

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 4, 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: “Blessed Quietness” TFBF 110

*1 Joys are flowing like a river
since the Comforter has come;*

*he abides with us forever,
makes the trusting heart his home.*

Refrain:

*Blessed quietness, holy quietness--
what assurance in my soul!
On the stormy sea he speaks peace to me--
how the billows cease to roll!*

*2 Bringing life and health and gladness
all around, this heav'nly guest
banished unbelief and sadness,
chang'd our weariness to rest. [Refrain]*

*3 Like the rain that falls from heaven,
like the sunlight from the sky,
so the Holy Ghost is given,
coming on us from on high. [Refrain]*

*5 What a wonderful salvation,
where we always see his face!
What a perfect habitation,
what a quiet resting place! [Refrain]*

***† 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**

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

~God's Word~

† First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

¹ I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

² He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah

are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

† **Psalm: Psalm 80:7-15; refrain, Ps. 80:14,15**

Refrain: Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine.

⁷ Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

⁸ **You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and | planted it.**

⁹ You cleared the | ground for it;
it took root and | filled the land.

¹⁰ **The mountains were covered | by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs. R**

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea
and its branches | to the river.

¹² **Why have you broken | down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?**

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

¹⁴ **Turn now, O | God of hosts,
look | down from heaven;**

¹⁵ behold and | tend this vine;
preserve what your right | hand has planted. **R**

† **Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14**

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More

*Congregation Standing

Bold Font: Congregation Response

than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

***† Gospel Acclamation**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st Chapter

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

***† Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46**

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said:] ³³ "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

⁴³ "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

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

† Choir Anthem: "Jesus, You're The Center of My Joy"

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

*† Sermon Hymn: "Bind Us Together, Lord" TFBF 217

Refrain:

Bind Us Together, Lord

Bind Us Together

With Cords That Cannot Be Broken

Bind Us Together, Lord

Bind Us Together, Lord

Bind Us Together In Love

There Is Only One God,

There Is Only One King

There Is Only One Body,

That Is Why We Sing. [Refrain]

You Are The Family Of God,

*You Are The Promise Divine;
You Are God's Chosen Desire,
You Are The Glorious New Wine. [Refrain]*

~ 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**

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church (*especially Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society*). Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation (*especially Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones (*regions in crisis may be named*), and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith (*congregational formation ministries may be named*). Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through 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 Cantic**

*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: "Come, Let Us Eat" TFBB 119

*1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.*

*Our Lord's body let us take together,
our Lord's body let us take together.*

*2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.*

*Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.*

*3 In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
In the presence of our Lord we gather,
in the presence of our Lord we gather.*

*4 Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,
rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.*

*Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.*

***† 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: "Guide My Feet " TFBF 153**

*1 Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race.
Guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain.*

*2 Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race.
Hold my hand while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain.*

*3 Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race.
Stand by me while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain.*

*4 I'm your child while I run this race.
I'm your child while I run this race.
I'm your child while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain.*

5 Search my heart while I run this race. ...

***† 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**. Next session Oct 14th
- ◆ Trinity's **Adult Sunday School** meets every first and third Sunday at 9:45 AM. Next session will be Sunday, October 18th
- ◆ Trinity's **Children Sunday School** meets every Sunday at 11AM
- ◆ Trinity's **Food Pantry** will be Friday, November 6th from 2PM – 3:30PM
- ◆ Trinity's **Church Council Meeting** will be Thursday, October 8th at 7:30PM
- ◆ Trinity & Grace **Women of the ELCA** meets monthly. Next session will be Saturday, November 7th at 10AM at Grace Lutheran
- ◆ Trinity's **Fundraiser Committee** will meet Tuesday, October 6th at 7:30PM via Zoom - **Meeting ID: 852 7666 8790 Passcode: 122562** All are invited!!!
- ◆ Trinity's **Fish-Fry fundraiser** will be Saturday, October 17th, 12 Noon - 4PM
- ◆ Trinity is selling the **Grand Lodge Charity Raffle Tickets** – Donation: \$5 per ticket. Amazing prizes including a new 2027 Mercedes-Benz! Money due by Sun, Oct 11th
- ◆ Trinity's **135th Anniversary Gala** will be Friday, October 23rd at Pines Manor, Edison, NJ. \$125.00 donation per person. Click here for the digital brochure where you can purchase tickets, ads, or make a donation: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/trinity-lutheran-churchs-135th-anniversary-fundraising-gala>
- ◆ Trinity's **135th Church Anniversary Friends & Family Worship Service** will be Sunday, October 25th at 11AM
- ◆ Trinity's **Community Push** will host **A Conversation with the Rev. Dr. Annette Jones: Depression "The fog that will not lift"** on Thursday, Dec 17th via Zoom at 7PM - **Meeting ID: 884 6464 3918 Passcode: 440471**
- ◆ 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>
- ◆ **For pastoral care call Pastor Dianne Lewis at 201.435.9807**

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