

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

10:00 AM Worship Service • August 31, 2025

Now the Feast and Celebration



Invited and inviting – that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ's banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

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)

SHARON MATHISON – 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

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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We are a reconciling in Christ community.

CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Toccata in F Major, BuxWV 157

Dieterich Buxtehude

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: Proverbs 25:6-7a

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

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

PSALM: 112



Psalm 112:4

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Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!
Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed. R
Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance. R**

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

**Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish. R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for God has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess God's name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

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

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

The assembly is seated

CHILDREN'S CHAT

Pastor Tina Melusky

SERMON

Pastor Tina Melusky

The assembly stands

HYMN OF THE DAY

*As We Gather at Your Table
IN BABILONE*

ELW 522

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

In Remembrance
Charles Robinson, baritone

arr. Lloyd Larson

In remembrance of me, eat this bread. In remembrance of me, drink this wine.

In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done.

In remembrance of me, heal the sick. In remembrance of me, feed the poor.

In remembrance of me, open the door and let your neighbor in, let them in.

Take, eat, and be comforted; drink, and remember too,

that this is my body and precious blood shed for you.

In remembrance of me, search for truth. In remembrance of me, always love.

In remembrance of me, don't look above, but in your heart,

look in your heart, look in your heart for God.

Do this in remembrance of me.

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 *Now We Join in Celebration*
SCHMÜCKE DICH

ELW 462

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

Welcome Table
WELCOME TABLE

ACS 969

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Fugue in F Major, BuxWV 157

Dieterich Buxtehude

SERVING THE ASSEMBLY

CRUCIFER – TBD

ACOLYTES – TBD

LECTOR – Dave Roselius

USHERS/GREETERS – Kevin Prussia & Thad Kieninger

CAMERA/LIVESTREAM – Kelly Rummel



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!

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!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the Pearson Family on the arrival of their baby, Nathan! If you'd like to help us welcome Baby Nathan to our Trinity church family by delivering a ready-to-cook meal for Bryan and Stephanie, please use the online sign-up by scanning the provided QR code to choose a date(s). If you have any questions or need help signing up, please contact Tricia Wessler (patricia@thewesslers.com).



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!

INFORMATION:

SEPT 7th is our Rally Day/RIC Partnership Celebration event entitled "*God's Work, Our Hands - Celebrating Inclusion and Service.*" We will have a special worship service and then a celebration in the social hall following the service.

The Newsome-Bailey Project is a local non-profit tutoring service for students and families in need. One of our congregants, Ken Surles-Law, is the founder and board member of this organization. As part of our celebration event on Sept 7th, we are holding a donation drive for supplies needed by the NBP.

Join us on Sept 7th for this special event!

Worship @ 10am

Celebration @ 11:30am-1pm in the social hall

Bring a dish to share

Join in the fun with food, music, crafts, and activities for everyone

Bring a donation item for the Newsome-Bailey Project

Supply Donation Drive for the Newsome-Bailey Project

The Newsome-Bailey Project is a local non-profit tutoring service for students and families in need. As part of our SEPT 7th "*God's Work, Our Hands - Celebrating Inclusion and Service*" event we are asking for supply donations to support the Newsome-Bailey Project. Please bring your donations to the celebration, or you can leave them in the labeled box in the church library.

Needed items include:

Rulers

Glass craft beads

Sidewalk chalk

Base ten blocks

Pattern blocks

Elementary math flashcards

Large erasers

PRAYER LIST

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS — Nursing Homes/ Assisted Living: Millie Christensen, Barbara Olson; At Home: Tony Flores, Shirley Anderson, and Bonnie Carlson; Jerry Cobb Williams Landing; Virginia Hamby Harmony on Peninsula, Room 121.

PRAYER REQUESTS — Michele and Tom Leonard, *requested by Dottie Self*; 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*; Stephanie Beauvais, *requested by Jarvis Edwards*; Larry and Linda Jones, *requested by Judy Hunt*; Sarah Miller, *requested by John and Sandy Lunsford*; Wayne Skinner, Carroll Emerson, and Judy Wagner St. Pierre, *requested by the Dail family*; The family of Carole Knopp, *requested 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 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ers,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,

teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

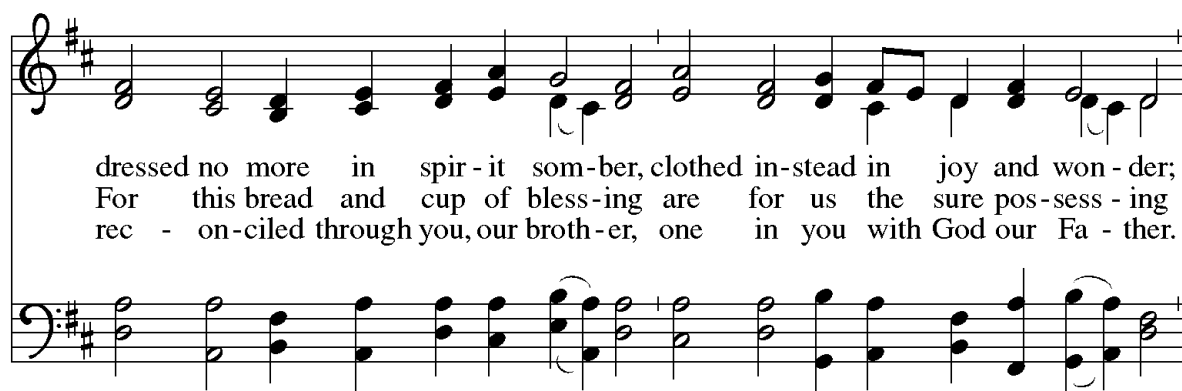
Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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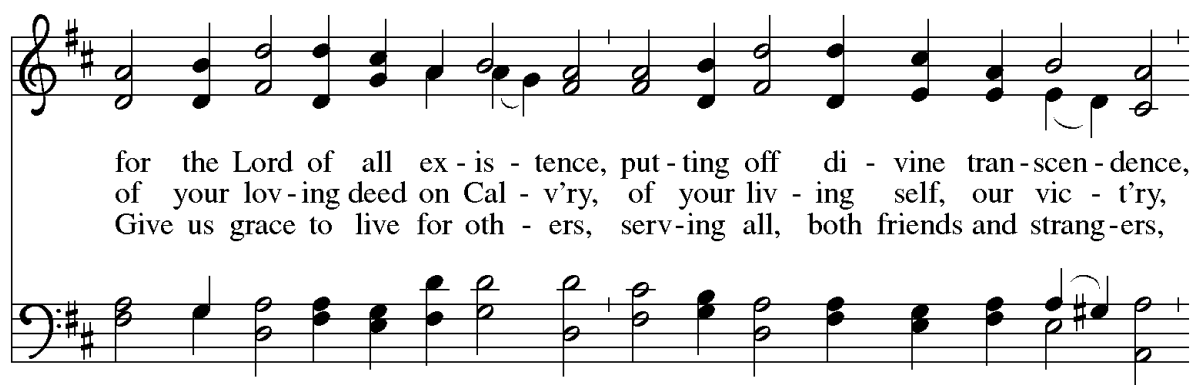
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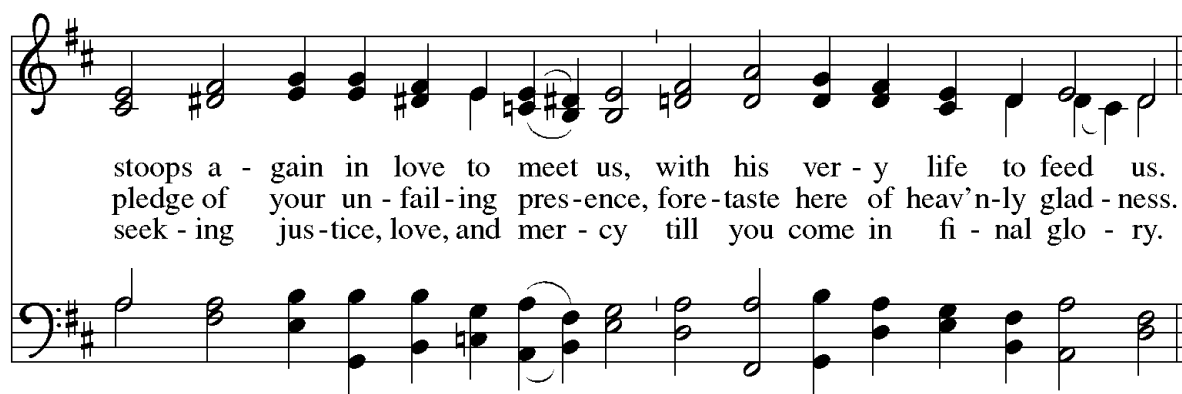
1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav'n - ly glad - ness.
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990

Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

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1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm goin' - a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: WELCOME TABLE, African American spiritual; arr. Mark Hayes, b. 1953

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