



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 8, 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 her father, William Conley Jumper, Sr., by Connie and Marcus Blackstone.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister and Preaching	Susan Crowell
Assisting Minister	Patrick Preacher
Pianist and Choir Director	Jim Parham
Lector	Patrick Morgan
Prayers	Penny Bostain
Communion Assistant	Tenor Eggleston
Cantor	Richard Moose
Acolyte	Jenna Mast
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Amanda Cook Debbie Farstad Anne Harmon
Nursery	Nell Orscheln
Praying for Possibilities	Deirdre Hixson
Greeters	Mark Allen Bonnie Farmer Cathy O'Neill Pat O'Neill Lisa Rehm
Ushers	Danny Fagala Lani Ludian Pattimarie Janssen Bradley Suddeth
Fellowship Hosts	James Ellis Griffeth Elizabeth Thompson
Video Audio	Henry Wilcox Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

TEMPLE TALK First Fruits Amanda Cook

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.

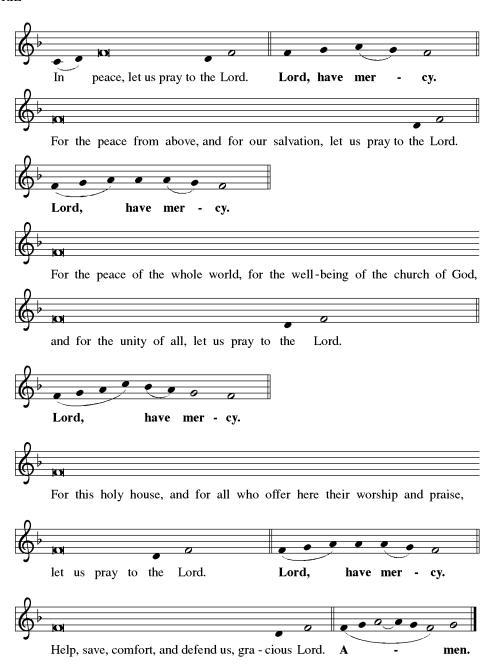
As saints of old their first fruits brought of orchard, flock, and field to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield, so we today first fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land, of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.

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.

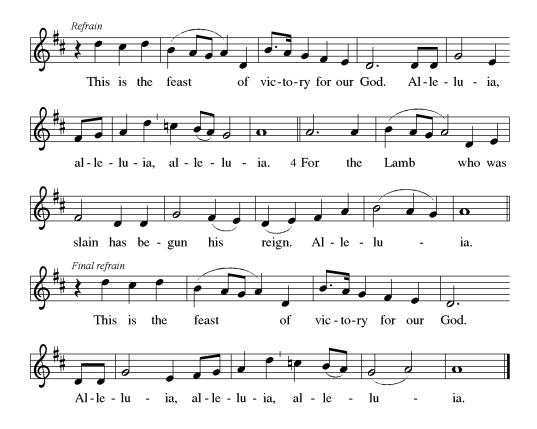
In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way. O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son, teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

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. God of grace, you created us in your image, you filled us with love and light, and you called each and every one of us very good. Help us to claim the light of Christ that burns so brightly in each of us. Give us the courage and the faith to reflect that light into the world, through Jesus Christ, the giver of light.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING Genesis 1:28-31

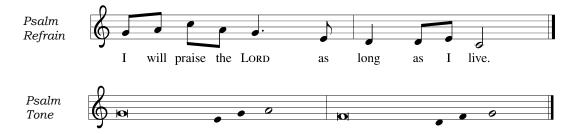
A reading from Genesis.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good.

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



- ¹ Hal- ∣ lelujah!
 - Praise the LORD, | O my soul!
- ² I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;
 I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.
- ³ Put not your | trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there | is no help.
- When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth, and in that day | their thoughts perish. R
- ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help, whose hope is in the | LORD their God;
- 6 who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that I is in them; who keeps promis- I es forever;
- ⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to ∣ those who hunger. The LORD sets the ∣ captive free.
- ⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down; the LORD | loves the righteous. R
- ⁹The LORD cares | for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.
- 10 The LORD shall | reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah! R

SECOND READING

James 2:1-10, 14-17

A reading from James.

¹My siblings in Christ, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, 3 and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," 4have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? 5Listen, my beloved siblings. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kin-dom that Christ has promised to those who love him? 6But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? 7Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? 8You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. 14What good is it, siblings in Christ, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? 15If a sibling is naked and lacks daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Word of God for the people of God.

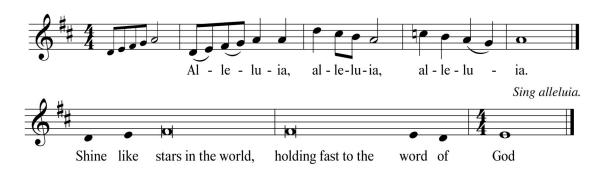
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Everybody Shines!

Please stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Matthew 5:13-16

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew the fifth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: ¹³"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Abba God in heaven".

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

The Radiant Life God Calls Us to Live

Please stand as able

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ, Be Our Light

#715

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. Refrain

Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. Refrain

Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. Refrain

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come. Refrain

Apostles' CREED

God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we 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

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.

Awaken in our communities of faith a spirit of radical hospitality. Encourage our churches to celebrate and embrace people of diverse backgrounds, gender identities, sexual orientations, experiences, and abilities. Deepen our commitment to community and social justice organizations, strengthening our work with GOAL Justice, United Ministries, and the Queer Wellness Center. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

Bring forth water to nourish plants and animals in places suffering from drought. Renew our commitments to protect rivers, lakes, and streams, and make us good stewards of water in our homes and communities. Remind us not to take for granted the gift of clean water and make a way for all people and living things to have easy access to safe drinking water. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

Inspire leaders of cities, nations, and tribes to lead with wisdom and humility. Bring peace among peoples in conflict, especially in Israel and Gaza. Grant the comfort and peace only you can bring to the families grieving the loss of loved ones as this conflict rages on. Strengthen global commitments to nonviolent solutions not only in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, and Russia, but in all places, present and future, where war threatens your peace. Guide all who seek refuge from war to a safe haven. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

Comfort all who live with chronic illness. Surround them in your tender embrace and sustain those who provide ongoing care and support. Bring hope and healing to people struggling with addiction and nourish the spirits of all who are in recovery. Bless addiction support groups in the Greenville community and continue to make help accessible for all people. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

Nurture in all people the gift of your creating Spirit. Inspire artists, musicians, woodworkers, potters, crafters, poets, and dancers. Revive those whose artistic wells have run dry and enliven all of us who doubt our creative talents to explore the gifts you have given us for the sake of your kin-dom. Continue making a way for those on the margins to gain access to the gift of time and resources needed to explore creative pursuits. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

Inspire this congregation with visions of your dream and the knowledge that you call us to do our part to enact your dream on earth. We come to you with thanks for all you have given us, knowing that all we have comes from you. Help us to recognize the importance of stewardship in our lives, not storing up our time, talents, and treasures, but investing them in your mission and ministry, for the sake of your gospel. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

Heal those who grieve and suffer in the wake of tragedy. Surround Apalachee High School and the community of Winder, Georgia with the comfort of your presence and love as they face the aftermath of our country's most recent school shooting. Shine the light of your resurrection hope upon families and friends mourning the deaths of Richard, Mason, Christina, and Christian. Change the hearts and minds of parents and leaders so that they might turn their focus away from trying to limit student access to certain books, and instead center their efforts on policy and change that will limit access to assault weapons. God of all good gifts,

hear our prayer.

We give you thanks for all who have died and now find their rest in you. May their faithful witness guide us in our daily life with 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.

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

Rise Shine You People

Adult Choir

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered our human story; God in him is centered. He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling; he brings us freedom, light and life and healing. All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling, your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling. To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.

Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.

Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us. Tell how the

Spirit calls from ev'ry nation God's new creation.

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,

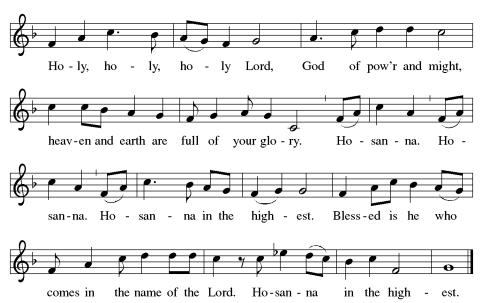
and granted eternal life in you.

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.

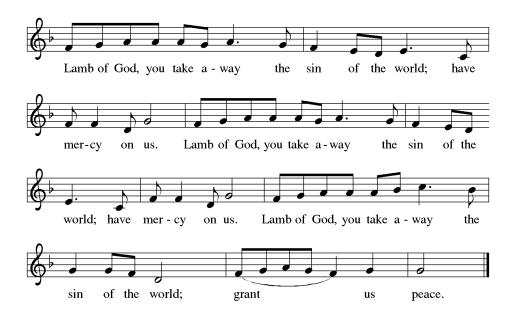
Thanks be to God!

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.



Shine, Jesus, Shine

#671

Refrain

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory; blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy; send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining; Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us.

Shine on me, shine on me: Refrain

As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness, ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.

Shine on me, shine on me: Refrain

Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all people's dignity. Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs; the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!

We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

Love grows in a weary world when hungry hearts find bread and children's dreams are fed. Love grows in a weary world: the promised feast of plenty comes. Refrain

Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn. Hope blooms in a weary world: the promised green of Eden comes. Refrain

Thy Word

Music by Michael Smith, Words by Amy Grant

Refrain All sing.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Verse 1 Choir

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me. Nothing will I fear, as long as you are near. Please, be near me to the end. **Refrain**

Verse 2 Choir

I will not forget your love for me, and yet my heart forever is wandering. Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and I will love you to the end. *Refrain*

We are	marching	in the	light	of God,	we are	marching	in	the	light	of	God.
We are	marching	in the	light	of God,	we are	marching	in	the	light	of	God.

We are marching—— oo——
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching—— oo——
we are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God. We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God.

> We are dancing—— oo— we are dancing in the light of God. We are dancing—— oo— we are dancing in the light of God.

We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God. We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God.

We are praying—— oo— we are praying in the light of God. We are praying—— oo— we are praying in the light of God.

We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God. We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God.

We are singing—— oo— we are singing in the light of God. We are singing—— oo— we are singing in the light of 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.

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.

Go out into the world and love the people you meet. Let your presence light new light in the hearts of others. Go out into the world and let your light shine.

Thanks be to God.

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

Christ, Be Our Light

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CHURCH STAFF

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Angie H. McCormack Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

> 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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Treasurer

Danny Fagala

Greg Hamluk Calvin Harmon

Lindsay Hawkins

Deirdre Hixson Dean Hybl

John Otten

Donna Potts Secretary

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Kerry Sease Chris Sorenson

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