

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

10:00 AM Worship Service • July 16, 2023

Now the Feast and Celebration



God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

Welcome members and guests to our worship service today. If you are visiting, we encourage you to sign the guest register located in the narthex; or, if you are online during our worship service, drop us a line to say hello or that you and your family are attending, so that we know you have joined us for worship. For those who come in person, please include your home address, email address and phone number. In each pew, there is a card that you can fill out if you wish to have a consult with the pastor and/or leave us more information about you. Sunday School begins at 8:45 followed by a worship service at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. **A nursery room is available** during the service. The nursery is located off the hallway on the Huntington Avenue side of the church building. At this time, there are no nursery attendants. We also have “activity binders” available for older children to enjoy during the service. Please ask an usher about using one.

Trinity offers an induction loop for the benefit of hearing impaired worshippers. To use, please switch your hearing aid to “T.”

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607
(757) 245-7861 – <http://trinitylutheran-nn.com>
Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



REV. TINA MELUSKY – Pastor (tina.melusky@gmail.com)

GEOFFREY BELL – Director of Music Ministries (music@trinitynn.org)

ANNE OBARA – Administrative Assistant (admin@trinitynn.org)

CAROL BESSOM – Treasurer (cbessom@trinitynn.com)

THE CONGREGATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN – Ministers of the Word
FACEBOOK & WORSHIP LIVESTREAMS: <http://facebook.com/TrinityNN>
TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL WEBSITE: <http://trinitynn.org>

PASTOR MELUSKY'S OFFICE HOURS

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

Wednesday 9:30am-12pm; Thursday 9am-12pm

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

Pastor's Cell: (734) 239-4013

Trinity is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center,
LINK, THRIVE, and The Simple Sunflower.

<https://www.kobo.com/us/en/audiobook/holy-trinity-the-1>

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CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on *Unser Herrscher*

Helmut Walcha

GATHERING

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross,
the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings.
We have hoarded your bounty.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God's mercy:
you are freed and forgiven
in the name of † Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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

Now the Feast booklet page 3

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Now the Feast booklet pages 4-5

SALUTATION

Now the Feast booklet page 7

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,

for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

PSALM 65:[1-8] 9-13 (*spoken responsively*)

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your
temple.**

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of
God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves
with grain;

let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

*There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what
the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit*

now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending God's own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, God condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to God. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, God who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through God's Spirit that dwells in you.

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

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Now the Feast booklet page 8

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Cheryl Griffin

SERMON

Pastor Cheryl Griffin

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil
GOOD SOIL; sing through twice

ELW 512

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

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

The assembly is seated.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY HYMN

As the Grains of Wheat *Now the Feast* booklet page 10

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of field and forest, sea and sky,
you are the giver of all good things.
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us,
that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Now the Feast booklet page 11

SANCTUS

Now the Feast booklet pages 11-12

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God

Now the Feast Booklet page 14

COMMUNION

Communion is held around the table. The bread will be handed to you by the pastor. Please take a communion cup with wine from the outside edge of the tray or a grape juice cup from the center of the tray. Recycle baskets are located outside of the sanctuary doors for your plastic cups.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

O God, Whose Word Well-Planted
ABIDING HARVEST

ACS 975

The assembly stands.

SENDING

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Thanks Be to You* *Now the Feast* booklet page 15

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✠ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing
THE ASH GROVE

ELW 547

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the harvest.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

arr. Paul Manz

ANNOUNCEMENT

Thank you, Pastor Cheryl, for filling in for Pastor Tina while she is away on vacation. We appreciate your willingness to lead us in worship today.

PRAYER LISTS

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: Nursing Homes/Assisted Living: Jeanette Cantrell, Millie Christensen, Lucille Lebold ; **Shut-in at Home:** Peggy Cash, Janet Edwards, J.R. Griffin, Gerda Hudgens, Doris Moeser, and Dick Sallade; **Recovery At Home:** Bonnie Carlson, and Butch Klapperich.

PRAYER REQUESTS: **The Ahlen Family and Bella and Mark Sandlass**, requested by Kathy Stevens; **Hannelore Voss (Karoline's mother)**, requested by the Ardis family; **Matt Adamo (Brother-in-law of Patricia)** requested by Patricia Fielding; **Matt Eggar**, requested by Sandy Sniady; **Mary Lou Hubble (Jacob's aunt)**, requested by the Wessler family; **Jessica Savage**, requested by the Dail Family; **Jonathan Blank (Pastor Tina's Brother-in-law)** requested by Pastor Tina; **Susan Koehlinger (Laura's mother)**, requested by Laura Jay; **the family and friends of Hazel Woodard**, requested by Patricia Fielding; and **Jackie Judd (former teacher and friend)**, requested by Louise Mozingo.

Those Who Serve, Military and Civilian Duty: **James Fielding**, State Dept., Myanmar; **Bryan Hunt**, State Dept., Belleville, IL.; **Eric Lindfors**, Deputy Commander US Naval Forces - Korea; **Tyler Obara**, Virginia Air National Guard, LAFB; **Josh and Ellen (Davis) Badgley**, State Department, Bangkok, Thailand; **Michael Titus**, US Navy, Naval Shipyard, Washington, DC and wife, **Elisabeth Bruce**.

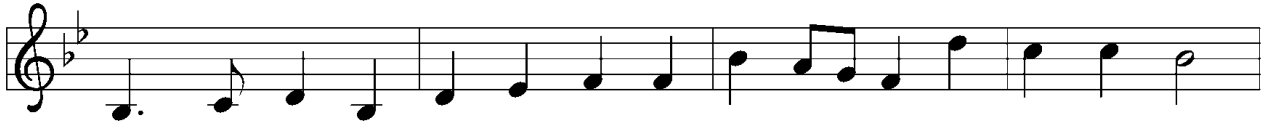
Serving the Assembly

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Crucifer | Shawn Murphy |
| Acolytes | Samantha Harry Elliott Jay |
| Lector | Dave Roselius |
| Ushers/Greeters/Presenters | Karoline Ardis John Lunsford |
| Camera/Livestream | Garrett Mynoymany |

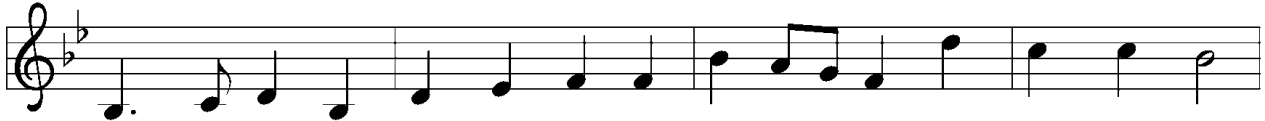
Do you have a good idea for a theme for our 125th anniversary celebration? If so, please jot it down below and place it in the basket in the church library. Thank you!!

Name (optional): _____

Theme idea for 125th anniversary:



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
 let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 as my guid-ing star through life, as my com-fort in all strife.
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

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Music During Distribution

O God, Whose Word Well-Planted

ACS 975



1 O God, whose word well-plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred - fold,
2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,
3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field



we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,
at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be in vain.
will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.



who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil
Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,
Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;



where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.
that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.
and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: ABIDING PRESENCE, Stephen P. Folkemer, b. 1952

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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,



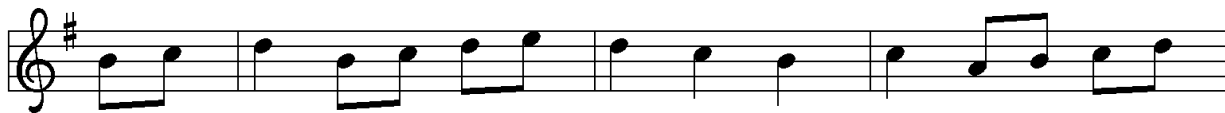
the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
 the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



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