

Sunday, September 6, 2026
The Fifteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

Trinity Lutheran Church
10:00am: Meadowlawn
1801 62nd Ave N
727-822-3307



 WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

 PRELUDE

 CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Justified by God's grace through faith,
let us acknowledge our sin.

We take time to consider our actions and choices.

Compassionate God,

**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

We have peace with God through Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness ✠ and the promise of eternal life.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Earth and All Stars* (vv 1, 2, & 5)

ELW 731



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
5 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!

Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!

Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

God has done mar - vel - ous things.

I too sing prais - es with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922-1987
Text and music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and
strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, enliven and preserve us with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



INTRODUCTION TO READINGS



FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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



PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40

The accompanist will play the refrain once as introduction and then all will join in singing; and will repeat the sung refrain when indicated by "R"



I de - sire the path of your com - mand - ments.

³³ Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴ Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart. **R**

³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

³⁶ Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.

³⁷ Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way. **R**

³⁸ Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.

³⁹ Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰ Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me. **R**



SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

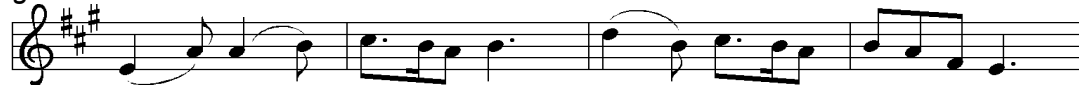
Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

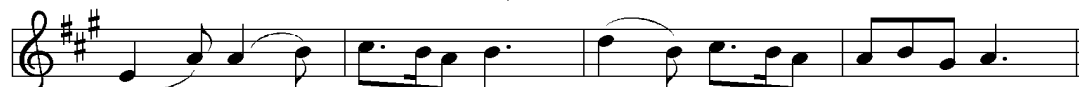


GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung twice.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



GOSPEL: Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 15-20

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

The good news of God's love according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ² He called a child, whom he put among them, ³ and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. ¹⁰ Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father.

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector.

¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.



SERMON

A brief period for silent meditation will follow at the conclusion of the sermon.



HYMN OF THE DAY *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

ELW 470



1 Draw us in the Spir - it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er
ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.

Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958



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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident of being heard.

After each petition:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Hear our prayers, and grant whatever else you see we need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

eGiving



THE SHARING OF PEACE

Instead of putting a donation in the offering plate during the anthem, you can use the QR code to make a contribution on the church website; or you can mail an offering to the church.

OFFERTORY HYMN *God, When Human Bonds are Broken*

ELW 603



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our
3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful
5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing
seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:
be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
all the fail - ures we con - fess.
set us free and grant us peace.
make us stron - ger, give us faith.
God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation,

all blessings are from you;

make us generous with what we have.

Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

in service for you and in love to our neighbors.

Amen.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -

est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.



THE 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.

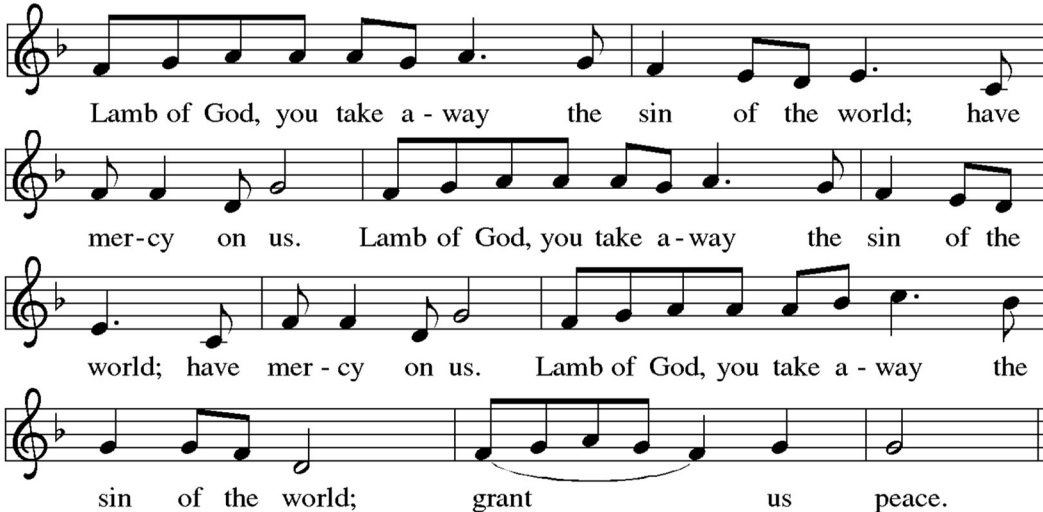


INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites us to his table.
Amen.



LAMB OF GOD

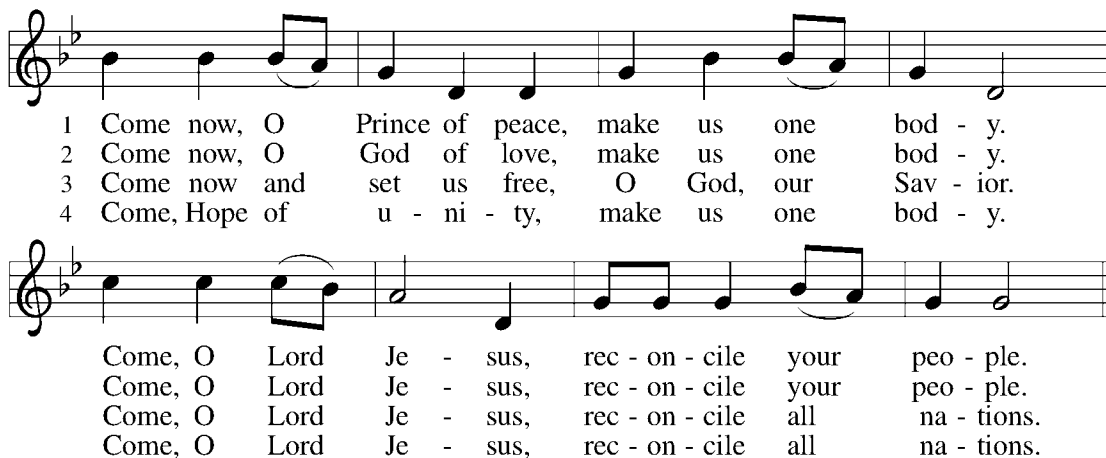


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.



COMMUNION HYMN *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

ELW 247



1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
Music: OSOSO, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
Text and music © Geonyong Lee



COMMUNION HYMN *Christ, Our Peace*

ACS 1037

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: CHRIST, OUR PEACE, Marty Haugen

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us to serve a needy world.
Make us signs of liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.



BLESSING

May the God of love, hope, and grace
draw you closer together in the body of Christ,
grant you strength and joy through the Holy Spirit,
and bless you ☩ now and forever.
Amen.



SENDING HYMN *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

ELW 836



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love.

Thanks be to God. We will!



POSTLUDE [Livestream ends]



Please join us for a time of fellowship immediately after worship.

Thank you to those serving this month: (MLC) = Meadowlawn Campus (DTC) = Downtown Campus

Date	Loc	Time	Lector	Communion Assistants	Flower Sponsor	Dedication
09/06/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Marty Snapp	Margarita Rodriguez, Gary Bartelt	In anticipation of the arrival of JJ & Tyler's baby boy	
09/13/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Terri Craig	Phil Rearick, Aimée Fox	The Bartelts	All the family's birthdays
09/20/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Phil Rearick	Frances Guido, Marty Snapp		
09/27/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Betty Herzhauser	Violet Prepost, Margarita Rodriguez	F. Guido	For the Glory Of God

Birthdays this week:

09/08 - Shirley Taylor
 09/08 - Amari Hamilton
 09/10 - Violet Prepost

Anniversaries this week:

– None –

This Week's Calendar of Events:**Today (09/06)**

9:00am – City Church Worship (DTC Sanctuary)
 10:00am – Trinity Worship (MLC Sanctuary)
 11:00pm – Fellowship Hour (MLC CommUNITY Rm)
 7:00pm – St. Augustine Group (MLC Library)

Monday (09/07)

Bulletin Items Due

10:00am – Bert's Breakfast Buddies (Kopper Kitchen)

Tuesday (09/08)

1:00pm – Staff Meeting (MLC Library)
 6:00pm – Council Meeting (MLC Library)

Wednesday (09/09)

11:30am – Community Meal (DTC 3rd Floor)
 1:00pm – Grace & Games (DTC 2nd Floor)
 6:00pm – Bible Study (MLC CommUNITY Rm)

Thursday (09/10)

6:30pm – Vocal Choir Practice (MLC Sanctuary)

Friday (09/11)

9:30am – TLC Pantry (DTC 1st Floor)
 9:30am – Dolores Food Pantry (MLC CommUNITY Rm)

Saturday (09/12)

9:00am – Hope Chest (MLC Thrift Store)
 10:00am – Congr Bkfst (Spring Garden Family Rest.)

Prayer List:**For those suffering from cancer:**

Jim Tallon
 Whitney & Greg Corrigan
 Rick Jackson
 Frank Durilla
 Rev. Ernest Knoche
 Ron Oughton
 Bob Sockrider
 Frances Guido
 Susan Herzhauser

For those homebound:

Lorna Holder
 Shirley Taylor
 Betty Aker
 Judy Milanese
 Petra Young
 Sally Evans

Note: These prayer requests are active for 3 months unless a shorter timeframe is requested.

For those needing strength or healing:

Mike Lederhouse	Robert & Brenda Meredith
Maureen Morris	Brian Schutzbach
O'cerion Johnson Jr.	Shakira
Janet Crim	Jill Boos Martin
Paula Smith	Linda Gascon
Vickie Clark	Pr. Tom Snapp
Luke Mendenhall	Will Diefel
Guy Smith	Serenity Baker
Joyce Dare	Willie Rodriguez
Linda Miles	Eliza Walker
Bob & Irma Kay	Margarita Rodriguez
Corinne	Gretchen Frederick
Leonard	Jerry Barnard

For those grieving the loss of a loved one:

The family & friends of Pete Regan
 The family & friends of Barbara Hann
 The family & friends of Cecil Miles
 The family and Friends of Pastor Joe Conner



	Last Month (as of 08/31/26)	YTD Actual (as of 08/31/26)	YTD Budget (through 08/31/26)
Income	51,941.32	264181.69	189,698.54
Expenses	(44,982.23)	(337,367.42)	(302,179.69)
Net	6959.09	(73,185.73)	(112,481.15)
Cash available in Bank Accounts:			88,547.62
Balance in Investment Accounts:			740,559.80