senior citizen; whether you are single, in a relationship, married, divorced, or widowed; whether you struggle with an addiction to drugs, alcohol, or anything else. We welcome you however you found us: on the internet, from your neighbor or friend, or passing by our Giving Garden. We welcome those who hurt and those who celebrate, those who worship every week or just this once, and in whatever you choose to wear. We extend a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now. We welcome you to join us as we grow in faith through worship, study, and friendship. We welcome you as we seek to make a difference through combating food insecurity, ministering with those in need, and committing to racial equity. And we welcome you to help us be fully open to all. Whoever you are and wherever you are from, you are a child of God and you are welcome here.*

## **+ GATHERING +**

### **Prelude:**

Préambule

Louis Vierne

### **Welcome**

### **Thanksgiving for Baptism:**

**L:** In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**C:** **He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

L: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,  
and called to live the baptized life,  
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,  
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that make a people your own,  
that restore to wholeness,  
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,

**C: make us one as you are one.**

L: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that strengthen believers  
and give new life to servants of your church;  
waters that extend your boundless love  
and cross barriers of our own making.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,

**C: make us one as you are one.**

L: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that open the hearts of believers  
and set your people on a new path,  
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,

**C: make us one as you are one.**

L: Grant us grace and love, O Living One,  
that our every day may be shaped by these waters  
that give us life.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

**C: Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn: Baptized in Water (ELW 456)



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust-ing his  
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
giv - en, thank-ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

## Greeting:

- L: 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.**

## Canticle of Praise

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Easter Litany & Prayer:

L: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain!

C: **He gives us new life and hope through his resurrection!**

L: Rejoice then, even in your distress.

C: **We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.**

L: God has claimed us as his own.

C: **God has called us from our darkness into the light of his day.**

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

L: Let us pray together...

C: **O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

## First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

L: A reading from the book of Acts, the 11th chapter.

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from

Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

L: Word of God. Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 148** (to be read responsively)

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.

<sup>2</sup> **Praise the LORD, all you angels;  
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

<sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup> **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they were created,

<sup>6</sup> **who made them stand fast forever and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

<sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

<sup>9</sup> mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup> **wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds;**

<sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup> **young men and maidens,  
old and young together.**

<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup> **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

### Gospel Acclamation:



### Gospel Reading: John 13:31-35

L: The Gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the people so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**



**Sermon:** Pastor Dan Smith

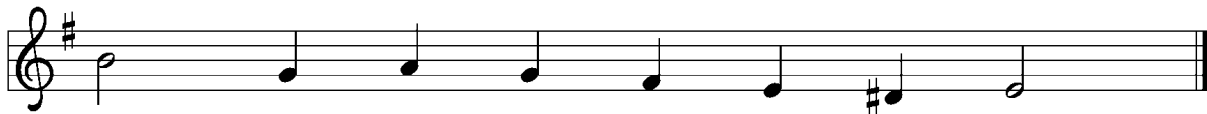
**Hymn of the Day: O God of Love, O King of Peace (ELW 749)**



1 O God of love, O King of peace, make wars through -  
2 Re - mem - ber, Lord, your works of old, the won - ders  
3 Whom shall we trust but you, O Lord? Where rest but  
4 Where saints and an - gels dwell a - bove all hearts are



out the world to cease; our greed and sin - ful wrath re - strain.  
that our el - ders told; re - mem - ber not our sins' deep stain.  
on your faith - ful word? None ev - er called on you in vain.  
knit in ho - ly love; oh, bind us in that heav'n - ly chain.



Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain.

## **Apostles' Creed:**

**L:** Let us make public profession of our faith together, reflecting on the love of God in Christ Jesus.

**C:** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the 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.**

## **The Prayers of the People:**

**L:** God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

### ***A brief silence***

Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Hear us, O God.

**C:** **Your mercy is great.**

L: Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

L: Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness. Wipe away every tear. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

L: We give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love. Guide us by their example, until we join them in your eternal home. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

L: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: **Amen.**

### **The Peace of Christ:**

L: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us share a sign of peace with one another, as you are comfortable.

### **Anthem:**

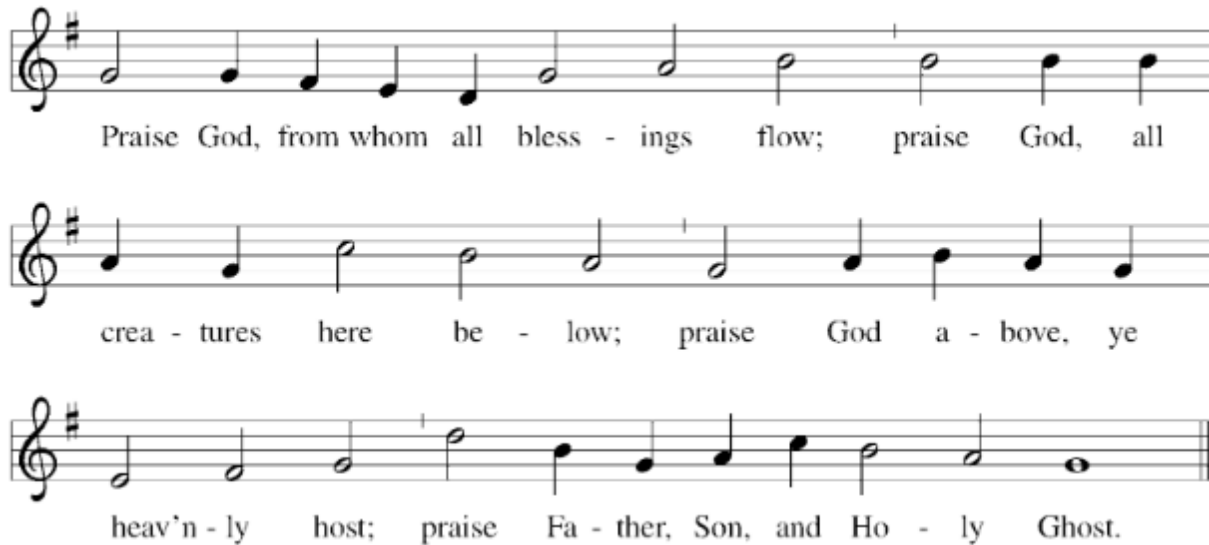
With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

*You are welcome to use this QR code if you wish to donate online, or to go to our church website.*



### Doxology & Offertory Prayer:



- L: Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
- C: **Amen.**

**+MEAL+**

### The Great Thanksgiving:

- L: The Lord be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**
- L: Lift up your hearts.
- C: **We lift them to the Lord.**
- L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## The Proper Preface:

L: 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



L: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

In the night in which he was betrayed, when he gave himself up for the life of the world, 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.

**L:** O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C:** **Come, Holy Spirit.**

**L:** With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer:**

**L:** Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

### **Invitation to Communion:**

**L:** The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

**C:** **Amen.**

**Communion Song:**

Come, Risen Lord

Leo Sowerby

**Post-Communion Prayer:**

L: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

**Announcements**

**+ SENDING +**

**Benediction:**

L: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✙ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## Sending Hymn: The Spirit Sends us Forth to Serve (ELW 551)



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
joy like seed and, all our days, to  
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
share a dream and help the blind to see.  
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

### Dismissal:

L: Christ is risen, just as he said! Grow in faith, make a difference, be open to all. Alleluia!

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### Postlude:

Prelude in C

J. S. Bach



## I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.  
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

### *Refrain*



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo-ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911

Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

## **Announcements**

### **Cederstrom Sargent Scholarship Fund - Applications due June 1st**

If you are interested in applying for the Cederstrom Sargent Scholarship, please have your application to the church office via email at [holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com) or snail mail to 196 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, PA 19072, by June 1st. The Cederstrom Sargent Scholarship Fund at Holy Trinity is accepting applications for school and camp tuition assistance for the 2025-2026 school year. If you'd like to apply, please contact the church office.

### **Giving Garden**

As a reminder, we decided for the most part to grow produce that does not require weekly harvesting. With what we are growing, it may allow us to schedule some harvests on a Tuesday afternoon rather than early Wednesday morning. We hope that gives more of you the opportunity to help as your schedules permit.

Here's to a successful season of growing produce to send on to Grace Lutheran to help those dealing with food insecurity.

### **Please do Love, Like, & Comment on FB Posts**

Thanks to Lisa Lundgren volunteering her time and energy, we are making a concerted effort to be more present on social media, specifically Facebook for now. So if you see a post on Holy Trinity's FB page, please do "love," "like," or comment on it! Even if you don't use Facebook often, please do keep an eye out and engage with it, since that's the main way we become more visible via the algorithms. Thanks, everyone!

### **Prayer Candle in the Eichner Chapel**

If you would like to memorialize the prayer candle, please contact the church office at 610-664-5503 or [holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinitynarberth@gmail.com). Please include *the week you would like, your name, and how you would like the wording to appear in the weekly bulletin*. The cost for the candle is \$10. Checks (please note in the memo line "prayer candle") or cash can be dropped to the church office or sent via snail mail.

## **Holy Trinity's Prayer List**

Sue Steiger

Joe Sargent

### **Friends and Relatives**

Bettina Chavanne (friend of the McCluskeys)

Fran Gebhart

Sharon Neall (Hall family member)

Beth Brady (Kristine DelMonte's co-worker)

Norma DelMonte (Tom's mother)

The Houghs (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Linda Baldi-Boyd

Georgette, her daughter Kara, and Chuck

Marbury Hooey

John & Rosemary (friends of Pat Brubaker)

Annette Steiger (Dave Steiger's sister)

Margie (Jan Doan's friend)

Joseph Davis

Danelle VanInstendal (friend of the Steigers)

Heinrich Mengel (cousin of the Hoffmann Family)

Louise Jackson (cousin of Julie Ackerman)

Mary Fran (friend of Dorothy McCluskey)

Tara Echelmeier Dolan (friend of Julie Ackerman)

Mary Ann Dixon (friend of the Hoffmans)

Darby Rinkel (great-niece of the Steigers)

David Segermark (Kristine DelMonte's father)

Jane S. (friend of Pat Brubaker)

Ken Ackerman (Carl Ackerman's father)

Barb McCluskey (sister in law of Bruce & Dorothy  
McCluskey)

Sandy (friend of Pat Brubaker)

Katy (niece of Pat Brubaker)

Grace Vanartsdalen (friend of Bruce and Dorothy  
McCluskey)

Ken Molchanow (brother of Stan Molchanow)

Ed Neely (neighbor of the McCluskeys)

Ellen Mitchell (sister of Mary Williamson)

Bob Fuhrmeister (grandson of Bob Catherman)

Steve Crews (Kim's father)

Kathy D (friend of Pat Brubaker)

The Lim family (friends of the Princes)

Cheryl Kurpiel and Family ( friends of the  
Frye Family)

Mark Halpern (friend of the Starankovic Family)