



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH 1909

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rays of Kindness

Let's let ourselves imagine a world
where kindness becomes the water
we drink, the air we breathe, the ground
we walk on, the seeds we sow—
the river that flows through everything.
Let's pledge our allegiance to kindness,
cast our vote for kindness, worship
kindness—allow kindness to become
our north star, our guiding light,
the way to measure success,
the only meaning of right—
the compliment, the warm smile,
one hand reaching for another, rays
of kindness that reach out
and out and out—sky
that opens wide and waters
every parched inch
of this holy, hurting world.

Poem by Julia Fehrenbacher



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

08.16.2026 | 10:00 am | trinitylutheran.ws

Welcome to Trinity!

A place of love, grace, and belonging, where all, without exception, are loved, honored, valued, affirmed, welcomed, and celebrated.

If we can make you feel more at home, please speak to an usher or greeter.

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

ADULTS & CHILDREN

Worship Bags are available in the Narthex or the Gym for children. Bags for preschoolers are tied with a white ribbon. Bags for elementary age children have no ribbon. After worship, used bags may be placed in the baskets next to the stands.

A nursery hosted by a member of the Trinity staff, Beth Oswald, as well as a small group of rotating volunteers who have been trained in Trinity's Child Protection Policy is available each Sunday morning beginning at 9:45 am to care for infants and toddlers who would prefer enjoying play time instead of attending 10:00 am worship. The nursery is located on the first floor of the Pence Building. Please reach out to a greeter or usher if you need assistance.

PRAYING WITH US

We encourage you to participate fully in our service, as you are comfortable. We invite you to read aloud the **bold text**. Wherever you see ✠, you are invited to cross yourself. Other actions are indicated during the service, but none are required.

LET'S GET CONNECTED

If you are new to Trinity, we are thrilled to have you here. If you would like to know more about this congregation and our ministry please share your contact information with us by filling out a Connection Card which can be obtained from the pew racks or baskets. Thank you for your presence among us.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our great-grandson, James Elliott Greer, by David and Karen Nichols.

Serving Today

Susan Crowell
Preaching

Patrick Preacher
Presiding

Frank Griffin
Pianist

Lector
Austin Blythe

Prayers
Shane Smithman

Cantor/Soloists
Lani and Russ Wise

Guitar
Duke Barsody

Bass
Brian Goodlett

Percussion
John Beckford

Communion Assistants
Clayton Dykes, Dovie Dykes

Acolytes
Parker Sherwood

Children's Worship Opportunity
Chris Barsody, Suzanne Rudisill

Nursery
Beth Oswald, Margaret Roth

Praying for Possibilities
Lani Ludian

Refreshment Host
Carl and Debbie Brune

Greeters
Mark Allen, Amanda Cook,
Cathy O'Neill, Pat O'Neill,
Lani Ludian

Ushers
Richard Delap, David Nichols,
Karen Nichols, Pattimarie Janssen

Video
Kellie Fontecchio

Audio
Gregg Alley



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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God Welcomes All

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you're able.

We gather in the name of ☩ Source, Word, and Breath,
who blesses us with life, love, and sacred rest.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace and love,
**You breathe your Spirit into our weary lives,
yet we resist your movement among us.
We cling to schedules that exhaust us,
traditions that no longer have meaning,
old ways of being and thinking that burden and oppress.
We have turned away from neighbors in pain,
avoided difficult truths,
prioritized our comfort over the comfort of others,
and isolated ourselves from your beloved community.
Forgive us when fear narrows our hearts,
when we forget that your Spirit creates belonging, not barriers.
Restore in us the courage to seek justice,
the humility to listen deeply,
and the wisdom to practice sacred rest for ourselves and for this hurting
world. Amen.**

Beloved of God,
You are forgiven and made new.
You are released from shame and invited into grace.
You are not defined by exhaustion, fear, and failure,
but by the boundless grace of God.
The Holy Spirit is at work among you;
mending what is broken,
granting life and liberation,
and calling you into sacred rest.
So rise in hope.
Rest in God's love.
And live ☩ as people renewed by the Spirit.
Amen.

In the confession we admit the ways we have not lived as we were created to live, both individually, and corporately, and ask for forgiveness. The pastor declares to us the wonderful grace of God's promise of forgiveness, reconciliation, and the absolute remission of guilt.

GATHERING HYMN

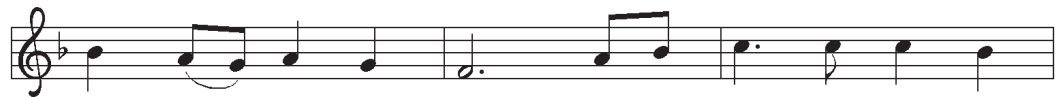
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Refrain
 Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit is 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.

Kyrie eleison, "Lord, have mercy," is one of the oldest sung prayers in Christian worship. Rooted in the cries of healing and welcome scattered throughout the Gospels, the Kyrie is less a confession of guilt than a bold, trusting plea. We sing it together as the body of Christ, lifting the needs of the world and leaning into the promise that God always draws near to those who call. This setting is particularly joyful, reminding us that God's mercy and compassion is a thing to pray for and celebrate.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord is with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of boundless wisdom, you meet us in conversations that unsettle us, in questions that stretch us, and in encounters that invite us beyond the limits of what we thought we knew. In Jesus, we see the courage to listen deeply, to receive the truth spoken by one whose voice had been ignored, and to allow compassion to widen the circle of belonging. Teach us that genuine wisdom is never finished, but is always growing through curiosity, humility, and love.

The prayer of the day covers the wide variety of human longing and responsibilities of the church and humanity.

When we are challenged by unfamiliar voices, grant us the courage to listen before we defend, to learn before we judge, and to change whenever love calls us into a deeper truth. Lead us together into the future your Spirit is still creating, through Jesus Christ, whose love continues to surprise, transform, and renew the world.

Amen.

Please be seated.

God Speaks to Us Through a Living Word

THE READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A reading from Romans.

So let us be clear: God has not rejected the people whom Love first called into being. Absolutely not. God has never abandoned those who have been held in covenant from the very beginning.

For the gifts of God and God's calling are never taken back. Just as many of you once lived unaware of God's mercy, yet have now encountered compassion because others stumbled along the way, so those who seem distant now are not beyond the reach of that same mercy.

God's compassion is not a limited resource; it continues to widen until all have the opportunity to receive it. For God has allowed every one of us to experience the limits of our own understanding, our own self-reliance, and our own separation, so that every one of us might discover the immeasurable depth of divine mercy and love.

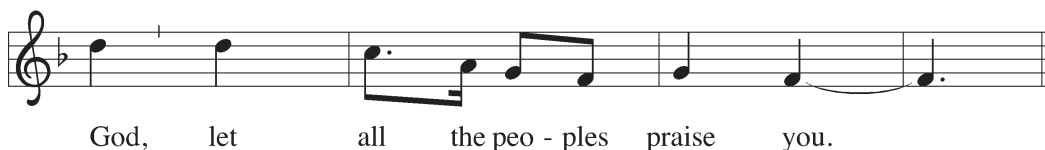
This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

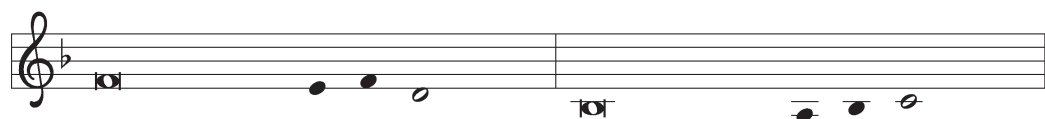
PSALM

Psalms 67

Psalm Refrain



Psalm Tone



We follow a three year cycle of readings called a Lectionary. These are lessons being heard in congregations from many denominations throughout the world on this day.

The Psalm is a hymn or poem. The psalms cover the whole range of the relationship between God and God's people. The Book of Psalms, while a "book" of the Bible, consists of 150 hymns intended to be sung.



- ¹ May God be merciful to | us and bless us;
may the light of God's face | shine upon us.
- ² **Let your way be known | upon earth,
your saving health a- | mong all nations.**
- ³ Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.
- ⁴ **Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the na- | tions on earth. R**
- ⁵ Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.
- ⁶ **The earth has brought | forth its increase;
God, our own | God, has blessed us.**
- ⁷ May God | give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe. **R**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Kindness Makes Room

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand as able.

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.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

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

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But Jesus did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged Jesus, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ Jesus answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him,

During worship, there is always a reading from a Gospel. We stand to indicate the importance we place on Jesus' words and actions.

saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

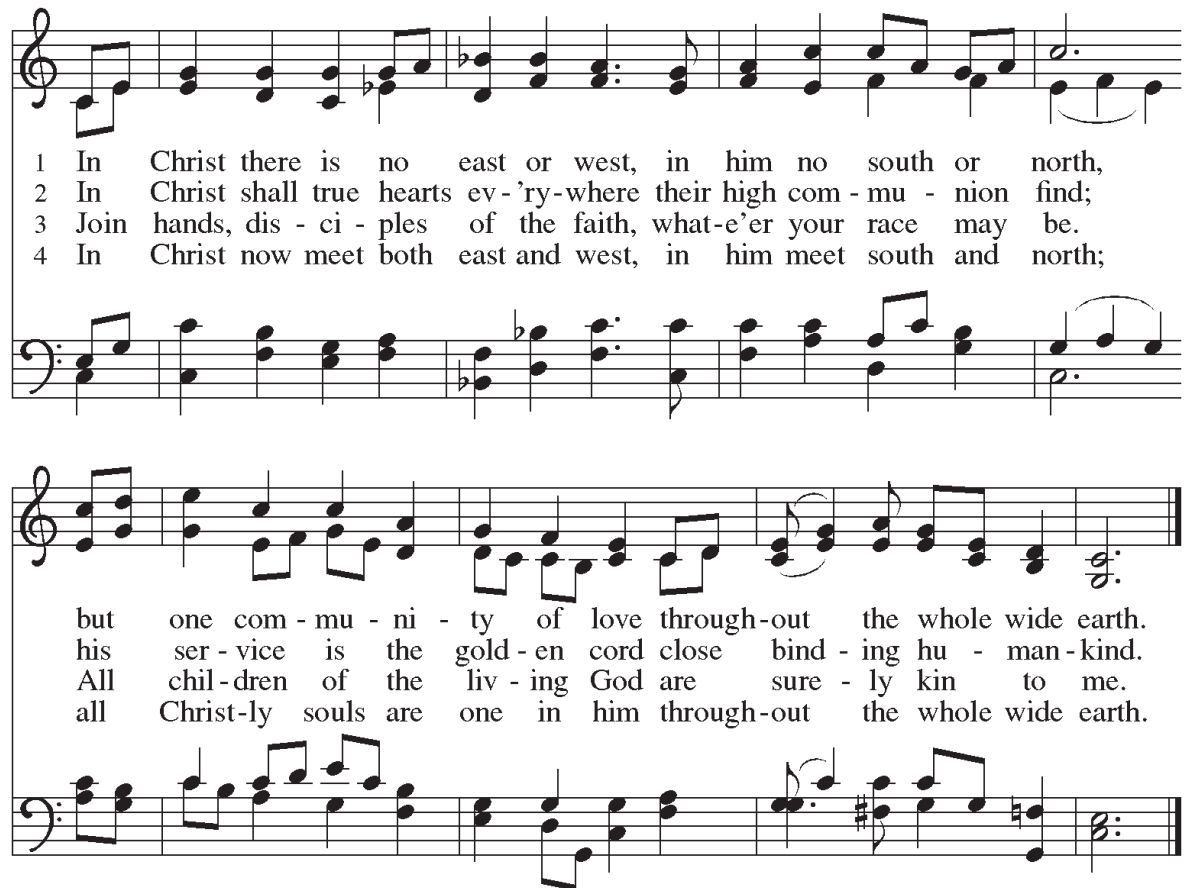
SERMON

Jesus: The Teacher and the Learner

HYMN OF THE DAY

Please stand as able.

In Christ There Is No East or West



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;

but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close bind-ing hu-man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949



APOSTLE'S 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

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need,
and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Unconquerable God, gather your church scattered across every nation and tongue
into one body streaming toward your holy mountain. Give wisdom, stamina,
and prophetic courage to Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, Retiring Bishop Ginny
Aebischer and to Bishop-elect Wade Roof of our South Carolina Synod, that they
shepherd this kin-dom people with humility and hold fast to the gospel even when
it is costly. God who welcomes those the world sends away,
receive our prayer.

Path-forging God, your fragile and wondrous creation groans for stewards brave
enough to defend it against carelessness and greed. Keep watch over the black
rhino, the vaquita porpoise, the Amur leopard, and the hawksbill sea turtle —
creatures who cannot lobby for their own survival — and give us hands willing
to protect what you have called good. God who welcomes those the world sends
away,
receive our prayer.

For the nations of the world and all who hold earthly power: give them ears
tuned to the cry of the outcast and hands quick to serve the vulnerable rather
than themselves. Grant wisdom to leaders of governments, congregations, and
communities, that they govern and lead as though the least among us were the

In the Apostles' Creed, we respond to the proclamation of God's Word by confessing the faith that has been handed down through generations of Christians. We "believe" (from the Latin *credere*, meaning "to put one's heart into") as an act of trust in the story of God's creating love, redeeming work in Jesus Christ, and life-giving presence through the Holy Spirit. We say "I believe" not as an isolated individual, but as one held within the faith of the whole church, the Body of Christ, which supports and strengthens us when our own faith feels fragile. When it is not capitalized, the word "catholic" means universal—affirming that this faith belongs to the whole people of God, in all times and places.

The Prayers of Intercession are always responsive, because everyone gives voice to the supplications. We include prayers for others throughout the world, in our Synod, and those connected to our congregation.

measure of their success. God who welcomes those the world sends away,
receive our prayer.

Liberating God, we lift up our Queer and Transgender siblings, who bear your image in the fullness of their authentic selves. Surround them with the plain and unmistakable welcome of this church, and strengthen the work of Uplift Outreach Center, Free Mom Hugs, The Queer Wellness Center, and AID Upstate who tend to bodies and spirits this world too often abandons. Give lawmakers and neighbors alike the will to protect their safety, dignity, and rights. God who welcomes those the world sends away,
receive our prayer.

For all who are lonely, grieving, or carrying chronic pain, and for every family who gathers around your table — biological, foster, adoptive, chosen, and Queer kinship alike: draw near with comfort, community, and hope. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts...God who welcomes those the world sends away,
receive our prayer.

For this congregation, and for every guest and newcomer who crosses our threshold: let us recognize the face of Christ in each new arrival. Knit this community together in love, and steady our faith when it flickers. God who welcomes those the world sends away,
receive our prayer.

We give thanks for all the saints who have claimed their baptismal promise and whose faithful witness still points us toward your kin-dom. As today marks what would be the 97th year of his birth, we give thanks especially for Wyatt Tee Walker — pastor, strategist, and chief of staff to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. — whose work organizing the Birmingham campaign and the March on Washington helped bend this nation toward justice. Remind us that your gifts and your call are irrevocable, in life and death. God who welcomes those the world sends away,
receive our prayer.

Receive these prayers and answer us according to your promise. Widen our table, sharpen our faith, and make us as persistent as the woman who would not leave without a blessing, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

A Blessing for Students and Teachers

All students, teachers, and school administrators are invited to come and gather with us at the baptismal font.

These first days of school are behind us now — the new hallways are a little more familiar, the new names a little easier to say. We give God thanks for the students settling into who they are becoming this school year. Each of you will be challenged over these 180 days of school. In the midst of those challenges, our prayer for you is that you will always choose love and do your best to be kind.

God will give you the courage to wave a new kid over to their lunch table instead of leaving them to eat alone. May you have the imagination to widen a friend group rather than guard it — to notice who is sitting by themselves and go sit there too.



Do your best to use words that build up, not tear down, ask God for the wisdom to know that a kind word costs nothing and might be the only one someone hears all day.

We honor the teachers and school staff — the ones who spent their own money before the first bell rang, who are staying late for a kid who needs a little extra patience, and might be creating the only safe space a child has in their life. Our enduring hope for each of you is what no professional development day ever has: real rest, real renewal, and the freedom to teach without fear.

Students, remember that a thank-you note, a kind word, or simply paying attention in class is its own small gift back to a teacher who is often pouring out more than they receive. We dedicate each school supply to God's work of abundance — God who fed five thousand with a child's lunch, and filled empty jars with oil that did not run out. God will multiply what looks small. May each pencil remind students to notice who around them might be going without.

Students, teachers, and worried parents, remember that God has always made a way for those on the margins. God walked as a pillar of fire with the Israelites to freedom, and so does God in Christ walk down hallways and into classes with students who are vulnerable to bullying and are worried they may not belong because of their differences.

As a reminder that God is always with you and that you can be a Christlight in your kindness, we gift each of you with this simple keyring for your backpack, keys, or some other place where you might see it often.

Remember this:

In a world where you can be anything, be kind!

School supply pouches and key rings are given to students and teachers.

Will you receive this blessing?

We accept this blessing, and we allow this encouragement and affirmation to wash over us, to fill our cups, and to give us strength as we continue to move into this new school year.

Please stand as able.

Let us pray.

Path-forging God, help each school community — students, teachers, and families alike — to make sure that no one wonders whether they belong and matter. Let every hallway, cafeteria table, and classroom be a place where someone looks up, notices, and makes room for another. Help each of us to choose kindness and love above all. We pray especially for those gathered here in this circle of love and care.
Amen.

God who shelters the vulnerable under your wing,

Protect these children, renew these teachers, and let every classroom become a refuge for all, no exceptions, where kindness is always present. Amen.

The Peace has been exchanged in worship since the time of the first Christians. It is a profound act to offer the miraculous peace of God to one another before we join in communion with God and each other.

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.

God Invites Us to the Table

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Need Thee Every Hour

Music: NEED by Robert Lowry, arranged by John Ness Beck
Text: Annie S. Hawkins

*I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine can peace afford.
I need thee, O I need thee; every hour I need thee!
O bless me now, my savior, I come to Thee.
I need thee, O I need thee; every hour I need thee!
O bless me now, my savior, I come to thee.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

The Offertory is when we bring our gifts of bread, wine, money, and our very selves to present to God as our initial act of thanksgiving. This collection is a visible reminder that our whole lives are God's, and a part of what God has given us we give back in thanksgiving for all that we have and all that we are. Financial contributions can be placed in the offering plates during worship, mailed to the church, or given electronically by going to our website trinitylutheran.ws, by scanning the QR code, or texting TLCGIVE to 73256.





OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of wind and flame,

You gather us from many stories and make us one body in Christ.

**In this season of Pentecost, you breathe your Spirit into weary places,
calling your church to lives of courage, compassion, and justice.**

Receive these gifts we bring today.

May they become shelter for the excluded,

welcome for the stranger,

belonging for those who have been pushed to the margins,

and invitation to all who long for connection and community.

**Help us to honor every language, cherish every body, and invite every person
to your table of grace. Use us to heal, feed, comfort, and liberate your beloved
world. Amen.**

THE 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 our duty and joy to offer thanks and praise to our savior, Jesus Christ,
who at this table gathers people from every nation, language, identity, and story
into one beloved community.

In the rush of wind and flame at Pentecost,
the Spirit broke down the walls that divide
and created a new way of belonging.

As we share this feast, unbind us from fear and prejudice.

Open our hearts to listen deeply, love boldly, and serve courageously.

Send us from this table renewed for the work of reconciliation and liberation
so that our lives may proclaim the inclusive gospel of Christ in word and deed
through Jesus Christ who welcomes all to the table. And so with the church on
earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Sanctus (holy, holy, holy) recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, overwhelmed by the presence of God in the sanctuary, and these words were sung by the people as Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. The Sanctus reminds us that this is an offering of the whole creation, which joins in singing these praises.

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 for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Pour out your Spirit upon this bread and cup,
and upon all who gather here longing for welcome, healing, and hope.
Make this meal a living witness to your justice:
where the hungry are fed,
the excluded are embraced,
the weary find rest,
and all people are reminded of their sacred worth.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Holy Parent, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, 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. Both wine and grape juice are available in the split chalice— wine in the larger section and grape juice in the smaller section. Christ's grace and forgiveness is found in the bread, wine, and grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available.

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

COMMUNION MUSIC

Lamb of God

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.

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus gave to his followers when they asked him to teach them to pray. It links our daily bread to the spiritual food we receive in Communion. When we pray Holy Parent, we name what has always been true: God is not bound by gender, yet holds us with the fierce, tender love of every parent who has ever cherished a child. When we pray kin-dom, we reach for God's deepest dream: not a reign of power and hierarchy, but a beloved community where all belong, all are welcomed, and none are left outside.

In an effort to further embrace Trinity's mission of welcome, affirmation, and hospitality, both wine and grape juice are available in the split chalice.

We Are Marching in the Light of God

Siyahamba

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba oo
 We are march - ing oo

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
 We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - , kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Text: South African traditional; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
Tr. and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

Additional stanzas ad lib.

We are dancing ...

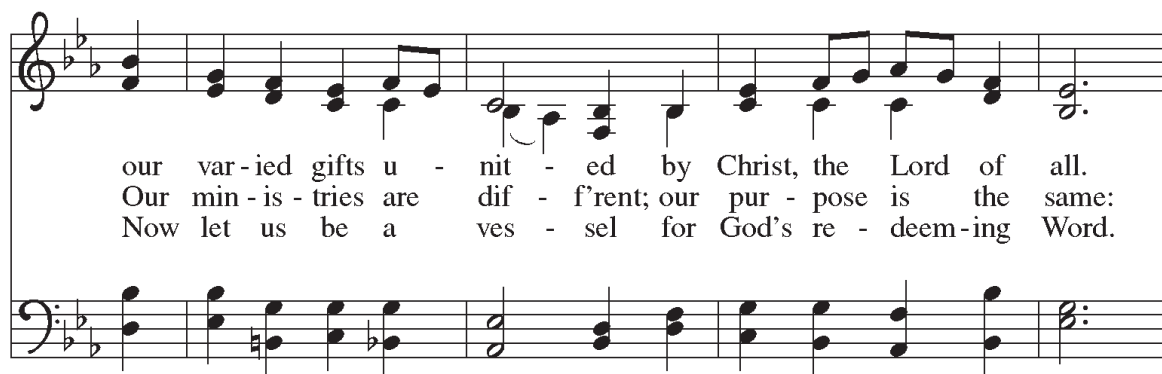
We are praying ...

We are singing ...

We All Are One in Mission



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version

Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.



I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,

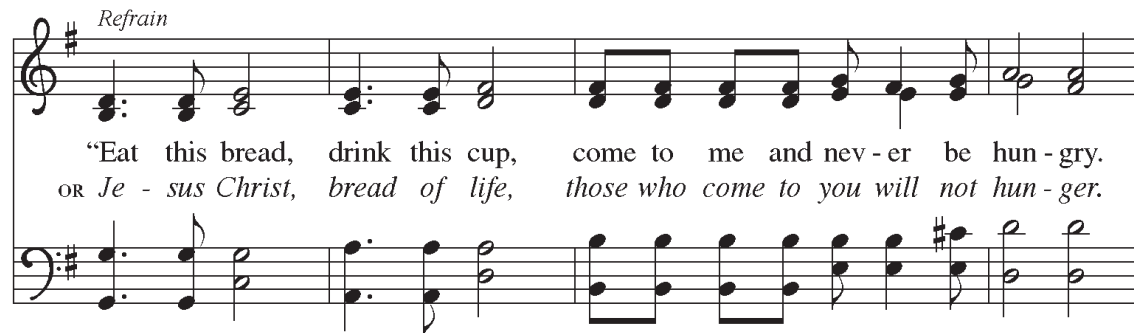


sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Eat This Bread *Jesus Christ, Bread of Life*



Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com.
800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

After Communion, we give thanks for being part of the communion of God's life and for being fed so that we may go out to feed and serve others in our world.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as able.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy Spirit,
Through this meal you nourished us with grace,
renewed us in belonging,
and reminded us of the sacred worth of every person.
Send us now into the world with full hearts
to practice justice, embody welcome, and share Christ's love and compassion.
May our lives become a table of hospitality for all your beloveds;
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

God Sends Us to Love and Serve the World

BLESSING

May the Holy Spirit kindle in you the fire of justice,
fill you with courage for the journey ahead,
and remind you always of your sacred worth and belovedness.
And may the blessing of God –
✠ Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit –
be with you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first verse, and the second system contains the second verse. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-ev-er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry, here you touched him, saw his glo-ry.
Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you, here my ten-der com-fort stilled you.

Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House
Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906

DISMISSAL

Beloved Community,
God now with minds open to wonder,
hearts ready to listen,
and spirits willing to be changed.
Go in peace.
Keep learning.
Keep growing.
Keep changing.
Keep making room for one another.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*Following worship, everyone is invited to gather in the
back corner of the Gym for refreshments and fellowship.*

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Having heard the Gospel and having been fed at communion, the final act of our common worship is the Dismissal. It is not an afterthought, but an integral part of the service. Jesus' final action on earth was to send his followers into the world to make disciples, baptizing and teaching them to obey all he had commanded. And so we are sent out into the world to proclaim the Good News and be Christ's hands and feet on earth.

Activities & Opportunities

Pastor Parham is on vacation today.

August Office Schedule. As ministry needs shift and evolve, an appropriate office schedule is being discerned. For the month of August, the schedule is as follows:

Monday – Church Office Closed
Tuesday – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Wednesday – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Thursday – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Friday – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

This schedule notes when administrative staff are in the office to answer phones and welcome guests. Our pastors are frequently away from the office providing pastoral care, attending community meetings, and making ministry visits. Pastoral availability is more expansive than the Church Office schedule.

Adult Choir rehearsals for the fall begin on Wednesday, August 19 in the Choir Room on the second floor of the Pence Building from 7:00 to 8:15 pm. Everyone with a love of singing is invited to join this community of musical mission partners. There are no auditions. New singers are invited to schedule an orientation meeting with Pastor Parham prior to their first rehearsal.

Love Wins Group. Join Love Wins for an evening of connection and great company on Thursday, August 20, at 6:30 pm. The group will be gathering at The Mason Jar (202 Trade Street, Greer), a laid-back local favorite featuring Southern pub fare and entertainment.

New Member Class

- Are you interested in learning more about this beloved community of faith?
- More about what it means to be a part of an inclusive, diverse community that seeks to practice radical hospitality and extend belonging to more and more people?
- Are you considering becoming a member of this community of faith?

Pastor Crowell and Pastor Preacher will teach a class on two consecutive Sundays, September 20 and September 27 on Lutheran Faith and Theology, what it means to be a part of an inclusive community, and how this community was transformed to become a place of belonging. These gatherings will be held after worship on each of these Sundays and will include lunch together in the Multipurpose Room followed by an hour-long class for youth and adults in Rooms 12 and 13. Childcare for infants, preschoolers, and elementary-aged children will be provided. Reach out to Pastor Crowell at sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws to register for these sessions and to share any food restrictions or preferences.

New Members Joining. Trinity will receive new members on Sunday, October 4 during worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. If interested in becoming a part of this beloved community, please reach out to Pastor Crowell at sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws.

Trinity's Fabulous Las Vegas Games Night is alive with possibility! Join the Sustaining Ministry team and the Beloved Trinity Community for an evening of food, fellowship, games, and fun. Adults may play Las Vegas games including Blackjack, Baccarat, Craps, Roulette, and BINGO — with free chips for everyone, no cost to play! Heavy appetizers will be served for adults, while kids and youth enjoy their own dinner and game room, with nursery care available too. Doors open at 6:00 pm, with games until 8:00 pm, when prizes will be given away.



Kick-off!



LAS VEGAS

★ **GAMES NIGHT** ★

Friday, September 18

6:00 to 8:00 pm

in the Activities Building



CELEBRATION

♥ *Sunday* ☀

Sunday, October 4

10:00 am

in the Sanctuary

♥ Luncheon to follow in the Gym. ♥

Week at a Glance

TODAY	WED, AUG 19	THURS, AUG 20	FRI, AUG 21	SUN, AUG 23
9:00 am Faith Exploration for Adults 10:00 am Worship in the Gym and Live-stream; Back-to-School Blessing for students, teachers, and educators during worship 11:30 am History Reading Group 12:15 pm Congregation Council	7:00 pm Adult Choir	6:30 pm Love Wins Group	10:00 am Mahjong Group	9:00 am Faith Exploration for Adults 10:00 am Worship in the Gym and Live-stream; Refreshments and Fellowship to follow 11:30 am Out to Lunch Bunch

Summer Giving

As the beloved community at Trinity continues to reach out to the margins, the challenge of financially sustaining this mission and ministry becomes more difficult. As the challenge of supporting ministry increases, the need for this ministry of inclusion, radical hospitality, and belonging becomes even more important. As the summer brings time away, will you continue to support this ministry with your financial resources? If you are finding fulfillment, meaning, and belonging in this community, will you begin making a monthly gift to support this ministry? Thank you for helping Trinity continue to be a beacon of love and light in Greenville and beyond.

Please mark your calendars for the annual Sustaining Ministry kick-off event on **Friday, September 18** at 6:30 pm in the Activities Building. The evening will include a Las Vegas Games Night, activities for children and youth, as well as food and fellowship.

Church Staff

Susan J. Crowell
Senior Pastor

James C. Parham, III
Pastor for Worship and Music

Patrick D. Preacher
Pastor for Queer Ministry and Belonging

Angie H. McCormack
Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

Jerry R. Wesley
Coordinator for Mental Health Wellness

Kay M. Cook
Office Manager

Frank Griffin
Coordinator for Finance and Sustaining Ministry

Karen M. Craig
Administrative Assistant

Roy L. Cook
Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald
Nursery Attendant



Congregation Council

Richard Moose, *Vice-President*
Mike Boliek, *Treasurer*
Margaret Roth, *Secretary*
Clayton Dykes, *Youth*
Lynn Andrews
Chris Barsody

Jessica Bigby
Carl Brune
William Bryant, Jr.
Danny Fagala
Jaime Fivecoat
Deirdre Hixson

Pat Morgan
Donna Potts
Jeff Rehm
Matthew Wessinger
Carl Witherspoon



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