

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, July 30, 2023 — Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

This week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, July 30

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 31

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, August 1

LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.
Fitness Classes, 9 a.m.
Know Mercy Softball, 6 p.m. (Field #2)
Know Mercy Softball, 8 p.m. (Field #1)

Wednesday, August 2

Outreach Committee Meeting, noon
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 3

Fitness Classes, 9 a.m.

Friday, August 4

Stroller Strides, 9 a.m.

Saturday, August 5

Home Repair Services Ramp Build, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Private Party, 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 6

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.



Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Carrie Wygmans
Lector: Tom Zollman
Communion Assistants: Chris & Beth Van Meter
Ushers: Dale Barkema, Elaine Rongey,
Gloria Von der Heide
Acolyte: TBD

9:15 a.m.

Rejoice band leading worship
Sacristan: Lisa Postlewaite
Lector: Brenda Baker
Communion Assistants: Dan & Carol Butler
Ushers: Mark Baker, Dave & Carrie Boer,
Mark Hagbom, Sally Mahoney,
Jeff Postlewaite
Acolytes: TBD

10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Anna Griewahn
Sacristan: Beth Vanderwall
Lector: Karen Niemeyer
Communion Assistants: Dee Scales, Sandra Sudak
Ushers: Jim & Sue Coates, John Derbin,
Don Kishman, Jamie Norris, Dee Scales,
Wayne Snyder
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, Diane Flatt, Elena Griewahn, Elwyn 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, 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 Megan Crouch and the people of Peace Lutheran Church in Gaylord, partners with us in ministry North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for July 30

1 Kings 3:5-12	Romans 8:26-39
Psalms 119:129-136	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
#825	You Servants of God (red book)
#705	God of Grace and God of Glory (red book)
#867	In Thee is Gladness (red book)

JULY 30, 2023
NINTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking⁺ faith home

Solomon's prayer for justice and understanding.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52	Parables of the kingdom
Monday	1 Kings 3:5-12	Solomon's prayer for wisdom
Tuesday	Romans 8:26-39	God's love in Christ Jesus
Wednesday	Isaiah 30:18-26	God's promise to Zion
Thursday	Amos 5:10-15	Choose good instead of evil
Friday	Luke 6:37-42	Judging others
Saturday	Psalms 119:129-136	The glories of God's law
Sunday	Matthew 14:13-21	Jesus feeds the five thousand

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Give your servant [Solomon] therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil." 1 Kings 3:9a (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Come Holy Spirit, come Lord Jesus, give us your truth that we may judge with your steadfast love and mercy for all. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for this food we thank you, and for your wisdom, understanding, and mercy we pray to you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord's face shine on you and teach you God's ways. (Psalm 119:135)



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JULY 30, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*God of Grace and
God of Glory*

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 you have a conflict with someone, are you able to see the situation from the other person's perspective? Explain.
- What makes it difficult to be a fair judge of other people's thoughts and actions?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 1 Kings 3:5-12.

Humans have proven throughout the ages that they can explain away any thoughts and actions. Our own sense of truth and justice can be hurtful and unfair. We know how we can try to fool ourselves and others. Solomon also knew this, so he prayed to God for "understanding to discern what is right" (1 Kings 3:11b). The Hebrew literally says, "to hear justice." That is, to let Solomon's mind perceive and hear real justice on behalf of others. This is a daring prayer that puts others before his—and our own—interests. Our imperfect sense of justice and truth needs the humility of Solomon to recognize that God's truth stands out from our own. A good example is when the disciples heard the many parables of Jesus. Perhaps the greater wisdom would have been to acknowledge that they really did not understand them (Matthew 13:51).

Discuss: When have you prayed for wisdom and understanding?

Pray: God of justice and truth, give us a humble heart that we may see and judge people with mercy and understanding that dares to love others through Jesus Christ our 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 humbly and with understanding from their viewpoint?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus told parables to teach people. A parable is a story to explain a moral or spiritual lesson. Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 includes five different parables that Jesus told to the disciples. Each time, he begins by saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like ...". Choose to read one of the five parables and then think or talk about what Jesus is telling you about the kingdom of heaven.

Pray: Dear God, thank you for Jesus who teaches us about the kingdom of heaven. Help us to take time to learn and to tell others about what Jesus has taught us. Amen.



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