

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, October 1, 2023 — Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, October 1

Coats & Blankets Appeal Continues

Christmas Wreath Sales begin

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.

Congregation Ministry Fair, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
in the Courtyard

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

High School Bible Study, 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Middle School Youth Group, 2 p.m.

Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.

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

Monday, October 2

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.

Volunteer at In The Image, 1 p.m.

Stephen Leaders Meeting, 1:30 p.m.

Rejoice Band Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

Property Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.

Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 3

LWR Quilters, 10:30 a.m.

Executive Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 4

Fitness Class, 9 a.m.

Coffee & Donuts, 10:15 a.m.

Pastor Bob's Adult Forum, 10:30 a.m.

Joyful Days Lunch & Speaker, 11:30 a.m.

Outreach Committee Meeting, noon

Thursday, October 5

Endowment Fund Committee, 6 p.m.

Resound Bell Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

Choosing Peace & Serenity AFG, 7 p.m.

Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, October 6

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

Saturday, October 7

Trinity Women's Retreat, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, October 8

Coats & Blankets Appeal continues

Christmas Wreath Sales continue

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.

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

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

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

Outdoor Worship with the Blessing of the Animals
on the West Lawn, 10:45 a.m.

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

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

Middle School Youth Group, 2 p.m.

Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.

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

Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Kristin Bradley

Lector: Gloria Von der Heide

Communion Assistants: Dale Barkema, Kim Brock

Ushers: Bill Bailey, John Potter, Dave Wait

Acolyte: Delia DeBoer, Isaac Johnson

9:15 a.m.

Beyond Belief band leading worship

Sacristan: Ruth Ann Evans

Lector: Amy Fox

Communion Assistants: Jim & Janet Genow

Ushers: Todd Brandstadt, Morrie & Cindy Fongers,
Ethan Guis, Lisa Mead, Ed Lohr

Acolytes: Owen Battreall, Layla and Lily Lothschutz,
Laney Brang

10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Deb DeWitt

Sacristan: Steve Heacock

Lector: Cindy Zientarski

Communion Assistants: Jan Jacobson, Kara Day

Ushers: David, Bergen, and Theo Marquardt,
Brad Kessel, Dorothy Postema, Scott Stoll

Acolytes: James Day, Tristan Derbin

Bread Baker: Susan Barnhart

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, Richard Gehl, Elena Griewahn, Elwyn Griewahn, Mark Hahn, Beth Hall, Bob Heine, Callan Hughes, Carol Huttenga, Patricia Johnson, Beth Krueger, 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, Julia Pfeiffle, 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 Pastor Kenneth Scheck, II and the people of Grace Lutheran Church in Hastings, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for October 1

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-9

Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

#416 At the Name of Jesus (red book)
#772 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways (red book)
#537 On Our Way Rejoicing (red book)

OCTOBER 1, 2023
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking† faith home

Jesus' humble obedience brings hope for all people.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 21:23-32	Parable of the two sons
Monday	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32	God's ways are fair
Tuesday	Philippians 2:1-13	Christ shows us humility
Wednesday	Hebrews 13:1-8	Service well-pleasing to God
Thursday	Exodus 18:13-27	Jethro's advice
Friday	John 13:12-20	Jesus washes the disciples' feet
Saturday	Psalms 25:1-9	Prayer for guidance and help
Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

[Jesus] humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name. Philippians 2:8-9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of the nations, you rule with steadfast love and mercy; help us to recognize our need for you and to worship you alone through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may this food strengthen us in body and soul that we may desire your good pleasure and act in ways that serve others in love. Amen. (Philippians 2:13)

A Blessing to Give:

May the humility of our Lord Jesus Christ give you strength and courage.



OCTOBER 1, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Send Me, Jesus



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:

- When is a time you questioned someone's actions in government, school, or other organization?
- How does Jesus' leadership differ from other leaders?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 21:23-32.

The chief priests and elders are intended to be leaders of the Jewish people. Jesus challenges their authority and leadership by wanting them to make a commitment—pro or con—regarding John the Baptist. They are not able to do that because they do not truly represent the people who supported John. These leaders are actually servants of Rome, the occupation force in Judea. Their wealth and power are at the pleasure of Rome, not the people of Judea. The leaders have a difficult task to balance between worshiping God and an allegiance to Rome. It is reminiscent of Jesus saying that one cannot serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). The authority Jesus serves is only God's kingdom. In words and actions, Jesus is the obedient Son who triumphs over all other authorities on earth. It is an obedience that will lead to Jesus' death at the hands of those loyal to Rome but will bring hope for all people burdened by powers of fear and death.

Discuss: How does Jesus' authority and obedience to serve only God's kingdom make a difference for all people?

Pray: Almighty God, we thank you for Jesus' obedience to your power of grace and mercy so that sinners and tax collectors enter into your kingdom through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how can you help someone who feels weighed down by the burdens of life?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Philippians 2:3 says, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves." Name this "Humility Week" in your household. Secretly decide on one act of service you (and others) can perform that will show concern for the interests of others. If you live alone, find someone outside your home to do this with. At the end of the week, think or talk about your acts of "secret service" and what it felt like to show concern for others.

