

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, July 23, 2023 — Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

This week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, July 23

Self-Guided Prayer Labyrinth

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.

Monday, July 24

Self-Guided Prayer Labyrinth, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.

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

Tuesday, July 25

LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m.

Stephen Ministry Continuing Education, 6:30 p.m.

Stephen Ministry Peer Support Group, 7:30 p.m.

Know Mercy Softball, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, July 26

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

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 27

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

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m.

Helping Hands Committee, 10 a.m.

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

Endowment Fund Committee, 6 p.m.

Friday, July 28

Stroller Strides, 9 a.m.

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

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.



Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Fred & Kathy Wilcox

Lector: Dale Barkema

Communion Assistants: Carrie Wygmans,
Marcia Schaner

Ushers: Bob Carwell, Bill & Meri Leidel

Acolyte: TBD

9:15 a.m.

Beyond Belief band leading worship

Sacristan: Vince Schumacher

Lector: Debra Freeberg

Communion Assistants: Kris Shannon, Steve Stephan

Ushers: Steve and Nate Bennett, Brad & Pam Burkle,
Tim Lundgren, Karen Nagle

Acolytes: TBD

10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Penny Kindraka

Sacristan: Vince Schumacher

Lector: Jo Murphy

Communion Assistants: Jan Jacobson,
Laura Norton

Ushers: Kara Day, Gene Gunderson, Carol Hendricks,
David Kuecherer, Chris Kutschinski, Jordan Wiseman

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, Elwin 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 Len Dahlgren and the people of Edgewood Lutheran Church in Fruitport, partners with us in ministry North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for July 23

Isaiah 44:6-8
Psalm 86:11-17

Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

#848 Give to Our God Immortal Praise! (red book)
#617 We Come to You for Healing, Lord (red book)
#537 On Our Way Rejoicing (red book)

JULY 23, 2023
EIGHTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking† faith home

God is merciful and slow to anger.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

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|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday | Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 | Parable of the weeds |
| Monday | Isaiah 44:6-8 | The Lord's promise to Israel |
| Tuesday | Romans 8:12-25 | Future glory for God's people |
| Wednesday | Hebrews 4:14-16 | Jesus the high priest |
| Thursday | Psalms 103:1-14 | The Lord is merciful |
| Friday | Nehemiah 9:16-25 | A merciful God ready to forgive |
| Saturday | Psalms 86:11-17 | Save me, Lord |
| Sunday | Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 | Parables of the kingdom |

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. Psalm 86:15 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, may your grace and mercy lead me to be humble and care for others through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this gift of food, a sign of your kindness and mercy that we receive through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the mercy and loving kindness of God lead you all the days of your life.



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JULY 23, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Love Divine, All Loves
Excelling*

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 is something you believe very strongly?
- What makes it hard to listen to someone with different opinions than yours?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

Matthew's Gospel addresses divisions in the church. Who has the right message? Who is being faithful? What actions do not fit the kingdom of God? Matthew's message is clearly a word we need to hear. Today people who claim the Christian faith are much divided over morality and doctrine. Matthew has the strongest note of judgment against false witnesses, but that judgment is tempered. Through the parable of the weeds, it is understood that we are called to be witnesses, not judges. To think we can uproot and expel certain groups of people is dangerous. To believe we have the ability to judge rightly will end up destroying the good and loving work of the church, the body of Christ. We are not the judge. God is the judge. Until Judgment Day comes, we are witnesses to the truth that Jesus teaches and lives. It is enough to point to Jesus and his reign of undeserved kindness and peace.

Discuss: When have you judged others? In what ways can you show undeserved kindness and love to others?

Pray: Almighty God, give us humility to trust in you more than our own judgments so we may love and serve our neighbor through Christ Jesus, the one who judges the living and the dead. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how can you help and lovingly serve someone who has been judged unfairly?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships. Who has influenced your life of faith? Make a list of Christian rituals and traditions the person you named has taught you, like prayer, loving service, and scripture reading. Think or talk about how you can teach some of these rituals and traditions to someone else.

Pray: Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name. Amen. (Psalm 86:11)



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