

“CREATED FOR A PURPOSE!”

Ephesians 2:1-10

***Good morning and welcome to worship!
We're Happy you are with us!***

Today is “Life Sunday.” It is the celebration of the gift of human life. Human life is tremendously undervalued in our society. God’s Word from Ephesians helps us to understand that our life is a gift, and we have a purpose for living. Our sermon title for today is “Created for a Purpose!”



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**3225 Roosevelt Road, Muskegon MI
231.755.1292 - tlcmuskegon.org
Sunday, January 21, 2024
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
10:30 WORSHIP SERVICE**

Pre-Service Music

Michael VanBemmelen

Welcome

Pastor Paul Appold

Opening Prayer

Pastor Paul Appold

Opening Medley

"Kings of Kings"

***In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfill the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt***

***(CHORUS) Praise the Father Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings***

***To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died (CHORUS)***

***And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored***

***And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me (CHORUS)***

(TAG) Praise forever to the King of Kings

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***"I am Jesus Little Lamb"
I am Jesus' little lamb,
Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same,
Even calls me by my name.***

LSB 740

***Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, He bids me go
Where the quiet waters flow.***

***Who so happy as I am,
Even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast,
There within His arms to rest.***

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Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Opening Verses

Psalms 118:24 & Psalm 8

P: This is the day that the Lord has made

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P: O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth

C: You have set Your glory above the heavens.

P: Out of the mouth of babies and infants, You have established strength
because of Your foes,

C: to still the enemy and the avenger.

P: O Lord, our Lord

C: how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in
the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness of Sins

P: God created us in His image, and chose us to serve Him. He welcomes us
to bring our sins and sorrows to Him and He will forgive us and give us rest for
our souls. Please join me as we confess our sins together.

(We stand beneath the cross, to consider our lives as God's people)

P: Merciful Father and Maker of all...

**C: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and action.
We have often turned aside from Your Word and Your grace to worship our
own desires instead. We have not respected life as Your gift or treated our
neighbors as treasures. On our own we deserve punishment, but in Your
gracious compassion, forgive us our sin. Remember us as those for whom
Your dear Son Jesus died. Bring forth in us true repentance and send us Your
Holy Spirit to overcome the temptations from the devil, the world, and our
flesh. Amen.**

P: The Lord has given Himself through His Son Jesus, Who became human
and was crucified, that in His resurrection all humanity would be redeemed.
In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive
you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy
Spirit.

C: Amen. Praise the Lord for His goodness.

Hymn of Praise

"No Longer Slaves"

You unravel me with a melody
You surround me with a song
Of deliverance from my enemies
Till all my fears are gone

(CHORUS) I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God

From my Mother's womb
You have chosen me
Love has called my name
I've been born again into Your family
Your blood flows through my veins (CHORUS x2)

(BRIDGE) You split the sea so I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me so I could stand and sing
I am a child of God (REPEAT BRIDGE)

(CHORUS) I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear

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Prayer of the Day

P: Please pray with me... Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation, grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy. Please open our ears and hearts to hear Your Word and follow it.

C: In the powerful name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 9:1-15

God blessed Noah and his sons after the flood. God also makes a covenant in the sky that He will never again destroy all flesh in a flood.

¹ And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. ² The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. ³ Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. ⁴ But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. ⁵ And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man. ⁶ “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image. ⁷ And you, be fruitful and multiply, increase greatly on the earth and multiply in it.” ⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹ “Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, ¹⁰ and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹² And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³ I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

The Apostle Paul writes about the depth of our sin, and the grace of God, by which we are saved.

God has also given us a great reason and purpose for living.

¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us

alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“Go Into the World”

Trinity Choir

Natalie Sleeth (C) 1979 Choristers Guild in the Choristers Guild LETTERS

Gospel Reading

John 14:12-20

In the Upper Room, Jesus tells His disciples whoever believes in Him will also do the works that He does. He also promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, who will be with them forever.

P: The Holy Gospel is from St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹² “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.¹⁸ “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.¹⁹ Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn

"The Wonderful Cross"

**When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride**

**See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown**

(CHORUS) O the wonderful cross

O the wonderful cross

Bids me come and die and find

That I may truly live

O the wonderful cross

O the wonderful cross

All who gather here by grace

Draw near and bless Your name

**Were the whole realm of nature mine
That were an offering far too small
Love so amazing so divine
Demands my soul my life my all (CHORUS)**

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Sermon "Created for a Purpose" *Ephesians 2:1-10*

Offering

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Closing Litany

P: For by grace you have been saved through faith,

C: And this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God.

P: not a result of works,

C: so that no one may boast.

P: For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,

C: Which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

All: Amen.

Closing Song

"One Thing Remains"

Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant in the trial and the change
One thing remains
One thing remains

(INTERLUDE)

Your love Your love Your love will never change

Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant in the trial and the change
One thing remains
One thing remains

(CHORUS) Your love never fails

It never gives up
Never runs out on me **(REPEAT 3X)**
Your love

On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never ever have to be afraid
One thing remains
One thing remains **(CHORUS)**

(BRIDGE) In death in life I'm confident and

Cover'd by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid there's nothing that
Can separate my heart from Your great love **(REPEAT BRIDGE)**

Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant in the trial and the change
One thing remains
One thing remains
Your love