

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, July 16, 2023 — Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

This week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, July 16

Stony Lake Camp Week begins

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.

Rejoice Worship (Rejoice band), 9:15 a.m.

Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.

Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Monday, July 17

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, July 18

Family Promise EOS Meeting, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m.

Care & Share, 10:30 a.m.

Know Mercy Softball, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, July 19

Family Promise EOS Meeting, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 20

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m.

Volunteering at In The Image, 1 to 3 p.m.

"Life Begins at 60" Driveway Dining, 6 p.m.

Children's Ministry Committee, 8 p.m.

Friday, July 21

Stroller Strides, 9 a.m.

Sunday, July 23

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.

Rejoice Worship (Beyond Belief band), 9:15 a.m.

Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.

Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Eternal Candle for Worship Today

The eternal candle is given by Joni and Steve Korb in loving memory of Erin Korb.



Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Chris & Beth Van Meter

Lector: Cindy Zientarski

Communion Assistants: Nancy Morrison, Kim Brock

Ushers: Erick Kind, Chad & Jenna Mencarelli

Acolyte: TBD

9:15 a.m.

Beyond Belief band leading worship

Sacristan: Lisa Mead

Lector: Carol Butler

Communion Assistants: Gail Mazurek,
Lisa Postlewaite

Ushers: Mike Bishop, Dan & Carol Butler, Kathy Noble,
Jim Willman

Acolytes: TBD

10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Gwyneth Hoeksema

Sacristan: Chris & Laura Norton

Lector: Lois McCardell

Communion Assistants: Vince Schumacher,
Jo Murphy

Ushers: Steve Cairns, Paul Getzin, Jim Vanderwall
Joe & Marybeth Iaria, Lois McCardell

Acolytes: TBD

Bread Bakers: Janet Genow and Dolly Lowe

Trinity Members in Our Prayers

We pray for **Trinity members in times of illness, hospitalization, rehabilitation and recovery:** Dan Babin, Sue Bailey, Dale and Lisa Barkema, Bob Beaudry, David Benkert, Jim and Sue Boyse, Bill Brock, Pat Bruin, Ellie Buggeln, Donna Erickson, Joyce Fick, Diane Field, Elena Griewahn, Mark Hahn, Beth Hall, Bob Heine, Callan Hughes, Carol Huttenga, Patricia Johnson, Roy Lamprich, John and Marilyn Leese, Jane Legault, Kristin Linkfield, Ken Lown, Tess Lundgren, Judy Mallen, Tom Mannisto, Rebecca Mattison, Gail Mazurek, Marcia McClimans, Jill and Peter McKinney, Stephanie McLeod, Marilyn Mellema, Charmayne Mulligan, Jo Murphy, Craig Mutch, Toni Peterson, Jesse Platt, Dorothy Postema, Rick Radke, Jacqueline Riegling, Denny Rosen, Marian Schaible, Chas Schaner, Chris Schomberg, Lee Schomberg, Bob Sielaff, Michael Smith, Dale Volkerding, John Walls, Fred and Kathy Wilcox, Robert Williams, Rick and Michelle Wolner, David Young, Kay Zeaman, Kathryn Zielinski and Cindy Zientarski.

We also lift up **Trinity families mourning the loss of loved ones:** Greg and Rachele Battreall, Jack Danielson, Julie Earhart, David and Pastor Kari Fast, Jon Ferguson, Diane Field, Josh and Katie Gardner, Brad and Gayl Kessel, Beth Krueger, Kent and Kristin Linkfield, Dave and Julie Murray, Patrick and Jacquie Murray, Craig and Patti Mutch, Debbie and John Potter, Sylvia and Bill Stouten, Linda Taffs, and Natalie Yeager.

We also lift up in prayer this week Pastor Andreas Teich and the people of Zion Lutheran Church in Freeland, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for July 16

Isaiah 55:10-13

Psalms 65:[1-8] 9-13

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

#853 When Morning Gilds the Skies (red book)

#679 For the Fruit of All Creation (red book)

#547 Sent Forth By God's Blessing (red book)

JULY 16, 2023
SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking⁺ faith home

God's word makes a difference for our lives.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Parable of the sower
Monday	Isaiah 55:10-13	God's word is powerful
Tuesday	Romans 8:1-11	Life in the Spirit
Wednesday	2 Timothy 3:10-17	Paul's charge to Timothy
Thursday	Joshua 1:1-9	God's commission to Joshua
Friday	Hebrews 4:8-13	The rest that God has promised
Saturday	Psalms 65	Thanksgiving for earth's bounty
Sunday	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Parable of the weeds

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Matthew 13:8-9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Creative God, your word accomplishes all that you desire; we thank you for your work of love that brings hope and healing through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtide Prayer:

Almighty God, by your strength you bring forth food from the earth. Thank you for the abundant harvest that we enjoy today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's creative word bear fruit in your life through Christ.



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JULY 16, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Lord, Let My Heart
Be Good Soil*



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:

- What do you think it takes to be a good gardener and have a successful harvest?
- We can receive God's word in worship, by reading the Bible, and through prayer and conversations. What is a favorite way for you to receive God's word?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

Jesus compares the sower's seed to God's word that bears much fruit. The seed needs to be planted in good soil to grow. Jesus compares the soil to our lives and our ability to hear and receive God's word. We can wonder if we are the good soil that receives God's word, but it may be that at different times we exhibit all four soils. There are times God's word doesn't stick (the path); sometimes it takes root but quickly dries up (rocky ground); sometimes the word gets smothered by competing concerns (thorns); sometimes the word takes root and produces much fruit (good soil). Our lives can experience all of these moments. This parable can be a humble reminder for us to be open to God's word so that our lives bear the fruit of love and peace. No matter how God's word bears fruit in our lives, it grows into a surprising harvest.

Discuss: How and when are you most attentive to God's word in your life?

Pray: Dear God, you who are the source of all living things, bless us with faith in your word and your work in our lives to bless the world through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others with the power of God's healing and forgiveness?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Gather four small pots. Fill the first with gravel to represent a path, the second with rocks, the third with thorns or thistles, and the fourth with good soil. Tell the parable of the sower in your own words. As you hold each pot, pray: Lord God, keep us from having hearts that are hard, like a path. Keep us from having hearts that are shallow, like soil on rocky ground. Keep us from having hearts that are easily choked, like seeds among thorns. Instead, make our hearts like good soil, so that we gladly receive your word and accept it. Amen.



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