

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

10:00 AM Combined Worship Service • July 26, 2020

ELW Setting 1 • Facebook

Eight Sunday After Pentecost



As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel, Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

Thank you for joining us online as a new way of connecting to God's word as we transition during this time of social distancing to protect ourselves and others.

Please feel free to contact Pastor Tina if you need help in any way during this time. Her phone number is listed below. Just know that she is only a phone call away.



The Reverend Tina Melusky, Pastor

Pastor Melusky's office hours:

Monday: 9 - 2; Tuesday: 9 -10:30, 11:30 - 12:15

Wednesday 9:30 - 12; Thursday 9 - 12

(Times are sometimes flexible with monthly meetings,
but feel free to call for an appointment or drop in)

William C. Solomon, Interim Organist

Bill Tew, Interim Choir Director

Congregation of Trinity Lutheran, Ministers of the Word

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607

Church office: (757) 245-7861; Pastor's cell: (734) 239-4013

www.trinitylutheran-nn.com

Trinity Lutheran is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center.

Cover image found online:

Prelude

Announcements

Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

**We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.**

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

**We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.**

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

By your grace, forgive us;

through your love, renew us;

and in your Spirit, lead us;

so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy

we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus,

through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

Our sins are forgiven.

Let us live now in hope.

For hope does not disappoint,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
 2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
 3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space:
 known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
 chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
 probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
 May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;

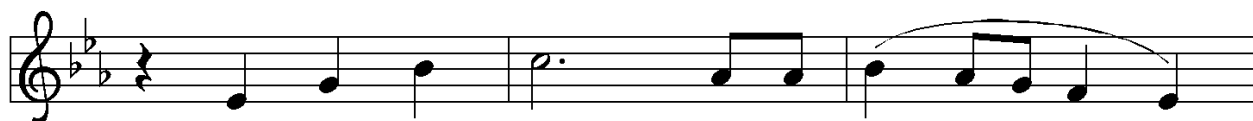


great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
 great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple 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.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:129-136 (read responsively)

Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

**When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.**

I open my mouth and pant
because I long for your commandments.

**Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your name.**

Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

**Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.**

Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.

**My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or

sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate from the righteous and throw the evil into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Chat

Pastor Tina

Sermon

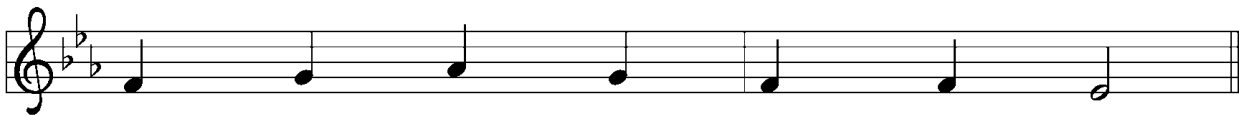
Pastor Tina



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
 2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our
 3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
 4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful
 5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
 world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing,
 seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
 in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:
 be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
 all the fail - ures we con - fess.
 set us free and grant us peace.
 make us stron - ger, give us faith.
 God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Apostle's Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Thanksgiving for the Word

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

Blessing

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



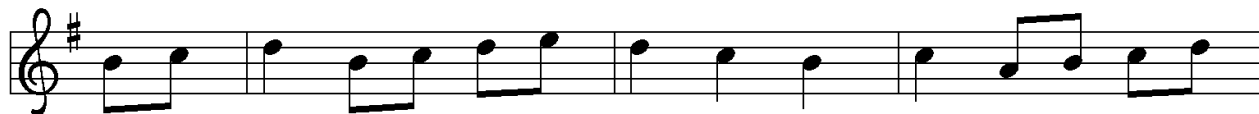
the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
 the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
 our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
 em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
 With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
 lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
 Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to give work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
 give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

YOUTH NEWS

VA Aquarium Adventure Course:

We have not forgotten about our outdoor high adventure ropes course trip at the VA Beach Aquarium that we had scheduled when the pandemic hit. The ropes course has reopened, but we are going to wait until the fall to tackle this event. We will post a new date once we have one.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open, But Hard Conversations: Many of us feel the struggles that our siblings of color have gone through over the past 200 years and still continue to go through in the 21st century. We have acknowledged and prayed for them periodically, but then we go about life as if these issues were fixed. However, we know that our siblings continue to hurt and we need to have some deep conversations about race, diversity and life in the 21st century church. Even though it makes us uncomfortable, we must not ignore the call of Christ to care for our neighbors. At the beginning of August we are going to begin a discussion group (over Zoom for now) about the book *Dear Church* by Lenny Duncan. If you are interested, **please email Pastor Tina so we can get an idea of how many people we will have** and we can make some decisions about how we want to proceed as a group. Our first session will be Thursday, August 6, 6:30 p.m., to discuss the introduction and first two chapters. Copies of *Dear Church* can be found at Barnes and Noble for \$14.99.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: The next Bible Study will be on **Tuesday, July 28 at 10:30** a.m.. A Zoom invitation will be emailed. If you would like to join this group, please let Pastor Tina or Anne know (245-7861)

Walking Worship Wednesdays (WWW): We plan to be walking on **Wednesday, July 29**, weather permitting. If you plan to join us on Wednesday, please meet us in the Mariner's Museum parking lot at around 5:45 to start walking at 6:00 p.m. All welcome.

Youth Yard Sale: Thanks to all who donated items, time, etc. to the youth yard sale! It is greatly appreciated.

PRAYER LIST

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: **Rehab:** Ed Matz (at home); Doris Moeser (St. Francis Nursing Center, Mary Immaculate Hosp., 4 Ridgewood Pkwy, Rm. 11, Newport News, VA, 23602); **Retirement Home:** Alan Bobbe (Warwick Forest, Apt. 30); Peggy and Hardy Cash (2022 Executive Dr., Apt 318, Hampton, VA, 23666), Jeanette Cantrell (The Chesapeake, 955 Harpersville Road, AL302, Newport News, VA, 23601, jcantrell116@gmail.com); Millie Christensen (Morningside: Rm. 131); Betty Hasel (The Newport, Rm 14); Charles Kessler (The Chesapeake - Assisted Living, Rm.206); Lucille Lebold (Williamsburg Landing, Memory Care Unit); Edith Naurath (Warwick Forest - The Gardens, Memory Care Unit); Rudi Naurath (Warwick Forest – Apt. 127, 850 Denbigh Blvd, 23608); Barbara Olson, (The Chesapeake, Rm. 3013); Buddy Schultz (Commonwealth Senior Living at Hampton, Rm. 503 Memory Care Unit, 1030 Topping Lane, Hampton, VA, 23666); **Shut-in at Home:** Janet Edwards, Gerda Hudgens, Joan Johnston and Doris and Ernie Moeser.

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS: **The Ahlen Family, Paige Ahlen, and Maria Goldsby** requested by Kathy Stevens; **Bill Nuckols (father), Carolyn Patterson, Shirley Skinner, and Oxana Sidor** (friend), **Mike Muskalla (former member)** and **the friends and family of Mr. Kim Lassiter (special friend)**, requested by Patricia Fielding; **Charlotte Rogers and Tina McManama**, requested by Richard and Sandra Anderson; **Hannelore Voss (Karoline's mother)**, requested by the Ardis family; **Sharon (Sherry) Johnston**, requested by Grant and Donna Owens; **Sandy Nelson (friend)**, requested by Pastor Tina; **Bonnie Carlson**, requested by Dave Carlson; **Rlou Baum (mother of Wendy Kowalski)**, requested by Jessica Moye; **Jacque and Harry Hartman**, requested by Nancy Lindfors; **Patrick Kube**, by Diane Roselius; **Luke and Pat**, requested by Janet Earnhardt; **Nancy Sumpter (mother), June Geyer (grandmother) and Molly Chartrand (Jacob's co-worker)**, requested by Patricia Wessler; **Paul St. Amand (former co-worker) and Autumn (granddaughter of former co-worker)**, requested by Dee Klapperich; **George Kingston**, requested by Sandy and John Lunsford; Lauri Nosil; Michael May, requested by Jon May; Shirley Krause (former congregation member), requested by Anne Obara; **the family and friends of Tom Sallade (Linda Madler's brother and son of Dick and Maureen Sallade); the friends and family of Doug Carlson**, requested by Dave Roselius; **Rudi Naurath**; **the friends and family of Edith Naurath**, requested by Rudi Naurath and **the friends and family of Pattie Dowd**.

Those Who Serve, Military and Civilian Duty: James Fielding, Marine Corps; Georgia; Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Washington, D. C.; Eric Lindfors, Deputy Commander US Naval Forces - Korea; Tyler Obara, Air Force National Guard, LAFB and Ashby Owens, Operation Smile.

CHRISTIAN HOPE AND SYMPATHY are extended to the family and friends of our sister in Christ, Edith Bayer Naurath, upon her passing on Thursday, July 16, 2020, in Yorktown, VA. Edith was baptized and confirmed in Cologne, Germany. No arrangements for a memorial service will be made until all of their families in Europe can be notified and able to travel to the U.S. Please keep Rudi and their family and friends in your thoughts and prayers. An email was sent out to the congregation on Thursday, July 16, 2020 with no link to her obituary at the time.

“Thanks be to God who gives us victory over death through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

CHRISTIAN HOPE AND SYMPATHY are extended to the family and friends of a long-time, former Trinity member, Charlotte Copenhaver Ryan, upon her passing on Friday, July 17, 2020, in Yorktown, VA. A memorial service was held at Peninsula Memorial Park on Friday, July 24, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. Please keep her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers. An email was sent out to the congregation on Wednesday, July 21, 2020 which had a link to Charlotte’s obituary.

“Thanks be to God who gives us victory over death through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

