

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, August 27, 2023 — Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

This week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 27

Teacher Blessing

Backpack Blessing

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.

Bob and Barb Crossman 70th Wedding Anniversary
Reception, noon

Ninth Graders Welcome to High School Event,
6:30 p.m.

Monday, August 28

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.

Race & Restitution Reading Group, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, August 29

Fitness Classes, 9 a.m.

LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, August 30

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 31

Congress School Supplies Appeal Concludes

Fitness Classes, 9 a.m.

Sunday, September 3

Coats & Blanket Appeal Begins

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.

Baptism Today

Today at **9:15 a.m.** we welcome **Emerson Andrew Gohlke** into the Body of Christ by the waters of Holy Baptism. Emerson's parents are Andy and Lauren Gohlke and his sponsors are Dustin and Jennifer Hughes.



Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Elaine Rongey

Lector: Debbie Duckworth

Communion Assistants: Betty Hall, Nancy Morrison

Ushers: Bob Carwell, Elaine Rongey

Acolyte: TBD

9:15 a.m.

Rejoice band leading worship

Sacristan: Don & Judy Otten

Lector: Dan Butler

Communion Assistants: Kathy Bush, Kim Brock

Ushers: Steve & Nate Bennet, Brad & Pam Burkle,

Bill Bush, Tim Lundgren, Karen Nagle

Acolytes: TBD

10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Paula R. Tibbe

Sacristan: Kristin Bradley

Lector: Sheila Talsma

Communion Assistants: Kate and Kai Bredwell

Ushers: Kara Day, Gene Gunderson, Carol Hendricks,

David Kuecherer, Chris Kutschinski,

Jordan Wiseman

Acolytes: TBD

Bread Baker: Sandra Sudak

Trinity Members in Our Prayers

We pray for **Trinity members in times of illness, hospitalization, rehabilitation and recovery**: Nancy Anderson, Dan Babin, Sue Bailey, Dale and Lisa Barkema, Bob Beaudry, David Benkert, Jim and Sue Boyse, Bryan Bredwell, Pat Bruin, Ellie Buggeln, Angela Davis, 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, Craig Mutch, Pastor Karen Niemeyer, Toni Peterson, Jesse Platt, Dorothy Postema, Rick Radke, Jacqueline Riegling, Denny Rosen, Marian Schaible, Chas Schaner, Chris Schomberg, Lee Schomberg, Pam Sellers, Bob Sielaff, Michael Smith, Rebecca Ulrich, Joanna Waite, John Walls, Fred and Kathy Wilcox, Robert Williams, Rick and Michelle Wolner, David Young, Kay Zeaman, and Kathryn Zielinski.

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 Karsten Voskuil and the people of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, partners with us in ministry North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for August 27

Isaiah 51:1-6
Psalm 138

Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

#858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (red book)
#1024 Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand (purple book)
#596 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (red book)

AUGUST 27, 2023
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 16:13-20	Peter's confession of Christ
Monday	Isaiah 51:1-6	Blessings for God's people
Tuesday	Romans 12:1-8	Christ brings new life
Wednesday	1 Peter 1:13-25	A call to holy living
Thursday	Exodus 20:1-6	You shall have no other gods
Friday	Genesis 35:1-15	Jacob returns to Bethel
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise God with all your heart
Sunday	Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven."
Matthew 16:16-17 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, we thank you for being our sure foundation, our rock on which we stand secure through Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Almighty and Living God, we thank you for this food that gives us strength to shout out our praise to you for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give you joy and gladness now and always.



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AUGUST 27, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Built on a Rock



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:

- A false god is anything that we put our trust in instead of putting our trust in Jesus Christ. What are some false gods that people turn to today?
- How is putting our trust in Jesus Christ different from following false gods?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 16:13-20.

Caesarea Philippi was a place for the ancient people to gather and worship many gods. Those gods were understood to have powers that controlled people's lives, often arbitrarily. Instead of such instability, the disciples were there to witness to Jesus' life that heals, forgives, and teaches us of the God of steadfast love and faithfulness (Psalm 138:2). Peter confesses what only God can reveal: Jesus is the Messiah (another word for Christ) and the Son of a living—therefore real—God! In Romans 12:2 the Apostle Paul tells us not to be conformed to the world that is filled with false gods (powers), destructive passions, and self-love instead of love for others. This non-conformity that Jesus brings is a challenge to our everyday thinking. No wonder Jesus told his disciples not to tell anyone about him. It will take time for them—and us—to wrap heads and hearts around worshiping Jesus as Lord instead of worshiping a nation, ethnicity, bank account or any other false god.

Discuss: What is it in your life that gets in the way of confessing Jesus as the Messiah?

Pray: Almighty God, your ways are not our ways; give us hearts and minds to grasp that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God for the sake of the world you love. 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 instead of serving your own interests this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Peter confessed his faith by stating that Jesus is the Son of the living God. Because of this confession, Jesus called him the "rock" upon which he would build his church (Matthew 16:18). Place a rock in your living space or in a garden to remember the confession of Peter and the church throughout the centuries. Write or paint the words "Jesus is the Son of God" on the rock.



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