



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Sandusky, OH 44870
419-626-0204

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Sunday, September 7th, 2025 Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found. Amen.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: O God Beyond Praising

No. 880

O God beyond All Praising

1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,

and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;

for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,

at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:

we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,

we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

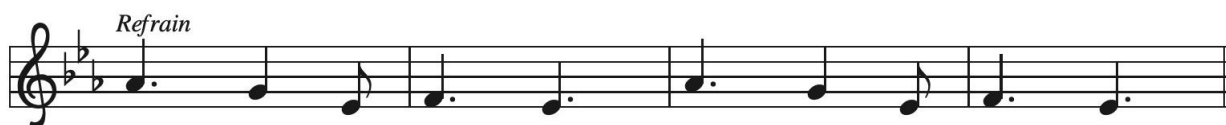
God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me
O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
 2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
 3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,
 4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
 es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
 strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
 light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
 hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



Refrain
 O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 1

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows
away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

Second Reading: Philemon 1-21

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier
Archippus, and to the church in your house: ³ Grace to you and peace from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of
your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the
partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good
that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement
from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through
you, my brother. ⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ
to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the
basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of
Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I
have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but
now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own
heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to
me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do
nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and
not something forced.

¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you
might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a
slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in
the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as
you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you
anything, charge that to me.

¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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

Children’s Message

Sermon

Pastor Jen Herrmann

Hymn of the Day: There’s A Wideness in God’s Mercy

No. 588

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

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.

Prayers of Intercession

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely. May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

Offertory (Usher please bring the offering to the altar)

Offertory Song: God's Work, Our Hands

No. 1000

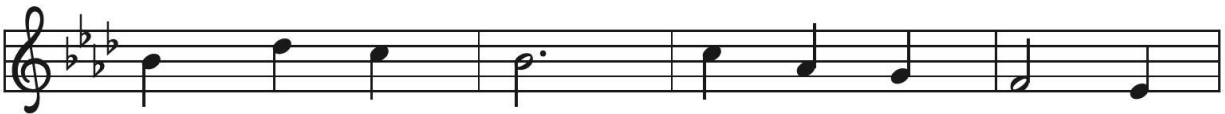
God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Offertory Prayer

Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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.



Preface

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;
within each cell; with every breath. **We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day;
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. **We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. **We thank you, O God.**

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit, in your church,
without end. **Amen.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.**

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

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: Jesus Loves Me!

No. 802

Jesus Loves Me!

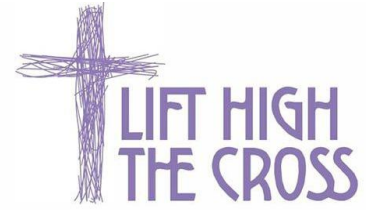
1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;
lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.
Refrain
Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,
yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Table Blessing

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**



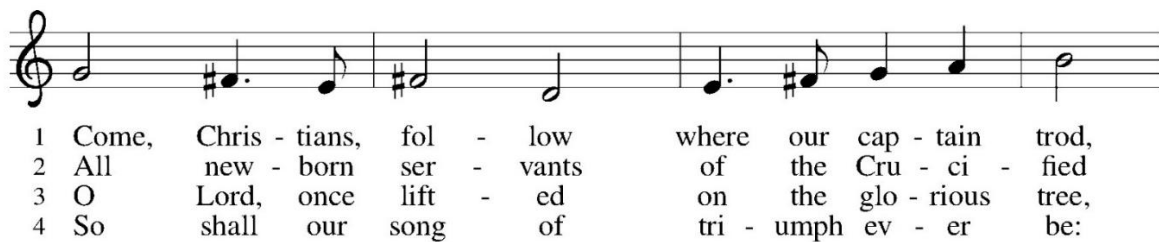
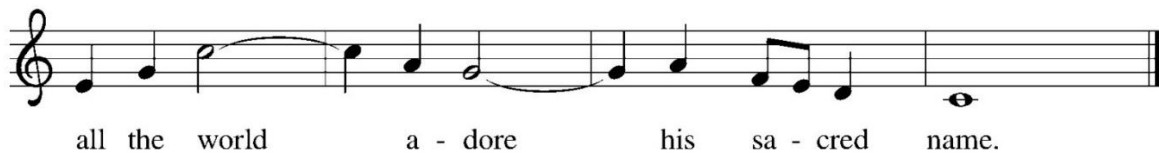
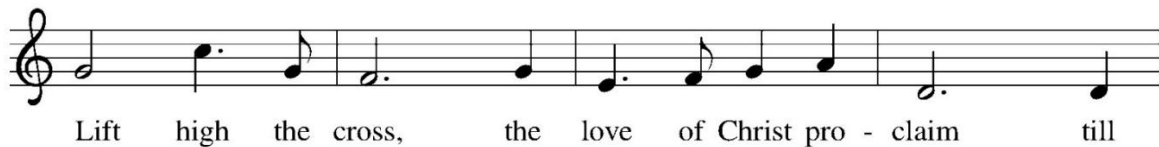
Blessing

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

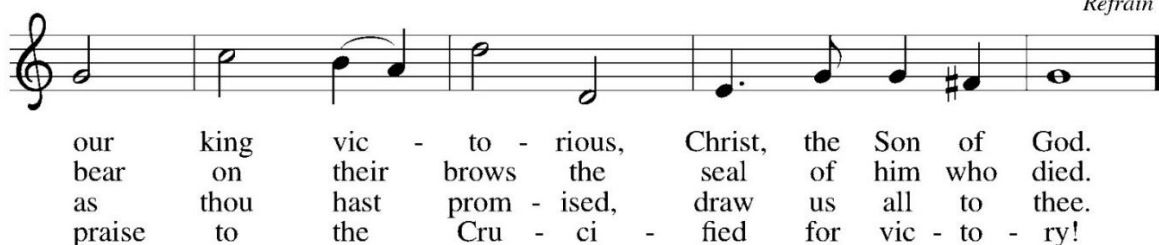
Closing Hymn: Lift High the Cross

No. 660

Lift High the Cross



Refrain



Dismissal.

Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God.**

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AT WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

At 8:00...

Pastor:	Pastor Jen Herrmann
Lectors:	Guy Miller
Communion Assistant:	Guy Miller
Usher:	Mark Wiedenheft & Guy Miller
Acolyte:	Mason Russell

At 10:30...

Pastor:	Pastor Jen Herrmann
Lectors:	Natalie Thompson
Usher:	Chrissy Nielsen & Bonnie Lieb
Communion Assistant:	Candy Beatty
Acolyte:	

September Altar Care: Sally Warner & Bonnie Lieb

PRAYER CONCERNS

To families and first responders impacted by mass shootings nationwide; FAITH members, including, Ruby Stierhoff; Bishop Daniel Beaudion and the staff of our Northwestern Ohio Synod; the staff and those served by the Volunteers of America Crossroads Shelter.

Pastor Jen can be contacted at 419-822-7630 or jen.herrmann@gmail.com

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Carrie & Ken Killingsworth in honor of Drew Killingsworth's 11th birthday on September 9th, from his family.

OFFERING PLATES are in both entryways by the bulletins. If you forgot to put your offering as you came in, an usher or pastor can help you find the plates after service.

ATTENDANCE Aug 31st: 40 + 19 = 59

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GOODNESS:

General Fund: \$2,898.62.00

Building Improvements: \$230.00

This Week at Trinity

TODAY	Communion Service	8:00 am & 10:30 am
WEDNESDAY	AA/NA Women Only	9:00 am
	"We All Belong" (Narcotics Anon.)	7:00 pm
SATURDAY	"We All Belong" (Narcotics Anon.)	11:00 am
SUNDAY	Service of Word & Prayer	8:00 am & 10:30 am

A **special thank you** to Congregational Life for providing refreshments this morning. Come and enjoy the fellowship after service!



BEWARE: Trinity is currently experiencing a scam. There are emails posing as Pastor Jen requesting gift cards and/or money. **This is fraudulent.** Pastor Jen, church staff, or council members will never request personal information or donations for an unannounced cause. Please refer to the bulletin board by the sanctuary for helpful tips for recognizing electronic scams.

TODAY is God's Work, Our Hands. Thank you to members who donated. 163 kits will be prepared (100 was the goal!). Sunday school children will assist with assembling at 9:15am

Grace Lutheran Church's **Free Community Dinner** is **Wednesday, September 10th 5-6pm**. The menu is grilled chicken sandwich, coleslaw, baked beans & dessert. Delivery is available for shut-ins; call 419-357-3672 to schedule.



May your September be filled
with love, blessing,
and healing