

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 16, 2026 ~ 11:00 AM



Trinity Lutheran Church



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The Rev. Dianne L. Lewis, Pastor

Order of Service

~ Gathering ~

† Welcome

*† Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection, and self-examination.)

P: Holy God,

C: You search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin – our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

*† Greeting

*† Entrance Hymn: "What A Blessing" TFBF 139

Refrain:

What a blessing,

What a blessing,

*Congregation Standing
Bold Font: Congregation Response

*To be here in the service of the Lord.
We are thankful for another chance to worship God,
We've come to praise His holy name.*

*1 Praise Him,
We've come to praise Him,
We've come to praise Him,
We've come to praise Him,
We've come to praise His holy name!*

*2 Thank Him,
We've come to thank Him,
We've come to thank Him,
We've come to thank Him,
We've come to thank His holy name!*

[Repeat all]

***† Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***† Kyrie**

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy,

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen

***† Hymn of Praise**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

*Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.*

Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation.

*Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

*This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

***† Prayer of the Day**

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

~God's Word~

† First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community – not race, nationality, or any other category.

¹ Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,

to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
 and to be his servants,
 all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
 and hold fast my covenant —
⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
 and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
 their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
 will be accepted on my altar,
 for my house shall be called a house of prayer
 for all peoples.
⁸ Thus says the Lord God,
 who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
 I will gather others to them
 besides those already gathered.

† **Psalm: Psalm 67; refrain, Ps. 67:3**

Refrain: Let all the peoples praise you, O God.

¹ May God be merciful to | us and bless us;
 may the light of God's face | shine upon us.
² **Let your way be known | upon earth,**
your saving health a- | mong all nations.
³ Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
 let all the | peoples praise you.
⁴ **Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,**
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- | tions on earth. R
⁵ Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
 let all the | peoples praise you.
⁶ **The earth has brought | forth its increase;**
God, our own | God, has blessed us.
⁷ May God | give us blessing,
 and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe. **R**

† **Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32**

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

***† Gospel Acclamation**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 15th Chapter

C: Glory to you, Glory to you, Glory to you, O Lord

***† Holy Gospel: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28**

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

[¹⁰ [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³ He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶ Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It

*Congregation Standing

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is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise be to you, Praise be to you, Praise be to you O Christ

† Praise Dance: Ms. Ashley Levine

† Sermon: The Rev. Dianne L. Lewis, Pastor

*† Sermon Hymn: "I Will Trust In The Lord" TFBF 256

*1 I will trust in the Lord,
I will trust in the Lord,
I will trust in the Lord till I die.
I will trust in the Lord,
I will trust in the Lord,
I will trust in the Lord till I die.*

*2 Sister, will you trust in the Lord,
sister, will you trust in the Lord,
sister, will you trust in the Lord till you die?
Sister, will you trust in the Lord,
sister, will you trust in the Lord,
sister, will you trust in the Lord till you die?*

*3 Brother, will you trust in the Lord,
brother, will you trust in the Lord,
brother, will you trust in the Lord till you die?
brother, will you trust in the Lord,
brother, will you trust in the Lord,
brother, will you trust in the Lord till you die?*

4 Preacher, will you trust...

5 People, will you trust...

† Praise Dance: Ms. Ashley Levine

~ Prayer ~

*† The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.*
On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
He will come again 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 the People**

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***† Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

***† Offering Canticle**

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence.
Give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

***† Offertory Prayer**

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

~ Meal ~

***† The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

A: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord.

Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

***† Words of Institution**

***† 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

† Holy Communion

P: The gifts of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

† Communion Hymn: "Let Us Break Bread Together" TFBF 123

*1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.*

Refrain:

*When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

*2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]*

*3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]*

***† Post Communion Blessing**

(After all have returned to their places:)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

***† Post Communion Canticle**

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of all people. A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

***† Post Communion Prayer**

A: Let us pray.

Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name. **Amen.**

† Welcome, Acknowledgment of Visitors, and Announcements

***† Benediction**

***† Hymn: "Halle, Halle, Halle" TFBF 25**

*Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

*Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

***† Dismissal**

A: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Announcements

- ◆ Trinity's **Weekly Bible Study** meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday via Zoom at 7:30PM - **Meeting ID: 822 8031 9117 Passcode: 709073**. *Will resume in September.*
- ◆ Trinity's **Adult Sunday School** meets every first and third Sunday at 9:45 AM. *Next session will resume in September.*
- ◆ Trinity's **Children Sunday School** meets every Sunday at 11AM
- ◆ Trinity's **Food Pantry** will be Friday, September 14th from 2PM – 3:30PM
- ◆ Trinity & Grace **Women of the ELCA** meets monthly. *Will resume in September.*
- ◆ Trinity's **Church Council Meeting** will be Thursday, September 11th at 7:30PM
- ◆ Trinity's **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** will be the weeks of August 10 and August 17, Monday – Friday, 9am -3pm. Volunteers are needed!
- ◆ Trinity's Youth Ministry sponsored trip to the **National Museum of African American History & Culture**, Thursday, August 20th
- ◆ Trinity's Community Push will host **A Conversation with Caren Carter, LPC: What is Anxiety? What Anxiety Looks Like?** on Wednesday, August 26th via Zoom at 7PM - **Meeting ID: 834 7713 1011 Passcode: 920084**
- ◆ **Community Wellness Day** (in memory of Andrew Jerome Washington, III), will be Saturday, August 29th, 1PM-5PM, at 409 MLK Drive
- ◆ Trinity's **Fundraiser Committee** will meet Tuesday, September 15th at 7:30PM via Zoom - **Meeting ID: 852 7666 8790 Passcode: 122562** All are invited!!!
- ◆ *Save the Date:* Trinity's **135th Anniversary Gala** will be Friday, October 23rd at Pines Manor, Edison, NJ. \$125.00 donation per person. *Secure your spot with \$25 down ASAP.* Full payment due by Sunday, Sept 27th.
- ◆ Trinity is selling the **Grand Lodge Charity Raffle Tickets** – Donation: \$5 per ticket. Amazing prizes including a new 2027 Mercedes-Benz!
- ◆ Trinity is selling "**Faith Over Fear**" T-Shirts in 3 different designs. Short-sleeved: \$20; Long-sleeved: \$23. Please check our website for the designs and order info.
- ◆ Trinity's **Pew Rededication** fundraiser... Your donation supports the pew restoration labor and the installation of a personalized legacy name plate on your selected pew. \$500 for center aisle; \$300 for window aisle.
- ◆ You may pay your Tithes & Offerings online at <http://www.trinityjerseycity.com>

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- ♦ For pastoral care call Pastor Dianne Lewis at 201.435.9807

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