



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 2020 - 10:00 AM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of their 45th Anniversary by Brian and Karen Craig.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Give Me Jesus
African American Spiritual, setting by Richard Billingham

WELCOME

HOLY BAPTISM

Bulletin page 15

10:00 am

GATHERING HYMN

Baptized and Set Free

#453

**We are people created, chosen by God.
Then we're washed, ever gently in mercy and love.
Sin has power no more, Jesus opened the door
to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.**

**We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed.
Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed.
For whatever the need, God is greater indeed:
endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need.**

**We are nourished by water, all living things,
and by life that Spirit abundantly brings.
As we journey toward home, may your presence be known:
precious river, ever flowing, now carry us home.**

**Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.
All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong.
Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be
one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!**

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Let us pray.

Beloved and sovereign God,

through the death and resurrection of your Son

you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy.

By your Spirit, give us your wisdom,

that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5-12

A reading from First Kings.

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.**Psalm
Refrain*

When your word is o - pened, it gives
light and un - der - stand - ing.

*Psalm
Tone*

- 129 Your de- | crees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.
- 130 **When your word is opened | it gives light;
it gives understanding | to the simple.**
- 131 I open my | mouth and pant
because I long for | your commandments.
- 132 **Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,
as you always do to those who | love your name. ☩**
- 133 Order my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.
- 134 **Rescue me from those | who oppress me,
and I will keep | your commandments.**
- 135 Let your face shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.
- 136 **My eyes shed | streams of tears,
because people do not | keep your teaching. ☩**

A reading from Romans.

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. ²⁹For those whom God foreknew were also predestined to be conformed to the image of the Son, in order that Christ might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those who were predestined were also called; and those who were called were also justified; and those whom were justified were also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²The one who did not withhold the Son, but gave the Son up for all of us, will that one not also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through God who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS' SERMON

Marked with the Cross of Christ

Stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in joy goes and sells all their possessions and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all their possessions and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵²And Jesus said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of the treasure what is new and what is old.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Stand as able

HYMN OF THE DAY

God of Grace and God of Glory

#705

**God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.**

**Cure your children's waring madness; bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore,
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.**

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

From our many locations, yet held in one body by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

For the church, O God of mercy, we pray. Open your word to Christians around the world. Reveal yourself to us in ways both traditional and surprising, in places old and new. Bless our bishops, pastors, deacons, and other church leaders, as they face their challenging tasks.

Turn to us, O God:

be gracious to us.

For education and nurture in the church, O God of wisdom, we pray. Give us the will to seek your wisdom. Guide the many churches in their uses of technology, and show us during this time ways to study your word. As this week we commemorate J. S. Bach and other musicians, accompany all church musicians as they seek to help the church offer its praise. Turn to us, O God:

be gracious to us.

For the earth, O creative God, we pray. Give to plants and animals the water and land they require. Form us into grateful and healing caretakers of your earth. Bless the efforts of scientists and researchers, especially those seeking a vaccine. Lead all people to honor the scientific discoveries that you grant to humankind. Turn to us, O God:

be gracious to us.

For the nations, O God of justice, we pray. Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and to resist the ways of violence. Stifle the lust for conquest. Bring peace to the Middle East. Visit the people of Hong Kong. Move us away from racist attitudes and policies. Form our president, governor, and legislators to speak with honesty, to strive for justice, and to work to alleviate the nation's needs. Turn to us, O God:

be gracious to us.

For all in need, O God of compassion, we pray. Heal the sick. Feed the hungry. House the refugee. Comfort the countless thousands who are dealing with the coronavirus. Accompany those living with anxiety and despair. Form us to be your arms of mercy. Turn to us, O God:

be gracious to us.

For the youth, O God of grace, we pray. Give to the youth of afflicted nations an inspiring dream of what their future might be. Give them patience to await a time of safety. Direct all schools from daycare through graduate school to find an acceptable way forward.

Turn to us, O God:

be gracious to us.

You, O God, are our pearl beyond price. You are the tree giving us eternal refuge. Hear now, we pray, the petitions of our hearts. Turn to us, O God:

be gracious to us.

In gratitude for the lives of our beloved dead, we pray that nothing, neither death nor life, will separate us from your love. At the end, gather us with all your saints in light everlasting. Turn to us, O God:

be gracious to us

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Peace be with you.

☞ **Peace be with you.**

Worshippers are invited to use their phones to text now or make a call later today to extend a message of peace to someone you love and care about.

Sit

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

*Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256,
or by following the link on the homepage of the website, www.trinitylutheran.ws.
Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 North Main St., Greenville, SC 29601.*

Give Me Jesus
words and music African American Spiritual

John Park - Bass

In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise,
in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.

Refrain

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

Dark midnight was my cry, dark midnight was my cry,
dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus. *Refrain*

Just about the break of day, just about the break of day,
just about the break of day, give me Jesus. *Refrain*

Oh, when I come to die, oh, when I come to die,
oh, when I come to die, give me Jesus. *Refrain*

And when I want to sing, and when I want to sing,
and when I want to sing, give me Jesus. *Refrain*

Stand as able

**Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard. Refrain**

**Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. Refrain**

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere. Refrain**

Refrain

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Let us pray. God of goodness and growth,

all creation is yours,

and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace.

Nourish us through these gifts,

**that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.**

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.**

Sit

Communion

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.

Worshippers who gather with family at home are invited to share the bread and wine with each other using these words spoken directly to each person, "The body of Christ given for you," and "The blood of Christ shed for you."

Worshippers who are gathering with the community from their individual homes are invited to receive the bread and wine while saying these words, "The body of Christ given for me," and "The blood of Christ shed for me."

COMMUNION HYMN

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

#523

Refrain

Let us go now to the banquet, to the feast of the universe. The table's set and a place is waiting; come everyone, with your gifts to share.

I will rise in the early morning; the community's waiting for me. With a spring in my step I'm walking with my friends and family. Refrain

God invites all the poor and hungry to the banquet of justice and good where the harvest will not be hoarded so that no one will lack for food.

May we build such a place among us where all people are equal in love. God has called us to work together and to share everything we have. Refrain

Stand as able

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of the welcome table,
in this meal we have feasted on your goodness
and have been united by your presence among us.
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts
so that we may share your neighborly love with all,
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

#547

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe. The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face - our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children, the whole human race. With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Baptized and Set Free

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God of Grace and God of Glory

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Let Us Go Now to the Banquet

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Sent Forth by God's Blessing

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In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Sponsors present the child:

We present Willis Callahan for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have this child baptized into Christ?

Response:

We do.

As you bring Will to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that he may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help Will grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response:

We do.

Stand

People of God, gathered in your homes, do you promise to support Will and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Water is poured on the child's head, as the presiding minister says:

Willis Callahan,

I baptize you in the name of the Father,

Water is poured on the child's head a second time:

and of the Son,

Water is poured on the child's head a third time:

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

BAPTISMAL ACCLAMATION

You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.

al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Will with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Willis Callahan Harmon, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Let us welcome Will into our church family.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

The Service continues with the Gathering Hymn on page 3

CHURCH STAFF

Susan J. Crowell
Senior Pastor

James C. Parham, III
Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

Luke T. Delasin
Vicar/Pastoral Intern

Amy R. Brown, Deacon
Director of
Educational Ministries

Mandi T. Whitley, Deacon
Director of Youth
and Children's Ministries

Kay M. Cook
Office Manager

Henry W. Wilcox
Accountant and Social Media Manager

Karen M. Craig
Administrative Assistant

Roy L. Cook
Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald
Nursery Attendant

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Stephen Troutman