

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, September 17, 2023 — Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, September 17

Coats & Blanket Appeal Continues

IHN Week Begins — Guests Arrive

Preschooler Blessing

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.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Annual Fall Picnic/Potluck, noon

Sr. Nancy Brousseau Orientation 2:30 p.m.

Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.

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

Monday, September 18

IHN Guests Onsite

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.

Blood Drive, 10:30 a.m.

Library Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.

Finance Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.

Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

Health Ministries Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 19

IHN Guests Onsite

LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.

Care & Share, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday Evening Book Club, 7 p.m.

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 20

IHN Guests Onsite

Fitness Classes, 9 a.m.

"Life Begins at 60" - Rio Grand Steak House, 5 p.m.

Thursday, September 21

IHN Guests Onsite

Volunteer at In The Image, 1 p.m.

Bridge, 1 p.m.

Resound Bell Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, September 22

IHN Guests Onsite

Friday Morning Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, September 23

IHN Guests Onsite

COM Rehearsal, 10 a.m.

Sunday, September 24

Coats & Blanket Appeal Continues

IHN Week Concludes

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.

Flu & Covid Immunization Clinic, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Listening Sessions, 9:15 a.m.

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

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

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Listening Sessions, 10:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Listening Sessions, noon

Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.

Celebration of Music Concert — Brass and Organ, 3 p.m.

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

Baptism Today

Today at **10:45 a.m.** we welcome **Zara Jean**

Abbate into the Body of Christ by the waters of Holy Baptism. Zara's parents are Zachary and Jaclyn Abbate and big sisters are Isabella and Vera. Her sponsors are Neil and Janelle Youngdahl.

Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Cantor: Jude Westra

Sacristan: Elaine Rongey

Lector: Meri Leidel

Communion Assistants: Dale Barkema, Kathy Noble

Ushers: Erick Kind, Chad & Jenna Mencarelli

Acolyte: Kate Schaefer, Isaac Johnson

9:15 a.m.

Beyond Belief band leading worship

Sacristan: Ruth Ann Evans

Lector: Jaci Cole

Communion Assistants: Morrie & Cindy Fongers

Ushers: Mike Bishop, Dan & Carol Butler, John Hall,

Kathy Noble, Jim Willman

Acolytes: Daniel Ahrens

10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Gwyneth Hoeksema

Sacristan: John & Elizabeth Derbin

Lector: Dale Volkerding

Communion Assistants: John & Kris Fox

Ushers: Steve Cairns, Paul Getzin, Lois McCardell,

Joe & Marybeth Iaria, Jim Vanderwall

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, Ben Battreall, Bob Beaudry, David Benkert, Jim and Sue Boyse, Bryan Bredwell, Pat Bruin, Ellie Buggeln, Angela Davis, Gordy Engstrom, 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, Laura Norton, 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, Wollen/Billings families and Natalie Yeager.

We also lift up in prayer this week the Pastors and the people of St. John Lutheran Church in Grayling, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for September 17

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalms 103:[1-7] 8-13

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

#873	Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (red book)
#603	God, When Human Bonds are Broken (red book)
#547	Sent Forth by God's Blessing (red book)

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking⁺ faith home

God is merciful and gracious, full of love.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 18:21-35	A parable about forgiveness
Monday	Genesis 50:15-21	Joseph forgives his brothers
Tuesday	Romans 14:1-12	Do not judge one another
Wednesday	2 John 1:1-6	Truth and love
Thursday	Lamentations 3:18-24	There is still hope
Friday	2 Peter 1:1-11	Do all you can to show God's love
Saturday	Psalms 103:1-13	Thanksgiving for God's goodness
Sunday	Matthew 20:1-16	Parable of the vineyard workers

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Psalm 103:8 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of mercy and grace, give us hearts full of compassion, ready to forgive others as you have forgiven us through Christ Jesus, who died that we may live. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of abundant love, we thank you for this food that you give to us and to all. Help us to share your goodness and mercy with others through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of mercy and grace who sustains you, give you joy.



SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*The Numberless Gifts of
God's Mercies*



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:

- How do you respond when you are in conflict with a particular person or group?
- Jesus sets us free to love others. What does this mean to you?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 14:1-12.

The world is divided in many ways. Countries are divided into parties and loyalties. Families can be divided by strong and diverse views. Even congregations can be divided by different viewpoints. Paul gives us a word that we need to hear today. We are to keep the main thing the main thing, and that is this: Christ died to be the Lord of all. Therefore, why pass judgment and despise those for whom Christ died? As the saying goes, "When you look into the eyes of another, you are looking at someone God loves." Be careful not to judge and condemn. As Psalm 103:8 reminds us, "*The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*" Our God who is slow to anger should be a strong caution to us not to be quick to judge. Whether it is over diet, piety, political or economic convictions, our judgments will all pass away, but God's judgment is eternal, and that judgment is most clearly seen from the cross of Christ. Jesus died for us that we may be set free to love others, in spite of our differences.

Discuss: What relationship do you have with someone where you could use a kinder word to reconcile that relationship through Christ our Lord?

Pray: Almighty and living God, help us to see beyond our self-righteous judgments of others and to receive your forgiveness with joy and gladness 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, who in your life can you reach out to with a word or action that expresses forgiveness?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Genesis 50:15-21 is the story of Joseph forgiving his brothers for throwing him in a pit and selling him into slavery. Forgiving someone who has hurt you is not easy. Think or talk about a time when you forgave someone or someone forgave you and how it may have changed your relationship.

Pray: Dear Lord, help me to open my heart and mind to know when to forgive and when to ask for forgiveness for my words or actions towards another. In Jesus' name, amen.

