



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



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

08.30.2026 | 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 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 memory of his mother, Rosa Fagala, by Danny and Anne Fagala.

Serving Today

Sarah Quinney
Preaching

Susan Crowell
Patrick Preacher
Presiding Ministers

Jim Parham
Pianist and Choir Director

Lector
Sonny Patrick

Prayers
Kerrie Seymour

Cantor
Jeff Rehm

Guitar
Duke Barsody

Bass Guitar
Brian Goodlett

Percussion
John Beckford

Communion Assistant
Stoppy Stoppenhagen

Acolytes
Bonnie Whitworth,
Samuel Whitworth

Children's Worship Opportunity
Melissa Kolb; Stefani Robinson

Nursery
Beth Oswald, JL Dykes

Praying for Possibilities
Carl Brune

Refreshment Host
The Fagala Family

Greeters
Lynn Andrews, Mark Allen,
Stoppy Stoppenhagen,
Jamie Wesley, Jerry Wesley

Ushers
Danny Fagala, Richard Delap,
Carol Elliott, Ed Ninestein

LiveControl Coordinator
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

You Are Holy *Du är helig*

1*



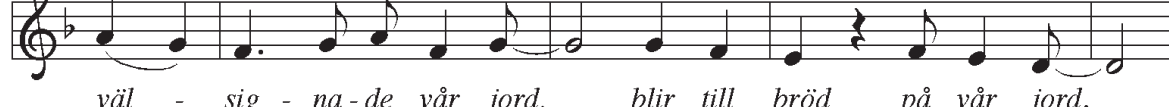
Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

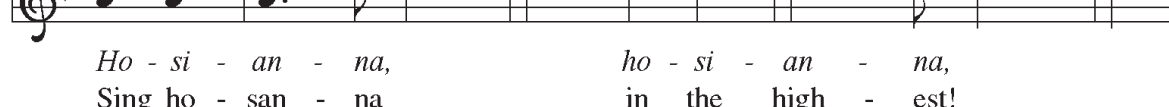
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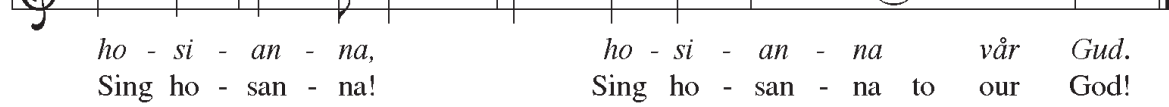
Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÄR HÉLIG, Per Harling

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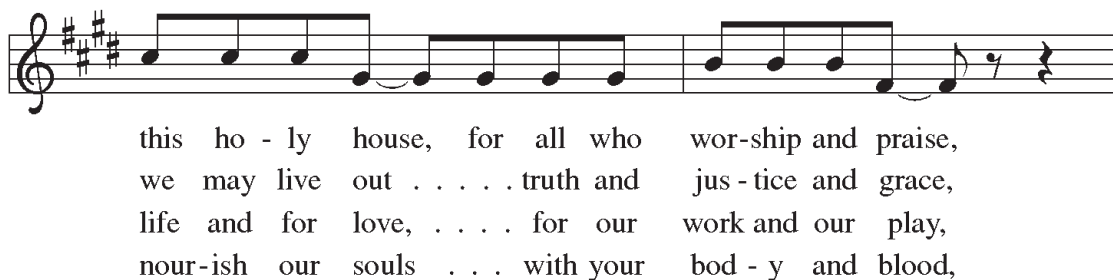
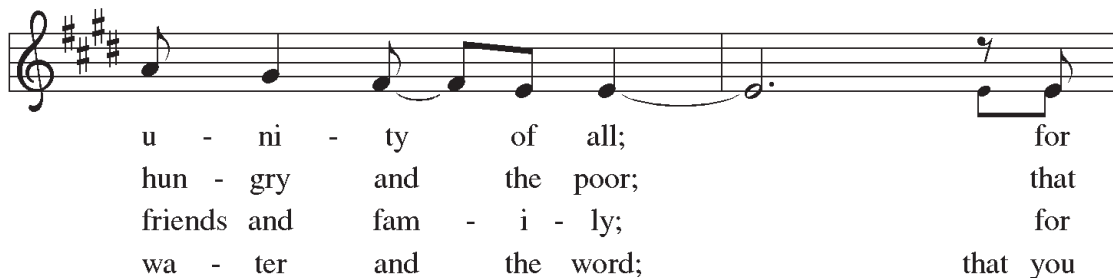
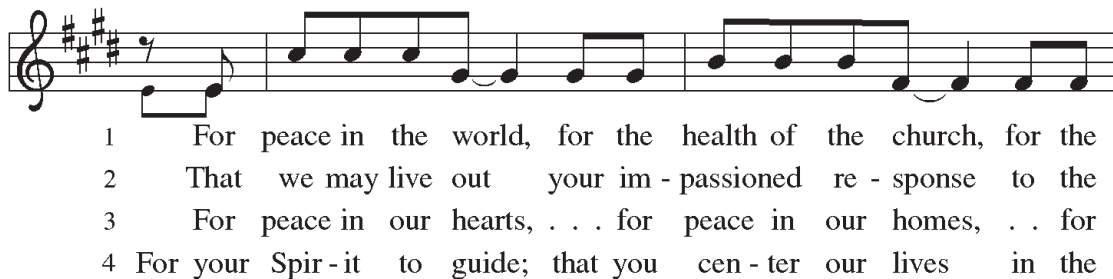
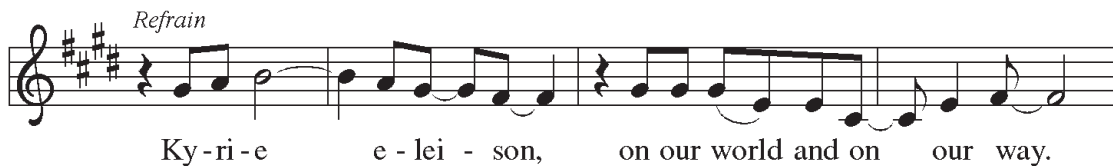


GREETING

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



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.

The prayer of the day covers the wide variety of human longing and responsibilities of the church and humanity and is specific to the scripture texts for the day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord is with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of life and love, you meet us on the road and remind us that the way of love will not always be easy. Sometimes love asks us to let go – of certainty, of control, of the need to be right, of the stories that tell us that we are not enough. Give us the courage to recognize the burdens we were never meant to carry and the courage to take up the work that love places before us. When following Jesus means challenging injustice, speaking truth to power, welcoming the immigrant, or standing with the queer community, give us courage for the next faithful step. Open our hearts to the life that cannot be found by clinging tightly to what has always been. Lead us into a faith that is brave enough to change, humble enough to learn, and expansive enough to make room for the belovedness of every single human being; through Jesus who is always making a way for us. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

God Speaks to Us Through a Living Word

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 READING

Romans 12:9-21

A reading from Romans.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says our God." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.



PSALM

Psalms 26:1-8

Psalm
Refrain

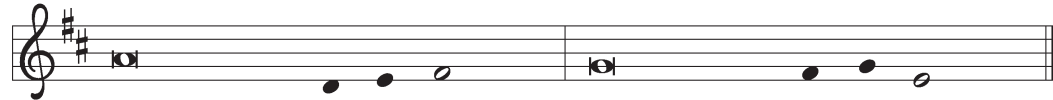


Your love is be - fore my eyes; I have walked



faith - ful - ly, faith - ful - ly with you.

Psalm
Tone



¹ Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived | with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and | have not faltered.

² **Test me, O | Lord, and try me;**
examine my heart | and my mind.

³ For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;
I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

⁴ **I have not sat | with the worthless,**
nor do I consort with | the deceitful. R

⁵ I have hated the company of | evildoers;
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O Lord,**
that I may go in procession | round your altar,

⁷ singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

⁸ **Lord, I love the house in | which you dwell**
and the place where your glo- | ry abides. R

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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Love 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.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Mortal is to come with the angels in the glory of his Abba God, and then will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the coming of the reign of the Son of Mortal."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

When Love Refuses to Become Hate: Overcoming Evil with Good

HYMN OF THE DAY

Please stand as able.

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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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.**

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.

**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

Called to lose our lives that we might find them, let us pray boldly for the church, for a world in need, and for all God has made.

A brief silence.

God who bears the cross before us, your church too often flinches at the weight of what you ask. Root every leader in the kin-dom your love is building, not the kingdoms this world rewards. Sustain Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, South Carolina Synod Bishop Ginny Aebischer as she completes her ministry among us, and Bishop-elect Wade Roof as he prepares to take up the staff she lays down. When threats and challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross without flinching, and to follow you even when the path bends toward loss. Cross-bearing God,
carry us into life.

God our maker, you did not spare your own life for the sake of what you love, and creation still groans toward the life waiting on the other side of loss. As hurricane season gathers strength over warming water, wildfires still burn across California, and drought tightens its grip on dry land, hold every creature and every community in your keeping. Guard too the smallest and strangest of your works — the Venus flytraps that grow nowhere else on Earth but a narrow stretch of the Carolina coastal plain, now poached and pressed by development, though still holding on. Cross-bearing God,
carry us into life.

Sovereign of every nation, you have never asked a people to gain the whole world at the cost of their soul. Break the spell of empire wherever it dresses itself in your name, and give those entrusted with power the courage to serve rather than dominate. Hold close the people of Sudan enduring famine and slaughter, the people of Gaza still living beneath the rubble, and the people of Ukraine bracing through another year of war, and steer our own leaders away from the false gospel of greatness at any cost. Cross-bearing God,
carry us into life.

God who counts no cost too great to reach the lost, you know what it means to lose everything for love. Ensure that all your children — housed and unhoused, documented and undocumented, insured and uninsured — have safe access to food, water, shelter, and care that heals rather than bankrupts. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... carry every one of them through whatever they are losing, into whatever life waits on the other side. Cross-bearing God,
carry us into life.

God of hospitality, we give you thanks for Lutheran Services of the Carolinas and all who live out its mission to walk together with everyone they serve. Bless the caseworkers who welcome refugees rebuilding lives far from home, the foster and adoptive families who open their doors to children who need one, and the staff who accompany elders and people with disabilities toward dignity. Give this ministry



courage when it is criticized for daring to love the stranger as you commanded.
Cross-bearing God,
carry us into life.

God who gathers us up even when we scatter, guide our teams, social groups, and every gathering toward honesty and humility, always seeking love over comfort. Make Trinity a place where Queer and Trans siblings, and everyone the world has told to shrink, can worship fully in their authentic selves, and hold together every family that gathers around our tables. Cross-bearing God,
carry us into life.

God of rhinestones and red dirt roads, we give you thanks for all the saints who have claimed their baptismal promise and now rest in your eternal light. This day, we lift up especially the life of Dolly Parton. As a daughter of Appalachia who never forgot the one-room cabin she came from, she spent her wealth and talent lifting up the poor children of her home mountains through the gift of books and the promise of an education. We thank you for a woman of faith who refused to let religion be a weapon, who told the self-righteous plainly that judgment is not theirs to make, and who spoke up, again and again, for her Queer and Transgender siblings when it cost her something to do so. Sustain in us her stubborn, glittering kindness, her refusal to look down on anyone, and her faith that authentic selves — sequins, southern, sassy, and all — are exactly how you made us to shine. Cross-bearing God, carry us into life.
carry us into life.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised — you who lost your life that we might find ours, and who carries us still. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
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.

God Invites Us to the Table

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said
Music: *Columbian Harmony* (1825), arr. Howard Helvey;
Text: Charles William Everest

*"Take up your cross," the Savior said, "if you would my disciple be;
forsake the past, and come this day, and humbly follow after me."
Take up your cross; let not its weight pervade your soul with vain alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up, sustain your heart, and nerve your arm.*

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.

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.



*Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, nor let your foolish heart rebel;
for you the Lord endured the cross to save your soul from death and hell.
Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down;
for those who humbly bear the cross one day will wear the glorious crown.*

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!

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:

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.

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.

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.

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.



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.

Borning Cry



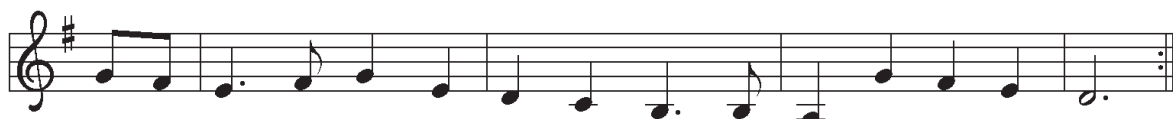
- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.



Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song *Jésus, je voudrais te chanter*

1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*
1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an-non-cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,
I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:
you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,

Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.
Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

Let Streams of Living Justice

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free-dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn-ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home-land bright-ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
Text © 1989 William Whitla.



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.

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.

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.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

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,
Go with courage to loosen your grip on what no longer gives life.
Go with compassion for those whose burdens are heavier than your own.
Go with strength to choose love even when love asks everything of you.
Go with God trusting that you are never alone on this journey.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*Following worship, everyone is invited to gather
in the back corner of the Gym for refreshments and fellowship
followed by a Congregational Lunch in the Multipurpose Room.*

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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.

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



Activities & Opportunities

We welcome the Rev. Sarah Quinney, South Carolina Development Officer with Lutheran Services of the Carolinas, as our Guest Preacher this morning.

Called Meeting of the Congregation

The Congregation Council has called a meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, September 13 at 11:30 am in the Gym

to act on a two-part motion regarding the sale of the 429 Property.

Information sessions about the motion will be held in Rooms 12 and 13 at the following times:

Today, at 12:30 pm (following congregational lunch)

Monday, August 31 at 2:00 pm

Wednesday, September 9 at 10:00 am

Church Office Hours

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 Faith Exploration meets each Sunday morning at 9:00 am in Rooms 12 and 13. Those interested in lively discussion around matters of faith and the current reality in which we live should give this class a try. Topics and discussion leaders change frequently to keep things interesting and engaging. Please reach out to Pastor Preacher with any questions or to inquire about serving as a Discussion Leader. pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws.

Trinity Children. Following worship TODAY, children in kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to stay for lunch and a fun-filled Back-to-School Celebration. Together, we will enjoy activities that remind us God goes with us wherever we are. Children will participate in a Pencil Prayer, discover how everyday school supplies can teach us about our faith, be paired with a Prayer Partner for the school year, and take part in a Mission Challenge as they prepare to be the hands and feet of Christ at school and in their community.

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.

August 30, 2026

Candlelight Yoga. Are you weary, anxious, stressed-out, and burdened by the demands of life? Do you have difficulty relaxing? Do you long for a settled heart and mind? Are you eager to move through life with a sense of ease in your body, heart, and mind? Are you hungry for a few moments for yourself? If your answer to any of these questions is yes, then plan to join Pastor Crowell and her beloved yoga teacher, Jill McBurney, in the Gym on Mondays, September 14 and September 28 at 6:30 pm for a gentle, relaxing candlelight yoga experience. Yoga newcomers are welcome! Bring your mat, a pillow, and a blanket. A few extra mats will be available to borrow. Participants are also welcome to enjoy the session from the comfort of a chair instead of lying on a mat. Childcare will be available so that parents can enjoy an hour to rest, relax, and rejuvenate. Come and rest in the glow of candlelight, do some simple stretching, breathe deeply, experience restoration, and open your mind to this ancient spiritual experience. All bodies and abilities are encouraged to participate. Reach out to Pastor Crowell with questions 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.

Life Together this Week: Come and Connect with Us!

TODAY	MON, AUG 31	WED, SEPT 2	FRI, SEPT 4	SUN, SEPT 6
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 Congregational Lunch in Multi-Purpose Room 12:30 pm Trinity Children - Room 15 12:30 pm Informational Meeting on 429 N. Main Property - Rooms 12 and 13 12:30 pm Facilities and Maintenance Team Meeting in Youth Room 12:30 pm Mahjong Introduction - Room 11	2:00 pm Informational Meeting on 429 N. Main Property	6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir	10:00 am Mahjong Group	9:00 am Faith Exploration for Adults 10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and Live-stream; Refreshments and Fellowship to follow

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Our Shared Calling

We are a diverse faith community proclaiming the inclusive gospel of Christ by practicing love through hospitality, justice, and belonging.

Core Commitments

- Relevant Worship
- Radical Welcome
- Queer Affirmation
- Authentic Community
- Justice and Advocacy
- Faithful Giving
- Spaces of Belonging



Alive — WITH — Possibility

TRINITY'S 2026
SUSTAINING MINISTRY

Kick-off!



777
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. ♡