Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, October 18, 2026 – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, October 18
Coats, Blankets, Outerwear Appeal continues
Outreach Ministry Fair
Christmas Wreath & Ornament Sales
Children's Ministry Hosted Neighborhood Fire Pit Nights
Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Children's Ministry Program, 9 a.m.
Rejoice Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.
Middle School Youth Group, 2 p.m.
Celebration of Music Concert Series
Calvin Alumni Choir Concert, 3 p.m.
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.
Faith in Civic Life Speaker, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, October 19
Finance, 9 a.m.
Core Fitness & Flexibility, 9:30 a.m.
Opening the Book of Faith Bible Study, 5 p.m.
Fellowship & Hospitality Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Health Ministries Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 20
Tuesday Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.
Care & Share, 10:30 a.m.
Tai Chi, 1 p.m.
Scout Troop 290 Court of Honor, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 21
Core Fitness & Flexibility, 9:30 a.m.
A Matter of Balance, 1 p.m.

Thursday, October 22
Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m.
Tai Chi, 1 p.m.
Resound Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Choosing Peace & Serenity AFG, 7 p.m.
Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, October 23
Friday Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
Women's Retreat, 6 p.m.

Saturday, October 24
Women's Retreat, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Brass Ensemble Rehearsal/Reformation, 9 a.m.

Sunday, October 25
Coats, Blankets, Outerwear Appeal continues
Christmas Wreath & Ornament Sales
Children's Ministry Hosted Neighborhood Fire Pit Nights
Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Children's Ministry Program, 9 a.m.
Rejoice Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.
CPR Training, 1 p.m.
Middle School Youth Group, 2 p.m.
Confirmation Service Projects, 3 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Readings & Hymns for October 18

Isaiah 45:1-7	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Psalm 96:1-9	Matthew 22:15-22

#705 God of Grace and God of Glory (red book)
#685 Take My Life, That I May Be (red book)
#551 The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve (red book)

Trinity Members in Our Prayers

We pray for **Trinity members in times of illness, hospitalization, rehabilitation and recovery**:
Jane Barsema, Krysta Billock, Don Bushman, Barb Crossman, Joe Fisher, Tom Fredrickson, Denny Helzer, Marla Klap, Steve Korb, Tom Mannisto, Jo Murphy, Chris Straw, Glenn Swanson, and Becca Tellinghuisen.

We also lift up **Trinity families mourning the loss of loved ones**: Steven and Diane Ardolino, Sue and Greg Cothern, Kim Hysell, Eric and Marcy Larson, Cheryl Rosen, Kaori and Christopher Schau, Pastor Dan and Alexis Schewe, and Dave and Sheila Talsma.

Contact the church office to be added to the prayer list. Names remain on the list for 3 months unless otherwise requested.

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

Assisting in Worship This Morning

8 a.m.
Sacristan: Cathy Olson
Lector: Dale Barkema
Communion Assistants: Dale Barkema, Marcia Schaner
Ushers: Skip Franklin, Elaine Rongey

9:15 a.m.
Sacristan: Kim Hysell
Lector: Debra Freeberg
Communion Assistants: Janet Genow, Kim Hysell
Ushers: Patty Boer, Dan Butler, John Hall, Jim Willman
Acolytes: Oliver Ruble

10:45 a.m.
Cantor: Natalie Poortenga
Sacristan: Jan Jacobson, Nancy Mattson
Lector: Bryan Bredwell
Communion Assistants: John & Elizabeth Derbin
Ushers: Steve Cairns, Joe & Marybeth Iaria, Paul Kohn, Lois McCardell
Acolytes: Jordan Fox, Ander Perkins

Bread Baker: Susan Barnhart

Trinity Host: Jeanne Becker, Congregational Resource Coordinator

OCTOBER 18, 2026
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

We are a people of faith, hope, and love.

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	**Exodus 33:12-23**	**Moses' intercession**
Thursday	**Psalm 99**	**Our Lord is king**
Friday	**Isaiah 42:1-9**	**The Lord's servant**
Saturday	**Psalm 96:1-13**	**Sing a new song**
Sunday	**Matthew 22:34-46**	**Loving God and neighbor**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Dear God, use our gifts, our faith, our hope in you, to do labors of love for the sake of Jesus Christ and his reign on earth. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, we thank you for how you provide for us and for the hands that have brought this food to us today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May God give you faith, love, and hope. (1 Thessalonians 1:3)

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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OCTOBER 18, 2026

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Open Your Ears,
O Faithful People

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 have you been proud of an accomplishment? What did it take to make it happen? Who helped you?
- God can use your efforts to accomplish God's will on earth. Does this surprise you? Explain.

DEVOTIONS

Read: Isaiah 45:1-7.
Cyrus is a Persian king. He is not part of God's chosen people through Abraham, Isaac or Jacob. Cyrus does not even know the God of Israel, and yet Cyrus does God's will by setting God's people free to return home from exile in Babylon. Isaiah lifts up the supreme power and authority of God's rule throughout the world. Apart from the Lord, there is no god. All that is, is God's. It is easy for us to forget that God can use others outside of the body of Christ to do God's will on earth. It is no wonder that Psalm 96 commands all the earth to sing to the Lord. In the midst of the tragedies that happen all too often around us, it is important to remember that we are a people of hope and trust in the God who holds all things together. The Apostle Paul wrote with thanksgiving for the Thessalonians' faith, love, and hope. As a chosen people, Paul gladly affirms that they do God's work of love on earth through their *"work of faith"* and *"steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Thessalonians 1:3).
Discuss: How does knowing of God's rule on earth give you hope? How does it encourage you to act with love and faith?
Pray: **God of power and might, we thank you for your glory that breathes hope and love into all corners of the earth through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help and support someone as a way to do God's work of love?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalm 96 is a song of praise to God. It tells of the sea roaring, the creatures and fields rejoicing, and the trees singing. In what ways do you praise God through sounds and music? Sing a favorite Christian hymn. Think or talk about what the words say about God.
Then say: **Sing a new song to the Lord! Everyone on this earth, sing praises to the Lord, sing and praise his name.**

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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