

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Hayfield, Minnesota

Rev. Kristen Anderson, Pastor

Denise Phillippe, Director of Christian Education

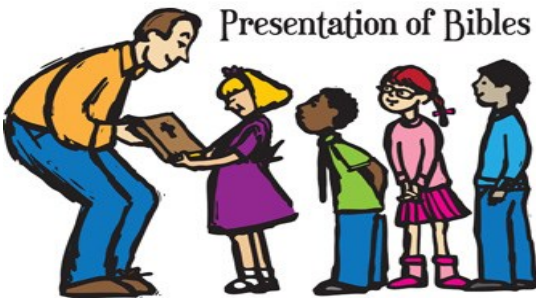
18th Sunday After Pentecost

9:00am

October 1, 2023

Welcome to worship at Trinity!

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.



Presentation of Bibles

Presentation of Bibles Today

Trinity is proud to partner with parents in fulfilling the baptismal promise to place the Holy Scriptures in the hands of children. Young people receiving their Bibles today during the worship service, after participating in a class with a parent, are Aubree Butteris, Celia Johnson, Maison Karlen, Natalie Rouhoff, Stella Streiff, Harper Subbert, and Rowen Zuk.

Musician: Nancy Matti

Lector: Frank Moon

Ushers: Jeff & Holly Beaver, John & Christine Thoe, and Ron & Mapuana Evjen

Communion Assistant:

Acolyte: Mack Otterness and Nolan Pack

Videographer: Lexie Hinsch

Trinity Mission Statement

To proclaim God's grace in Christ through Word and Sacrament; To nurture faith through Christian education and fellowship; and To bring the Gospel to the world community through Christian witness, sacrifice, and love.

GATHERING

*Stand if able

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✝ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,
**you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

*** GATHERING HYMN:** *"How Firm A Foundation"*

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*** APOSTOLIC 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:**

p.184-185

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

*** SPECIAL MUSIC:** *"All's God's Creatures Got a Place in the Choir"* Trinity Choir

WORD

FIRST READING: **Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

PSALM: **Psalm 25:1-9**

L: ¹To you, O LORD,
I lift ¹up my soul.

C: ²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

L: ³Let none who look to you be ¹put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

C: ⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

L: ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

C: ⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

L: ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness,
O LORD.

C: ⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

L: ⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

SECOND READING: **Philippians 2:1-13**

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32*P:** The Gospel according to Matthew**C:** Glory to you, O Lord

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.**SERMON:** “*More Than Words*”

Pastor Kristen Anderson

HYMN OF THE DAY: “*O God, My Faithful God*” verses 1, 2,4

#806

***APOSTLE’S CREED**

p105

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

MEAL

OFFERING/CHILDREN'S NOISY OFFERING

*Offertory: *"Let The Vineyards be Fruitful, Lord"*

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 NOW.
GRACE OUR TABLE WITH YOUR PRESENCE,
AND GIVE US A FORETASTE OF THE FEAST TO COME.

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

* LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(All are invited to receive the Sacrament today...the Bread of Life from heaven! If you prefer juice (instead of wine) or a gluten-free wafer (instead of bread), please let the server know. Let the usher know if you'd like Communion brought to your pew.)

HYMN DURING DISTRIBUTION: *"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"*

#697

*COMMUNION BLESSING

*THE BENEDICTION

SENDING

* **SENDING HYMN:** *"Day by Day"*

#790

* DISMISSAL

P: GO IN PEACE AND SERVE THE LORD!

C: THANKS BE TO GOD!

POSTLUDE

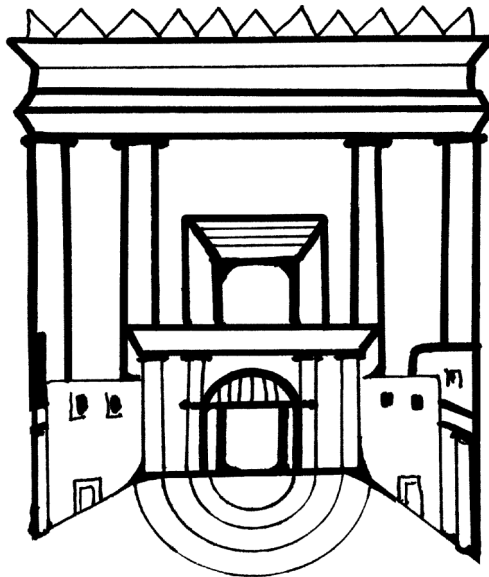
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Register Now for the ELCA Youth Gathering

For anyone who would like more information about the ELCA Youth Gathering this July in New Orleans, there will be a meeting at 7:30 next Wednesday, **October 4**, right after confirmation and youth group. This is open to any 9th-12th grader and/or their parents. Paper registration forms are available on the youth bulletin board. We have emailed registration information to families of all eligible Trinity students (9th-12th graders). If you did not receive this information, contact Denise. Join us in New Orleans, July 16-20 plus travel days. Created To Be! Trinity's registration will close **October 15**, in order for us to take advantage of lower prices and choices about our stay in New Orleans. Scholarship application closes **October 10**, but the earlier the better.

Volunteer to Help with Wednesday Suppers!

We are looking for volunteers to prepare and/or serve Wednesday Suppers, 5-6:15 p.m. each Wednesday. We provide meals to help elementary and high school students have a hot meal between church and school activities. Details and signup are online; see button on Trinity website, youth ministry. If you don't do online, talk with Denise and she'll get you signed up.



Pastor Kristen will be in Iowa attending the Fall Theological Retreat & Conference this Friday, October 6 through Tuesday, October 10. The conference is held annually and is required of all rostered leaders. In the case of a pastoral emergency, please call her cell phone (320) 290-1625.

Help Trinity finish the year financially strong! You can give by putting your offering in the plate during worship, by dropping it off or mailing it to the church office. You can also give online by signing up for our Simply Giving program. If you are interested in online giving, please contact Cathy in the church office. Thank you for your generosity!

Choir Schule 2023

Practice:

Wednesday, October 11, at 6:00pm.

Wednesday, November 1, at 6:00pm.

Wednesday, November 15, at 6:00pm

Wednesday, November 26, at 6:00pm

Singing:

October 1, 2023

October 15, 2023

November 5, 2023

November 19, 2023

**OCTOBER 1, 2023
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**



Jesus' humble obedience brings hope for all people.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 21:23-32	Parable of the two sons
Monday	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32	God's ways are fair
Tuesday	Philippians 2:1-13	Christ shows us humility
Wednesday	Hebrews 13:1-8	Service well-pleasing to God
Thursday	Exodus 18:13-27	Jethro's advice
Friday	John 13:12-20	Jesus washes the disciples' feet
Saturday	Psalms 25:1-9	Prayer for guidance and help
Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*[Jesus] humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name. **Philippians 2:8-9 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of the nations, you rule with steadfast love and mercy; help us to recognize our need for you and to worship you alone through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may this food strengthen us in body and soul that we may desire your good pleasure and act in ways that serve others in love. Amen. (Philippians 2:13)

A Blessing to Give:

May the humility of our Lord Jesus Christ give you strength and courage.



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OCTOBER 1, 2023
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Send Me, Jesus



taking 
faith
home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When is a time you questioned someone's actions in government, school, or other organization?
- How does Jesus' leadership differ from other leaders?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 21:23-32.

The chief priests and elders are intended to be leaders of the Jewish people. Jesus challenges their authority and leadership by wanting them to make a commitment—pro or con—regarding John the Baptist. They are not able to do that because they do not truly represent the people who supported John. These leaders are actually servants of Rome, the occupation force in Judea. Their wealth and power are at the pleasure of Rome, not the people of Judea. The leaders have a difficult task to balance between worshiping God and an allegiance to Rome. It is reminiscent of Jesus saying that one cannot serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). The authority Jesus serves is only God's kingdom. In words and actions, Jesus is the obedient Son who triumphs over all other authorities on earth. It is an obedience that will lead to Jesus' death at the hands of those loyal to Rome but will bring hope for all people burdened by powers of fear and death.

Discuss: How does Jesus' authority and obedience to serve only God's kingdom make a difference for all people?

Pray: **Almighty God, we thank you for Jesus' obedience to your power of grace and mercy so that sinners and tax collectors enter into your kingdom through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how can you help someone who feels weighed down by the burdens of life?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Philippians 2:3 says, *"Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves."* Name this "Humility Week" in your household. Secretly decide on one act of service you (and others) can perform that will show concern for the interests of others. If you live alone, find someone outside your home to do this with. At the end of the week, think or talk about your acts of "secret service" and what it felt like to show concern for others.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

- Sun:1** **9:00am: Worship—
Communion**
9:00am: Bible Presentation
10:00am: Sunday School
10:15am: Adult Forum
Sunday School Teachers Meeting
and Brunch
- Mon :2** **7:00pm:** AA meeting
- Tues:3** **8:30:** SAIL Exercise Class
10:00am: Bible Study
- Wed:4** **3:00pm:** WASS
5:00pm: Wednesday Supper
6:30pm: Youth Group
6:30pm: Confirmation
- Thur:5** **8:00am:** SAIL Exercise Class
- Sun:8** **9:00am: Worship**
10:00am: Sunday School
11:00am: Youth Board
2:00pm: 5th/6th/7th Grade Pie
Making

September 2023 Finances

Sept. Offering Income:	\$16,265.45
Sept. Budgeted Exps:	\$23,635.35
Difference:	(\$7,369.90)

2023 Year-to-date Income:	\$224,851.84
2023 Year-to-date Expense:	\$208,922.65
Difference:	\$15,929.19

Prayer Concerns

For strength and healing: Russell Boul-
lion, Wayne Johnson, Herb Daleske, Pas-
tor Bagne, Shirley Miner, Joan Christians
and Cody Hegna. Prayers to Lowell
Bakkedahl family on his passing.

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE
CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU OR A
MEMBER IS HOSPITALIZED

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Church Office Hours

September Attendance

September 3:44
September 10: 87
September 17: 142
September 24: 108