

Trinity Lutheran Church August 30, 2020  
13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Ministers: Rev. Dr. James Mutayoba and the people of Trinity  
Keegan Tucker, pianist Andrew Flynn, lector

Announcements

Prelude

*Please rise as you are able.*

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

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. **Amen**

Let us pray: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

A litany in response to Covid-19:

We gather in the name of Jesus here in his church. We light this central candle first in the name of Christ who is the center and the light of the world. We remember that Christ has promised to be with us always, even to the end of days.

**Christ is the light of the world.**

As this new school year begins, students will be learning in classrooms and in their homes and working with teachers both face to face and remotely. Likewise some students will be at home with their parents as teachers. We pray to God for sound learning for students and for safety for students, teachers, and parents. **Lord, have mercy.**

For every person made by God's hand, for every human who bears God's image, for all people in every place. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are ill, for those who cough, for those who have a fever, for those who suffer from Covid-19 now and in the future. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have been plunged into grief by the losses brought by this pandemic. For those who feel anxiety because of the pandemic, for those who struggle with fear, and for those who are reacting to the stress of these days with despair or anger. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the furloughed workers, for the unemployed and uninsured, for all those living with reduced income or who fear the loss of their business or jobs. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the doctors who treat the ill, for the nurses who care for the dying and the recovering, for EMTs and other first responders, for the support staffs in all our hospitals and schools. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God, you promise to be with us always even to the end of the age, and we know that nothing can separate us from your love. We give you thanks and praise for hearing us and for keeping us in your care. We pray today and every day in the name of Jesus. **Amen**

First Reading: Jeremiah 15: 15-21  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We will read the psalm responsively: Psalm 26

Second Reading Romans 12: 9-21  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise as you are able for the Gospel.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew, chapter 16: 21-28  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

*Please be seated.*

Sermon: Pastor James

*Please rise as you are able.*

With the whole church of Christ, let us confess our faith in the words of the 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.**

Let us pray: Almighty God, grant that your holy word which has been proclaimed this day may enter into our hearts through your grace, that it may produce in us the fruit of the Spirit for witness and service in the world and to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

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

*Please be seated.*

Solo

*Please rise as you are able.*

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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**

It is right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise, Holy Father, for all the blessings you pour into our lives. With the angels and all the saints, we praise your name and join their unending hymn: **Holy, holy, holy 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.**

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.

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 glory, forever and ever. Amen**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*Please be seated.*

*The communion elements are distributed. When all have the elements –*

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*After a few minutes during which the congregation communes:*

Let us pray. O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Please rise as you are able.*

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen**

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Prayer Ventures

Prayer Ventures are an ELCA resource that are meant to provide suggestions for individual prayer throughout the week.

**August 30** Give thanks that we have been transformed and made new through God's love for us and our baptism in Jesus Christ. Pray that the living word of Jesus will guide our baptismal journeys so that we extend hospitality to strangers, love and serve our neighbor, overcome evil with good, accompany people who are suffering and in pain, and disavow vengeance and hate.

**31** Pray for synod leaders and committees as they carefully plan assemblies rescheduled for this fall or next year. Remember that our strength and unity in Christ transcend traditional places, methods or times of gathering — we are the church, the body of Christ, in every setting and circumstance.

**September 1** Give thanks and take comfort in knowing that God is trustworthy and unwavering in remembering and accompanying us every moment of our lives — in our joy, suffering and complicated situations.

**2** September often marks a time of beginning, with students starting school, congregations launching programs and creation transitioning into a new season. But due to the pandemic, this year is different, presenting challenges we have not faced before. Pray that the Spirit will grant us wisdom, creativity and patience as we seek new ways of being church together, attend to the needs of children and youth, care for one another and fight the spread of COVID-19.

**3** There is no better time than right now for us to hold on to what is good, treat one another with respect, extend hospitality to strangers and those different from ourselves, seek peace, and care for our neighbors,

including our enemies. Pray for strength, empathy, compassion and boldness in our faith and daily life as we follow Jesus.

**4** In the name of the God who creates every human being out of love, and remembering the ELCA social teaching that “the God who justifies expects all people to do justice,” pray that more Christians will enter into public conversation about and take action to safeguard the dignity due to all children of God.

**5** Pray that, as Election Day grows closer, our conversations, deliberations and decisions will be guided by our faith, the teachings of Jesus, and our concern for justice, reconciliation, unity and the well-being of all people and communities.