

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
8:00 & 10:15 AM
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Enabled by the Holy Spirit, we boldly proclaim the Good News of Christ,
sharing God's love with all through worship, education, and service.

132 E. Main Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com

"Like" us and Share on Facebook

www.facebook.com/TLCMech

www.trinity-on-main.org

Welcome

Welcome to our worship today: If you are visiting with us, or if you are seeking a faith community and desire to be a part of our ministries, we encourage you to contact the office using the information at the bottom of this page. Please provide your address, telephone number and/or e-mail address so that we may contact you.

Offering:

Offering may be placed in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary or in the basket near the elevator. The offering will be carried to the front at 10:15 worship and presented during the offertory.

Online Giving:



https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=WCLH7KBXYDALL

Prayer List:

The clipboard to add people to the prayer list is on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Please be sure to include your name, their name, your relationship, and the prayer request.

INTRODUCTION

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.

STAFF

Rev. Barbara Barry, 717-766-2662

pastorbbarry@gmail.com

Melissa Jacoby, Minister of Music, 717-766-2662

trinityburgmusic@gmail.com

Debbie Schue, Parish Administrator, 717-766-2662

trinityburgoffice@gmail.com

+ GATHERING +

WELCOME

PRELUDE (10:15 only)

The church bell is rung three times to proclaim that we gather to worship in the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. 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.**

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN (10:15 only)

"God is Here!"

ELW 526

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 (10:15 only)

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

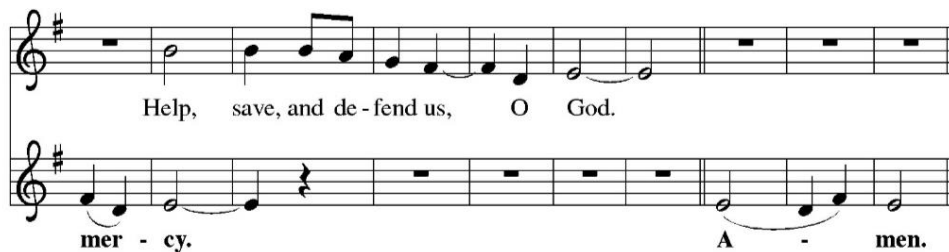
Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

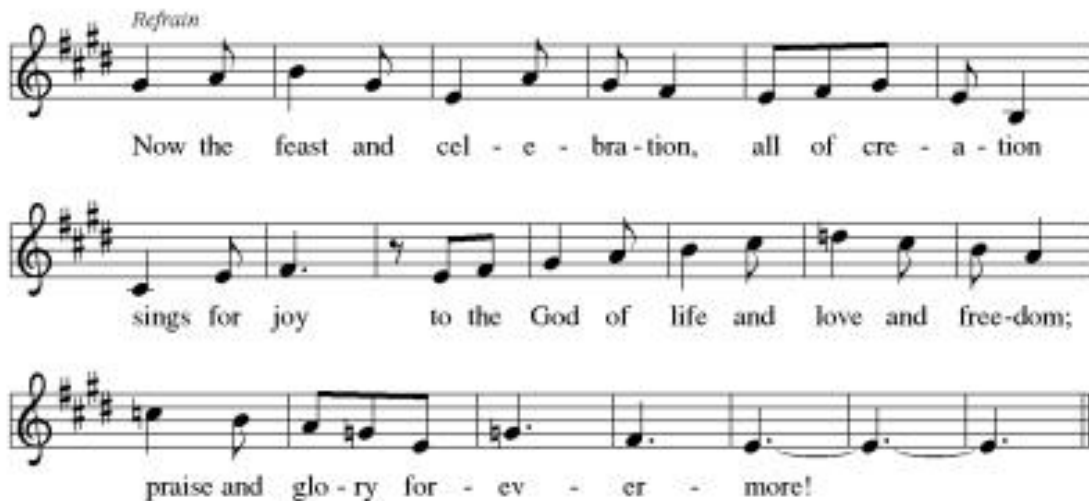
word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have



HYMN OF PRAISE (10:15 only)

All sing Refrain. Choir will sing the verse (not printed).



PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray. 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.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

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 who 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.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1-9

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

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

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

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

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

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

⁷ Remember 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.

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

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

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love,
any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy,
² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same
love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish
ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better
than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but
to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in
Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not
regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but
emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human
likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he
humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more
highly and gave him the name that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and 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 on 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: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (10:15 only)



GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:23-32

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²³ When [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?" ²⁴ Jesus 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. ²⁵ Did 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?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So 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.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the

same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which 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. ³² For 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 our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Silent Reflection

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY (10:15 only)

"O Master, Let Me Walk with You"

ELW 818

APOSTLES' CREED

A: With the whole church let us confess our faith:

C: **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

A: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE (10:15 only)

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (two sharps). The melody is primarily composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

THE PEACE

A: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

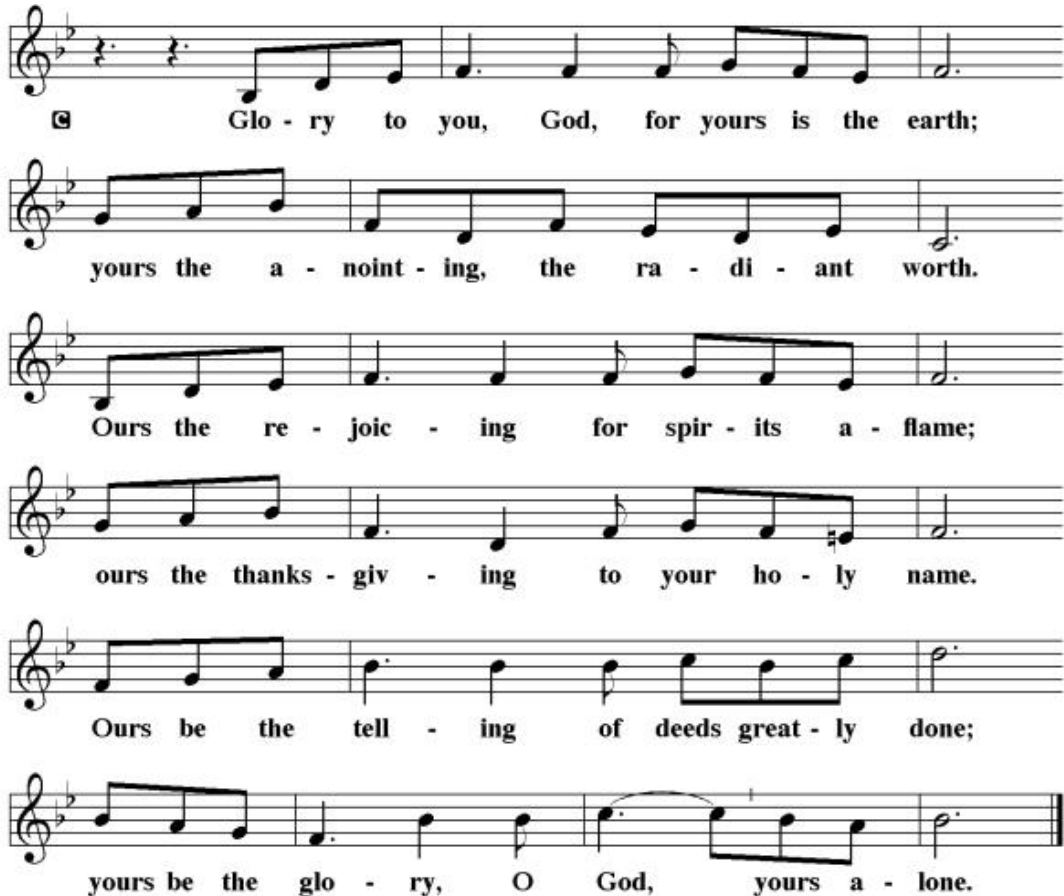
8:00 Please remain standing. 10:15 Please be seated.

+MEAL+

MUSICAL OFFERING (10:15 only)

OFFERTORY (10:15 only)

Please stand and sing as offering is brought to the front.



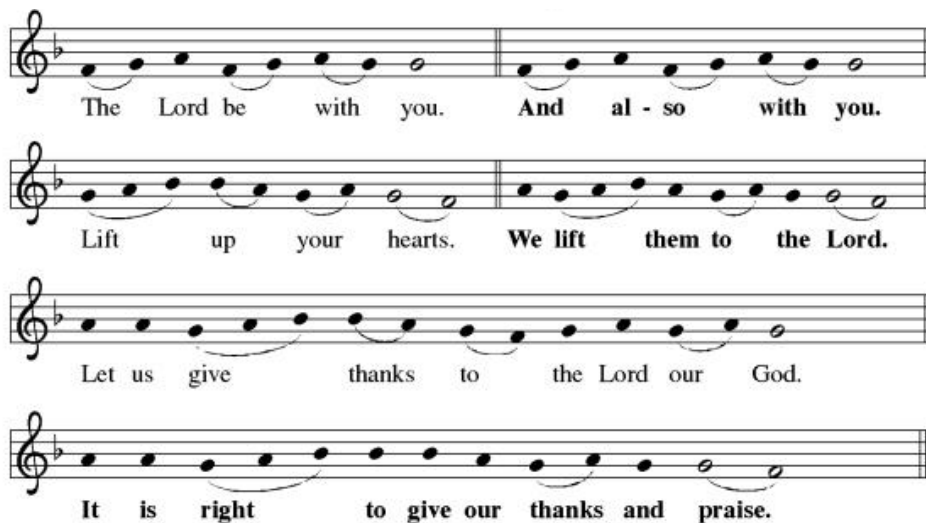
Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

THE OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: **God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Communion liturgy spoken at 8 am)*



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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Spoken at 8 am)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

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

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: 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, Jesus 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

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Our Savior taught us:

**C: 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

P: Christ invites you to this table.

C: All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

COMMUNION

All baptized believers are welcome at the Lord's table. We trust in faith that the real presence of Christ is present in the bread and the wine. You will be invited to come to the front to receive the bread from the liturgist, and then move to the side to dip the bread in the cup or receive an individual cup of white grape juice or red wine. Gluten free wafers are available. Please ask at the time of communion. Those who are not communing today, may come forward and request a blessing.

(10:15 only)

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

COMMUNION HYMN (10:15 only)

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

ELW 471

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

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

C: **Amen.**

+SENDING+

BLESSING

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *(10:15 only)*

“On Our Way Rejoicing”

ELW 537

DISMISSAL

A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

More than Words: Liturgies © 2024 Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission. Reprinted from sundaysandseasons.com under license #SAS103543. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. OneLicense #A-721716. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY CHURCH: SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

Sun, 9/27	8 & 10:15 am, Worship with Holy Communion 8:45 am, Snax 'n Study 9 am, Confirmation Class 5 pm, Community Dinner @ Buhrig's Gathering Place
Tues, 9/29	6 pm, Woman at the Well Book Study
Wed, 9/30	6:15 pm, Choir 6:50 pm, Bells 7:30 pm, Bible Study
Sat, 10/3	9 am, End-of-Life Informational Program

Prayers:

For all of our homebound.

For the work of the Call Committee.

For the staff and students of Shepherdstown Elementary School.

Members: Cathy Lamason; Phil Warner; Denise Burkhard; Alan and Bonnie Williamson; John Wallace; Carol Pensyl; Linda Humes; Miriam Wise

Friends: Erica Orner; Steve Orner; Kathy Fosselman; Joe Friary; To'mas and Elena; Sam Krauter; Joe Friary; Vickie Widmann; Eliette Costella; Olan Turner; Cally Cole; Gunnar Etchison; Robin Gladen; Stephen; Charles Crum; Jean Kuhn

Family and Friends of: William F. Fish, Jr; Douglas Moses

Names will remain on the prayer list for three weeks; if they should remain on the prayer list for longer, please contact the office via phone or email.

Contributions for Trinity ministry may be placed in the collection plate, mailed or there is a donation button on the website.

WORSHIP HELPERS	SEPTEMBER 27	OCTOBER 4
Acolytes: Aubrey Hartman, Kolton Kramer, Abigail Light, Koen Thomas, Hailey VonLumm, Jonah Wagenheim		
<u>GREETERS</u>	Daryl & Ja'net Gochenauer	Patsy Shaw & Ja'net Gochenauer
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	8:00 Amy Boya 10:15 Koen Thomas	Stacey Zeller
<u>LECTORS</u>	8:00 Ja'net Gochenauer 10:15 Dennis Burkhard	8:00 Koen Thomas 10:15 Harold Miller
<u>USHERS</u>	Jim & Mary-Louise Smith	Tim & Heather Zielonis Tyler Hoffman
<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>	Denise Burkhard Heather Zielonis	Deb George