

Australian Evangelical Lutheran Church
BETHLEHEM TOOWOOMBA, OUR SAVIOUR LOWOOD, ST JOHN'S AUBIGNY,
ST PAUL'S GREENWOOD, TRINITY MARBURG, TRINITY OAKEY

12 June 2022

Trinity Sunday

HYMNS: 140 141 21 142

INTROIT: O LORD, our Lord, how splendid is Your name in all the earth!
O set Your glory above the heavens!

Out of the mouths of children and nursing infants, You have laid a strong foundation, because of Your enemies, that You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider Your heavens, which Your fingers have made, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, what is man, that You should be mindful of him, and the son of man, that You should take care of him? You have made him lower than God is for a little while, and You have crowned him with glory and honour.

You have made him master over the works that Your hands have made; You have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and even the beasts of the field, the birds of the sky, and the fish of the sea, which pass through the paths of the seas.

O LORD, our Lord, how splendid is Your name in all the earth!

Psalm 8

COLLECT: Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

READINGS: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 God's Son, eternally existing with
the Father and the Spirit.

Acts 2:14a, 22-36 Peter's Sermon

John 8:48-59 Before Abraham was, I am.

SERMON: Acts 2:14a, 22-36 THE HOLY TRINITY CONTINUES TO BLESS
US WITH THE GIFTS OF FORGIVENESS, LIFE AND SALVATION

What I Want to Be

The Lutheran Church baptises infants. This is a scandal. Of course, it is presumed the infant can't believe, right? But what does Jesus say? "*Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin...*" (Mark 9:42). The Greek word for "little ones" is "mikros." It's where we get the word micron. How big is a micron? It's tiny, not very big at all. So, when Jesus speaks of "*these little ones*" He is talking about a baby in arms, a new-born, and Jesus says they believe in Him. So for all those who are 'wise,' are you going to poke Him in the chest and say, "*Jesus, they can't believe.*" What right do you have to say such a thing to your Lord? Shame on you! Because you may be undergoing the very judgement of which Jesus goes on to say: "*Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea*" (Mark 9:42). These little ones belong to Jesus. They believe. How dare we say they cannot when He says they can and do believe?

Family life is always a challenge. Your first child comes along. What if, when he is about 3-4 years old, you say to him, "*Now we're going to let you decide if you want to be a member of our family or not. It's all up to you. You know, we'd kind of like to have you but still it's your choice. If you want to pack up and go live with the family next door, you're welcome to do that. This would not upset us a bit. Have a great life. Make your own choices. Go for it, kiddo!*" What would be the response of the 4-year-old that hears that speech? At first there may be some glee because the family next door has a dog. But after thinking about it, your 4-year-old is going to gasp and think, "*They don't want me. I'm not part of the family.*" Would that be good? Would you want to hear that from a parent? "*You have your choice. You don't have to be a part of this family if you don't want to be.*" Those are words of rejection. If we are children of the Father, He does not want to leave us making "our own choice" about joining the family.

What father lets his children decide if they want to belong? Now what does our Father do? He says, "*You are My child. My name is on you.*" And this, by the way, is why marriage as one man and one woman, created by God, is not to be changed, and is so important. Why? So that the child knows whose they are and where they belong.

The point is who we are in relationship to God: We are named by Him at the font. In the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. That is who

you are! And that's true from infancy, when you're baptised as an infant (or later in life too!), throughout your entire life. Our loving God does not want you to wonder whose family you belong to. He wants you to know that you belong to His. And that He's going to the most extraordinary lengths to make sure that is the case and to make it happen. I don't want to be anything other than a child of God. The Bible never says, "Be adults of God!" It just isn't there. There are no adults of God. There are only children of God. That's what I want to be!

Martin Luther

"John the Evangelist rejects the physical birth and position in life, no matter how high and noble, because it contributes nothing toward our becoming children of God. He also repudiates the Jews, to whose lineage Christ the Lord belonged, for boasting of their blood and presuming that their descent from Abraham would stand them in especially good stead. This they are accustomed to do to the present day, interpreting all the sayings of the prophets to mean that God performed great miracles, exterminated kingdoms and monarchies, out of respect for the blood of Abraham. Thus they claim to be preferred by God before others. But birth from a particular father and mother does not make one a child of God.

"If it were possible for a hundred thousand emperors to have been our progenitors, this would not accord us the slightest advantage in any filial relationship with God, since this would not give us birth for heaven. Yet God does not belittle physical birth and position in life; He preserves each with all its due dignity in the world. Yes, He commands that children honour their parents, though the latter may be poor beggars, that subjects obey the government, and also that parents and government use their office for the welfare and good of children and subjects and administer their office well. But all this does not earn them regeneration for life eternal."

Sermons on the Gospel of St. John, 1.13

Welcome to all worshipping with us today!

Pastor Peter Ziebell, Phone 0407583922.

Email him at paziebell@gmail.com or to the church office at ddaalc@gmail.com.

Please notify pastor of anyone who is unwell or in need of a visit.

COMING SERVICES

**PLEASE ALWAYS CHECK YOUR BULLETINS FOR ANY LATE CHANGES –
THEY CAN HAPPEN!!!**

19 June 2 PENTECOST	26 June 3 PENTECOST	3 July 4 PENTECOST
8.30am OAK LR 9.00am TMBA LR 9.00am GRN LR 9.30am AUB LR 9.00am LOWOOD HC	8.30am OAK LR 9.00am TMBA LR 9.30am GRN LR 9.30am AUB LR  9.00am MARBURG HC Confirmation Service	8.30am OAK LR 9.00am TMBA LR 9.30am GRN LR 9.30am AUB LR 9.00am LOWOOD LR (Pastor on holidays from 27 June to 11 July)
Sunday, 19 June		
READINGS: Isaiah 65:1-9;	Galatians 3:23-4:7;	Luke 8:26-39
HYMNS: 498 156 335 (840 842) 457		
Sunday, 26 June		
READINGS: 1 Kings 19:9b-21;	Galatians 5:1, 13-25;	Luke 9:51-62
HYMNS: 501 385 62 221		
MARBURG: 297 385 62 301 285 299		

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE TO SERVICES FOR 26 JUNE AND BIBLE STUDY
DATE FOR DOWNS MEMBERS BELOW

BIBLE STUDIES for JUNE:

Sunday, 19 June. After service at Lowood.

Friday, 24 June, 7.30pm at Oakey. Combined study for Oakey, Aubigny and Greenwood members. Please bring a plate for supper.