

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, October 8, 2023 — Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

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.

Monday, October 9

The Messenger Deadline
Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.
Library Committee, 3:30 p.m.
Schubert Male Chorus Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Beyond Belief Band Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Congregation Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 10

Grand Rapids Pastors Conference Meeting, 9 a.m.
Tai Chi for Arthritis, 10:15 a.m.
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 11

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.

Thursday, October 12

Tai Chi for Arthritis, 10:15 a.m.
Resound Bell Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Choosing Peace & Serenity AFG, 7 p.m.
Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, October 13

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

Saturday, October 14

Men's Breakfast, 8 a.m.
Young Children's Communion Class, 11 a.m.
Marriage of Sarah Carter and Michael Paul, 5 p.m.

Sunday, October 15

Coats & Blankets Appeal continues
Christmas Wreath Sales continue
Blessing of the LWR Quilts and Quilters
Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Rejoice Worship (Beyond Belief band), 9:15 a.m.
Listening Sessions, 9:15, 10:30 a.m. and noon
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Middle School Youth Group, 2 p.m.
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
Bunco Night Fundraiser, 6 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Baptism Today

Today at 9:15 a.m. we welcome **Lydia Lynn Smith**
into the Body of Christ by the waters of Holy Baptism.
Lydia's parents are Logan and Monica Smith. Lydia's
sponsors are Tyler and Ashley Moorman.

Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Fred & Kathy Wilcox
Lector: Sheila Talsma
Communion Assistants: Debbie Duckworth, Betty Hall
Ushers: Dale Barkema, Elaine Rongey,
Gloria Von der Heide
Acolyte: Helena Phillips, Isaac Johnson

9:15 a.m.

Rejoice band leading worship
Sacristan: Steve Stephen
Lector: Janet Genow
Communion Assistants: Steve Heacock,
Sarah Huckstep
Ushers: Dave & Carrie Boer, Mark Hagbom & Sally
Mahoney, Jeff Postlewaite, Mark Baker
Acolytes: Daniel Ahrens, Lily & Layla Lothschutz,
Inara McNally

10:45 a.m.

Sacristan: Joe & Marybeth Iaria
Lector: Susan Barnhart
Communion Assistants: Dolly Lowe, Jim Coates
Ushers: Jim & Sue Coates, John Derbin, Don Kishman,
Tom Mannisto, Jamie Norris, Dee Scales,
Wayne Snyder
Acolytes: Tristan Derbin, Steven Unruh

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, Beverly ad John Bosserman, Jack Danielson, Julie Earhart, David and Pastor Kari Fast, Jon Ferguson, Diane Field, Josh and Katie Gardner, Brad and Gayl Kessel, Joni and Steve Korb, Beth Krueger, Kent and Kristin Linkfield, Wendy and Jim Mielock, 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 Leslie Nye and the people of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Herron, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for October 8

Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

#835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High! (red book)
#674 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (red book)
#1024 Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand (purple book)

OCTOBER 8, 2023
NINETEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+ faith home

God's love leads us to bear the fruits of the kingdom.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants
Monday	Isaiah 5:1-7	A song about a vineyard
Tuesday	Philippians 3:4b-14	To know Christ
Wednesday	Psalms 19	The wonders of God
Thursday	Haggai 2:10-19	A rebuke and a promise
Friday	John 15:1-17	Jesus the true vine
Saturday	Psalms 80:7-15	Prayer for Israel's deliverance
Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom."

Matthew 22:1-14 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, may your passion for justice and mercy lead us to display your compassion for others for the sake of your Son, our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may the fruit of the earth that we enjoy in this meal give us strength to care for others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you know Christ's love and the power of his resurrection to love others. (Philippians 3:10)



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OCTOBER 8, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

God of the Sparrow



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:

- How can correcting someone's mistakes in thoughts and actions be an act of love?
- What does it mean to you to live out the fruits of the kingdom?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 21:33-46.

Jesus continues his debate with religious leaders in the Jerusalem temple. He addresses chief priests, elders, Pharisees, Sadducees, and scribes. These leaders represent the religious life and the institutions of Judaism, a community of faith with very diverse views. Their commonality is that they all misrepresent the kingdom of God. Instead of "bearing the fruits of the kingdom," they display a power and influence that does not work for God. For Jesus the fruits of the kingdom are identified in his first public message, the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12). That message speaks of humility, meekness, a desire for God's righteousness, mercy, purity, peacemaking, and more. It's a message in opposition to the religious leaders of his day, that is, the wicked tenants of the parable that steal, covet, and murder to possess what is not theirs. The good news is that Jesus' parable names the coming of the son, the Son of God who bears the very fruits announced by Jesus.

Discuss: What would upset Jesus in today's religious life?

Pray: God of power and might, cleanse us of all that does not bear the fruits of your kingdom that our lives may be a witness to your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. 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 with compassion for those in need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Psalm 80, Isaiah 5, and Matthew 21, the image of a vineyard and vines are used to describe God's people planted by God to produce the fruit of faith and justice. Use a potted plant or draw a picture of a plant with vines. Make a sign to place in the plant or write on the paper: "God's vineyard is full of faith, justice, love, and mercy." Place the plant or drawing in a visible place and when you pass by it each time, give thanks to God for the fruits of the kingdom.



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