

CHRIST'S UNITED ✠ ST. JAMES ✠ FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Ashland/Pitman/Hegins

Wednesday of Easter 7 ✠ Service of Prayer ✠ May 27, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greetings to you in the name of our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ.

We welcome you to this mid-week service, when we pray together, reflect, and hear God's Word.

This service is brought to you thanks to the skills of our technicians, Gary Klinger and Steven Wolfgang.

- If you have any pastoral care needs or would like to add a name to our prayer list, please call us at the Lutheran parsonage: **570-652-1951** and visit our websites for more information.
- And remember that your offering makes a huge difference as we try to keep doing the work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God bless you as we journey together in confident hope.

HYMN ELW# 602 "YOUR HEART, O GOD IS GRIEVED"

1 *Leader*

O God, Father in heaven,
have mercy upon us.

All

All

Your heart, O God, is grieved, we know,
by ev'ry evil, ev'ry woe;
upon your cross-forsaken Son
our death is laid, and peace is won.

3 *Leader*

O God, Holy Spirit, have mercy upon us.

All

O lavish Giver, come to aid
the children that your word has made.
Now make us grow and help us pray;
bring joy and comfort; come to stay.

2 *Leader*

O Son of God, redeemer of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Text: Jiří Tranovský, 1591-1637; tr. Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
Tr. © 1970 Concordia Publishing House

Your arms extend, O Christ, to save from
sting of death and grasp of grave; your scars
before the Father move
his heart to mercy at such love.

GREETING

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

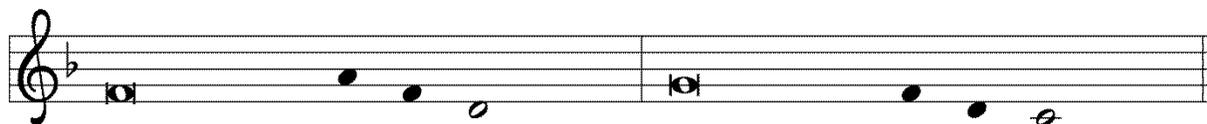
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Almighty God, beautiful in majesty, majestic in holiness: you have taught your people to praise you in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs: We praise you for your servants to whom you have given skill in the composition of hymns, especially on this day for Jiri Tranovsky; and we pray that by your grace we may find strength in your praise during this present life and finally attain to that perfect harmony of the life to come; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who loves and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PSALM 96:1-9

ELW TONE 11



Sing to the LORD | a new song;

sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

**²Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

³Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

**⁴For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.**

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

**⁶Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

**⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**

⁹Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

PSALM PRAYER

Ever-living God, the heavens were glad and the earth rejoiced when you sent your Son, the incarnate Word, to dwell with us. Help us to proclaim your glory to those who do not know you, until the whole earth sings a new song to you, with your Son and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

EPHESIANS 5:18-20

¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

MEDITATION *Commemoration of Jiri Tranovsky, Hymnwriter, died 1637*

HYMN LBW#150 "MAKE SONGS OF JOY"

1 Make songs of joy to Christ, our head;
Alleluia!
He lives again who once was dead!
Alleluia!

2 Our life was purchased by his loss;
Alleluia!
He died our death upon the cross.
Alleluia!

3 O death, where is your deadly sting?
Alleluia!
Assumed by our triumphant King!
Alleluia!

4 And where your victory, O grave,
Alleluia!
when one like Christ has come to save?
Alleluia!

5 Behold, the tyrants, one and all,
Alleluia!
before our mighty Savior fall!
Alleluia!

6 For this be praised the Son who rose,
Alleluia!
the Father, and the Holy Ghost!
Alleluia!

Text: Jiri Tranovsky, 1591-1637; tr. Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
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INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Response

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

For the Church: that knowing Christ has prayed for us, we may deepen our identity as children of God and be strengthened to carry on the mission of Christ each day.

For our Bishop, Samuel, and for all Bishops: that they may continue the apostolic work of witnessing to the Resurrection and building up the Body of Christ.

For a renewal of prayer in our lives: that God will draw us into a deeper relationship through our listening to scripture and the words and music of hymnwriters like Jiri Tranovsky, and attention to God's action in our lives. *Response*

For all who suffer because of their faith, particularly Christians in the Middle East: that they may draw strength from Christ's promise to be always with us.

For all who are awaiting a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit into their lives, particularly candidates for Confirmation: Jake, Ellie, Paige, Carson, Nathan, Jesse, Daniel, and Jacob: that God will pour out abundantly the Spirit upon them and empower them to be instruments of Christ's love and mercy.

For a new outpouring of the Spirit upon the Christian community: that God will heal the wounds in the Body of Christ, free us from fear, and unite us in mission and worship. *Response*

For all nations and peoples: that the Good News which frees hearts and brings conversion may be preached to all and bring forth a new flowering of peace and justice in our world.

For all who are waiting, for an end to isolation, the birth of a child, or the return of a loved one: that they may experience God with them in this time and draw strength from the prayers and concern of others.

For leaders in every parish: that they may develop wise practices as public gatherings resume and that many hearts may be open to assisting in congregational life in new ways so that everyone who comes to church may be safe *Response*

For all who are sick, particularly those with Covid-19, and anyone in need of our prayers: Leroy, Mylah, Kathy, Nellie, Gail, Jeanie, Richard, Paul, Deb, Carolyn, Logan, Mary, Joyce, Debbie, Alexis, Renee, Ralph, Dave, and Garth, that God's healing spirit will fill them, ease their pain, and restore them to wholeness.

For all children: that God will protect them from the pediatric Covid syndrome and guide researchers in finding treatments and protection from it.

For all who are seeking employment: that God will open new opportunities for them to use their gifts and help them to recognize new ways to serve the human family *Response*

For peace and a de-escalation of tension between world powers: that God will guide the work of international leaders as they seek peaceful resolution to conflicts and disagreements around the world.

For all who are near death: that God will comfort them, confirm their faith, and give them peace

For all who have died, including Oscar, Lois, and Ruth, and all those who have served our nation: that God will welcome them into the company of the saints forever. *Response*

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**

BENEDICTION

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he promised.
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

HYMN ELW#851 “WHEN IN OUR MUSIC GOD IS GLORIFIED”

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried:
Alleluia! | 4 And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
Alleluia! |
| 2 How oft, in making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia! | 5 Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise;
let all rejoice who have a voice to raise;
and may God give us faith to sing always:
Alleluia! |
| 3 So has the church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in ev'ry tongue:
Alleluia! | Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
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Leading Worship: Prs. Laura Csellak & Mark Swanson Videographer: Mr. Gary Klinger

The Church Commemorates on May 29:

JIRI TRANOVSKÝ, HYMNWRITER, DIED 1637

Jiri Tranovský (YEAR-zhee truh-NOF-skee) is considered the “Luther of the Slavs” and the father of Slovak hymnody. Trained at the University of Wittenberg in the early seventeenth century, Tranovský was ordained in 1616 and spent his life preaching and teaching in Prague, Silesia, and finally Slovakia. He produced a translation of the Augsburg Confession and published his hymn collection *Cithara Sanctorum* (Lyre of the Saints), the foundation of Slovak Lutheran hymnody. He lived through many social agonies, including the plague and the Thirty Years’ War. Yet his hymnody speaks powerfully of confidence in God. The poetry of his hymns is marked by accents on the opening syllables, which insert singers into the strength of Christian faith.