

We Are All God's Children in Christ (cont'd):



The painting on the left by Lucas Cranach the Elder in 1537, depicts Jesus Christ with children, emphasizing the Lutheran teachings of *Sola gratia* and *Sola Fide*; salvation by grace through faith. Each Christian, no matter how old, is one of those priceless small ones gathered around our Lord.

We know this to be true because Holy Trinity Lutheran Church believes, teaches, and confesses that the Bible is the inerrant (no mistakes), infallible (true), and inspired (God-breathed) Word of God (*Sola Scriptura*). Accordingly, we proclaim the

whole counsel of God, even in the midst of an increasingly anti-Christian culture, with confident trust in God's promise that it doesn't return to Him void but accomplishes that which He purposes.

The painting of "the Holy Trinity" on the right, by Albrecht Durer in 1511, demonstrates the extent to which God's love goes, by sending the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, Jesus Christ, His Son, our Lord, to earth to die on the cross for our sins. Inasmuch as we love Easter, it was at that first Good Friday where our broken relationship with God was restored, and that is why the image of Christ on the cross, is the central one for the Christian Faith, reminding us of the profound words of St. Paul, "For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." (1 Corinthians 2:2). Before the creation of the world, God had you and I on His mind, and knew that creating us would include, us falling away, and crucifying Him. But He decided to go ahead with that mission anyways, and deemed it well worth the tremendous price of shedding His blood on the cross, "he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even death on the cross" (Philippians 2:8).



This painting depicts the vision and mission of our congregation, as we at Holy Trinity Lutheran, profess and seek with the help of God to reflect that same attitude of unconditional love and service to others, as the Holy Spirit produces the fruits of faith in our lives. Through deep diving into the Holy Scriptures via our many Bible studies and instruction classes for all ages, through God-pleasing Biblical and historical worship and in our congregation, and prayer, the Lord empowers us for our many local outreach activities to our surrounding community and support for global missions. We would love for you to join us!

The Lord has blessed our congregation with steady growth over the years in the booming city of Bowling Green, Kentucky. Holy Trinity Lutheran School is flourishing and is a central mission of our congregation. Adult new member classes occur several times per year. Our membership reflects those who have been here since the very beginning of the congregation in the early 1960's—as well as those who have only recently begun attending. We enjoy a rich, warm, authentic fellowship life together. Our church family contains all ages; cross-generational fellowship is one of the great things HTLC has to offer. We have a variety of social events throughout the year. We help the poor. We support our military. We participate in chaplaincies of all kind. Our elderly and sick members regularly receive phone calls, visits, and prayers from other members of the body of Christ.