

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

10:00 AM Worship Service • August 17, 2025

Now the Feast and Celebration



The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."

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. 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.

The nursery is available, however since there are no attendants at this time, feel free to use it as needed.



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)

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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

Pastor's Cell: (734) 239-4013

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

Bulletin cover image by Carol Bessom.

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Augsburg Fortress

We are a reconciling in Christ community.

CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

How Firm a Foundation

arr. Mark Hayes

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

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.**

Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✠ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

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: Jeremiah 23:23-29

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 82



Psalm 82:8

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God stands to charge the divine council assembled,
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

**“How long will you judge unjustly,
and show favor to the wicked?**

Save the weak and the orphan;
defend the humble and needy;

**rescue the weak and the poor;
deliver them from the power of the wicked. R**

They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

**Now I say to you, ‘You are gods,
and all of you children of the Most High;
nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,
and fall like any prince.’ ”**

**Arise, O God, and rule the earth,
for you shall take all nations for your own. R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses,” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of

lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Now the Feast booklet page 8

GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

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

The assembly is seated

**CHILDREN’S CHAT
SERMON**

Pastor Tina Melusky
Pastor Tina Melusky

The assembly stands

HYMN OF THE DAY

When Pain of the World Surrounds Us
CALLED TO FOLLOW

ELW 704

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

Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

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

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

arr. Tom Trenney

Charles Robinson, baritone

*I want to walk as a child of the Light; I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

*I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path and show me the way to the Father.*

*In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

As the Grains of Wheat

Now the Feast booklet page 10

OFFERTORY

Creator God,
**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Now the Feast booklet page 11

PROPER PREFACE

It is our duty and delight...

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

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy

Now the Feast booklet page 11-12

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.**

AGNUS DEI

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 **clear** cup with wine or a **purple** cup with grape juice from the tray. Recycling baskets for your plastic cups are located outside the doors of the sanctuary. Trinity has an open table – all are welcome to come to the feast.*

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord
REPTON

ELW 580

The assembly stands.

SENDING

TABLE BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

How Firm a Foundation
FOUNDATION

ELW 796

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Postlude on Foundation

Jason D. Payne

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY

CRUCIFER – Abbi Wessler

ACOLYTES – Ellie Wessler & Reid Jay

LECTOR – Jacob Wessler

USHERS/GREETERS – John Lunsford & Dave Roselius

CAMERA/LIVESTREAM – Cliff Obara

The Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving honor of Rock and Sue Moeslein's 43rd Wedding Anniversary by Rock Moeslein.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORK DAY 8/23 9 AM to Noon. We will be weeding, moving dirt and mulch, sprucing up the columbarium, cleaning blinds and doors and polishing the brass kick plates on the narthex doors. All are welcome! Thank you

CAN YOU HELP!

We are looking for a couple of volunteers who would be willing to serve in our nursery, providing care for our tiniest members during the service. Youth are welcome, but if you are under 16 you will need an adult present with you as well. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Tina or a member of the Worship and Music committee.

RED FOOD BOX

Thank you so much to all who are so faithfully donating items for the Red Food Box! With these warm days we are in need of bottled water and plastic spoons/forks. Thank you again!

SAVE THE DATE! NEW DIRECTORY!

Mark your calendars! We are going to have photographers here to build our new photo directory on Thursday, October 9 and Friday, October 10. Time slots will go live next month, but for now save the date AND!

We are looking for a team of 3-5 volunteers who will help us coordinate the directory and help get the project promoted and organized. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Tina.

TREASURER'S NOTE!

Dear Trinity Family,

Just a reminder that, since we just voted to approve the 2025 - 2026 budget and have just begun the new fiscal year this month, this is a great time to prayerfully consider increasing your offering, especially if you haven't done so in a few years. It's easy to forget that our church family needs not just your time and talent but your treasure, too!


Thanks to all the members of our family for all you do!

PRAYER LIST

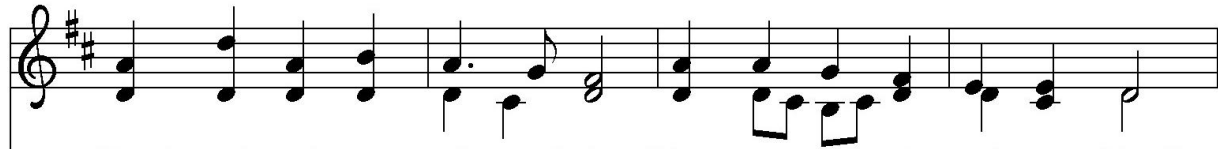
ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS — Nursing Homes/ Assisted Living: Millie Christensen, Barbara Olson; At Home: Shirley Anderson; Jerry Cobb Sentara Hospital: Warwick Forest: Bonnie Carlson. Virginia Hamby Harmony on Peninsula, Room 5.

PRAYER REQUESTS — The family and friends of *Phyllis Harrison Philpot*, requested by Bill Solomon; Warren, Maddie Walker's family; requested by Nancy Lindfors; Lilly Petty, requested by Carol Bessom; Eddie Bateman & Karen Vodenichar, requested by the Sniady Family; Bonnie Carlson, requested by Pastor Tina; Blaine Pearsall, requested by Lina Valdez; Family and friends of Scott Campbell, requested by Todd Recupero; Don Harvey, Anne Obara's Dad, requested by Anne Obara; Stephanie Beauvais, requested by Jarvis Edwards; Larry and Linda Jones, requested by Judy Hunt; Sarah Miller, requested by John and Sandy Lunsford; Wayne Skinner and Pam Carmean, Carroll Emerson, and Judy Wagner St. Pierre, requested by the Dail family; The family of Carole Knopp, request ed by Wendy Mynonymany; Scully, Pastor Tina's dog, requested by Tricia Wessler; Ahlen family, requested by Kathy Stevens.

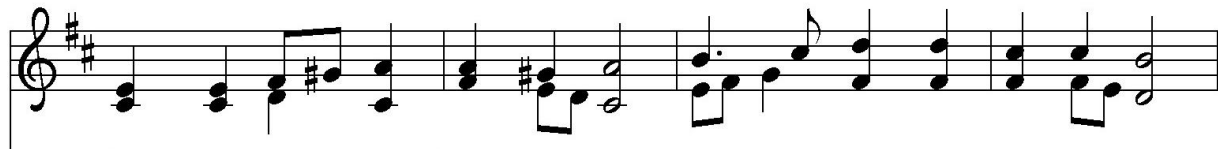
THOSE WHO SERVE, MILITARY AND CIVILIAN DUTY — James Fielding, Tokyo, Japan; Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Sierra Leone; Tyler Obara, Virginia Air National Guard, LAFB.



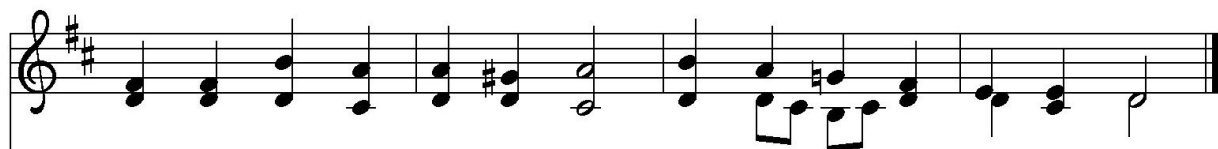
1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
 2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
 3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,



Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
 those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
 and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;



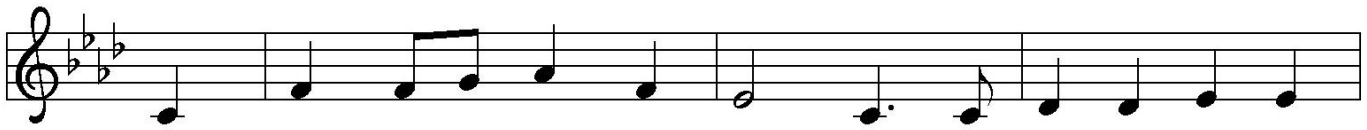
Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
 Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
 from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
 all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
 "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt.

Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.



1 When pain of the world sur - rounds us with dark - ness and de -
 2 We see with . . fear and trem - bling our ach - ing world in
 3 The church is a ho - ly ves - sel the liv - ing wa - ters
 4 We praise you . . for our jour - ney and your a - bun - dant



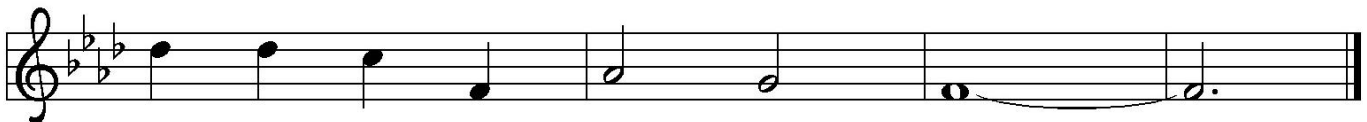
spair, when search - ing just con - founds us with
 need, con - fess - ing to each oth - er our
 fill to nour - ish all the peo - ple, God's
 grace, your sav - ing word that guid - ed a



false hopes ev - 'ry - where, when lives are starved for mean - ing and
 waste - ful - ness and greed. May we with stead - fast car - ing the
 pur - pose to ful - fill. May we with hum - ble cour - age be
 strug - gling hu - man race. O God, with all cre - a - tion, your



des - ti - ny is bare, we are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 hun - gry chil - dren feed. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 o - pen to God's will. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 fu - ture we em - brace. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and



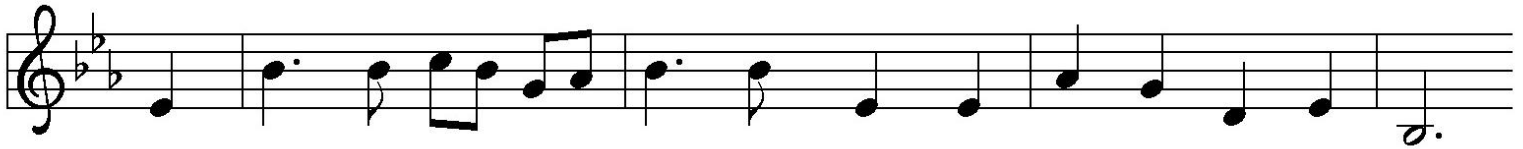
let God's heal - ing flow through us.
 let God's jus - tice flow through us.
 let God's Spir - it flow through us.
 let God's chang - es flow through us.

Text: Jim Strathdee, b. 1941

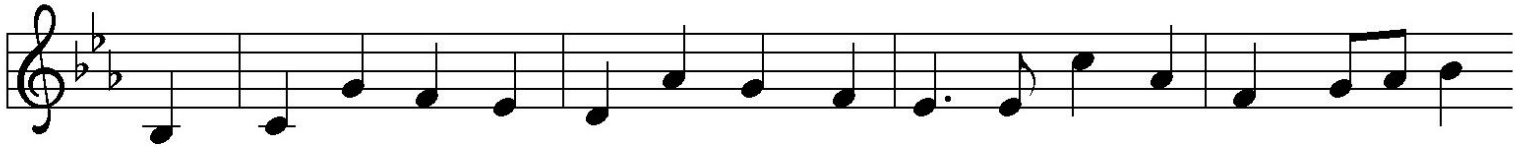
Music: CALLED TO FOLLOW, Jim Strathdee

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1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."