Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

10:00 AM Worship Service • October 1, 2023

Setting 2



Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy 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)

GOOS AMAZING GRACK

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

WING IN THE GOOD NEWS

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.

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CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

O God, My Faithful God

arr. Michael Burkhardt

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 God, the one who forms us, \pm Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed

by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have

for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused,

known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others

and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away

from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you

and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



re - ceive

our

prayer.

seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther:

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their lives. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves new hearts and new spirits! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

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

PSALM 25:1-9 (spoken responsively)



To you, O Lord,

I lift up my soul.

My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths. (Refrain)

Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

You are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way. (**Refrain**)

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for God's good pleasure.

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

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



My sheep hear my voice, | says the Lord; I know them and they | follow me.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these

things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

The assembly is seated.

Pastor Tina Melusky

SERMON Pastor Tina Melusky

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S CHAT

O God, My Faithful God WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT **ELW 806**

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

Merciful God, receive 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 ANTHEM Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be; help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee; and, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal; and, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be; help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee; and, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear; and, with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;

show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee; separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good, and whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be; help me now thy power to see, I would be like thee; 'gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield; let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 181

The assembly stands.

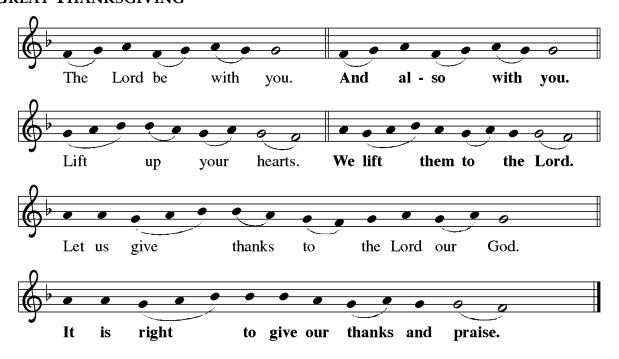
OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty,

all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

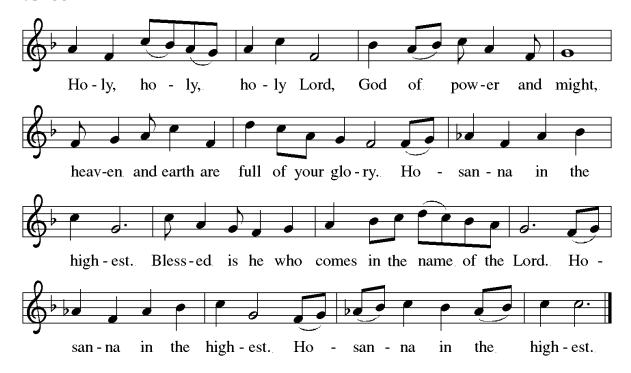


PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

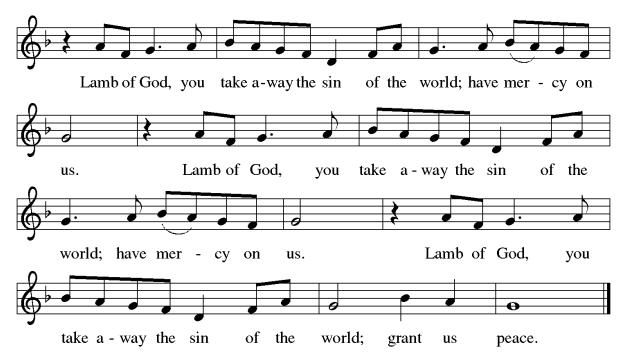
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

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

The assembly is seated.

AGNUS DEI



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

By Your Hand You Feed Your People CAMROSE

ELW 469

The assembly stands.

SENDING

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING

The God of glory, \pm Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth ENVIADO

ELW 538

(choir will sing through once, then congregation will join second time)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Finale on *King's Weston*

William H. Bates



PRAYER LISTS

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: Nursing Homes/Assisted Living: Jeanette Cantrell, Millie Christensen, Lucille Lebold and Barbara Olson (The Chesapeake, Health Care Unit, Room 5); Shut-in at Home: Peggy Cash, Janet Edwards, Doris Moeser, Louise Mozingo and Dick Sallade; Recovery At Home: Richard Anderson.

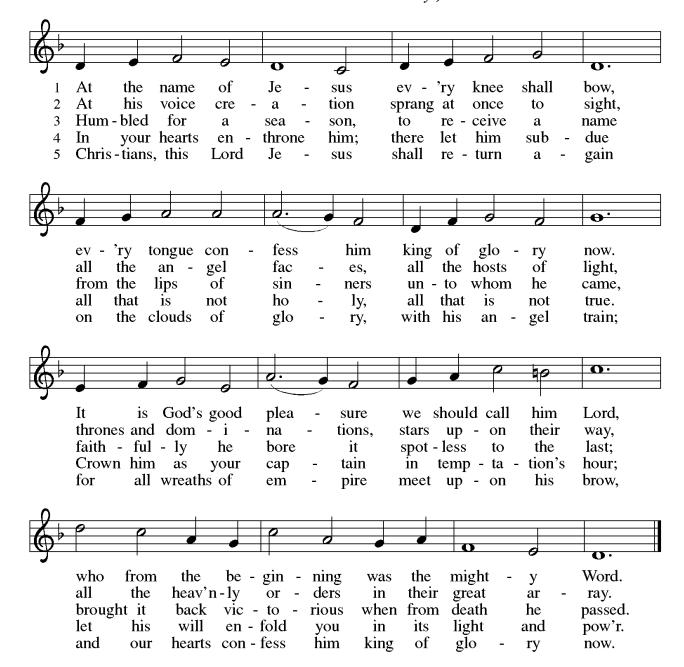
PRAYER REQUESTS: The Ahlen Family and Bella and Mark Sandlass, requested by Kathy Stevens; Hannelore Voss (Karoline's mother), requested by the Ardis family; Matt Adamo (Brother-in-law of Patricia) requested by Patricia Fielding; Matt Eggars (Sandy's nephew), requested by the Sniady family; Mary Lou Hubble (Jacob's

aunt), requested by the Wessler family; Jessica Savage, requested by the Dail Family; Susan Koehlinger (Laura's mother), requested by Laura Jay; Harry Hartman, Bill Wren and Patrick Soukup, requested by Anne Obara; Bill Selby (uncle) and Sherrie Strickland (cousin), requested by Wendy Mynoymany and Patrick Murphy (Shawn's father), requested by Bill Solomon

Those Who Serve, Military and Civilian Duty: James Fielding, State Dept., Myanmar; Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Sierra Leone.; 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.

The flowers today are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of all those who helped build Trinity Lutheran Church over the last 125 years, by Judy and David Hunt.

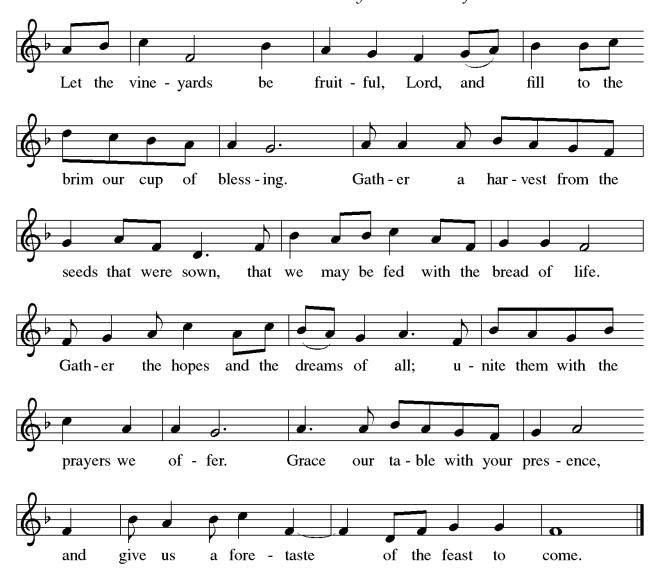
Serving the Assembly	
Crucifer	Karina Stevens
Acolytes	Carter Recupero
	Elena Stevens
Lector	Dee Klapperich
Ushers/Greeters/Presenters	John Lunsford
	Dave Roselius
Camera/Livestream	Cliff Obara



Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–1877 Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Music from *Songs of Praise*, © Oxford University Press 1925.

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Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 469



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