



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America



## THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 23, 2023 - 10:00 AM - in the Sanctuary



### 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 the Trinity pastors and staff whose love and dedication shine God's light on all of us by Jeff and Margaret Roth.

# SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister and Preaching	Jim Blalock
Assisting Minister	Patrick Preacher
Organist	Jim Parham
Cantors	Bob and Sheryl Schirmer
Lector	Mary Cannon Spencer
Prayers	Jonathan Preacher
Acolyte	Peyton Roth
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Amanda Cook Zerle Hubbard Missy Roberts
Greeters	Angie Hager Dale Hamann Sandra Hamann Linda Morgan Pat Morgan Brad Waters Sarah Weeks Dora Welch
Ushers	Richard Delap David Potts Don Todd Russ Wise
Fellowship Hosts	Chris and Dean Nix, Rosa Waldrop
Video	Henry Wilcox
Audio	Gregg Alley

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

## WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

*Please stand as able*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who greets us in this and every season,  
whose word never fails,  
whose promise is sure.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have hurt our community.**

**We have squandered your blessings.**

**We have hoarded your bounty.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Righteous God,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have failed to be honest.**

**We have lacked the courage to speak.**

**We have spoken falsely.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.

God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy:

you are freed and forgiven

in the name of † Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**You are holy, you are whole. You are always ever more  
than we ever understand. You are always at hand.  
Blessed are you coming near. Blessed are you coming here  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.**

**You are holy, you are wholeness,  
you are present. Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!  
Sing hosanna in the highest!  
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God!**

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.**

KYRIE



*Refrain*

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for  
hun-gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam-i-ly; for  
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus-tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,



*Refrain*

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 44:6-8

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>6</sup>Thus says our God, the Ruler and Redeemer of Israel,  
the LORD God of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last;  
besides me there is no god.

<sup>7</sup>Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,  
let them declare and set it forth before me.  
Who has announced from of old the things to come?  
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

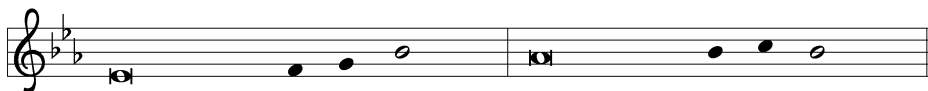
<sup>8</sup>Do not fear, or be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
You are my witnesses!  
Is there any god besides me?  
There is no other rock; I know not one.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth.

*Psalm  
Tone*

- <sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk | in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart to re- | vere your name.
- <sup>12</sup>**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with | all my heart,  
and glorify your name for- | evermore. R**
- <sup>13</sup>For great is your | love toward me;  
you have delivered me from the | pit of death.
- <sup>14</sup>**The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people | seeks my  
life;  
they have not set you be- | fore their eyes.**
- <sup>15</sup>But you, O Lord, are gracious and full | of compassion,  
slow to anger, and full of kind- | ness and truth.
- <sup>16</sup>**Turn to me and have mer- | cy on me;  
give your strength to your servant, and save the child | of your handmaid.**
- <sup>17</sup>Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be | put  
to shame;  
because you, LORD, have helped me and com- | forted me. **R**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. <sup>18</sup>I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Blalock

*Please stand as able*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew the thirteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup>Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;<sup>25</sup>but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup>And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup>He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup>But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup>He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Chosen One; <sup>38</sup>the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.

<sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Chosen One will send the angels, and they will collect out of this kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup>and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their God. Let anyone with ears listen!”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

SERMON

Pastor Blalock

*Please stand as able*

**Oh, happy day when we shall stand amid the  
heav'nly throng; and sing with hosts from ev'ry land the  
new celestial song, the new celestial song.**

**Oh, blessed day when Christ shall come and show himself  
as Lord, and thousands meet in their new home which  
Jesus has prepared, which Jesus has prepared.**

**Oh, what a mighty rushing flood of joy and  
love and peace will roll down over us with good and  
blessedness and grace, and blessedness and grace.**

**O Lord, your grace is ev'rything; your love has  
made us free to stand among the saints and sing the  
glory that we see, the glory that we see.**

## APOSTLES' CREED

**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

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

O God, you call your church to announce the gospel of reconciliation and truth both near and far. Guide your church as it seeks your wisdom and shares it, trusting your Spirit bearing witness among us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You brought forth all creation and called it good. Direct policymakers to protect lands and seas. Bring rain to sun-parched fields and protect areas impacted by natural disasters. Protect communities and land suffering from the impacts of wildfires in Canada and Greece and bring clean air to regions facing compromised air quality. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You desire peace among nations and peoples. Guard our neighborhoods from hatred, watch over police officers and firefighters, and teach us to advocate for those who live in fear. Help your people find a way to live more peaceably, bringing an end to conflicts in Ukraine, Ethiopia, Syria, and all other places where there is unrest. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You are gracious and merciful, comforting those who suffer any affliction. Sustain your people living with HIV/ AIDS. Provide shelter for all who are unhoused, especially queer youth, those fleeing from violence, and the formerly incarcerated. Release any who are unjustly imprisoned. Make your presence known to the sick, the grieving, the dying, and all those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You name each of us as your children. Guide our hospitality ministry to welcome all, our education ministry to equip us for faithful living, our queer ministry to extend your radical love, our children and youth ministry to build up Christ-like young people, and our outreach ministry to enact the gospel in our community. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You send faithful people to proclaim freedom from bondage and to renew your church. Encourage us by the witness of the faithful departed so that we live into that same hope. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.*

*Please be seated*

MEAL

ANTHEM

*We Plow the Fields and Scatter*  
by Luis Olivieri

Bob and Sheryl Schirmer

*Please stand as able.*

OFFERING HYMN

*Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*  
(verses 1 and 2)

#864

**Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; joyfully your tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God's praises sing.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praises everlasting ring!**

**God be praised for grace and favor to our forebears in distress.  
God be praised the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious is God's faithfulness!**

Let us pray. God of field and forest, sea and sky,

**you are the giver of all good things.**

**Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,**

**and multiply your graciousness in us,**

**that the world may be fed with your love,**

**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**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:



The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a soprano voice. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, 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.**

## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

*Please be seated*

## 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.*

*Gluten free wafers are available.*

*Worshipers are invited to come to the Altar-kneeling as able to receive a wafer and a small cup of wine.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou has been, thou forever wilt be.**

*Refrain*

***Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.***

**Summer and winter and spring-time and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain***

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain***

*Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth*

#735

**Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world. Creator, source of ev'ry breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.**

**Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light, grain of life, and grape of love, your very body for my peace.**

**Mothering Spirit, nurt'ring one, in arms of patience hold me close, so that in faith I root and grow until I flow'r, until I know.**



**O Holy Spirit, enter in, and in our hearts your work begin, and make our hearts your dwelling. Sun of the soul, O light divine, around and in us brightly shine, your strength in us upwelling. In your radiance life from heaven now is given overflowing, gift of gifts beyond all knowing.**

**Left to ourselves, we surely stray; oh, lead us on the narrow way, with wisest counsel guide us; and give us steadfastness, that we may follow you forever free, no matter who derides us. Gently heal those hearts now broken; give some token you are near us, whom we trust to light and cheer us.**

**O mighty Rock, O Source of life, let your good Word in doubt and strife be in us strongly burning, that we be faithful unto death and live in love and holy faith, from you true wisdom learning. Lord, your mercy on us shower; by your power Christ confessing, we will cherish all your blessing.**

*Please stand as able*

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

**Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We thank you, generous God,  
for the refreshment we have received  
at your banquet table.

Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,  
through the one who is our dearest treasure,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos  
and speaks in the smallest seed

✠ bless, keep, and sustain you  
now and to the end of the age.

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*To Be Your Presence*

#546

**To be your presence is our mission here, to show compassion's  
face and list'ning ear, to be your heart of mercy ever near, alleluia!**

**To be your presence is our mission bold, to feed the poor and  
shelter homeless cold, to be your hands of justice, right uphold, alleluia!**

**To be your presence is our mission blest, to speak for all the broken  
and oppressed, to be your voice of hope, your love expressed, alleluia!**

**We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your people is  
our call and choice, and in this mission we, the church, rejoice, alleluia!**

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Everyone is invited to gather on the front lawn  
following worship for refreshments and fellowship.*

*You are Holy*

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*Mothering God, You Gave me Birth*

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*Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand*

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## CHURCH STAFF

Susan J. Crowell  
Senior Pastor

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

Amy R. Brown, Deacon  
Director of  
Educational Ministries

Patrick D. Preacher  
Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator

Angie H. McCormack  
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Kay M. Cook  
Office Manager

Henry W. Wilcox  
Accountant and  
Digital Media Manager

Karen M. Craig  
Administrative Assistant

Roy L. Cook  
Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald  
Nursery Attendant

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## CHURCH COUNCIL

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Wynne Boliek

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Debbie Farstad

Greg Hamluk

Calvin Harmon

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