Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, November 8, 2026 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 8
Charge
Veteran's Appreciation Day
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.
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Stephen Ministry Continuing Education, 12:30 p.m.
Stephen Ministry Peer Support, 1:30 p.m.

Monday, November 9
Messenger Deadline
Family Promise
Finance, 9 a.m.
Core Fitness & Flexibility, 9:30 a.m.
Faith in Civic Life Planning Group, 4 p.m.
Safety & Security Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Congregation Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 10
Tuesday Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
Grand Rapids Pastor's Conference, 9:30 a.m.
LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.
Tai Chi, 1 p.m.
Staff Meeting, 1 p.m.
Scout Troop 290, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 11
Core Fitness & Flexibility, 9:30 a.m.
A Matter of Balance, 1 p.m.
Youth & Family Committee Meeting, 8 p.m.

Thursday, November 12
Family Promise
Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m.
Grand Rapids Area Nurse Honor Guard, 9:30 a.m.
Tai Chi, 1 p.m.
Angel Tree Ornament Labeling/Tree Decorating, 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, November 13
Friday Morning Women's Book Club, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, November 14
Memorial Service for Jon Ferguson, 11:30 a.m.
Game Night & Potluck, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 15
Angel Tree Sign Up
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.
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.
Parent Speaker Series, 6:30 p.m.

Baptism Today

Today at 9:15 a.m. we welcome Griffin Douglas Burnside into the Body of Christ by the waters of Holy Baptism. Griffin's parents are Devin and Doree Burnside, and Scottie is his big sister. His sponsors are Benjamin Schwarz and Carlee Schwarz.

Eternal Candle Today

The eternal candle is in loving memory of John Patrick Frick on his 24th birthday, given by Mary Frick.

Readings & Hymns for November 8

Amos 5:18-24 — 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Psalm 70 — Matthew 25:1-13

#327 Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow (red book)
#244 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (red book)
#638 Blessed Assurance (red book)

Bread Baker: Jan Jacobson

Trinity Host: Dan Butler, Congregation Council Member, Outreach Committee

Trinity Members in Our Prayers

We pray for **Trinity members in times of illness, hospitalization, rehabilitation and recovery**:
Joe Fisher, Tom Fredrickson, Jim Genow, Lynn Hagenbush, Denny Helzer, Marla Klap, Joan Lohr, Tom Mannisto, Jo Murphy, and Becca Tellinghuisen.

We also lift up **Trinity families mourning the loss of loved ones**: Steven and Diane Ardolino, Sue and Greg Cothern, Hoeksema family, Kim Hysell, Eric and Marcy Larson, Kaori and Christopher Schau, and Schewe family.

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 Pastor Timothy Jahn and the people of Messiah Lutheran Church in Bay City, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Assisting in Worship This Morning

8 a.m.
Sacristan: Elaine Rongey
Lector: Carolyn Johnson
Communion Assistants: Betty Hall, Cindy Zientarski
Ushers: Dale Barkema, Elaine Rongey
Acolyte: Jesca Westra

9:15 a.m.
Sacristan: Lisa Postlewaite
Lector: Jamie Kuntzman
Communion Assistants: Morrie & Cindy Fongers
Ushers: Mark Baker, Dave & Carrie Boer, Mark Hagbom & Sally Mahoney
Acolyte: Oliver Ruble

10:45 a.m.
Cantor: Choral Worship Interns
Sacristan: Joe & Marybeth Iaria
Lector: Steve Cairns
Communion Assistants: Doug & Melissa Haneline
Ushers: Jim & Sue Coates, John Derbin, Don Kishman, Kurt Leopold

NOVEMBER 8, 2026
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

Be alert and be glad for the Lord is coming.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	**Matthew 25:1-13**	**A parable of the ten bridesmaids**
Monday	**Amos 5:18-24**	**What the Lord requires**
Tuesday	**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**	**The coming of the Lord**
Wednesday	**Joshua 24:14-28**	**The tribes renew the covenant**
Thursday	**Psalm 78:1-8**	**Tell the children God's word**
Friday	**Luke 21:29-38**	**Be always on the watch**
Saturday	**Psalm 70**	**Prayer for deliverance**
Sunday	**Matthew 25:14-30**	**Parable of the talents**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!" **Psalm 70:4 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Righteous God, help us to be ready for the time Christ will come again to judge the living and the dead and to anticipate the end of the age with joy. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, help us to receive this food with thanksgiving and to serve those less fortunate with acts of love and service. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May God bless you with peace and joy.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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NOVEMBER 8, 2026

taking faith home

HYMN OF THE WEEK

God of Grace and
God of Glory

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:

- Has there ever been a time you felt you were not ready for something? What happened?
- How does your Christian faith call you to a sense of urgency and readiness?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 25:1-13.
This parable seems harsh. We might think we are to have mercy on the foolish bridesmaids and not lock them out. A more merciful approach is evident in the next chapter when Jesus' leadership team of disciples falls asleep while Jesus prays in the garden (Matthew 26:36-46). Jesus chastises them without a sense of rejection. In this parable of the bridesmaids, the church is reminded to live with the final victory of God in Christ in sight. It is to impact our daily lives as we wait for Christ's second coming. Unless there is a particular experience of suffering, we tend to live without paying much attention to Christ's coming again. Jesus is alerting his followers to the importance of watchfulness of the times and readiness to act faithfully at any given moment. That moment is when the church blesses, serves with justice, and offers salvation in Jesus' name.
Discuss: How might a conscious awareness of Christ's victory and return to "judge the living and the dead" (Apostles' Creed), impact your daily conduct?
Pray: **Come Lord Jesus, strengthen our lives of faith that we may anticipate your coming again with joy and serve our neighbor in love. 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 show God's love and mercy to someone in need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

According to Amos, worship without acts of justice for the needy is meaningless to God. During and after a worship service this week, take time to think about how God's acts of love and mercy for you and all humanity lead you to do acts of kindness and love for others.
Pray: **Dear God, be with me each day. Help me to show love, fairness, and care for others through your Son, Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

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**