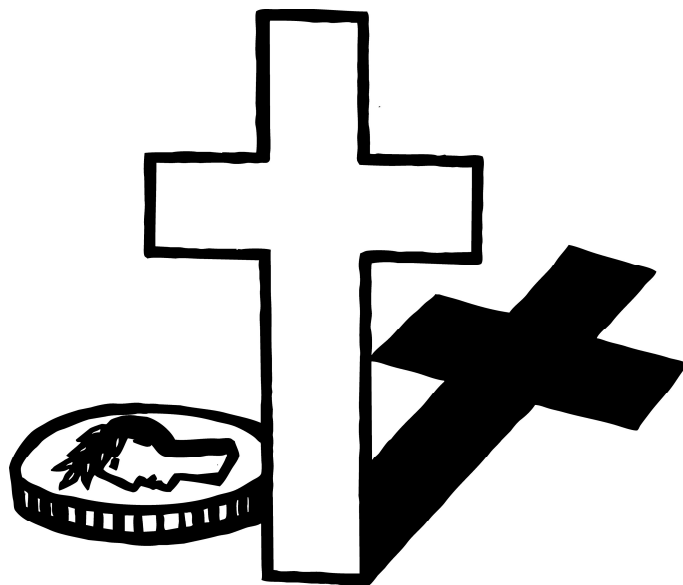


Sunday, October 18, 2026
The Twenty-First Sunday
after Pentecost

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 *You Servants of God*

ELW 825



1 You ser-vants of God, your Mas-ter pro-claim, and pub-lish a -
2 As-cend-ed on high, al-might-y to save, yet still he is
3 Sal-va-tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
4 Then let us a-dore and give him his right, all glo-ry and



broad his won-der-ful name; the name, all-vic-to-rious, of
nigh, his pres-ence we have. The great con-gre-ga-tion his
loud and hon-or the Son. The prais-es of Je-sus the
pow'r and wis-dom and might, all hon-or and bless-ing, with



Je-sus ex-tol; his king-dom is glo-rious and rules o-ver all!
tri-umph shall sing, as-crib-ing sal-va-tion to Je-sus, our king!
an-gels pro-claim, fall down on their fac-es, and wor-ship the Lamb.
an-gels a-bove, and thanks nev-er ceas-ing, and in-fin-ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806



GREETING

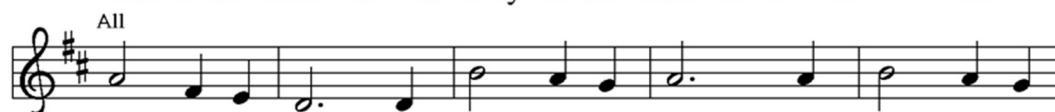
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.



HYMN OF PRAISE



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



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.



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

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



INTRODUCTION TO READINGS



FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹ Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ² I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me. ⁵ I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 96

*The psalm will be read responsively (congregation reads verses in **bold** typeface)*

¹ Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

² **Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

³ Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴ **For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁹ Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king! The one who
made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the
peoples with equity."**

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming,
O Lord, for you come to judge the earth.**

¹³ You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.



SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly

³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among

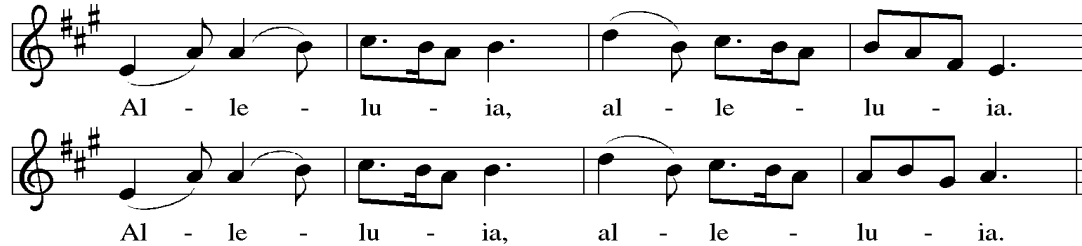
you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Choir: Shine like stars in the world, holding fast to the word of life. (*Phil. 2:15, 16*)
Congregation repeats "Alleluia"



GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

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.



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
 3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
 4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
 to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.
 what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

 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

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

After each petition:

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

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up our prayers; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 *How Clear is Our Vocation*

ELW 580



- 1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
- 2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
- 3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;
- 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918



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 also with you.

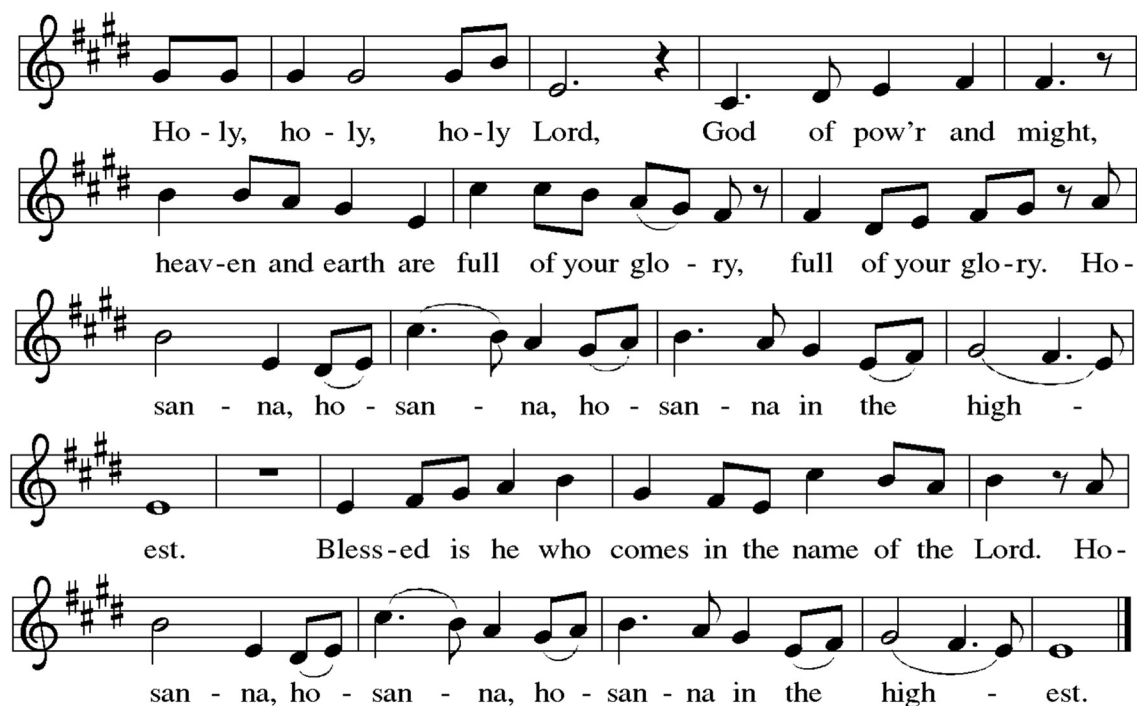
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



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.

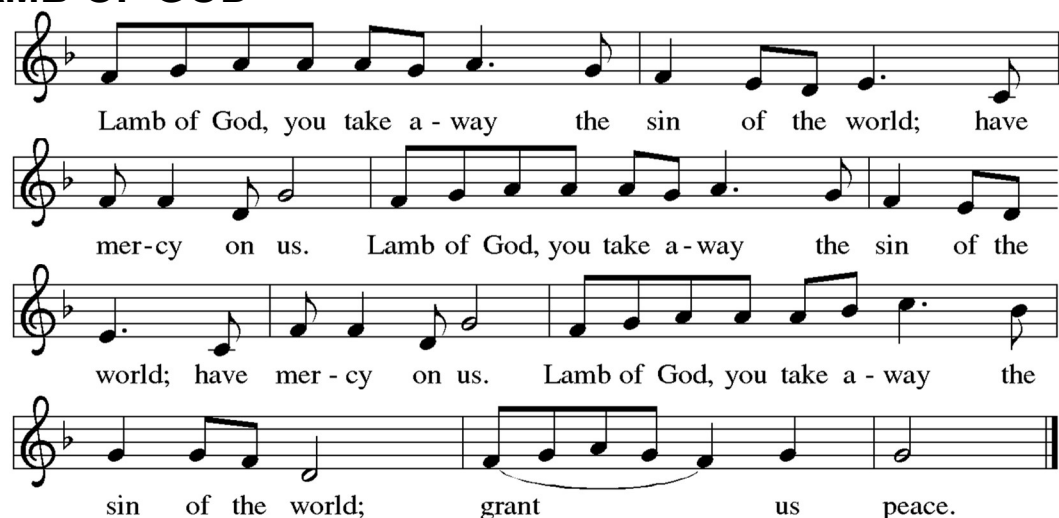


INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 *Here I Am, Lord*

ELW 574



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you
call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you
lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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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

God of Grace and God of Glory

ELW 705



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932



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
10/04/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Gretchen Frederick	Gary Bartelt, Phil Rearick	The Bartelts	49th Anniversary (on the 8th)
10/11/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Lou Carter	Aimée Fox, Frances Guido	<i>Worship in the Park</i>	
10/18/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Margarita Rodriguez	Marty Snapp, Violet Prepost		
10/25/26	MLC	10:00 AM	Paul Erickson	Margarita Rodriguez, Gary Bartelt	F. Guido	For the Glory Of God

Birthdays last week:

10/11 - Phil Rearick
 10/11 - Jack Pisecco
 10/13 - Margarita Rodriguez
 10/14 - Roma Heystek
 10/15 - John Potts

Birthdays this week:

10/18 – Charlene Diefel
 10/20 – Nina All
 10/20 – Suzanne Todd
 10/23 – Carol Bertoluzzi
 10/23 – Linda Miles
 10/23 – Gary Bartelt

Anniversaries last week:

10/12 – Betty & Tom Herzhauser

Anniversaries this week:

- None -

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today (10/18)

9:00am – City Church Worship (DTC Sanctuary)
 10:00am – Trinity Worship (MLC Sanctuary)
 11:00am – Fellowship Hour (MLC CommUNITY Rm)
 11:30am – Education Hour (MLC CommUNITY Rm)
 7:00pm – St. Augustine Group (MLC Library)

Monday (10/19)

Bulletin Items Due

7:30pm – SLAA

Tuesday (10/20)

Newsletter Items Due

12:00pm – Directory Photos (MLC Community Room)

Wednesday (10/21)

9:00am – Quilting Circle (MLC Quilting Rm)
 11:30am – Community Meal (DTC 3rd Floor)
 1:00pm – Grace & Games (DTC 2nd Floor)
 6:00pm – Bible Study (MLC CommUNITY Rm)

Thursday (10/22)

6:30pm – Vocal Choir Practice (MLC Sanctuary)
 7:00pm – City Church: Men's Bible Study (DTC 2nd Floor)

Friday (10/23)

9:00am – Parking Lot Reserved (JWB Event)
 9:30am – TLC Pantry (DTC 1st Floor)
 9:30am – Dolores Food Pantry (MLC CommUNITY Rm)

Saturday (10/24)

9:00am – Hope Chest (MLC Thrift Store)
 10:00am – JWB Work Day (MLC Preschool)
 6:00pm – Trunk or Treat (Meadowlawn Park)

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:

Jill Boos Martin
 Linda Gascon
 Pr. Tom Snapp
 Will Diefel
 Serenity Baker
 Willie Rodriguez
 Eliza Walker
 Margarita Rodriguez
 Rodger Nelson
 Jennifer Rhoads
 Jerry Barnard
 Linda Barnard
 Mike Lederhouse
 Bob Gascon

For those grieving the loss of a loved one:

The family & friends of Duane Bork



	Curr Month (as of 10/14/26)	YTD Actual (as of 10/14/26)	YTD Budget (through 10/31/26)
Income	13,033.47	315,993.20	233,646.58
Expenses	(14,461.53)	(391,192.34)	(380,930.84)
Net	(1,428.06)	(75,199.14)	(147,284.26)

Cash available in Bank Accounts:	82,783.12
Balance in Investment Accounts:	730,598.20

Welcome, visitors! Please tell us something about yourself.

Fill out the form below or scan the provided QR Code to contact us digitally.



TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Today's Date:

10/18/26

Name and Address

Email

Phone

Home church, city, and state

Questions, Comments, Prayer Requests:

- ☐ I'm visiting: ☐ First time ☐ Repeat
- ☐ I just moved here
- ☐ Please add me to your email list(s)
- ☐ Pastor's weekly announcements, etc.
- ☐ Office's Monthly Newsletter, etc.

Digital Contact Card:

