**Update: May 15, 2020**

**From Pastor Mark Kvale**

Hello Trinity,

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

God’s blessings to you today and always!

**Things to share for Friday, May 15**

You can find all of our worships for this past week on our website. [www.tlcsparta.org](http://www.tlcsparta.org).

**REMINDER** – Sparta Floral has extended the date to order geraniums to Monday, May 18th, by 11:00 a.m.  Please consider purchasing a geranium plant for planting in our outdoor space in honor or in memory of a loved one.  The cost is only $5.25 per geranium.  Either email Myrt at [office@tlcsparta.org](mailto:office@tlcsparta.org) or call her at 608-634-3866 (home) or 608-417-9265 (cell) with your order.  Let’s make our outdoor space come alive with geraniums and support, **“Sharing the Joy, Christ is Risen, Alleluia, Alleluia, Christ is Risen Indeed”.**

**Worship and Sunday School for this Sunday!**

**Worship:**

Our main text for this week is 1Corinthians 13. This coming Sunday, worship will be live on our **Facebook Group** at 9 am and then available shortly after that on our website.

**Daily Devotionals on Conference Call: Devotionals and Worship over the phone!** That’s right! We have signed up for a service called *FreeConferenceCall.com.* This bit of technology will allow us to provide our members without internet or computer the opportunity to be part of a special worship or devotional time by using their phones.

**Devotions are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1:07 pm.**

**Worship on Sunday at 10:07 am.**

Here is how it’s done: please dial the number listed below, when prompted,

provide the access code followed by the #.

**Dial-in number (US): (978) 990-5185**

**Access code: 5984240#**

For additional assistance connecting to the meeting text 'Call Me' to the Dial-In number above and you will be called into the conference. Message and data rates may apply.

**Please let our members who do not have internet know about this opportunity!**

**Sunday School! I will be posting a link on our facebook group page and on Trinity’s website for Sunday School for this week.**

**Bulletins for Sunday’s worship and a recording are available on our website,** [**www.tlcsparta.org**](http://www.tlcsparta.org) **and bulletins can also be found in the resource box located outside of Trinity’s front door.**

**Morning Prayer:** We have been gathering for Morning Prayer on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8am on Trinity’s Zoom Meeting. If you would like to join us, please email Pastor Mark ([pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com)) and he will send you an invitation. We would love to see you!

**Those who do not have email or internet:** I am asking all of you to please check in with your family members and friends who are members of Trinity who do not have email. Ask how they are doing, if there is anything they need, and ask in what ways they feel we can help them keep connected with the congregation. Please let Pastor Mark, or any of our leaders know, and let everyone know about our telephone worship and devotionals.

**Prayer Concerns: Please take some time to pray to God over these concerns expressed by your sisters and brothers of Trinity Lutheran. These are prayer concerns as presented to me to share:**

We pray for: Tim Steivang who is recovering from surgery; for Jeff Olson as he recovers from surgery; the family of Roger Thorsen, for Lisa Engh and family at the death of Lisa’s mother; for Ron and Karen Wall and family at the death of Ron’s mother; For Lenna Hanson, Jan VanWormer; We also For all those who provide medical care; for those who are ill, both with Covid-19 and with other illnesses; for those who are lonely and having a hard time; for those who have been laid off, furloughed, or who have lost jobs; for the political division in our country right now and how it is affecting public health nationwide; for us to be able to support loved ones and their medical needs without being allowed to accompany them in clinics and hospitals; for protection and guidance through this trying time; for our young people to help those who are struggling with life right now; for essential workers in the community as well as medical staff and support workers; that God will protect and heal us during this difficult time with the threatening Coronavirus; for a member’s sister who has health issues; for everyone in the Sparta community that we will come through this; that a member’s family makes it through this hard time on limited funds; for health and safety for all and for our members and people in the community to feel the love and concern for one another.

*If you have any prayer concerns, please contact Pastor Mark*

*(608.487.2030 or* [*pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com*](mailto:pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com)*)*

**Bible studies:** If you are interested in being part of an online bible study, please email Pastor Mark ([pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com)). He is planning on a study of the book of Acts. We are also planning a study/reading group base on Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s *Life Together.*

**Looking for a great family devotional? Then check out** [**“Pandemic Faith: A Family Devotional for Life During Covid-19.”**](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fs3.amazonaws.com%2Fmedia.cloversites.com%2Fcb%2Fcb0cd516-be94-40af-99bd-f2f2860b752e%2Fdocuments%2FPandemic_Faith_Devotional.pdf%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2DUFas_UEE4lwmdyB8Vswxk7cKqt5mgUd5jsKfVttPplJMhbJnoVkZWU8&h=AT0SYbTlc85FYnG9lCIn5P5yRPk4uMR7FPSauu-TJtTJrtGV-XYzcVcjtXOt-ZK3It2_qgc5NfWSZoV5U0tRBYgyCcndu_ghSSXwn70E32xvBwqqr0AwyDdfE8SJnkAwV1z_vwvtLdwG02FgavlJitldix2tRc0cB-sua7oQlsY0T9EwGpUqPgFCLGkQwRgpa-oC223NXAHnNpmh2pH3L8MnkLgdBVEhETLdHZyhhCoQ2TILPE2RkBgW_BGd4bw2LvVeB0PwZfMx8ZwdMya4r5eRLjx-OKEIIFi6YhRHlW-niar3nEwDb0Qjx7f5rYXq6bbtkGOQTP_nyQZZLuUDIRfazYAp_2l49xF2HodoYPP4eBvq6HpY5kqc6UBRnMkfzdu9QTWgIOVwJ17P2Oof5QXbU21cTg4sl4ZO5hd86w9pmUWUCng0Q-l5xpsJ-CJUTF2iWvP-QYziZvDy8I_YtFM7u9ULlfuWNjMVS3O4di0rLeNhrwuk-jN3xt-traxmcPWlnfgEZIrm_vTbFGMrD956c5ZRpxDJNVem0uSuTAek63gXivjlAxLCTIrQqKMEifKlEnKob3p-TcjQXcEDsu57RMr7eTghooBjZOxjL4u2z5dAJjaO_govwj82HuOULGdW5g2HJw-mUqMOOzEd6aQiFnAn)

**Help Available!**

The Bread Basket Ecumenical Food Pantry, located at 114 N. Water St. in Sparta, is open from 10 am to Noon on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and again on Tuesday Evenings from 5-7 pm. **All with a need for food are welcome!** With the current covid19 issues, only workers are allowed into the pantry at this time. Those needing food are asked to fill out a form which is on a cart outside the pantry door.

These forms let the workers know what type of perishable items each family needs. (All non-perishable items have been pre-packed). The pantry workers will fill the order and bring the items out. **If you know people who are in need of food but can’t get to the pantry, please let Pastor Mark know!**

**Trinity Lutheran Helping Hands**

We have established a fund meant to help our members who are in financial difficulties. If you, or someone in our congregation is in some help, please contact Pastor Mark (608.487.2030 or [pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com)) for more information.

**Our Watchword for the Week:** *Jesus says, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me”* (John 14.6)

Let us pray. . . Life-giving Spirit, help us to act in accordance with your will. Let us live with confidence and assurance that you have carefully set our path. Amen.

In the love of Jesus,

Pastor Mark