

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 26, 2021 Welcome in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ! If you come as a visitor today, we hope you will leave as a friend. We count it a privilege and a blessing to have you with us in worship. If you are not presently a member of any congregation, please feel welcome to gather with us around Jesus in this community of his disciples at Holy Trinity. Come and worship with us again!

Invitation to Communion: Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus Christ by which our Lord is truly present to forgive sin and bring life and salvation. All baptized Christians who believe this promise are welcome to commune. Parents with children are encouraged to come to the altar together. Children who do not yet receive communion will receive the blessing of the Church from the Pastor.

Procedure for Communing: We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.

Gluten-free wafers are available; let Pastor know when you come forward to receive.

Service of Holy Communion

Significance of the Day: Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

Gathering

Prelude

Variations on *Nettleton*

(Hobby et al)

Greeting / Announcements

(The assembly stands as the minister enters.)

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

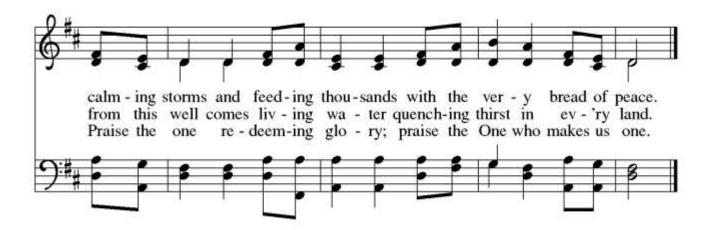
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen**





Apostolic 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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

First Reading

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

A reading from Numbers:

4 The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! 5 We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; 6 but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

10 Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. 11 So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? 12 Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,' to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? 13 Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' 14 I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. 15 If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once - if I have found favor in your sight - and do not let me see my misery." 16 So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

24 So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. 25 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

26 Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. 27 And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." 28 And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" 29 But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19:7-14

(Saturday psalm will be spoken responsively, Sunday psalm will be sung in unison.)



- 7 The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to | the simple.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened, and in keeping them there is | great reward.
- 12 Who can detect one's | own offenses?

Cleanse me from my | secret faults.

- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,
 O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.

Second Reading James 5:13-20

A reading from James:

13 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. 14 Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. 17 Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18 Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

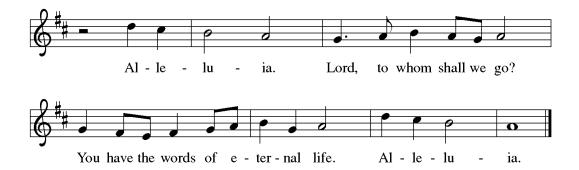
19 My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, 20 you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

(Saturday acclamation will be spoken, Sunday verse will be sung by the Assembly.)



Gospel Mark 9:38-50

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

(The reading of the Gospel.)

38 John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." 39 But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. 40 Whoever is not against us is for us. 41 For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

42 "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. 43 If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. 45 And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. 47 And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, 48 where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

49 "For everyone will be salted with fire. 50 Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon Pastor Brenda Martin

Hymn of the Day

Children of the Heavenly Father



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

A: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need, responding, "Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer."

(Brief silence)

- A: We pray for the church and its ministry. Bless the newly baptized and encourage them in their journey of faith. Sustain all members of the body of Christ in lives of prayer, service, and worship. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Michael; our pastors, deacons, communion assistants, musicians, teachers, council members and all who do your work. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.

- A: We pray for natural wonders of your creation, including Pymatuning, our local streams and rivers, Lake Erie, the Allegheny National Forest. Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. We pray for our farmers, continuing in their harvest season. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- A: We pray for those in authority. Give them wise minds and compassionate hearts. Strengthen in them a desire to protect the vulnerable and care for those underserved. We pray for our president, Joe; our governor, Tom; our local school and municipal leaders. Give them courage and stamina, and give them hearts to help create a just world for all people. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- A: We pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, COVID, or any other disease. Provide them with peace and resilience for the days ahead. Sustain caregivers with energy and patience. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- A: We pray for the teachers and students who will begin in-person classes here today for the first time in 19 months. Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service. Keep us safe. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- A: We give thanks for all your saints, those we have loved and known and those from every time and place, especially Paul, Wendy, and John. Continue to guide us by their example and reassure us of your promised salvation. Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- A: Are there others for whom we should pray?
- P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

Meal

Music as the meal is prepared Interlude on Jesus Love Me (Young)

(The assembly stands. The deacon, on behalf of the people, prays.)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you open your hand, filling our lives with all good things and renewing the face of the earth. We offer these gifts in thanksgiving for all that we have received from your bounty. Accept them for the sake of him who offered his life for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,

and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Breaking of Bread

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.

When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all is now ready.

Communion of the Faithful

Procedure for Communing: We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.

(Following the Communion the assembly stands for the blessing.)

Music during communion

Selected Hymns

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Our Prayer for These Times

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in the world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done to bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

(Remain facing the altar while the Sending Hymn is sung.)

Sending Hymn

Let the Whole Creation Cry



Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Sortie (Rawesthorne)

Serving Tonight

Presiding Minister Pastor Brenda Martin Pianist Maidene Hackett Liturgical Deacon Linda Armstrong

Serving Today

Presiding MinisterPastor Brenda MartinOrganistMaidene HackettLiturgical DeaconJane McCallCommunion AssistantCatherine SnyderLectorBonnie MassingHead UsherJim MartinAltar GuildBonnie Long

Acknowledgments

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Pastors in residence:

The Rev. Martin Roth, Pastor Emeritus, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
The Rev. Julia Fraser, chaplain at St. Paul Homes
The Rev. Brian Riddle, Thiel College Campus Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson, retired, Thiel College

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar have been given to the Glory of God and in honor of Dalton's baptism by his parents, Todd and Tammy Daniello.

Attendance at the Saturday, September 18, 2021, 5:30 p.m. Service: 14. Attendance at the Sunday, September 19, 2021, 9:30 a.m. Service: 47. Total: 61.

This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, September 26, 2021, Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

10:45 a.m. SCS and Confirmation Classes

1:00 p.m. Reformed, Always Reforming

7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

9:00 a.m. Flying Quilts

7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

7:00 p.m. Weekday Communion

Thursday, September 30, 2021

10:00 a.m. Weekday Communion

7:00 p.m. Happy Hour

Saturday, October 2, 2021

Harvest Weekend

4:30 p.m. Thanksgiving for Animals in Central Park

5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion with prayers for healing

Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 3, 2021, Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Harvest Weekend

9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

10:45 a.m. SCS and Confirmation Classes

7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Monday, October 4, 2021

7:00 p.m. Property Committee

Tuesday, October 5, 2021

6:30 p.m. CCSS

7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

7:00 p.m. Weekday Communion

Thursday, October 7, 2021

10:00 a.m. Weekday Communion

7:00 p.m. Happy Hour

Saturday, October 9, 2021

5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

We'll Be Back in Class at Holy Trinity!

Schools are back in session, and our Christian education will also be back in session in September at Holy Trinity. And we'll be back in person!

The first day of classes will be Sunday, September 26, immediately after worship. We'll have these classes:

- Our littlest members up to first grade will meet upstairs in our children's Sunday School space.
- Our 2nd through 6th graders will also meet upstairs in the children's Sunday School space.
- Confirmation students will meet downstairs in Trinity Hall.
- Adults will meet downstairs in Brath Hall.

Our children will continue to use their popular Holy Moly curriculum that includes a video each week and a project. Confirmation students will continue to use the curriculum that guides us through the Old Testament, New Testament, Luther's Small Catechism, and what it means to live as a Lutheran in our world.

For adults, beginning Sept. 26 and through the end of November, the class will be led by our synod's bishop emeritus, the Rev. Dr. Ralph Jones, who will close down his time with us by preaching in worship on Christ the King Sunday, November 21. We are excited to welcome Bishop Jones to Holy Trinity to lead this class on the Book of Revelation.

Harvest Weekend

The weekend of October 2 and 3 we will observe a harvest theme in our worship. Please plan to present your **gifts of canned goods** at the offering for the Good Shepherd Food Pantry.

Service of Thanksgiving and Blessing for Animals

On Saturday, October 2, 4:30 p.m. in Central Park (next door to the church). All pets, including other than four-legged ones, are welcome (in cages, terrariums, bowls, etc.). Families, children, and friends – all are welcome. Plan to come! (If it's raining, we will gather in Trinity Hall.)

Good Shepherd September Request

The Good Shepherd Center is our church community social service agency that supports the needs of many in the area. The Good Shepherd Center's request for Holy Trinity for **September is pasta, rice, or dried grains.** Donations may be placed in the marked box in the cloister.

<u>Second Mile Giving for September –</u> Lutheran World Relief (Flying Quilts shipping costs)

Each month we offer the opportunity for our members to reach out into the greater community to those who are seeking to minister to people with specific needs through our Second Mile Giving – our financial gifts beyond our regular offerings.

Picture yourself after the Tsunami in Japan - your home has been washed away - your whole neighborhood – your whole town - is gone and you are forced to start over with no possessions. Imagine someone coming and giving you a quilt that can keep you warm at night - something that you can call your own - along with the food and clothes that you have received - a "security blanket" that is all yours, from people you don't even know - friends at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Greenville, PA.

Members of the Flying Quilts group use their gifts and give of their time to make these quilts. But we must see that they get to where they are needed. That is where you and I come in! Money raised this month will be used to mail the quilts with the remainder of the money going direct to Lutheran World Relief.

All Second Mile contributions received during the month of September will be given to the designated cause.

Please Pray For

Permission is necessary to add a person to the prayer list. Please ask before your call the office. Thanks.

Health and Healing:

Tim Hofius (friend of John Logan)

Tillie Schell

Bob Gargasz

Barbara Swartz

Robert Quinones (nephew of Rich and

Denise Hall)

Denise Hall

Bill and Mary Egger (friends of Barbara

Swartz

Danica (friend of Linda Armstrong)

Bonnie Gratzmiller (friend of Linda

Armstrong)

Henry Heil

Donnie Littelle (friend of Rich & Denise Hall)

Fred Junk (husband of Betty K. Junk)

Donnie K. (friend of Wayne and Darla Swift)

Marie (sister-in-law of Henry and Ruth Heil)

Lori McCann

Jim Shaffer

Nancy (friend of Linda Armstrong)

Brenda (sister-in-law of Betty K. Junk)

Carl Long

Dillon (friend of Ed Pitcher and Beth Harpst)

Belle (granddaughter of Linda Bateman)

Christ's comfort for those who grieve the death of:

Wendy Richardson (sister of Ray Richardson)

John L Mott (father of Catherine Mott)

Paul Bittler

In Military Service

Specialist (SPC) Andrew McCall, Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado (son of Mark and Jane McCall, grandson of Karen McKay and the late Jim McKay)

Sgt. First Class Nicholas Carman, US Army, Fredericksburg, Virginia (grandson of Nancy Ullstrom)

Admiral Richard Childs, Assistant Surgeon General of the USA (nephew of Harvey Childs)

CDR Ryan Leary, USN, Operation Officer, 7th Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan (son of David and Judy Leary)

Tim Ross, Navy Special Forces, (grandson of Rae Johnson, nephew of Lori McEwen)