

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, September 3, 2023 — Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

This week at Trinity Lutheran Church

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.

Monday, September 4

Labor Day Holiday—Office Closed

Tuesday, September 5

LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.

Communications Committee, Meeting, noon

Executive Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 6

Outreach Committee Meeting, noon

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Thursday, September 7

Resound Bell Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, September 8

Friday Morning Women's Book Club, 9:30 a.m.

Wedding Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 9

Mayors' Grand River Cleanup, 9 a.m.

Marriage of Haley Fisk and Nick Deppner, 4 p.m.

Sunday, September 10

Coats & Blanket Appeal Continues

God's work. Our Hands. Sunday

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.

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

Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School Open House, 10:15 a.m.

Young Children's Communion Class, 10:30 a.m.

Outdoor Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Stephen Ministry Continuing Education, 12:30 p.m.

Stephen Ministry Peer Support Group, 1:30 p.m.

Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.

High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.



Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Cantor: Jude Westra

Sacristan: Fred & Kathy Wilcox

Lector: Kathy Wilcox

Communion Assistants: Sue Wait, Marcia Schaner

Ushers: Bill Bailey, John Potter, Dave Wait

Acolyte: TBD

9:15 a.m.

Beyond Belief band leading worship

Sacristan: Lisa Mead

Lector: Carol Butler

Communion Assistants: Kathy Noble, Mike Mason

Ushers: Todd Brandstadt, Morrie and Cindy Fongers,

Ethan Guis, Lisa Mead

Acolytes: TBD

10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Deb DeWitt

Sacristan: Dolly Lowe

Lector: Sue Coates

Communion Assistants: Jim Coates, Jo Murphy

Ushers: David, Bergen and Theo Marquardt,

Brad Kessel, Dorothy Postema, Scott Stoll

Acolytes: TBD

Bread Baker: Marcia Schaner

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, Jill and Peter McKinney, Stephanie McLeod, Marilyn Mellema, Charmayne Mulligan, Craig Mutch, 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 Kevin Sullivan and the people of Faith Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for September 3

Jeremiah 15:15-21
Psalm 26:1-8

Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

#893 Before You, Lord, We Bow (red book)
#712 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (red book)
#710 Let Streams of Living Justice (red book)

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+ faith home

Following Jesus is not an easy path.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow
Monday	Jeremiah 15:15-21	Jeremiah is reassured
Tuesday	Romans 12:9-21	Rules for Christian living
Wednesday	2 Timothy 4:1-5	Paul's instructions to Timothy
Thursday	Philippians 1:27-30	Live your life in a worthy manner
Friday	1 Corinthians 12:12-26	One body with many members
Saturday	Psalms 26:1-8	Prayer of an innocent person
Sunday	Matthew 18:15-20	Seeking reconciliation

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

Matthew 16:24 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to pick up our crosses, suffer, and follow Jesus for what is right, just, and loving. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed. Let there be a goodly share on every table, everywhere. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the cross of Christ free you to care for all.



© 2022 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Just a Closer Walk with
Thee*

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 is a time you experienced pain or suffering?
- How does your faith in Christ help you when you are in pain or suffering?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 16:21-28.

In general, we do our best to avoid pain and suffering. Peter wanted Jesus—and himself—to avoid suffering, and so he rebuked Jesus. However, some suffering is necessary in life. There are times when the path in life is not easy. Fighting for justice on behalf of others and God's creation and defending God's mercy and forgiveness when hatred and vengeance is pursued by others are examples of times when suffering is warranted. Peter failed to understand this. Jesus called him out as one who was following the path of evil. The path Jesus chose picks up a cross. Jesus picked up his cross for the salvation of all that God has created. It was a very costly cross for Jesus. It led to torment, false accusations, suffering and death. It is what is referred to as the "theology of the cross," that is, out of suffering God brings healing, new life, and salvation.

Discuss: When is a time in your life you avoided the harder path? What happened?

Pray: Compassionate God, give us courage and strength to follow you where truth and justice are needed, to paths that bring healing and hope through Christ Jesus 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 by risking your own comfort for the sake of others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The cross is a Christian symbol. It reminds us that Jesus is with us through hard times. We see crosses in many places in our lives. As a follower of Jesus, notice the number of crosses you see in your home and in the community this week. Each time you see one, take a moment to pray: Thank you Jesus for dying on the cross to save 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