



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH 1909

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



The Good Shepherdess by Kelly Latimore



Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
10.18.2026 | 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 honor of their daughter, Hannah Elise, on her Baptism Day, by Keith and Elizabeth Thompson.

Serving Today

Patrick Preacher
Preaching

Susan Crowell
Presiding Minister

Jim Parham
Organist and Choir Director

Lector
Tori Hilbourn

Prayers
Jonathan Preacher

Cantor
John Beckford

Percussion
John Beckford

Communion Assistants
Craig Nelson, Toni Blank

Acolyte
Bonnie Whitworth

Children's Worship Opportunity
Melissa Kolb and Chris Barsody

Nursery
Beth Oswald, JL Dykes

Greeters
Mark Allen, Jeanne Blinkoff,
Drake McFadyen

Ushers
Dale Hamann, Dave Potts,
Pattimarie Jansen, Richard Delap

Refreshment Hosts
Chris and Terri Sullivan

LiveControl Coordinator
Kellie Fontecchio
Lyle Mortensen

Audio
Gregg Alley



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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God Welcomes All

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

In baptism our gracious heavenly parent frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Presentation

We present Hannah Elise for baptism.

Keith and Elizabeth, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have this child baptized in Christ?

Response:

We do.

As you bring Hannah to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that she may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Hannah grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response:

We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Hannah and pray for her in her new life in Christ? **We do.**

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Baptism is central to Lutheran theology. We believe that God in Christ loves each of us from birth, but in baptism, we go public with that love, being named and claimed as God's beloved children before the people of God. God's people make promises to the baptized as God makes promises in the water. Martin Luther famously said: "Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's promise and combined with God's word."

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Please stand as able

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. Christ sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your children, no longer slave but free, no longer lonely and isolated, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Water is poured on the baptismal candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:



Hannah Elise,
I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

BAPTISMAL ACCLAMATION

You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.

al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Hannah with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

The pastor marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. As the sign of the cross is made, the pastor says:

Hannah Elise Thompson, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. May you, with joy, live into the fullness of who God created you to be...brave, bold, and unapologetically you. **Amen.**

Let us welcome Hannah into our church family.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share.

Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Those gathered at the font share the peace before returning to their seats.

GATHERING HYMN

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,
3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo-ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo-ry now re-sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

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

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.



CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



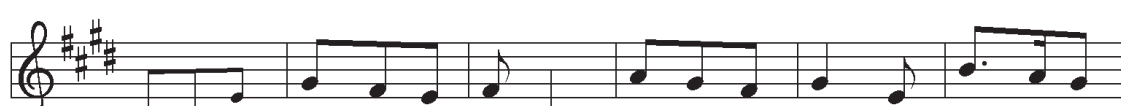
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Refrain
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Refrain
God; to make all things new.

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.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord is with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Image-bearing God, you press your likeness into every human life and no empire can stamp us otherwise. When the government's coin demands our loyalty, turn us toward what is truly yours: our authentic selves, our labor of love, our steadfast hope. Created by you, let us honor your image in every neighbor; created for you, let us spend ourselves for your kin-dom; redeemed by you, so that we may give you all that we are, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Liberator.

Amen.

Please be seated.

God Speaks to Us Through a Living Word

THE READING

Isaiah 45:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Thus says YHWH to God's messiah, Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him

and to strip monarchs of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:

² I will go before you
and level the mountains;

I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;

³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, YHWH,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,

I call you by your name;

I give you a title, though you do not know me.

⁵ I am YHWH, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am YHWH, and there is no other.

⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I YHWH do all these things.

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

Thanks be to God.



PSALM

Psalm 96:1-13

Psalm
Refrain



Psalm
Tone



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 Sing to YHWH | a new song;
sing YHWH, | all the earth.
- ² **Sing to YHWH, bless the | name of YHWH;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**
- ³ Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.
- ⁴ **For great is YHWH and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods. R**
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O YHWH, have | made the heavens.
- ⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**
- ⁷ Ascribe to YHWH, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to YHWH hon- | or and power.
- ⁸ **Ascribe to YHWH the honor due God's | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the | courts of YHWH. R**
- ⁹ Worship YHWH in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before YHWH, | all the earth.
- ¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: | "YHWH rules!
The one who made the world so firm that it
cannot be moved will judge the peo- | ples with equity."**
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.
- ¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
at your com- | ing, O YHWH,
for you come to | judge the earth.**
- ¹³ You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth. **R**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Image of God; Likeness of God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand as able.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
Hal - le - lu - jah.
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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 22:15-22

The Holy Gospel according Saint Mark the twenty-second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.



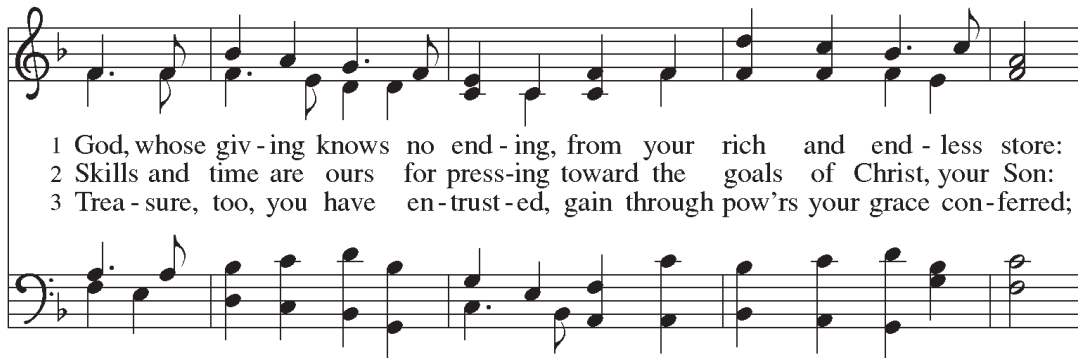
SERMON

Here Come the Tricksters

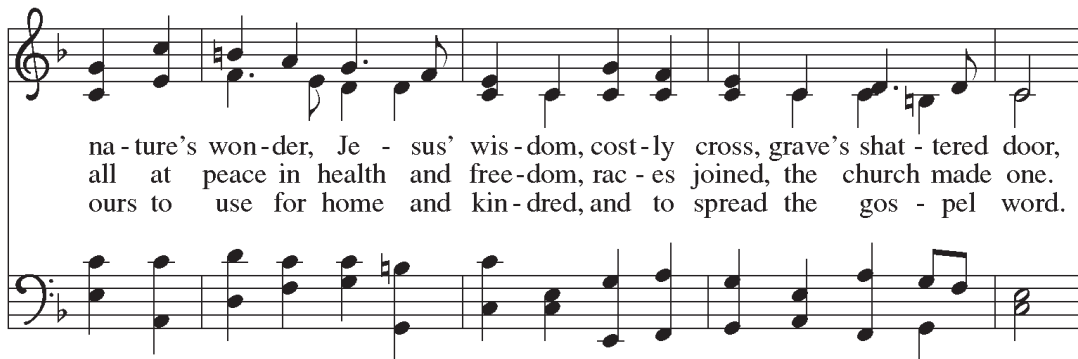
HYMN OF THE DAY

Please stand as able.

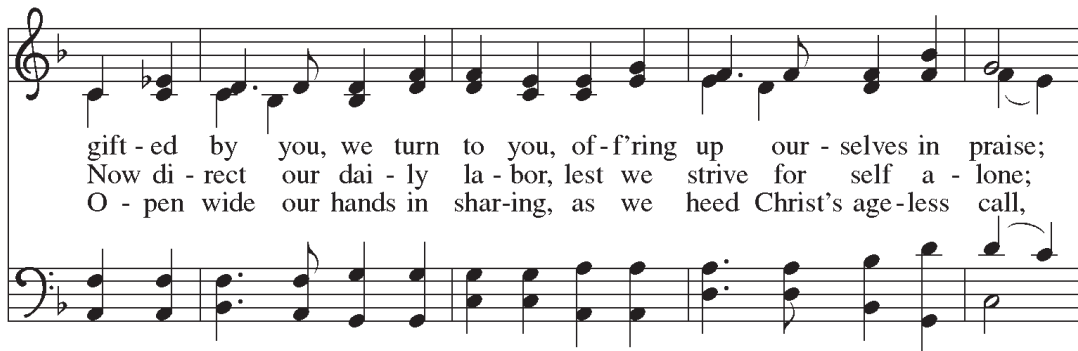
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



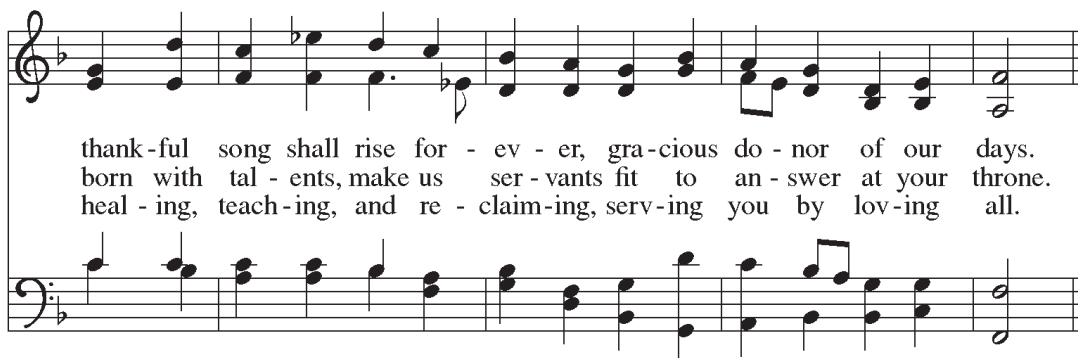
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,
all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Bearing the image of the God who claims us as beloved, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

Calling God, you press your image into every life you send into ministry, an inscription deeper than any institution's seal. Pour your Spirit of love on seminarians, especially those at Lutheran seminaries, and on all who are newly ordained and newly called, as they learn to offer their whole lives back to you. Strengthen our Presiding Bishop, Yehiel Curry, and our South Carolina Synod Bishop, Wade Roof, that your church might proclaim a gospel with room for all people without exception. God whose image we bear,

hear our prayer, for we are yours.

God of the deep, the oceans carry your fingerprints in every current and creature. We pray for North Atlantic right whales, fewer than four hundred remaining, now swimming south toward their calving waters off our Carolina coast; shield them from ship strikes and tangled lines, and protect all the teeming life of the seas. Sustain the scientists, fishers, and coastal communities who guard these waters, and teach us that the ocean is not ours to spend. God whose image we bear,

hear our prayer, for we are yours.

Living God, the coins of this world carry the faces of rulers, but every human face carries yours. As our nation approaches midterm election day, guide voters, poll workers, and candidates toward truth rather than fear, and remind all in authority, from Greenville County Council to Congress and the courts, that no one's dignity is theirs to tax away. Bring peace where empires still demand their due in blood, especially in Gaza, Ukraine, and Sudan, and in every statehouse where Queer and Trans lives are traded as political currency. God whose image we bear,

hear our prayer, for we are yours.

Sheltering God, hold close all who labor in dangerous or degrading places: in poultry plants and farm fields, on rooftops and highways, in warehouses where bodies are worn down and counted only as cost. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all who are injured, sick, or suffering. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts... God whose image we bear,

hear our prayer, for we are yours.

Faithful God, you see the work no one else notices: linens laundered and folded, offerings counted, gardens tended, pantry shelves stocked, coffee brewed before anyone arrives. Bless their work of faith and labor of love, and make this congregation a place where every person, Queer and not, Trans, nonbinary, and cisgender, is welcomed as their authentic self and honored as a bearer of your image. God whose image we bear,

hear our prayer, for we are yours.

Holy Parent, you promised to go before your people, leveling mountains and breaking open doors of bronze. Go before all who care for aging parents, tending the ones who once tended them and carrying grief and love in the same tired hands; and go before all who are parenting alone with little support, whether as single parents, foster or adoptive parents, grandparents, or chosen family raising children without a village. In their long nights, give them the treasures of darkness you promised,



hidden riches of rest, community, and strength, and call each of them by name,
that they may know they bear your image too. God whose image we bear,
hear our prayer, for we are yours.

God of kept promises, We give you thanks for the baptism of Hannah Elise
Thompson. Having passed through your waters, she begins her lifelong journey as
a follower of Jesus. We pray that she may never go a day without feeling the power
of your radical love. As you have clothed her in Christ, so clothe her in abundant
grace to share with the world. Strengthen family, chosen family, and friends who
strive to raise Hannah in the faith. Bless and strengthen Elizabeth and Keith to be
the faithful parents they want to be, so that their family might bear witness to your
inclusive love for all people. God whose image we bear,
hear our prayer, for we are yours.

Eternal God, we give you thanks for all the saints who have claimed their
baptismal promise, whose lives were inscribed with your love. Today we remember
Luke, evangelist and physician, who told of a Savior who lifted up the lowly and ate
with those the world cast out. We thank you for all whose names we hold close in
memory and love. God whose image we bear,
hear our prayer, for we are yours.

Trusting that we bear your image and belong wholly to you, O God, we render to
you what is already yours: our spoken prayers, our silent longings, and our very
lives; through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WELCOME INTO MEMBERSHIP

I invite those who are being received today as members of Trinity Lutheran Church
to come forward at this time and stand facing the congregation:

Garrett Boling and Reed Davenport
Craig Nelson
Phil and Jeanne Titus
Stacy Weaver

Siblings in Christ: You belong to God. You are created in the image of Mother-
Father God. You are strong, beautiful, loved, enough. Today, your connection to
this community of faith is made official. We now belong together. We now serve
together. We now work together to shine Christ's love and light into the world.

We strive to see the value and worth in every single human being. We strive to
bring hope and comfort to a broken, hurting world. We strive to create brave,
safe spaces where more and more people can find welcome and belonging. We
acknowledge the pain and suffering that the church has caused and we covenant
to work together to bring healing and wholeness, restoration and reconciliation.

My siblings in Christ:

Will you join with this fellowship of faith as we work to make this community and
the world a more fair, just, and equitable place for all people?

Will you embrace the reality that in life as in faith, there are often more questions than answers, more uncertainty than certainty?

Will you use your time, talent, and treasure to proclaim in word and deed the good news of God's love in Christ for all people?

Will you strive to grow in faith, to see the image of God in all humanity, to break down barriers that divide and exclude one person from another?

Will you step forward in faith, knowing that saying "yes" to this community, "yes" to God in Christ, "yes" to life in the church is fraught with risk and challenge?

Will you say "yes" to God and this family of faith trusting that the Holy Spirit is always leading and guiding us into new places, new ministries, new ways to lead and serve?

Will you trust that through the sacraments of communion and baptism God is extending grace?

Will you open your heart, your mind, your ears, your eyes, your hands to the work God is calling us to do together even when that work is difficult and challenging?

I will and I ask God to help and guide me.

Please stand as able

Trinity family and friends, will you welcome these fellow travelers on the journey of faith and into the life we share together in this community? Will you accept them as partners in ministry, extending your love, care, and support to them as part of this family of faith?

We will, with the help of God.

Let us pray. Gracious God, you make these people your very own. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit you empower them, encourage them, sustain them. Through the sacraments of baptism and communion, you extend grace upon grace. As they join with this family of faith, renew their lives, strengthen their faith, give them patience and grace for the challenges of daily life, remind them over and over and over again of your love in Christ for each and every one of them. Use them to build and nurture the kin-dom of God.

Amen.

Let us offer welcome into our family of faith.

Beloved children of God, we welcome you into this household of faith. You are no longer strangers or sojourners, but equal citizens with the saints and members of this household of faith, all of us learning together, serving together, proclaiming together the good news of God in Christ's inclusive love for all humanity.

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.

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.



God Invites Us to the Table

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

One Faith, One Hope, One Lord

Music: Craig Courtney; Text: Craig Courtney based on Ephesians 4: 4-6, 13

One faith, one hope, on Lord, one church for which he died.

One voice one song we lift in praise to him who was and is and shall be evermore.

There is one body, one Spirit, as you were called to one hope.

One Lord, baptism and faith, one God and Creator of all, who is in you all.

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which he died.

One voice one song we lift in praise to him who was and is and shall be evermore.

Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts,

we are given to each other for the unity of faith,

in the fullness of Christ.

One faith, one hope, on Lord, one church for which he died.

One voice one song we lift in praise to him who was and is and shall be evermore.

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one God!

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.



OFFERTORY HYMN

Take My Life, That I May Be *Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad*

Refrain/Estrillo



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun-tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



y tu tro-no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

Refrain/Estrillo



pul - so de tu a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Generous God,

You are the earth that grounds us, the rain that nourishes us, and the warmth that calls new life from the earth. We worry that there will never be enough – not enough time, not enough resources, not enough faith, not enough love. Remind us that life is not rooted in scarcity. Hold our abundance before us. Give us grace upon grace, bread enough to share, and love that keeps growing exponentially. Receive these gifts and our very lives that we may become a place where hope can take root, where welcome can grow, where justice can flourish, and where more and more people can discover welcome and belonging. Bless the gifts we bring today, not simply to sustain what has been, but to nurture what is becoming. Make us a people alive with possibility, a people who trust in your grace, your generosity, and your constant provision. 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 right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Extravagant Sower, Holy One of wild and reckless grace.

You scatter your life with open hands. You fling hope onto hard-packed paths and red-clay ground, among rocks and choking thorns, into places no careful farmer would dare to plant. You don't save your love for the tended rows. You throw it wide, to the overlooked and the written-off, to every heart the world has trampled flat, knowing that even those places are alive with possibility.

In Jesus, your Word took root in the soil of our flesh. He was buried in the dark earth of the tomb, broke open like a seed, and rose alive with possibility. He bears a harvest thirtyfold, sixtyfold, a hundredfold, more than our fear can measure and more than our scarcity can imagine.

By your Spirit you work in us while we sleep and while we rise, growing your kingdom in ways we do not understand. At this table, grain once scattered on the hillsides becomes one bread, and the fruit of the vine becomes a cup poured out for all. You make us good soil, and you send us out as sowers to give as freely as we have received.

And so, with all creation groaning, with the church on earth and the saints in 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.



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.

Holy Spirit, breath of God, come like rain on dry red clay. Fall on this bread and
this cup, the gifts of seed and soil and many hands, so they may be for us the body
and blood of Christ, life broken open and poured out for all.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Mother/Father in heaven,
Holy be your name,
your kin-dom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

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 Mother/Father, 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.



**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. 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, 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.

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.

Baptized and Set Free



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
 2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
 3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
 4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
 Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
 and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
 All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
 For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
 As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
 Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
 end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
 pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
 one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956
 Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner
 Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

A Place at the Table



1 For ev - ery-one born, a place at the ta - ble, for
 2 For wo - man and man, a place at the ta - ble and
 3 For gay, bi, and straight, a place at the ta - ble, in -
 4 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble, a
 5 For bod - ies di - verse, a place at the ta - ble, all
 6 For ev - ery-one born, a place at the ta - ble, to



ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread, a shel - ter, a
 all those be - tween, be - yond, and be - sides; ex - pand - ing our
 vit - ed to wed, to bap - tize and preach, a rain - bow of
 voice to be heard, a part in the song, the hands of a
 man - ner of speech and move - ment and minds; en - a - bled to
 live with - out fear, and simp - ly to be, to work, to speak



space, a safe place for grow - ing, for ev - ery - one born, a
 world, dis - man - tl - ing pow - er, each val - ued for what their
 race and gen - der and col - or, for queer, trans, and ace, God's
 child in hands that are wrin - kled, for young and for old, the
 lead and teach us new lan - guage, for bod - ies di - verse, a
 out, to wit - ness and wor - ship, for ev - ery - one born, the



star o - ver - head. And God will de - light when
 voice can pro - vide.
 jus - tice in reach.
 right to be - long.
 church re - de - signed.
 right to be free.



we are cre-a - tors of jus-tice and joy, yes, God will de -



light when we are cre-a - tors of jus - tice,



jus - tice and joy!

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

Gracious God,

Nourished by this table, make us good soil, a fertile place for your love to grow.

Free us from scarcity and fear.

Root us in abundance, so that what we have received may become sustenance, hope, and welcome for others.

Keep us alive with possibility –

imagining a future that exceeds all our hopes, dreams, and desires. **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

Nourished by this table, strengthened in this community, and rooted in the abundance of God, may you be good soil where love takes root, hope grows, justice thrives, welcome flourishes, and generosity is our calling. Trust that God is still creating, still calling, still making all things new. Alive with possibility, may the blessing of God – ✠ Creator, Christ, and Spirit – go with you to tend, cultivate, and encourage all of God’s beloveds. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

We Are Marching in the Light of God



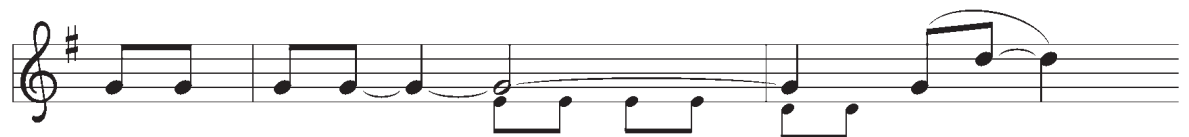
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



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 - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



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



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



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

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...
We are praying ...
We are singing ...

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace
giving to God what is God's
and bearing God's image into the world.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*Following worship everyone is invited to enjoy refreshments and
fellowship on the front lawn in honor of Trinity's newest members*

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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.

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

Activities & Opportunities

Today's Baptism: Hannah Elise Thompson, daughter of Keith and Elizabeth Thompson.

Our Christian love, care, and concern is expressed to the family of Jo Glymph upon her death on October 15.

The Trinity family is delighted to welcome six new members into our family of faith today. Please take a moment to welcome them individually. Each of them will be wearing a small flower. Special refreshments in their honor will be served on the front lawn following worship.

Thank you for all of your support for Trinity's mission and ministry. If you are willing and able to support Trinity in 2027 and haven't had an opportunity to let us know yet, will you take a moment today to complete a Show Up and Serve Sheet and an Investment Card and place it in the offering plate? Your support will help Trinity continue to be a place of radical welcome and hospitality in the coming year.

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 at pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws.

Candlelight Yoga. Are you weary, anxious, stressed-out, and burdened by the demands of life? Do you long for a settled 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 Monday, October 19 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 is available. All bodies and abilities are encouraged to participate. Dates for the remainder of the year include Mondays, November 2, November 16, November 30, and December 14. Reach out to Pastor Crowell with questions at sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws.

Book Discussion Group. Please join Pastor Crowell for a discussion of the book *Yesteryear* by Caro Claire Burke on Thursday, October 22 at 10:00 am in Rooms 12 and 13 of the Activities Building. Anyone who loves reading and discussing books and is eager to make connections and build community is encouraged to attend. Reach out to Pastor Crowell at sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws with questions or to register for the event. The group will also gather on Thursday, December 10 at 10:00 am to discuss *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd.

Rediscovering the Reformation. Are you new to Lutheranism and wondering what all the joy is about this month? Or maybe you are a lifelong Lutheran looking for more ways to bask in Reformation glory?! Join Pastor Preacher for a one-hour session to learn more about the history of the Protestant Reformation and the key role Lutherans played in that historic moment. The class will take place on Thursday, October 22 at 6:00 pm in Rooms 12 and 13. Please contact Pastor Preacher to sign-up at pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws Reserve your space now!

October 18, 2026

Board Game Night. Ready for a little friendly competition? Come gather with Trinity friends to enjoy some classics like Uno and Jenga as well as games like Catan for the more strategic-minded players. Bring a favorite game or just bring yourself as the group gathers in the Parlor at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, October 20. Reach out to Drake McFadyen at 828-719-9955 or dmcfadyen@trinitylutheran.ws for more information or to register for the event.

Women's Hygiene Product Collection. In Collaboration with the Period Project, a Women's Hygiene Product Collection will take place throughout the month of October. Items of need include tampons, pads, individually wrapped liners, individually wrapped personal hygiene wipes, and gallon and quart size zip top bags. These donations may be dropped off on Sunday morning or in the Church Office throughout the month. A Packing Party will take place later in the year. Please contact Kerrie Seymour at kerrie.seymour@gmail.com with questions.

PeaceCycle coming to Trinity! Make plans to be at Trinity on Sunday, November 1 to experience a little taste of the Wild Goose Festival and to meet Amber "Rose" Heimann, founder of PeaceCYCLE, a social business in Haiti designed to provide dignifying and purposeful work to the unemployed while teaching about and cleaning the environment ultimately producing high quality upcycled products. Amber will speak briefly during worship and will offer more information about this ministry during a congregational lunch after worship. An opportunity to support this ministry by purchasing hand-crafted, upcycled items will be available before and after worship.

Family Fall Festival. All are invited for an evening of fall fun, a hot dog dinner, games, fellowship, and activities for the entire family on Thursday, October 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm on the front lawn. Wear your costume and bring your family and friends.

Life Together this Week: Come and Connect with Us!

TODAY	MON, OCT 19	WED, OCT 21	THURS, OCT 22	SAT, OCT 24	SUN, OCT 25
9:00 am Faith Exploration for Adults 10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and Live-stream; Refreshments and Fellowship to follow 11:30 am History Reading Group 11:30 am Out to Lunch Bunch 1:30 pm Congregation Council	6:30pm Candlelight Yoga	11:30 am The Welcome Table 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Game Day (formerly Mahjong Group) 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Adult Choir	10:00 am Book Discussion of Yesteryear 6:00pm Rediscovering Reformation	10:00 am Funeral and Celebration of Life for Jo Glymph 10:30am Installation of Bishop Wade Roof Saint Stephen's Lutheran Church Lexington, SC	9:00 am Faith Exploration for Adults 10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and Live-stream; Refreshments and Fellowship to follow 11:30 am Trinity Youth

Wear Red for Reformation Sunday

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary

Featuring the Capital City Brass Quintet



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
Coordinator of Youth and Children's
Ministry

Jerry R. Wesley
Coordinator for Mental Health
Wellness

Kay M. Cook
Office Manager

Drake McFadyen
Coordinator for Congregational Life
and Engagement

Frank Griffin
Coordinator for Finance and
Sustaining Ministry



Karen M. Craig
Administrative Assistant

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



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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