

**BULLETIN FOR TRINITY MARBURG, ST JOHN'S MINDEN,  
OUR SAVIOUR LOWOOD.**

**9th Sunday after Pentecost 6th August 2017.**

Closed Communion

The A.E.L.C upholds the historical, biblical and Lutheran practice of closed communion. Therefore we ask that only A.E.L.C members come forward for communion.

Matthew 14-22-33

**HYMNS: 524, 578, 301, 420, 291, 513.**

**INTROIT: Psalm 18:1-6**

P "I shall love You,

**C O LORD, my Strength.**

P "The LORD is my Rock, my Fortress, and my Deliverer.

**C My God is my Rock, in whom I take refuge, my Shield, and the Horn of my salvation, my Stronghold.**

P "He should be praised! I used to call to the LORD,

**C and I kept being saved from my enemies.**

P "The snares of death had surrounded me,

**C and the torrents of wickedness were terrifying me.**

P "The cords of Sheol had surrounded me.

**C The snares of death had confronted me.**

P "I was calling on the LORD in my distress, and I was crying to my God for help.

**All: He used to hear my voice from His Temple, and my cry to Him for help used to come before Him, into His ears.**

**COLLECT:** Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. .... **Amen.**

**READINGS:**

**Old Testament: Job 38:4-18**

**Epistle: Romans 10:5-17**

**Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

The text for our sermon for this morning is written in the book of Matthew 14:22-33 which was our gospel reading before

**22** Jesus immediately made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. **23** After He had dismissed them, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone. **24** The boat was already a considerable distance from the shore, and was being buffeted by the waves, because there was a headwind. **25** During the fourth watch of the night Jesus came towards them, walking on the sea.

**26** When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified. They said, “It is a ghost!” and cried out in fear.

**27** Immediately Jesus spoke to them. “Take courage! It is I. Stop being afraid!”

**28** Peter answered Him, “Lord, if it is You, order me to come to You on the water!”

**29** Jesus said, “Come!”

So Peter got down out of the boat, began to walk on the water, and went toward Jesus. **30** However, when he saw that the wind was strong, he was afraid; and, when he began to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”

**31** Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him. He asked him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?”

**32** When they came into the boat, the wind died down. **33** Those who were in the boat bowed down before Him, and said, “Truly, You are the Son of God.”

Lord God, Heavenly Father, sanctify us through Your truth, Your Word is truth. **Amen.**

## **PRESENCE AND SAFETY: THE ALLEVEATION OF FEAR**

Traumatic events will often lead to fear. Fear, however, is self-serving and at times can be sinful. What we desperately need is someone to focus our eyes outward toward another who can and will alleviate our fears and give us reason to trust.

The message of the angel, and therefore the message of heaven, is "Do not be afraid" (Luke 1:30). As mentioned previously, Mary was caught up in a terribly traumatic event. She was unmarried and pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Yet she is told not to be afraid because she had found favour with God Himself. Even that, however, will not alleviate fear. What she needs is God in her midst, and thankfully, that is precisely what she receives.

Gabriel said to Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called Holy—the Son of God" (Luke 1:35). These words announce the divine reality that the baby Jesus will be conceived in Mary's womb—God entered her very body, just as He offered to enter the centurion's home. The angel's words announce the very presence of God.

Christ in Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit—the presence—is all that it took for fear to be alleviated. From there, Mary uttered those precious words, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

All fear was gone. The Lord was with her. She could now meet the days ahead with joy and hope and, best of all, trust!

## **TRUST: THE BLESSING OF PRESENCE AND SAFETY**

Christ was in Mary, and fear was alleviated. We are in need of that same fear-alleviating, trust-producing presence. We need Christ in us.

Thankfully, the Lord has given us means by which He forgives us,

enters us, and makes us His own. He splashes water on our foreheads and speaks His name through the mouth of His pastors, and instantly we become His temples. In Baptism, God puts His name on us and His dear Son in us. We, like Mary, have Christ for us and in us.

In the Holy Supper, the same Jesus who entered us at the font enters us once again by way of our mouths. The Lord 'speaks, "This is My body," and "This is My blood," and at precisely that moment, it is indeed His holy body and precious blood giving us the joy of a slate wiped clean as we receive in our bodies and souls the same Christ who entered into the womb of Mary.

In Holy Absolution, the same Christ who comforted Mary with His presence comes to us, speaking life and joy and forgiveness into our ears. We hear Christ say through His pastors, "I forgive you all your sins," and instantly that Word of God makes forgiveness a reality.

Christ forgives and enters us by way of forehead and mouth and ears. He enters us with His presence so that we might have no reason to fear. He enters us so that we might say with Mary, regardless of the events at hand, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

Christ knows and alleviates our fears so that we might trust Him with our whole heart,

*Strength for the Day.*

*Even though we thank God for the virgin Mother of Jesus we do not worship her as the Catholics do.*

*The Catholic Church has removed the second commandment from its catechism. The second commandment states that we shall not worship graven images. (Exodus 20:4-6). Images of the Virgin Mary are worshipped in the Catholic Church and the worshippers believe that it is Mary who appears in Fatima as well as other places around the world. Mary, however, died around 2000 years ago, so it must be another spirit that reveals itself as the Virgin Mary.*

*[It is reported the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, appeared 6 times to 3 shepherd children; Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta; between May 13 and October 13, 1917 at the Basilica Fatima in Portugal.]*

*The Catholic Church believes that the Virgin Mary was taken up to heaven and that our prayers are to come to her first, in order to reach*

*Jesus and the Father. This is something Catholics have fabricated themselves, since Mary has been dead for around 2000 years. She lies in the grave, just like all others who have died and await the resurrection morning. (1 Thessalonians 4:15-17).*

*The Bible clearly states that "there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." (1 John 5:7). We find this text in the King James Bible and in the Groundtext Textus Receptus, but not in the Catholic Bibles and their Groundtext Codex Vaticanus. The Catholic Church suggests that there are four special, holy people in heaven, where Mary is the fourth and the one that they pray to.*

*Jesus says: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." (John 14:6). Jesus is the only mediator between the Father and us. Our prayers come to the Father through Him. "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Timothy 2:5).*

*According to the Catholic National November the 21st 1895, It was stated that the Pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but he is Jesus Christ, hidden under a veil of flesh. Pastor*

### **500th Anniversary celebrations of the Lutheran Reformation 2017**

**\*MOVIE NIGHT FRIDAY** 22nd September at Marburg. ***Time to be advised.*** Feature, "The Luther Movie", bring a friend, bring your neighbour.

**\*REFORMATION HYMN SINGING SATURDAY** 21st of OCTOBER bring/share at Minden arriving at 5pm to start the meal by 5.30pm.

**\*REFORMATION BRING/SHARE COMBINED SERVICE** on the 29th October at 10am AUGCIGNY Darling Downs. There will not be a local Service here in our Parish as I will be Preaching there on the day.

>Divine Service 20th August (Green) 9am Trinity Marburg  
Readings : Psalm 67 11th Sunday after Pentecost  
Old Testament: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8  
Epistle: Romans 11: 1-2a, 13-15, 28-32 Hymns: 219, 222, 319, 420, 292, 426.  
Gospel: Matthew 15: 21-28.

> Divine Service 27th August (Green) 9am Our Saviour Lowood.  
Readings: Psalm 138 12th Sunday of Pentecost  
Old Testament: Isaiah 51:1-6  
Epistle: Romans 11:33-12:8 Hymns: 386, 188, 248, 331, 291, 191.  
Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20.

> Just a reminder to those who have copies of the LSB hymnal to bring them to a Minden Services to help out with numbers.

> Mid week Bible study on August the 17th at Lowood 10am bring and share, Trivia on the book of 1 John.

> Our next Seminary meeting will be on the 9th of September at Troys Rd at 10am.

>Our next CoC meeting will be held at Troys Rd 10am on Saturday the 14th of October.

> New re printed copies of God's Eternal Word Bibles are now available for purchase at \$65 each. Please see Pastor.

> For those who have asked for a bank account to place their offerings electronically:

Trinity Marburg BSB: 633000. Account No: 146106893.

St John's Minden BSB: 633000. Account No: 135053577.

Our Saviour Lowood BSB 633000. Account No: 159171487.

Pastor Owen Ohlson. H: 5359 6802 M: 0409 169 991 E: ofdro@ozonline.com.au

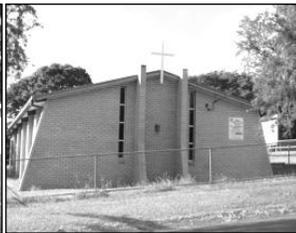
Australian Evangelical Lutheran Church [www.aelc.org.au](http://www.aelc.org.au)



Trinity  
17 Edmond St  
Marburg



St John's  
593 Tallegalla Rd  
Minden



Our Saviour  
63 Prospect St  
Lowood