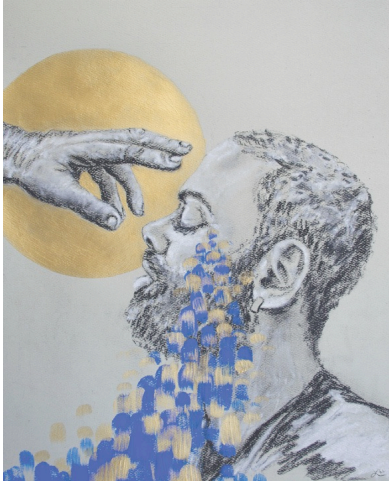


**Worship at Trinity Lutheran Church (online edition)**

**July 19, 2020**



**RESTORED  
(THE CONVERSION OF SAUL)**

by lisle gwynn garrity

inspired by acts 9:1-20 | charcoal & ink on paper

***Holy Communion (bread only) will be offered for “drive thru” service (9am-9:25am & 10:15am-10:45am) as well as at the end of this worship service. If this time does not work, please contact Pastor Jen.***

*Welcome as we gather together in the name of God! Whether we are physically present with one another or gathering remotely, we know that Christ is truly present in our midst*

*Each Sunday, we will gather at 9:30am in our building as well as via Facebook Live. The service will be posted on our YouTube page*

*([https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view_as=subscriber))*

If you know of others who are in need of ***signs of God’s love and grace***, who are curious and/or questioning, who would like to experience the peace of Christ – please invite them to join us “live” and/or to visit our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

If anyone needs to talk to someone amidst this time of anxiety, please feel free to contact Pastor Jen via the church office ([trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com)) and/or her personal email ([revjedyer1@yahoo.com](mailto:revjedyer1@yahoo.com)).

*Our weekly emails are also posted on our website <http://trinitybrewsterny.org/wordpress/>.*

*Listed here is the order of worship so that you are able to follow along. We have included links to the hymns and an anthem picked by Franklyn that you may listen to in addition to our online service*

*Congregational responses are in **bold**. You are invited to read aloud wherever you may be worshipping.*

***HYMNS:*** While we gather for in-person worship, we will not be singing any of the hymns. We will either speak the words responsively and/or listen to the accompaniment. All the words have been included for devotional use.

***Setting up:*** Set aside some sacred space where you are to worship and prayer. Light a candle (or more), set out your Bible and/or a cross. Spend a few moments in silence before you begin.

***Unraveled:*** This year’s summer series is about the ways in which our lives are unraveled and the ways in which God weaves them back together again.

***Introduction:*** Blinded by the light of God’s glory, Saul’s life was changed in an instant. Our lives are changed and transformed daily by the grace of Christ.

*We will be going LIVE before beginning the service with time for reflection to allow time for people to join our live feed before the spoken portion of our service begins.*

**PRELUDE** *“Saul, Saul, was verfolgst du mich?”* Heinrich Schuetz

## **WELCOME**

*You are invited to comment below the video if there are particular prayers that you would like to lift up and have others pray about during the week. Please let us know that you are joining us online by commenting*

## **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

God of mystery,

You called Ananias by name, and he responded,

**“Here I am.”**

You called Paul to the work of your Church, and he responded

**By giving his life to your Word.**

Similarly, you call us into community and faith,

**So we respond with love and time, energy and hope.**

**We respond with worship.**

Let us worship the God of transformation and grace.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

We pause in our God’s humbling presence to lift up all those ways that we are bound by sin

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

God of new life, what would we give to have you appear with a flash of light and a clear voice like you did for Saul?

**Maybe then, our doubts would disappear. Maybe then, we would live as you called us to live. However, when our lives depend on faith, we forget your surprising grace. Instead, we draw lines around enemies and friends, who’s in and who’s out. We see the “other,” faster than we see our “neighbor,” and refuse second chances. Pull the scales from our eyes. Help us see as you see. Help us live as you live, and forgive us when we fail to. Humbly we pray, seeking the grace offered through Jesus Christ, Amen.**

God beyond all expectations revealed the fullness of his love and grace on the cross and through the empty tomb. Jesus Christ gave all for us that we might live the fullness of life that God has given us. May God’s mercy and grace be woven into our lives as we receive the entire forgiveness of all our sins in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN "Gather Us In" (ELW 532)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ar0BXa82F9M>

- 1) Here in this place the new light is streaming  
**Now is the darkness vanished away**  
See in this place our fears and our dreamings  
**Brought here to you in the light of this day**  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken  
**Gather us in, the blind and the lame**  
Call to us now and we shall awaken  
**We shall arise at the sound of your name**
  
- 2) We are the young, our lives are a mystery  
**we are the old who yearn for your face**  
we have been sung throughout all of history  
**called to be light to the whole human race**  
gather us in, the rich and the haughty  
**Gather us in, the proud and the strong**  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,  
**give us the courage to enter the song**

**(INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE)**

- 4) Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
**not in some heaven light years away**  
here in this place the new light is shining  
**now the kingdom and now is the day**  
gather us in and hold us forever  
**gather us in and make us your own**  
gather us in, all peoples together  
**fire of love in our flesh and our bone**

**(INSTRUMENTAL)**

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**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**

God of each new day, as we gather in your loving presence, open our eyes to see you in all your glory. Fill our hearts with your Word that we may be changed and bear your likeness in our daily lives. We ask this all humbly in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **READING ACTS 9: 1-20: The Conversion of Saul to Paul** (*Discovering a New Path*)

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest<sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.<sup>3</sup> Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.<sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?'<sup>5</sup> He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.<sup>6</sup> But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'<sup>7</sup> The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one.<sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.<sup>9</sup> For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.'<sup>11</sup> The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying,<sup>12</sup> and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.'<sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem;<sup>14</sup> and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.'<sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel;<sup>16</sup> I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.'<sup>17</sup> So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.'<sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,<sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,<sup>20</sup> and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying "he is the Son of God."

**Word of God, Word of life** Thanks be to God!

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go?*

***You have the words of eternal life! Alleluia!***

## HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 8:34-37

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter **Glory to you, O Lord**

34 Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *Be Thou My Vision*** (ELW 793)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Optrm7IF16s>

## INSTRUMENTAL

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
**naught be all else to me, save that thou art:**  
thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
**waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
**I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.**  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,  
**raise thou me heav'n ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
**thou mine inheritance, now and always:**  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
**great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

## INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE

4 Light of my soul, after victory won,  
**may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!**  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
**still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

## APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*(Pastor Jen will be adding our fabric prayers to our community prayer wheel during this time)*

Woven together as your whole Church, we lift our prayers before you, O Lord, for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of light and truth, you called Saul out of the darkness of his prejudice. Open our eyes to see all people as created in your image. Free those who are bound by hatred and prejudice that they may know the light of your peace. Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Creator of heaven and earth, the bounties of your gardens overflow. Bless those who till and care for the land that we may be fed. Bless the caretakers of forest and stream, mountains and beaches so that we may pause and be re-created. Strengthen our will to be faithful stewards of all that is entrusted to us. Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the nations, you have seen empires rise and fall, leaders faithfully lead and those who have looked only to their own needs. Inspire the leaders of today to serve You in the tasks that are entrusted to them, particularly in the presence of so many difficulties. Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Healer of body, mind and spirit, you offer us the fullness of life that can only be found in you. Fill us with your loving presence in both receiving as well as sharing your peace. Be with all those who struggle this day, assuring them that you are with them. We pray especially this day for those we name before you now... (pause) and for those who have no one to name them. Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the Church, you call us together as your people and send us forth to be your church in the world. Inspire us as a community of faith to find new ways to share your love and grace with all those we encounter this week. Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

*Here other petitions may be offered.*

*Pastor:* In the face of our own uncertainties, we offer all these prayers before you, O Lord, for with you nothing is impossible as is revealed through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **SHARING THE PEACE**

The Peace of the Christ be with you always **And also with you**

*(you are invited to share the peace with those who are with you, by commenting in the Facebook feed as well as by calling/sending a message of peace to someone)*

**OFFERING** *(You are invited to listen to this song as our “anthem” for this week. You are also encouraged to continue to share your offering with Trinity by mailing them to the church office or by donating online via our website: [www.trinitybrewsterny.org](http://www.trinitybrewsterny.org))*

**ANTHEM: *On the Road to Damascus*** Jacob Barr  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bqPLH3veYk>

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of love, you abide with us; you provide for all our needs and guide us in your ways. Out of gratitude for your care, we bring our gifts before you. Use them for your work of caring, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion given through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **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.**

## **MISSION & MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*Pastor Jen will be at the door as you depart to share the body of Christ with you. Please wait to remove your mask and eat it after you are outside.*

### **BLESSING**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go, in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**

***Please maintain a distance of 6 feet between yourself and those who are not part of your household as you leave your pew and as you receive the Body of Christ.. Also please keep your mask on and do not linger in the building.***

**SENDING HYMN *Open the Eyes of My Heart*, Lord (Baptist Hymnal 66)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=idQ1n3cdgfo>

**INSTRUMENTAL ONLY** (you are invited to use the words as part of your devotional practice)

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord*

*Open the eyes of my heart*

*I want to see You*

*I want to see You*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord*

*Open the eyes of my heart*



*I want to see You*

*I want to see You*

*To see You high and lifted up  
Shinin' in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord*

*Open the eyes of my heart*

*I want to see You*

*I want to see You*

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*(The worship has ended, let the service begin)*

**Worship Notes:** Parts of today's worship are adapted by Pastor Jen Boyd from the following sources: *Opening litany* ("Prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)"); *Prayer of the Day & Prayers of Intercession* (Jennifer Boyd); *Offering prayer* (Mary Petrina Boyd, <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>)

Scripture quotations from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission

**Altar Flowers:** Given today by Pastor Jen Boyd in memory of Michael Boyd on their wedding anniversary (July 21<sup>st</sup>)

### **In Our Prayers**

*We are particularly mindful of so many who are in need of prayers during this time. You are invited to contact Pastor Jen to add specific names to this list:*

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving**

#### **Prayers of Healing**

Robert Peters (father of Stephen Peters)

Pastor Marv Henk (re-hospitalized)

Diane & Frank Strittmatter (friends of Dorothy Kafalas)

Danielle Nestor (ankle surgery)

Mary Gerhardt (hip surgery)

Jill Russo's dad (cancer)

Maisa Tompuri (cataracts)

Danny Brooks (Carol Brooks' nephew)  
Ursula Merolla (recently hospitalized)  
Ralph DiNarte (friend of George O'Toole)

**Prayers for those serving in the medical community**

Jeannette Baldanza (Putnam Co. Dept. of Health)  
Michael Conroy (Putnam Hospital)  
Dr. Lauren Icken (Resident @ Albany Med)  
Eric Klammer (FDNY)  
Lisa Schuldt (Westchester Medical)  
Jeff Von Bargen (Putnam Hospital)

**Prayers for essential workers**

Justin Larocchia (Corrections)  
Kystal Langke (Postal worker)

**Prayers of the Wider Church**

Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (Presiding Bishop of the ELCA) and ELCA staff  
Bishop Paul Egensteiner (Bishop of Metro NY Synod) and synod staff  
Mother Gladys Diaz (deployed Asst. to Bishop for our area)

**Prayers for families who have had loved ones die**

*Families of*

**Additional Prayers**

**Announcements**

**Altar Flowers:** Since we are meeting in person for worship, if you would like to have flowers placed on the altar, please contact Kathie Ruhs.

**Re-open Plans:** Following the recommendation of the Re-open Task force, the Church council has voted to re-open for in-person worship. Please carefully read the **Procedures document** to detailed information about what plans are in place and the expectations for those who plan to attend. There are numerous changes that are being made.

***Please note:*** *If you do not feel ready or comfortable to returning to in-person worship, please do not feel pressured or guilty about your decision. We will continue to offer worship on Facebook Live. In addition, if decisions are made by local or state governments regarding this status change, we will follow their guidance.*

**Bible Study:** continues to meet Wednesday nights via Zoom (see link below) that will dovetail with our Sunday morning themes (see next announcement). We will not meet when Church Council meets.

**Summer Worship Series: *Unraveled*** - What happens when our world falls apart? How do we press onward when our tightly-knit plans unravel into loose threads? What do we become when our identity—or the path we're on—comes undone? What if all of this is not the end we fear it will be? In our unraveling, sometimes life surprises us with unexpected joy, love, and hope—with a new beginning we couldn't have imagined. Sometimes we need God to unravel us, for we long to be changed.

This series will explore **12 stories** of unraveled shame, identity, fear, grief, dreams, and expectations. These stories will frame our worship and be used in Bible study. A **study journal** and an intergenerational **prayer art project** will be a part of this series as well.

**Upcoming readings:**

**July 26: JEREMIAH 29:1-7 Encouraging the Israelites in Exile to Plant Gardens & Build Houses**  
(When Dreams Unravel)

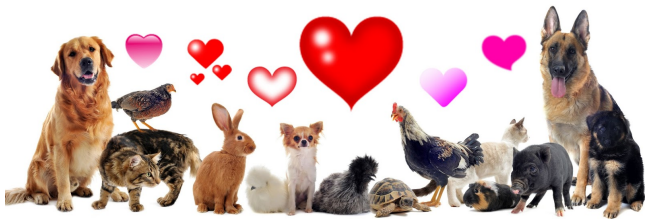
**August 2: JOHN 4:1-29 The Samaritan Woman at the Well** (*Unraveled Shame*)

**August 9: JOHN 20:19-29 Doubting Thomas** (*When the Unimaginable Has Happened*)

**August 16: EXODUS 1:22; 2:1-10 Moses' Mother Gives Moses Up So He Can Live**  
(When Our Plans for Our Children Unravel)

**August 23: JOB 28:12-28 Job's Lament & Loss** (*Seeking Understanding When Everything Has Fallen Apart*)

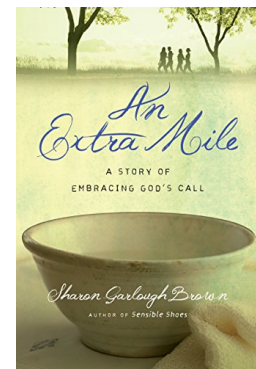
**August 30: MARK 5:1-20 Jesus Heals Legion, a Man Possessed by Demons** (*The Unraveling of the Mind*)



**“Essential Pets of Trinity”**: Check out our video now on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA>

**Faith Book Club** will meet again on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup> (7pm) The next book is “An Extra Mile: a story of embracing God’s call” by Sharon Garlough Brown. This is the last book in this series. All are invited to join us.



**Recycling efforts:** Terracycle has discontinued the cereal bag collection so we will not be collecting them anymore at Trinity. Unfortunately, these are not allowed in your regular recycling bins and must be put in the trash. We will continue to collect the beauty products and dental products.

Also, for those of you with returnable bottles and cans, you can go to Carmel Beverage on Rt. 52 in Carmel which is open for returnables, or to Quick and Easy Bottle Returns on Old Route 6 in Carmel. You can find them on FaceBook.

**Newsletter:** Since we are sending out regular updates, we will not have a newsletter sent out. If there is information that you need, please feel free to contact the church office (trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com) and/or Pastor Jen (revjdyer1@yahoo.com)

**Food Pantry:** As the need grows for those in our community, you are invited to drop off items for Putnam CAP's food pantry. You may either drop them off here at Trinity or at the CAP office on Main Street in Brewster. You can find an updated list of their current needs on their website:

<http://putnamcap.org/index.html>



**Zoom Gatherings:** Each of the gatherings use the same password (410002) except where indicated, but different meeting ids; see below for each of the links. *If you need the links at any time, please contact Pastor Jen ([revjedyer1@yahoo.com](mailto:revjedyer1@yahoo.com) or call/text 518-231-4633)*

#### **Weekly gatherings**

**Wednesdays (7pm) Bible study** Meeting ID: 346 900 784)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/346900784?pwd=RnBtMEo4QUhQOG9veEZjRVNwMkd2QT09>

**Fridays (10am) Thread & Yarn group** (Meeting ID: 890-6099-7152)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89060997152?pwd=cW15NThGVzA5YUdsYWdKVzYdVBkUT09>

#### **Sundays**

10:30 **Coffee Hour/Fellowship** (Meeting ID: 435 263 0119)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4352630119?pwd=YXo0a241ZkJMMThKb1FSbm5ITEZqUT09>

#### **Offering**

*You are also encouraged to continue to share your offering with Trinity be mailing them to the church office or by donating online via our website: [www.trinitybrewsterny.org](http://www.trinitybrewsterny.org) . Please note that we are not depositing offerings every week, but about once a month.*

#### **Artist's statement**

RESTORED

( THE CONVERSION OF SAUL)

by lisle gwynn garrity

inspired by acts 9:1-20 | charcoal & ink on paper

Saul doesn't just persecute Jesus' followers, he breathes threats and murder. His hatred fumes out of him like fire, perhaps a fire tended by fear—fear that his Jewish tradition will become

impure or distorted, fear that the walls he's built around who's in and out will crumble, fear that his own hard-earned piety will diminish. He's a force of terror, sculpted by self-sufficiency and self-righteousness. He's a religious extremist not so unlike the ones we know of today. Until God smacks him down, pulling his sight and self-reliance out from under him like a rug. God softens Saul's steely heart by forcing him to confront those whom he harms, and by making him utterly dependent on relationship and others to survive. Perhaps Saul's conversion is ultimately a radical healing—God soothes his fear and hatred with empathy and intimacy. But this isn't just a story about Saul's transformation. His companions on the road to Damascus are changed too, as they hear the voice of the risen Christ and escort a stumbling Saul to the city. Ananias' conversion is the most courageous of them all. He risks everything, including his own life, to come close to one with the power to have him stoned. Only in the moments when Ananias' fingers touch Saul's eyes, does Saul see, for the first time, the image of the divine in one who is not his enemy, but his brother. In this image, a halo hovers around the hand of Ananias, nodding to the sacred courage required to melt the hatred of his oppressor with intimacy and connection. Scales pour out of Saul's eyes, purging him, cleansing him, igniting him with a new and particular mission: to pour out God's grace wherever humans try to limit it.