

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2026**

The Mission of Trinity Lutheran Church is the preaching, teaching, baptizing and sharing the love of Christ in our church, our community and our world.



Welcome to Trinity!

We are so happy that you have joined us for worship this morning. We are a community of believers in Jesus Christ who seek to love God with all of our heart, with all of our mind, and with all of our soul. We have a deep desire that all would come to the saving knowledge of the truth of Jesus as Lord! We cordially invite you to worship with us every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and join us for Bible Class and Sunday School after church.

Pre-Service Music

Prelude – Ringing of the Bells – Greeting

Please Stand

Confession and Absolution

L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

L: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. So, then, in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn

The Law of God Is Good and Wise

LSB 579 sts. 1, 3, 5-6

1 The Law of God is good and wise
And sets His will before our eyes,
Shows us the way of righteousness,
And dooms to death when we transgress.

3 To those who help in Christ have found
And would in works of love abound
It shows what deeds are His delight
And should be done as good and right.

5 The Law is good; but since the fall
Its holiness condemns us all;
It dooms us for our sin to die
And has no pow'r to justify.

6 To Jesus we for refuge flee,
Who from the curse has set us free,
And humbly worship at His throne,
Saved by His grace through faith alone.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt. Text: Public domain

Introit

L: How great are your works, O LORD!

C: Your thoughts are very deep!

L: It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

C: to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

L: to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

C: and your faithfulness by night,

L: to the music of the lute and the harp,

C: to the melody of the lyre.

L: For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;

C: at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

L: How great are your works, O LORD!

C: Your thoughts are very deep!

Kyrie

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

L: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

L: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord



C A - men.

Hymn of Praise

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.

L: Let us pray... O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



A - men.

Please Sit

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7- 9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual

L: Fear the LORD, you his saints,

C: for those who fear him lack nothing!

L: Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

C: but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Special Music

Trinity Choir

Children’s Message and Mighty Mites

Kordel McBlair

Epistle Reading

Romans 13:1-10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Please Stand

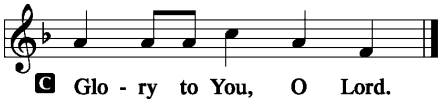
Alleluia Verse



Holy Gospel

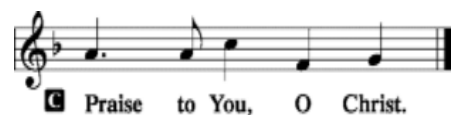
Matthew 18:1-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.



¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.



Please Sit

1 Today Your mercy calls us
To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass,
Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy
Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us
And make us clean today.

2 Today Your gate is open,
And all who enter in
Shall find a Father's welcome
And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten,
A present joy be giv'n,
A future grace be promised,
A glorious crown in heav'n.

3 Today our Father calls us;
His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather
Around the heav'nly gates.
No question will be asked us
How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered,
It is our Father's home.

4 O all-embracing Mercy,
O ever-open Door,
What should we do without You
When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us,
To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open,
One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt. Text: Public domain

Sermon

Please Stand

Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Offering and Offertory



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Confession

I Cor. 10:17 Acts 2:42** I Cor. 11:23-32****

As a member of the LCMS, Trinity practices closed communion. If you are not a member of Trinity Church and desire communion please speak to Pastor or one of our Elders prior to the service. Individuals are welcome to come forward for a blessing with their arms crossed over their chest.

P: The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians who are properly taught. In communing, we want people to receive Christ's body and blood for their good. This means that as you come to the Lord's Table you affirm that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians (LCMS), you confess:

C: I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sin and ask God's forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan and death. I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and under the form of the bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life.

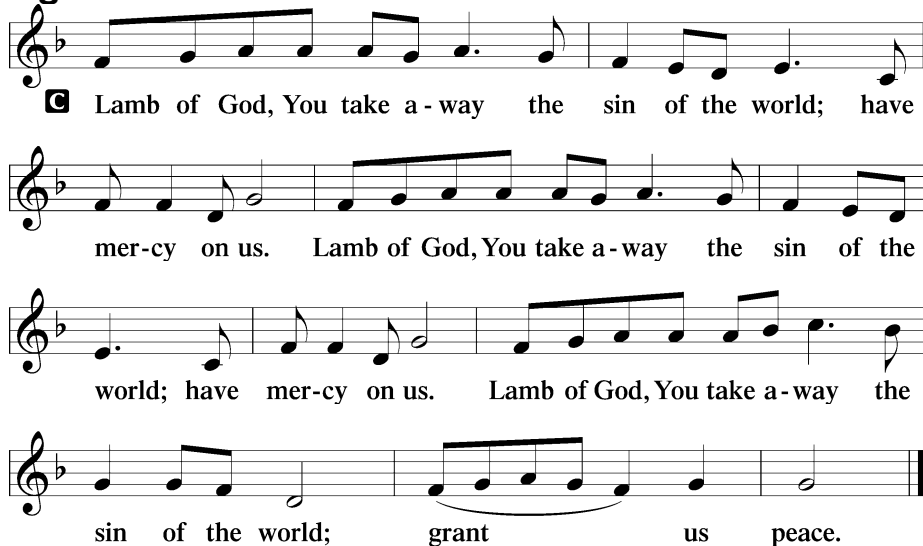
The Words of our Lord

Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei



Please Sit

Distribution and Distribution Hymns

Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord

LSB 935

I Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;

Tender to me the promise of His Word;

In God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!

Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;

His mercy sure, from age to age the same;

His holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!

Pow'rs and dominions lay their glory by.

Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,

The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of His Word!

Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

To children's children and forevermore!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024 Text: © 1962, renewed 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. I10003347

Before You, Lord, We Bow

I Before You, Lord, we bow,
Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below,
Boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring
In joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise
To You, our King!

2 The nation You have blest
May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest,
Protected by Your care.
For this bright day,
For this fair land—
Gifts of Your hand—
Our thanks we pay.

3 May ev'ry mountain height,
Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light,
And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue
Be tuned to praise
And join to raise
A grateful song.

4 Earth, hear your Maker's voice;
Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice,
And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride,
Your sin deplore,
And bow before
The Crucified.

5 And when in pow'r He comes,
Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs
Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng,
With joy to sing
To heav'n's high King
Salvation's song!

Text: Francis Scott Key, 1779–1843, alt. Text: Public domain

Praise the Almighty

I Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him!
 Yes, I will laud Him until death;
 With songs and anthems I come before Him
 As long as He allows me breath.
 From Him my life and all things came;
 Bless, O my soul, His holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

2 Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal;
 Earthborn they are and soon decay.
 Vain are their counsels at life's last portal,
 When the dark grave engulfs its prey.
 Since mortals can no help afford,
 Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

3 Blessèd, oh, blessèd are they forever
 Whose help is from the Lord Most High,
 Whom from salvation can nothing sever,
 And who in hope to Christ draw nigh.
 To all who trust in Him, our Lord
 Will aid and counsel now afford.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

4 Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,
 Pardon and peace from Him obtain;
 Ever the wants of the poor supplying,
 Their faithful God He will remain.
 He helps His children in distress,
 The widows and the fatherless.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

△ 5 Praise, all you people, the name so holy
 Of Him who does such wondrous things!
 All that has being, to praise Him solely,
 With happy heart its amen sings.
 Children of God, with angel host
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
 Alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Johann Daniel Herrnschmidt, 1675–1723; tr. Alfred E. R. Brauer, 1866–1949, alt. Text: Public domain

In God, My Faithful God

I In God, my faithful God,
 I trust when dark my road;
 Great woes may overtake me,
 Yet He will not forsake me.

My troubles He can alter;
 His hand lets nothing falter.

2 My sins fill me with care,
 Yet I will not despair.
 I build on Christ, who loves me;
 From this rock nothing moves me.

To Him I will surrender,
 To Him, my soul's defender.

3 If death my portion be,
 It brings great gain to me;
 It speeds my life's endeavor
 To live with Christ forever.
 He gives me joy in sorrow,
 Come death now or tomorrow.

4 O Jesus Christ, my Lord,
 So meek in deed and word,
 You suffered death to save us
 Because Your love would have us
 Be heirs of heav'nly gladness
 When ends this life of sadness.

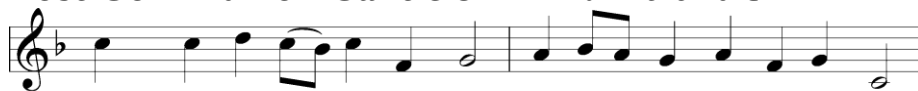
5 "So be it," then, I say
 With all my heart each day.
 Dear Lord, we all adore You,
 We sing for joy before You.
 Guide us while here we wander
 Until we praise You yonder.

Text: Veer schöne nye Geistlike Leder, before 1603, Lübeck; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

Please Stand

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Canticle *Thank the Lord*



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

P: Let us pray.

C: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn

Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go

LSB 920

1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;

Christ to the world with joy we bring;

Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,

Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.

2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;

Kingship with Him His servants gain;

With Christ the Servant-Lord of all,

Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.

3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth

This world of time to consecrate,

This world of sin by grace to heal,

Christ's world in Christ to re-create.

4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;

Prophets are we whose deeds proclaim

Christ's truth in love that we may be

Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.

5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show

That in His Church all nations find

Their hearth and home where Christ restores

True peace, true love to all mankind.

Text: James Quinn, 1919–2010 Text: © 1969, 1987 OCP Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. I 10003347

Announcements

Acknowledgments

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COMMUNION CONFESSIONS SCRIPTURES

*“ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.”

**“And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

***“ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, 24and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” 25In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 27Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. 28Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. 30That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.31 But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

Assisting in Today's Service

Preacher: Rev. Ronnie Backs

Elder: Parker Schoen

Assisting Elder: Drew Meier

Sound: Drew Meier

Broadcast: Carole Kleiboeker

Organist: Susan Senninger

Pre-Service Music: Betty Sawyer

Communion Setup: Karlea McBlair

Communion Wash: Walt & Cheryl Brown

THOSE TO REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Health- Joan Haines, Emma Conklin, RoseMarie Dieckhoff, Dana Robb, Delphine Lehde Mullan, Kathleen Mueller, Erin Hunt, Jim Bracht, Alyssa Parrigon, Tess Holle, Dick Highfill, David Tunnell, Grace Doss, Karen Schmedeke, Don Schmedeke, Karen Miller, Baby Reed Fuemmeler, Lois Gaddy, Robbie Krueger, Stephen Schoen, Debbie Schoen, David Holle, Mark Fellwock, Sharon Curtit, Connie Prater, Walter Brown, Sarah and Katherine Roller and family

Anniversaries-

Ryan and Abigail Kleiboeker are celebrating 25 years of marriage on September 8.

Birthday's-

Lillyetta Meyer is celebrating 80 years of life on September 8.

Remembering our Seasoned Saints (80+ years old)- John Bremer, James Gaddy, Marjorie Harris, Karen Kleiboeker, Doris Meyer, Connie Prater, Karen Schmedeke, Allene Spree

Families of the Week- Willie Carr family, Jo Chandler, Dale Chapman family, David Chapman family, Lauren Choate family, Samantha Chudomelka family, Harold Clanton, Kim Connelly family, Jeffrey Creed family, Monica Curl family, Sharon Curtit

Radio Broadcast for today is sponsored by St. John's Lutheran Church Stones Prairie and dedicated to the glory of God.

Self Service Nursery is available in the chapel for families with children. Toys and Supplies are in the cabinet. Ask an usher for assistance.

Hearing assistance receivers are available. Please ask an usher.

Lap Robes are in the black cabinet in the narthex and bell tower. Please ask an Usher or Elder for assistance if needed.

For Altar Flowers- contact the Church Office.