

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

11:00 AM Worship In the Park

Now the Feast and Celebration • October 15, 2023



In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

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)

KATHY STEVENS – INTERIM 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.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

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

RESPONSIVE THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

People of God, in the baptismal waters we travel with Christ from death to life. Our past, our sin, our failure, our doubt, and our shame are drowned and gone here.

You, O God, wash us clean.

Our fear, our confusion, our self-righteousness, our despair -- ALL are washed away by grace.

You, O God, wash us clean.

Our pride, our hypocrisy, and other people's opinions of us no longer have the power to define us.

You, O God, give us new life.

The Spirit lives and moves through us now, a great and joyful mystery, so we may bring love and mercy into the world as the body of Christ.

You, O God, give us new life.

Rejoice that God has claimed us in this baptismal grace, not by our own doing or believing but by God's mercy alone.

You, O God, give us new life.

And so, as we begin worship, we give thanks to God for the gracious gift of baptism that joins us together in Christ by the Spirit's power. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. We praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High (sung twice)*

Lord, I lift your name on high
Lord, I love to sing your praises
I'm so glad you're in my life
I'm so glad you came to save me.

You came from Heaven to Earth to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,
From the cross to the grave,
From the grave to the sky,
Lord I lift your name on high.

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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

HYMN OF PRAISE *Now the Feast* *Now the Feast booklet pages 4-5*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Thy Word

Chorus

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

Verse 1

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
Still, you're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near
Please be near me to the end. (Chorus)

I will not forget your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide, hold me to your side
And I will love you to the end (Chorus)

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GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Tina Melusky

Silence is kept for reflection after the sermon.

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Shout to the Lord

My Jesus, my savior, Lord there is none like you,
All of my days, I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength.
Let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

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APOSTLES' 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 of grace, hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace, which enables people to live in unity and in the spirit of mutual forgiveness, comes from Christ, whose word has been proclaimed.

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

The assembly is seated.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Open the Eyes of My Heart

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see you, I want to see you (Repeat)**

**To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory
Pour out your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy.**

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
I want to see you.

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The assembly stands.

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

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

The Great Thanksgiving

Now the Feast booklet page 11

Proper Preface

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and
always offer thanks and praise to you..

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

Sanctus

Now the Feast booklet page 11

Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, gracious, and merciful God...

...and in whom we live, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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.**

The assembly is seated

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God Now the Feast booklet page 14

COMMUNION

You are welcome to come forward and receive the bread from the pastor and then take a glass of wine or grape juice from the tray held by the communion assistant.

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Sanctuary

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving
I'll be a living sanctuary for you
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Amazing Grace (alternate)

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now am found;
Was blind but now I see.
Alleluia!

Verse 2

Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so,
Little ones to him belong,
They are weak, but he is strong,
Alleluia!

Verse 3

A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious,
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod,
And wins salvation glorious.
Alleluia!

Verse 4

O God our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home
Alleluia!

Verse 5

In Christ there is no east or west,
In him no south or north
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth,
Alleluia!

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I Will Call Upon the Lord

I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised
So shall I be saved from my enemies.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the rock
And may the God of our salvation be exalted.
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the rock
And may the God of our salvation be exalted.

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The assembly stands.

SENDING

TABLE BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Thanks Be to You*

Now the Feast booklet page 15

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send

us to gather the world to our banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

BLESSING

Maybe in this there is a glimpse of the kingdom, a foretaste, a hint, a promise.

Let it hold you and let it send you so you will never be at peace
until all are fed, until all know home
until all are free, until justice is done
until peace is the way, until grace is the law
until love is the rule,

until God's realm comes
until God's realm comes
until God's realm comes....

SENDING HYMN *Blessed be the Lord*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel
From everlasting to everlasting.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel
From everlasting to everlasting.

Let all God's people say amen (Amen!)
Let all God's people say amen (Amen!)
Let all God's people say amen and praise the Lord.

(words and music by The Rev. Dave Delaney, Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Virginia Synod, ELCA)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

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); Louise Mozingo (Northampton Rehab room W6); **Shut-in at Home:** Peggy Cash, Janet Edwards, Doris Moeser, and Dick Sallade; **Recovery At Home:** Richard Anderson.

PRAYER REQUESTS: **The Ahlen Family**, 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**.