

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, October 22, 2023 — Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, October 22

Coats & Blankets Appeal continues
Christmas Wreath Sales continue
Traditional Worship, 8 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.
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Middle School Youth Group Mulch Day Service Project,
3 to 5 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, October 23

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.
Beyond Belief Band Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 24

Council on Aging, 8 a.m.
LWR Quilters, 10:30 a.m.
Tai Chi for Arthritis, 10:15 a.m.
Stephen Ministry Continuing Education, 6:30 p.m.
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.
Stephen Ministry Peer Support Group, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 25

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.
Pack 3015 Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 26

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 27

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

Saturday, October 28

Reformation Sunday Brass Rehearsal, 8 a.m.

Sunday, October 29

Reformation Sunday
Coats & Blankets Appeal continues
Christmas Wreath Sales conclude
Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Spiritual Gifts Assessment, 9 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.
Spiritual Gifts Assessment, 10:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Spiritual Gifts Assessment, noon
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
Celebration of Music Concert, "Music for Duo Grand
Pianos," 3 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Baptism Today

Today at 9:15 a.m. we welcome **Hayden Elizabeth Engle** into the Body of Christ by the waters of Holy Baptism. Hayden's parents are Andrew and Lorissa Engle. Her sponsors are Brennon and Rachel Dick.

Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Chris & Beth Van Meter
Lector: Paul DeBoer
Communion Assistants: Elaine Rongey, Kathy Wilcox
Ushers: Bob Carwell, Bill & Meri Leidel
Acolyte: Delia DeBoer, Edmund Van Meter

9:15 a.m.

Rejoice band leading worship
Sacristan: Kim Hysell
Lector: Jamie Kuntzman
Communion Assistants: Kim Hysell, Ed Lohr
Ushers: Steve and Nate Bennett, Brad & Pam Burkle,
Bill Bush, Tim Lundgren, Karen Nagle
Acolytes: Sam Bishop, Maggie Coles, Sydney Waite,
Clifford Morin

10:45 a.m.

Cantor: John Fox
Sacristan: John & Elizabeth Derbin
Lector: Jim Boles
Communion Assistants: Dolly Lowe, Debra Freeberg
Ushers: Kara Day, Carol Hendricks, David Kuecherer,
Jordan Wiseman
Acolytes: James Day, 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, Don Barsema, 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, Dave Smoes, 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**: Maria Ashimine, Greg and Rachele Battreall, Beverly and John Bosserman, Liz and Jason Coles, 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 Jessica Rivera-Walker and the people of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Greenville, partners with us in ministry North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for October 22

Isaiah 45:1-7
Psalm 96:1-9, [10-13]

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

#838 Beautiful Savior (red book)
#713 O God of Every Nation (red book)
#707 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us (red book)

OCTOBER 22, 2023
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking† faith home

Love and trust God above everything else.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 22:15-22	The question of paying taxes
Monday	Isaiah 45:1-7	Cyrus serves the Lord
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	The example of faith
Wednesday	Psalms 28	Prayer for help
Thursday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust God
Friday	Jeremiah 17:5-8	Trust the Lord
Saturday	Psalms 96	Sing a new song
Sunday	Matthew 22:34-46	Loving God and neighbor

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

For the people of those regions [Macedonia and Achaia] report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God. 1 Thessalonians 1:9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of the nations, you alone are worthy of worship and praise; give us wisdom to see the false gods around us and remain true to you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtimes Prayer:

Dear God, you made the heavens and the earth to praise you. We praise you now for this food that strengthens the body and gladdens the heart. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with joy and the steadfast love of Jesus.



© 2022 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

OCTOBER 22, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Lead Me, Guide Me



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:

- Doing the right thing is not always easy. What is something you have struggled with?
- A false god can be anything that we worship and trust to make us feel safe and secure. What false gods have you been tempted to worship in your life?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 22:15-22.

A surprising point of this story concerns trust in God, not false gods. Jesus had just successfully opposed religious leaders in the temple. Now those leaders go from debate to entrapment by getting Jesus to take a position that would place him against the Roman government (a deadly decision) or against the Hebrew Scriptures (an unfaithful position). Jesus navigates between these traps by tricking his opponents. He asks to see the coin used for the tax. It's a "gotcha" moment. The Jewish leaders should not have had the Roman coin in the temple. It has the face of the Roman Emperor on it and a confession that Emperor Augustus is the Son of God! With the coin they show Jesus the image and confession of an idol. Jesus says give back to Caesar the idolatry of the empire. Everything else is God's. These religious leaders had not considered that Jesus would outwit them, but he did. His words leave his opponents amazed and speechless. Idolatry to false gods can easily trip us all.

Discuss: What challenges you to be faithful to God above everything else?

Pray: Almighty God, give us wisdom to turn away from false gods in our life and courage to follow you and you alone through 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 care for those who are struggling to trust God?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Paul wrote that the Christians in Thessalonica had become imitators of Jesus. Play a game of Simon Says. Then have a discussion about ways in which we imitate others in our lives—both in good and bad ways. Talk or think about what it means to be an example of Christian faith, hope, and love to others.

Pray: Lord Jesus, open our hearts to receive the gospel with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit so that we may become examples to all believers. Amen. (1Thessalonians 1:6-7)



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