

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

10:00 AM Combined Worship Service • September 6, 2020

ELW Setting 1 • Facebook

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

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

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 by JoAnne Rawls

Prelude

Announcements

Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

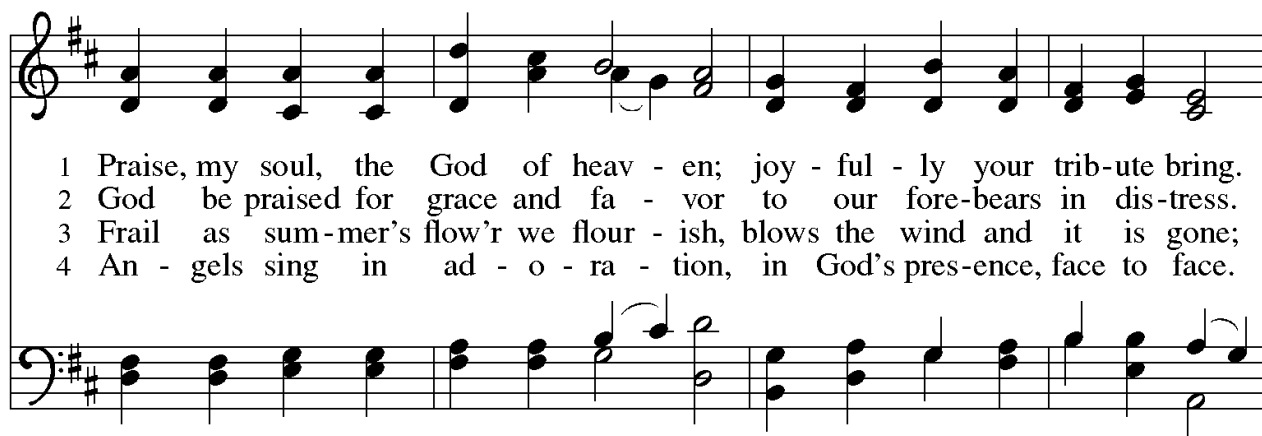
**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.

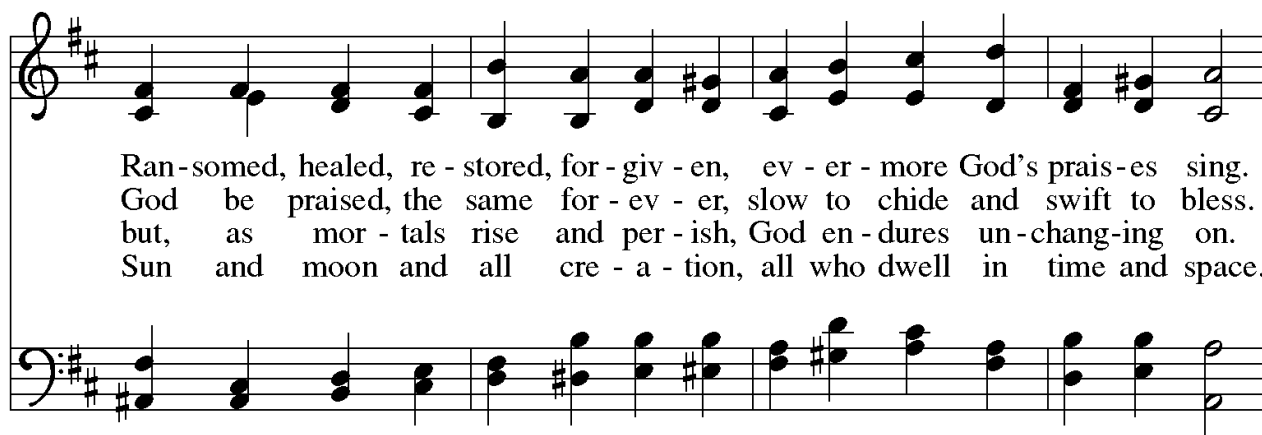
Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

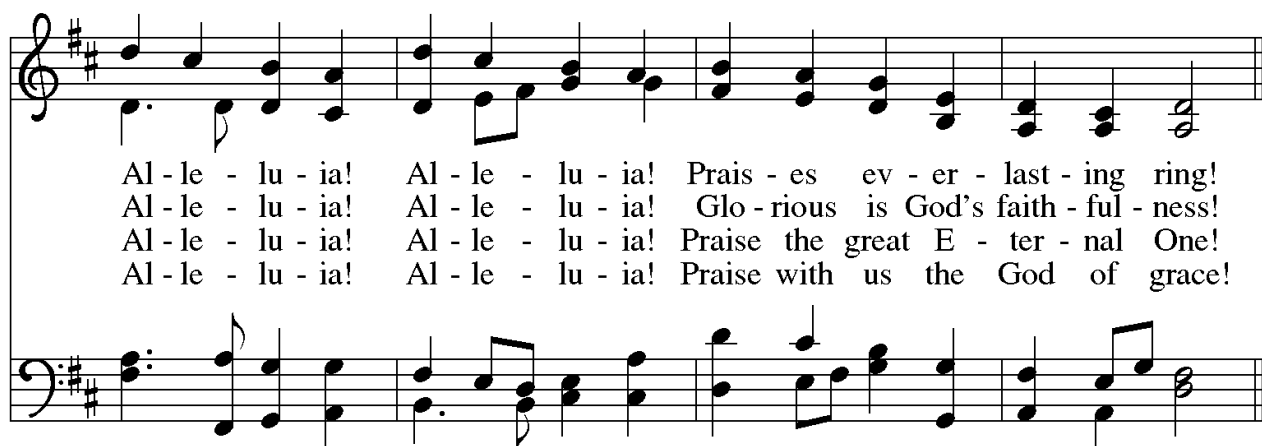
Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
 2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
 4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
 God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
 but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
 Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.

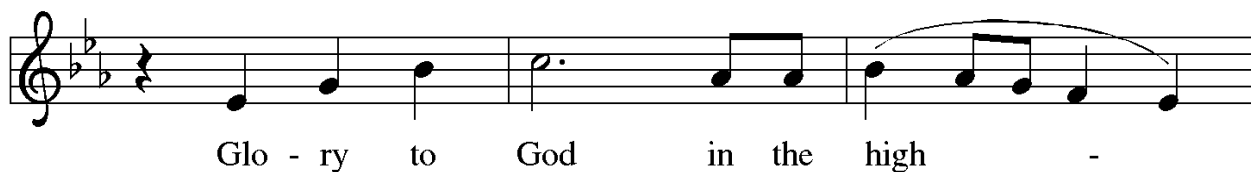


Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

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

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

Psalm 119:33-40 (read responsively)

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

**Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

**Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.**

Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

**Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.**

Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

**Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.**

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The 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, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

Children’s Chat

Pastor Tina

Sermon

Pastor Tina

Hymn of the Day

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

ELW 772



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

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.**

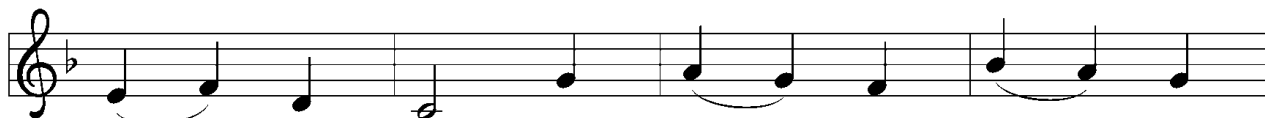
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Mothering God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
 2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
 bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
 joy like seed and, all our days, to
 to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
 share a dream and help the blind to see.
 cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
 pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Trinity!: Dinah Balthis has been worshipping with us online for a number of months now and loves Pastor Tina's sermons. She comes to us from Resurrection Lutheran Church. We heartily welcome you to our Trinity family, Dinah!

Church Council meeting: Our church council meeting for the month of September will be held on **Tuesday, September 15** instead of this Tuesday, September 8. A Zoom invitation will be sent out soon.

Open, But Hard Conversations: Our last group discussion about the book *Dear Church* will be on **Thursday, September 17 at 6:30 p.m.** via Zoom.

Drive-Up Communion: We continue to provide you a time and place to safely receive Holy Communion with your family in a way that is meaningful and fulfilling. The LAST Drive-Up communion is on Sunday, September 6.

Schedule (Time: 12:00-2:00 PM) for Area Groups 10-14 and Friends of the Congregation

Pastor Tina will be at the **River Rd. entrance (double glass doors)** to Trinity **from 12-2**. Here is how we will proceed. We will have two cars of families pull up to the entrance, lower their windows, and we will share a brief liturgy together, masked and from social distance. Communion will be provided in self-contained vessels, which provide the wafer and juice in one package for safe distribution. Each family will be handed a plate with their communion on it and they will distribute it to themselves in their cars. After those vehicles are finished, the next group will pull up and we will continue to cycle through those in attendance. We would ask that you form a line on River Rd., coming around the church via Huntington Ave., not through the parking lot, so that we can maintain a comfortable flow of traffic.

Please wear your mask when you are attending and have your windows down, and while you are waiting do not exit your cars to socialize. We want to make sure that everyone is as safe as possible as we attempt to navigate this new way of worshipping and being church together. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Tina.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR . . .

Walking Worship Wednesdays: With any luck, the weather will be cooler when we attempt to do WWW this time. On **Wednesday, September 23**, we will meet in the Mariner's Museum parking lot for a short walk through the Noland Trail with an abbreviated worship service along the way. The time will be announced later. Anyone is welcome to come.

Theology on Tap: Yep! It is that time of year again. We will resume our Theology on Tap discussion time via Zoom starting on Thursday, August 24 at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Tina usually picks a topic and we think about and discuss our feelings about the topic. If you have not

joined our group before or have not done so in a long time, please notify the church office or Pastor Tina so that she can send a Zoom invitation to include all who wish to participate. All welcome!

VANCO Online giving: An Important Note For Congregation Members and Friends -

For your convenience, the Church Council and Finance Committee have arranged to provide an optional online donation service for congregation members, friends and visitors with Vanco Payment Services, the ELCA-recommended electronic donation service. Through this service, you may donate from your checking or savings account or with a credit or debit card. Of course, you may also continue to donate through whatever other methods work best for you.

The procedure is very user-friendly. Just go to Trinity's website, <http://www.trinitylutheran-nn.com> (see below), and click on the green "online giving" link on the homepage.

Being able to send your offering donations electronically is especially important during the current pandemic, and we hope that this will be an opportunity for members, friends and visitors to support the ongoing work of the church easily and from the comfort of home.

If you have questions about the donation site or how to make your donation, please don't hesitate to contact the church office, 245-7861. continued

Procedure for online giving:

Go to <http://trinitylutheran-nn.com/>

Press the green "online giving" link.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: The next Bible Study will be on **Tuesday, September 1 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).

Hilton Churches Outreach Project– Food for THRIVE: As you can imagine, the daily request for food has skyrocketed since March. Therefore, as our Hilton Churches September Outreach Project, we are doing a food drive. Your food items can be dropped off in St. Nicholas Chapel at St. Andrew's in Hilton or in the lobby at Trinity during the month of September and we will deliver everything to THRIVE in September.

To date, we have only received two bags of collected items. Anne will be taking the bags to St. Andrew's this month. If you wish to contribute, please bring your item(s) to the basket at the double glass doors.

Here is the list of items we will be collecting. Some of them are specific as to the need:

- * small jars of peanut butter
- * small plastic jars of jelly
- * small pop-top cans of pasta, such as Ravioli
- * cans of soup, black-eyed peas, and mixed vegetables
- * regular size boxes of cereal (not the "giant" sizes)

- * pouches of instant potatoes
- * boxes with individual packets of oatmeal
- * boxes of crackers, such as Ritz which has individual wrapped rolls
- * “bowl” food items, such as Mac and Cheese, meat products, etc., that only need water to be added to them.

Bus Driver needed: If you or someone you know needs a part-time job and can drive a school bus for Trinity Lutheran School as a substitute driver, please let the church office or the school office know. The school is also looking for a substitute teacher and an extended care aide. Here is the link to their website: <https://trinitynn.com/our-story/employment-at-tls/>

PRAYER LIST

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: 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); 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); 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.

continued

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; **Bonnie Carlson,** requested by Dave Carlson; **Rlou Baum (mother of Wendy Kowalski),** requested by Jessica Moye; **Jacque and Harry Hartman,** requested by Nancy Lindfors; **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; **Michael May,** requested by Jon May; **Bobbie Morgan,** requested by Anne Obara; **Anne Evans and Bill Solomon (storm damage): Mary Poole and Lauri Nosil; Teresa Carr,** requested by Trinity Staff; **the friends and family of Bill Poole and the friends and family of Ruth Varn,** requested by Laura Davis.

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.