

First Reading: Acts 10:34–48

³⁴Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

⁴⁴While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

Epistle: 1 John 5:1–8

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone

who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

Holy Gospel: John 15:9–17

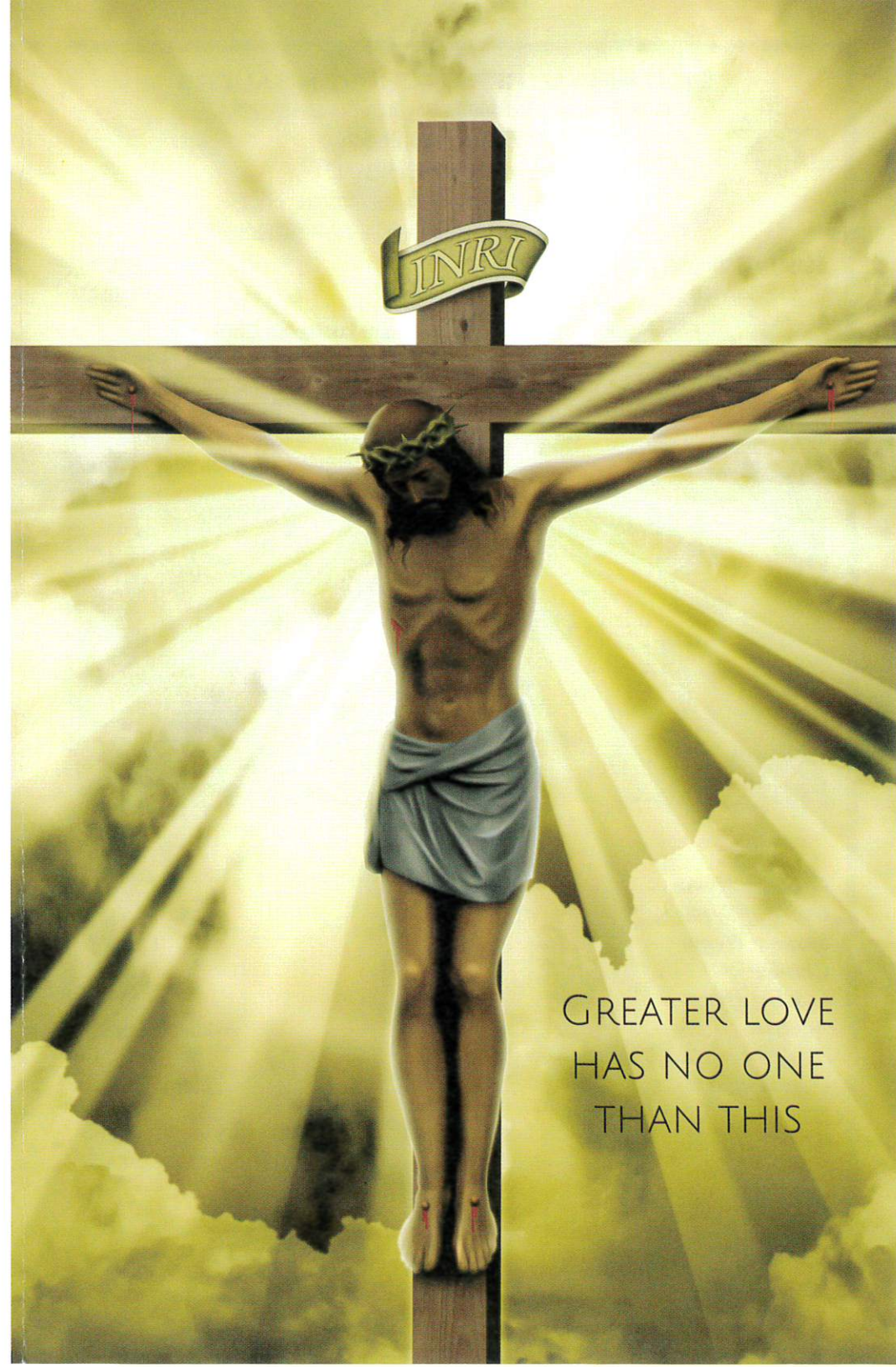
⁹[Jesus said:] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”



Easter

About the Cover: In the light of Easter morning, we see the cross all the more clearly. We see the glory in the greatest love. Jesus was willing to lay down His life for His friends. Jesus considers us His friends because He loves us. The light of His cross shines brightly today because Jesus’ redemption and life for us come from His self-sacrificing love.



GREATER LOVE
HAS NO ONE
THAN THIS



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH SAUERS

1108 S County Rd 460 E, Seymour, Indiana 47274

Rev. Craig Muhlbach

Church Office: 812-523-3131

Church Web address: www.stjohnsauers.org

School Web address: www.sauerslutherschool.org

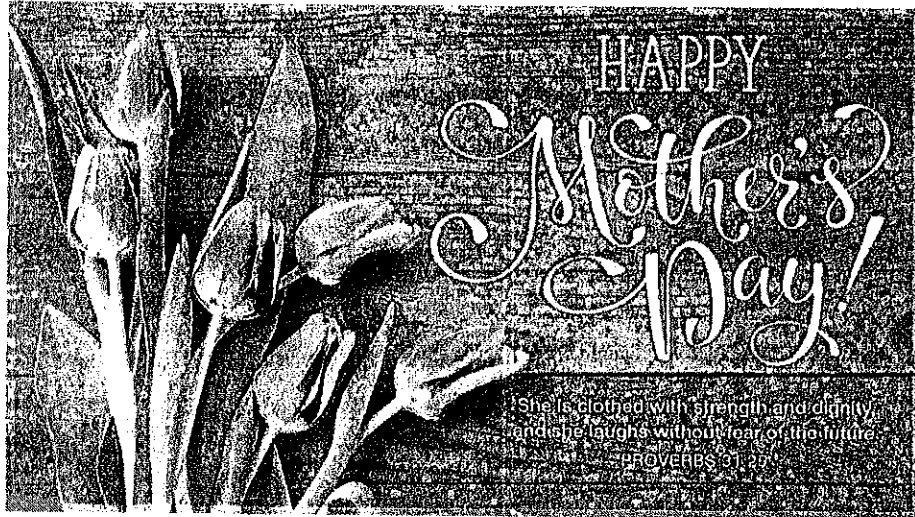
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
Divine Service

8:30AM

9:30AM

Facebook Page: St. John's Sauers Lutheran Church

(Service is streamed on Facebook Live).



May 9, 2021

Opening Hymn

Order of Service

Sermon Hymn

Canticle

Closing Hymn

Acolyte:

Acolyte for Next Sunday, May 16th:

Organist:

Matins

LSB 484

p. 219

LSB 464

p. 223

LSB 698

Addison Darlage

Mr. Ross Rieckers



Please note: Holy Communion will be celebrated this month on the third and fifth Sundays. Sunday, May 16 & Sunday, May 30.

I KNOW THAT MY Redeemer lives
JOB 19:25



In Our Prayers:

For our Shut-ins: Don Hoevener, Paul McMahon, Mabel

Pollert, Joyce Sterling, Phyllis Lambring, John & Patty Surenkamp, Leroy Lambring, Carla Miller, Milton Stuckwisch, Ann Hoevener, Curt Benter

For Illness/Healing: Jim Reedy, Richard Bane, Allen Holle, Mark O'Mara, Victor Schneider, Robert & Wilma Rieckers, Raymond Tormoehlen, Mary Wehrkamp.

Celebrating: Our Mom's on this Mother's Day! Clayton & Hannah Klosterman on the birth of their son, Miles John Klosterman.

This Week's Schedule:



Today: +8:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
+9:30am Divine Service

Tuesday: +8:00pm Men's Club/Bible Study
Topic: *He Sure Has a Way With People*

Wednesday: +8:30am Chapel
+7:00pm Kindergarten/Preschool Graduation
+8:00pm Public School Confirmation Class

Thursday: +7:00pm Ascension Service
+8:00pm Handbell Choir Practice

Next Sun: +8:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
Topic: *The Seven Edges of Christian Holification*
+9:30am Divine Service w/ Holy Communion
+Following Service: Adult Choir

Please contact Holly Sawyer sjsoffice.hsawyer@gmail.com at the Church/School office for:

- ❖ Flowers on the altar;
- ❖ School Rental (rental fee \$50.00);
- ❖ Bulletin Announcements: Deadline-Friday 8:00am

	Date:	5/2/2021
Envelopes/Loose		\$6,550.00
April Daycare Rent		\$580.00
Total		\$7,130.00
Total Tithes/Gifts to Date (1/3-5/2)		\$192,542.43
Line of Credit		0.00

Easter 6 - 1 Timothy 2:5-6 -- "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all." To be ransomed is to be bought back, to be purchased. We belong to God, fair and square. This is not only because He created us, but this is doubly so in that we are ransomed. We belong to God. That's the beginning of thankfulness and generosity.



We are seeking to fill the following positions for the 2021-2022 school year:
Volleyball Coaches; School Cook; Kids Klub Supervisor; Substitute Teachers
Interested candidates should email Trisha Engel, principal, @ tengel@sjsauerslutheran.org



School Snapshot

May 2021

We have two weeks left of school! The past 170 days of learning have flown by. It's hard to believe that this unpredictable year will be over in just two weeks.

The students successfully completed ILEARN testing at the end of April, and most students have completed NWEA testing, too. Last weekend, the 8th graders took their class trip to Cincinnati.

On Thursday, our students participated in a talent show. Mr. Rieckers worked on songs with hand chimes, bells, and boom-whackers with the students. Some individuals performed acts, and the commons was decorated with student art work. Mrs. Kloeker's third and fourth grade students worked hard on their wax museum projects and presented them after the talent show. It was a rewarding night for parents to see what their children have been up to at school!

Recently, the state adopted a new budget which greatly expands the school choice program. We are truly blessed to be in a state that prioritizes school choice for families. Income guidelines have been expanded for both scholarships from the Scholarship Granting Organization and from the Indiana Department of Education. If you have questions about either of these programs, please do not hesitate to contact me. I'm here to help!

Next week, our students will participate in Step-Up Day on Friday. This will be a time for students to spend the afternoon with their teacher for next year. Some of our students are participating in the art show at Trinity Lutheran High School next weekend, and you'll hear our students singing in church next weekend, too.

We are still looking for a cook for next school year, a Kids Klub (before/after school care) workers, volunteer coaches, and volunteers to assist the school board with maintenance items around the school. There is much to be done! If you are interested in assisting in any way, please contact the school office at 812-523-3131.

May God bless your summer with relaxation and health!
In His Service,
Trisha Engel

Contemporary Faith

Transferred to the Kingdom of His Beloved Son

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (Colossians 1:13-14)

There are two aspects of the word *transferred* in this verse that can help us.

1. To transfer is the simple act of moving to another place, as in, "Joe is no longer here; he has transferred to another office," or "Susan transferred to a different university after her freshman year."

Thus, our heavenly Father has "transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son." That is to say, by the power of God in Christ, we Christians have moved from one place to another, from "the domain of darkness" (where sin, death, and the devil reign supreme) to "the kingdom of His Son" (where life and liberty have come to light).

One potential difficulty with this first aspect of the word *transferred* has to do with our common usage of the word—we often think of it as an act of our own will, or at least, an act in which we have cooperated. Neither Joe nor Susan transferred to new locations against their will. There might have been external factors that made their respective transfers necessary, but Joe and Susan both cooperated and worked along with the process.

This is not what happened when God the Father transferred us "from the domain of darkness . . . to the kingdom of His beloved Son." We added nothing to the process, not even a decision to cooperate. We were transferred to our new location solely by the power of God's Word and Spirit, which overcame our obstinance and broke our rebellious wills.

2. God's totally independent action, without any merit or cooperation on our part, is the second beneficial aspect of the word *transferred*. When Paul wrote the verse at the top of this page, the Holy Spirit gave him a word

for *transferred* that refers to the ancient practice of deportation. To quiet a recently conquered land, the occupying force would collect up many citizens of that land and deport them to other conquered areas. With the citizenry thus scattered, it became impossible for the conquered nation to rebel against the occupying power. (That is why Daniel and his friends went to Babylon; see Daniel 1:3-6.)

We each have three powerful enemies that are devoted to our destruction: the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature. What happened when God "transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son"? He deported us, as it were, separating us from both the devil and the world. God did this so that our sinful flesh would no longer be able to "join forces" with our other two enemies and succeed in rebellion against Him. Do we still struggle with our sinful flesh? Yes, of course. Do we still suffer the prowling of the devil, who seeks "someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8)? Unceasingly. Are we still continually enticed by the allure of the unbelieving world? Absolutely.

Here is Good News: "He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." The Lord, our God, has done more than wash us clean in the blood of Christ! He has carefully separated the direst enemies of our faith, deporting us away from the devil and the world so that our enemies may never again gain the full strength of rebellion against Him.

Author: Rev. Erik Rottmann

Scripture quotations from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



Easter VI/Mother's Day – "My body, my choice," says a sinful world. "You did not choose me, but I chose you" (John 15:16), answers a loving God. Motherhood comes about by His gift, not because of our will. Choice forces us to look out only for number one, but grace invites us to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12). Praise the Lord for mother's love!

Welcome Vicar Fredstrom. He will be leading the worship service this morning under the theme, '*Freed to Love for Free*', while Pastor Muhlbach is out of town. Pastor Keller from St. Paul Wegan is on stand-by if any need arises. Mark Hackman & James Lambring are duty elders for May. Pastor Muhlbach will return on Tuesday, May 11th.



Sharon Rohr was a humble servant of Christ. She spent many years at St. Johns serving through her dedication to Christian education. It is our hope that a tree can be planted in her memory, on the school grounds. **There will be a free-will offering following the worship services on Sunday, May 16th & Sunday, May 23rd.** Please contact Susan Hessong 812.528.3674 for more details.



GRADUATION SUNDAY is just around the corner. There is a sign-up sheet for all our high school, college & tech school graduates. If you know of any of our graduates in High School and College who are members here at Sauer's, please put their information down so we can recognize them on Sunday, May 23rd.



The Students in Grades K-8 will be singing '*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*' during next Sundays, May 16th, Worship Service.



Jackson County Fair News: As of now, the Jackson County Fair Board is planning on a fair as normal. But there is still a possibility that this may change. The Jackson County Health Department says it depends on COVID-19 numbers in June and early July. If we have a surge of cases, it is likely that some activities will be limited. Purdue Extension controls the animals. Right now, Purdue hasn't ruled out keeping livestock in the barns — but that could change. Again, depending on COVID-19 numbers. If it becomes a "show and go", it will have a serious impact on food sales. Right now, we can still have our sit-down meals on the benches around the fair stand. But, of course, the Health Department says we will be wearing masks. Social distancing is recommended but not mandated.

As far as running the fair stand — we still need volunteers to run the operation. Keep in mind that it is our largest fundraiser.

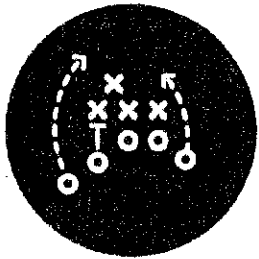
TRINITY YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Registration opens

May 1, 2021

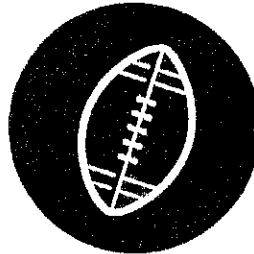


www.trinityyouthfootball.com



Trinity Youth Football League pairs faith and sports to teach valuable lessons for players on and off the field.

The 2021 Season opens with Flag Football for Grades K-3. Registration runs May 1-July 15. The season begins in early August and ends October 2nd.



TYFL is open to any area player in grades K-3, regardless of church affiliation. \$50 fee payable online upon registration.

Interested in supporting TYFL? Have questions about the league? Contact tyfl@trinitycougars.org

FAITH FAMILY FOOTBALL