



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 15, 2024 - 10:00 AM - in the Gym

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 memory of his mother, Tina, and in honor of Grayson's birth mother, Anna, by the Preacher Family.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister	Susan Crowell
Assisting Minister and Preaching	Patrick Preacher
Pianist and Choir Director	Jim Parham
Lector	Josh Warner
Prayers	Austin Blythe
Communion Assistant	Jaimee Chapman
Cantor	Patrick Morgan
Acolyte	Harper Roth
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Mark Allen Maggie Boliek Zerle Hubbard
Nursery	Melissa Kolb
Praying for Possibilities	Teresa Harrington
Greeters	Mark Allen Deirdre Hixson Lani Ludian Lisa Rehm John Roberts Maria Roberts
Ushers	Steve Boguski Richard Delap Carol Elliott Teresa Harrington
Fellowship Hosts	Austin Blythe Carl Witherspoon
Video Audio	Henry Wilcox Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

TEMPLE TALK First Fruits Angie Hager

Please stand as able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Gracious God.

have mercy on us.

We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but often fail to share the gifts you have abundantly bestowed upon us. We are quick to believe the lie of scarcity the world has taught us. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. We hoard up riches and treasures for ourselves. In our fear and doubt, we have held back our gifts of time and talent, often feeling that what we have to offer is unworthy. We have forsaken our call to steward your creation with love, care, and attention. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the generous way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Silence for reflection and personal confession

Beloved of God,

hear the good news of the gospel:

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Through his death and resurrection, you are reconciled.

Receive the forgiveness that Christ offers.

Continue in the assurance of God's grace.

Amen.

As saints of old their first fruits brought of orchard, flock, and field to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield, so we today first fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land, of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.

A world in need now summons us to labor, love, and give; to make our life an offering to God, that all may live. The church of Christ is calling us to make the dream come true: a world redeemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.

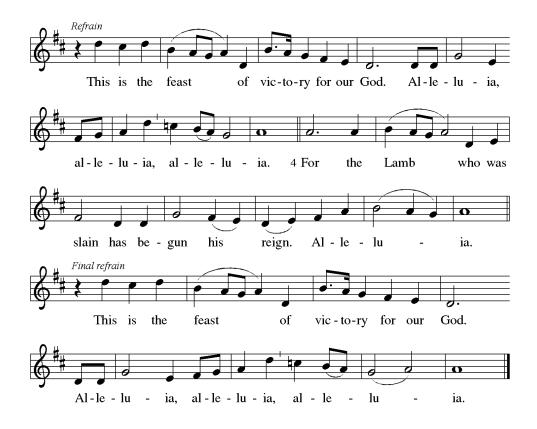
In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way. O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son, teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

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

Let us pray. Generous and gracious God, your love, grace, and mercy transcend our understanding. In your economy, there is only abundance. All things, great and small, are made new and worthy in Christ. Guide our hearts as they try to comprehend and reflect your abundance. Help us to give generously of that which you have given us, trusting that your providence is steady and faithful. When we doubt the worth of our own gifts, abilities, and being, lead us again to your cross, guiding us to recall the sacrificial gift you so freely laid down for us. With our hearts and minds on Jesus, we pray.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING 1 Chronicles 29:10-16

A reading from first Chronicles.

¹⁰Then David blessed the LORD in the presence of all the assembly; David said: "Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of our ancestor Israel, forever and ever. ¹¹Yours, O LORD, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. ¹²Riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. ¹³And now, our God, we give thanks to you and praise your glorious name. ¹⁴But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. ¹⁵For we are strangers and wanderers before you, as were all our ancestors; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope. ¹⁶O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The refrain is introduced by the cantor Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction





¹I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice, and listened to my | supplication,

²for the LORD has given | ear to me whenev- | er I called.

 3 The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave † came upon me; I came to † grief and sorrow.

⁴Then I called upon the name | of the LORD:

"O LORD, I pray you, | save my life." R

⁵Gracious is the | LORD and righteous; our God is full | of compassion.

6The LORD watches o- | ver the innocent; I was brought low, | and God saved me.

⁷Turn again to your rest, | O my soul. for the LORD has dealt | well with you.

8For you have rescued my | life from death, my eyes from tears, and my | feet from stumbling;

⁹I will walk in the presence | of the LORD in the land | of the living. **R**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

A reading from second Corinthians.

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

"God scatters abroad and gives to the poor;

God's righteousness endures forever."

¹⁰The One who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the fruits of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God.

The Word of God for the people of God.

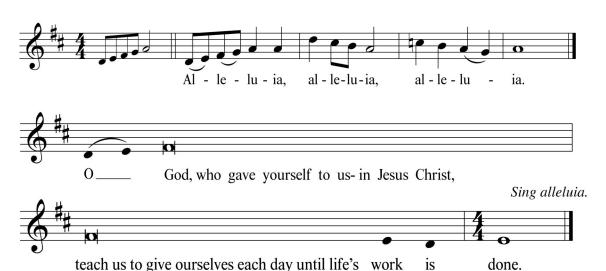
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Every Piece Counts

Please stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Mark 12:41-44

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark the twelfth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴¹Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

A Tale of Three Women

Please stand as able

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be

#583

Refrain

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee. Refrain

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. Refrain

Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my king; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee. Refrain

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine; take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne. Refrain

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit with praise for the gifts God has given us, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar. When the work to which you call us proves challenging and difficult, bestow upon us a renewed resolve to dedicate our energy and resources to you. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the earth and all its inhabitants. Protect lands at risk of wildfire and heal dying forests. Where fire brings destruction, raise up new growth. Guide us in tending precarious ecosystems. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with hunger and housing insecurity. In times of conflict and political turmoil, calm and quiet us as a mother holds her children close, reminding us that all people have refuge in the shadow of your wings. Spread over us the shelter of your peace. Hold before us the wisdom of your cross, where we are drawn to you not by might or power, but by your boundless love and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

We pray for Greenville's interfaith justice ministry, GOAL, as it begins its third year of action and ministry. Bless and support all staff, board members, team leaders, house meetings, and network members. Open and soften the hearts of community leaders as GOAL approaches them with calls for action and justice. Grant courage to all who work to upset the status quo. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve. Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... During this Suicide Prevention Month, bring healing and hope to all who have been affected by suicide. Quiet the minds of those of us struggling under the burden of poor mental health. Continue to make a way for community resources such as the 988 Hotline to be available to all in need. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and authenticity. Protect educators who seek new ways to nurture queer youth and children from queer families in the midst of public educational environments that continue to grow more hostile to diversity and inclusion. God of all good gifts, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation as members seek to be generous stewards of our personal and communal financial resources, giving cheerfully to support your purpose. May our giving be a reflection of love and a sign of our commitment as co-conspirators of the gospel. Bless and strengthen the many ministries and people each gift supports. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

We remember our beloved dead who with the great cloud of witnesses bear witness to your saving grace. Accompany us in our pilgrimage of faith, that we too place our hope and trust in you. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

May our lives be a testament to your goodness and grace, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Commissioning Service for GOAL Team Leaders at Trinity

I invite Trinity's team leaders for GOAL (Greenville Organized for Accountable Leadership) to come forward and gather around the baptismal font.

These persons have been lifted up to serve as team leaders at Trinity to help this congregation live out our baptismal call to work for peace and justice in the world. I invite each of you to raise your hand and wave as your name is read:

Tori Hilbourn Cathy O'Neill
Lane Lewis Margaret Roth
Angie McCormack Henry Workman

Hear what is written in scripture about the call to work for justice in the world:

Learn to do good! Search for justice and help the oppressed! Protect those who are orphaned and plead the case of those who are widowed. Isaiah 1:17

Listen, mortal: God has already made abundantly clear what good is, and what God needs from you: Simply do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. Micah 6:8

What does it take to persuade someone to risk comfort, security, convenience, and reputation in order to care for those who cannot possibly repay them? What does it take to move someone to engage in the potentially costly work of stepping into the gap, standing up to friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, entire systems of society for the sake of those suffering under the weight of oppression and injustice? What does it take to leverage one's time, resources, and power, not for one's benefit, but for the benefit of a stranger?

Justice is treating the problems of the oppressed and marginalized as our own. As Christians, we believe that there is no justice without Jesus. Through Jesus we have experienced the justice of God. God looked on us in our slavery to sin, and God provided for us by sending Jesus. We are empowered to do justice because we have received justice.

As a congregation, we along with 28 other faith communities are a part of GOAL, a justice ministry that is working to build people power in Greenville to bring about justice and equity for all.

Please stand as a sign of your support of these leaders and this ministry.

Tori, Lane, Angie, Cathy, Margaret, and Henry will you work to build the power of this congregation's justice ministry by engaging people to participate in house meetings and become network members? Will you represent Trinity at GOAL organizational meetings? Will you shepherd and lead the network members in our congregation as we do justice together?

If so, answer, Yes, with the help of God.

Yes, with the help of God.

People of God, Will you support and join these leaders in the work of justice in our congregation and in our community?

If so, answer, Yes, with the help of God.

Yes, with the help of God.

I declare you installed as justice leaders at Trinity. May God surround and fill you with the Holy Spirit that you may prove faithful servants of Christ. 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

ANTHEM

Consecration by Frances Havergal

Adult Choir

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee. Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use every power as thou shall choose.

Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine; take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne. Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Please stand as able

OFFERING HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

#182

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Let us pray, Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is 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, generous and merciful God, through the one who gave his own life for us, our Savior Jesus Christ. You placed us in a well-watered garden

and have entrusted us with its care.

You bless us with abundance.

though we often only choose scarcity.

At the right time, and as the greatest gift of all,

you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to show us the ways of your love.

He commanded us to bear fruit for the sake of your kin-dom.

By his death and resurrection,

we have been set free to serve the world,

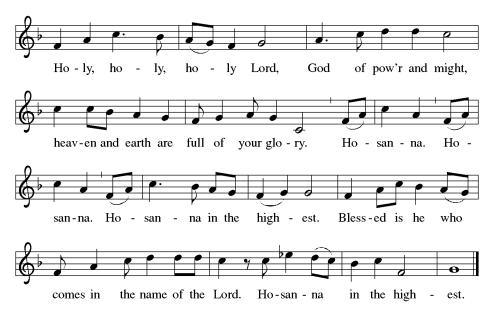
and granted eternal life in you.

And so with earth and sea and all their creatures,

with each breath you have given us,

resting in the peace and comfort of your promises,

we praise your name and join the unending hymn of heaven:



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.

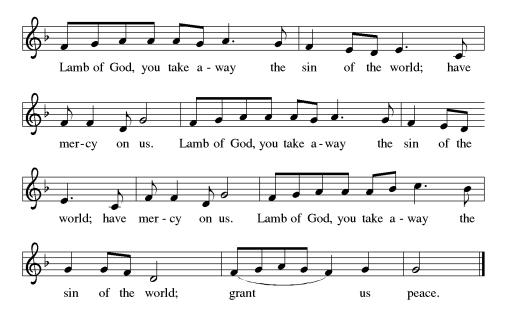
THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION
The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

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.

At the direction of the ushers, worshippers are invited to move to the front of the center aisle to dip the bread into the wine to receive Communion by intinction.



When the Poor Ones

#725

When the poor ones, who have nothing, still are giving; when the thirsty pass the cup, water to share; when the wounded offer others strength and healing:

Refrain

We see God, here by our side, walking our way; we see God, here by our side, walking our way.

When compassion gives the suffring consolation; when expecting brings to birth hope that was lost; when we choose love, not the hatred all around us: Refrain

When our spirits, like a chalice, brim with gladness; when our voices, full and clear, sing out the truth; when our longings, free from envy, seek the humble: Refrain

When goodness poured from heaven fills our dwellings; when the nations work to change war into peace; when the stranger is accepted as our neighbor: Refrain

Lord of glory, you have bought us with your lifeblood as the price, never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice; and with that have freely given blessings countless as the sand to the unthankful and the evil with your own unsparing hand.

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you gladly, freely, of your own. With the sunshine of your goodness melt our thankless hearts of stone till our cold and selfish natures, warmed by you, at length believe that more happy and more blessed 'tis to give than to receive.

Wondrous honor you have given to our humblest charity in your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it all to me." Naked, sick, in prison, hungry—in the least, your face we view, saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n you."

Lord of glory, you have bought us with your lifeblood as the price, never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice. Give us faith to trust you boldly, hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of all your graces, with your love our love renew.

Taste and See

#493

Refrain - All sing

Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord. Oh, taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Choir

I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall always be on my lips; my soul shall glory in the Lord; for God has been so good to me. *Refrain*

Choir

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us all praise God's name. I called the Lord, who answered me; from all my troubles I was set free. **Refrain**

Choir

Worship the Lord, all you people. You'll want for nothing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is good; in God we need put all our trust. **Refrain**

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
In our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others, to share the gifts you have so generously given us, and to extend your peace to the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May the light of Christ + shine brightly in and through you. May Christ's light help you light up the world.

Amen

SENDING HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

#677

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace.

Accept God's free gift of life and share the gift of the gospel with the world around you.

Thanks be to God.

Everyone is invited to gather in the back corner of the Gym following worship for refreshments and fellowship.

When the Pour Ones

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As Saints of Old

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Taste and See

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CHURCH STAFF

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