

**Trinity
Lutheran
Church**

**September
10th, 2023**

Fifteenth
Sunday
after
PENTECOST
Lectionary 23

217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN

Website
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9am –3pm
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9-Noon

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"For where two or three are

gathered in my name,
there am I among them."

Matthew 18:20



FIFTEENTH WEEK AFTER PENTECOST

ELW SERVICE OF THE WORD

Welcome to



9:00 A.M. ~ Sunday, September 10th, 2023

ALL ARE WELCOME THIS RALLY SUNDAY AND ALWAYS! Jesus invites everyone, guests and visitors to join in receiving God's Word. To all the people gathered here, your presence and participation is a blessing to our worship experience together... Remind us again, O Lord, of your promise to be present wherever and whenever people are gathered in your name. Amen!

GATHERING

WE PREPARE: Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL / ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, **+** Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In **+** Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**



GATHERING SONG

Earth and All Stars

ELW #731

The musical score consists of five staves of music in G clef, 2/4 time, and B-flat key signature. The lyrics are integrated into the music, with some lines appearing above the staff and others below. The first section includes numbered lines 1 through 5, followed by a repeat of the first section, then a third section with a different set of lyrics. A 'Refrain' section follows, which is repeated at the end.

1 Earth and all stars!
2 Trum - pet and pipes!
3 En - gines and steel!
4 Class-rooms and labs!
5 Knowl-edge and truth!

Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
Loud boil - ing test - tubes!
Loud sound - ing wis - dom!

Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain!
Harp, lute, and lyre!
Lime - stone and beams!
Ath - letie and band!
Daugh - ter and son!

Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
Loud hum - ming cel - los!
Loud build - ing work - ers!
Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
Loud pray - ing mem - bers!

Sing to the Lord a new song!
Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

God has done mar - vel - ous things.

I too sing prais - es with a new song!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



WORD

FIRST READING

EZEKIEL 33:7-11

The first reading is in Ezekiel chapter 33, verses 7-11.

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

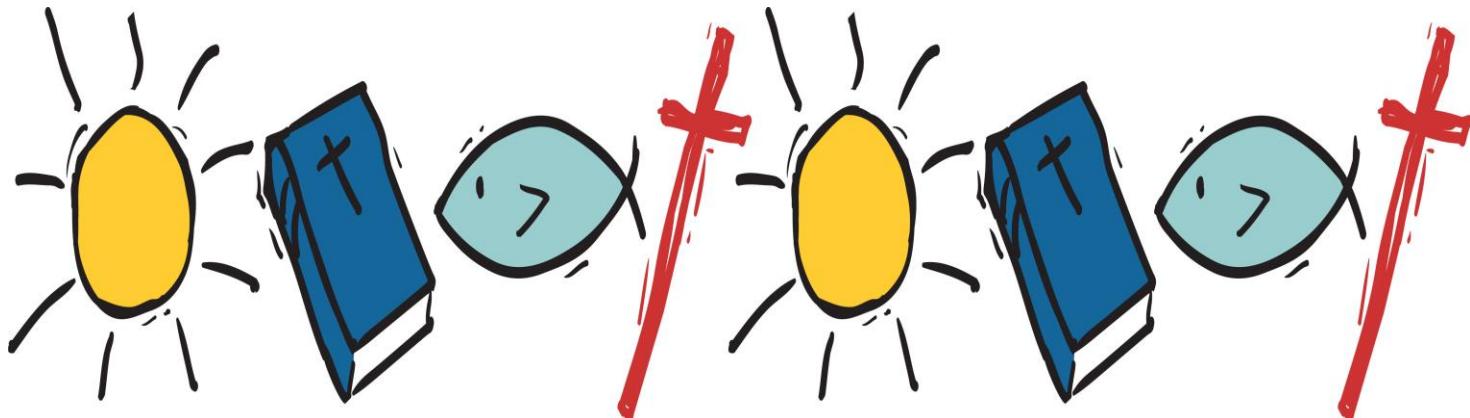
ROMANS 13:8-14

The second reading is in Romans chapter 13, verses 8-14.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

SEEK YE FIRST

WOW 783

Descant

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
 2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
 3 We do not live by bread . . . a - lone, but by

le - lu - ia, al - - le
 righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
 you shall find; knock and the door shall be
 ev - 'ry word that pro - ceeds from the

lu - ia, al - - le - lu - ia.
 add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 mouth . . . of . . . God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 18:15-20

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**"

If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

PASTOR TIM MASON

SONG OF THE DAY

WHERE CHARITY AND LOVE PREVAIL

ELW #359



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING (PLEASE SIGN THE ATTENDANCE RECORD DURING THE OFFERING)

Bind Us Together

748

Refrain

F Dm Gm

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that

C⁷ F F

can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

Dm Gm C F

bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

F C⁷ F F C⁷ F

1 There . . . is on - ly one God. There . . . is on - ly one King.
2 You are the fam - ly of God. You are the prom - ise di - vine.

F C⁷ F F C⁷ F

There . . . is on - ly one Bod-y; that . . . is why we can sing:
You are God's cho-sen de - sire, you are the glo-ri-ous new wine.

Refrain

B^b / C

(THE USHERS BRING UP THE OFFERING)

OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Together, let us pray with confidence the words our Savior gave us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead
us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

ELW ##656



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE THE BODY OF CHRIST

Sunday 9:00 am Worship	
Accompanist	Mary Mulry
Reader	Rose Wall
Acolyte	Blaine Arneson
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen
Greeter	Rose Wall
Ushers	Brian Polesky and Lee Johnson
Altar Guild	Beth Klein

Join us for the next "Breaking Bread Together" September 17th!

Sign up in the office for the Fellowship and Fun!





The Advent Supper has been one of Trinity's wonderful community outreach events for many years. After taking a Covid break, we are ready to bring it back again, but we can't make it happen without your help. If you would like to be part of this reorganized planning committee by bringing your time and talents, we would love to have you. Please join us September 11th at 5:15 at the Golf Course for dinner to let the party planning begin for this grand event! Feel free to contact Judy Johnson or Joleen Dittbenner with any questions. Hope to see you there!



God's work. Our hands.

Trinity will again be sponsoring "God's Work Our Hands" to aid the Church and our Community on September 24th! Please be there for the fun and Fellowship! Sign up for projects are in the Narthex. Take a look and pick your project! All hands are needed September 24th and always. Please do your part in making this another successful event!

**Tieing Fleece Blankets
Cooking for Meals that Matter
Planting at the Parsonage
Cookies for our Community
Packing Blizzard Bags**

Our Church School students will be packing School bags for Missions Sept. 20th at the first Wednesday Night Church School at 6:30.

"God's Work Our Hands" is our way of honoring our Lord and helping other people. Together WE can all make a difference! Please sign up today to help.



Faith Formation & Youth Ministry Coordinator

Trinity Lutheran Church
Sleepy Eye, MN
507 794-5051

Job Description

Trinity Lutheran Church is a welcoming church focused on evangelism and mission in the community of Sleepy Eye and beyond. As a welcoming and nurturing church, we are shaped by prayer, worship, scripture and the Holy Spirit, where everyone's gifts are valued, where people's spiritual needs are met, and God's love with the world is shared.

Position: Faith Formation Youth Ministry Coordinator (Part-time)

Summary of Position: Faith Formation Youth Ministry Coordinator oversees and directs Christian Education for the youth and children's ministries, and manages the development and growth of the Christian Education and Youth programs while building relationships with families and their children.

Supervision: Christian Education Board and Board of Young People's Work

Supported by: Senior Pastor(s), Personnel Committee other church staff and members of Trinity Lutheran Church

15 hours per week which are flexible to meet the needs of the church based on planned activities and evenings and weekends required as needed.

Compensation: \$16/hr

Further information and Application on our website www.trinitysleepyeye.org under About Us/Employment or in the Church office.

September 10th, 2023

Take up your cross and follow Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday	Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow
Monday	Matthew 10:32-39	Losing life to find it
Tuesday	Matthew 20:17-28	Jesus again predicts his death
Wednesday	Luke 9:57-62	The cost of following Jesus
Thursday	Philippians 3:7-16	Running towards the goal
Friday	1 Peter 4:12-19	Suffering as a Christian
Saturday	Psalm 101	The life of the righteous
Sunday	Matthew 18:15-20	Seeking reconciliation



*Sundays after
Pentecost*

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me.” Matthew 16:24

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A prayer for the week:

Lord Jesus, help us to never give up on you. Keep us excited about serving God. Amen. (Romans 12:11)

Mealtime Prayer:

For all we eat and all we wear, for daily bread and nightly care, we thank you, Heavenly Father. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God keep your faith in Jesus alive and strong. May he help you to stay joyful and give you patience when times are hard. Amen. (Romans 12:11-12)

CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What is something you find difficult to do? What makes it so?
- Sometimes following Jesus involves suffering or difficulty. In what ways have you experienced this?
- Jesus says, *“If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it”* (Matthew 16:25). What do you think he means by this?

DEVOTIONS

Look together at Romans 12:9-21. Make posters listing and illustrating all of the things these verses encourage Christians to do (e.g. love others, honor others, be joyful, pray, bless). Put these posters up around your home. Pray for God's help to live out these things in your home this week.

SERVICE

Work together as a household to make small crosses out of card or craft sticks. Write the words, “Take up your cross and follow me,” on each cross. Commit to carrying your crosses with you this week as a reminder of Jesus’ call to follow him in all things.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Romans 12:13 says: *“Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”* Plan one way you can respond to this as a household this week.

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Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities

Please take your bulletin home for weekly devotions



Trinity's Mission Statement

We are a community where Jesus is Lord: our mission is to invite, welcome, nurture, and equip all people to be disciples in His name.

TRINITY'S PRAYER CHAIN Send an email to secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org or call the office at 507 794-5051. Leave a message.

TRINITY'S WEBPAGE Send an email to the church office at secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org and let Darlene know you want your newsletter via email!

**TRINITY IS NOW ON FACEBOOK
CHECK IT OUT!!**

"Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) Sleepy Eye MN"

The Trinity Tidings newsletter is now also posted on www.sleepyeyeonline.com
watch this site for community news and events.



If you haven't already, please consider *Simply Giving*, an automated giving program for your offering. You determine the frequency of your offering which is deposited into Trinity's account the same day it is withdrawn from your account. It's a "hassle-free" way to give.

Talk to Pat or Darlene if you are interested. Thank You. *Please pick up your statements and envelopes in your mailbox. Thank You!*

Last week at Trinity

Weekly Worship Attendance:	56
Weekly Giving: (5730.00 Needed)	\$3675.92
September Giving:(\$22,920.00 Needed)	\$3675.92
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$148,736.68
Amount needed to meet Budget	\$206,270.00



Thrivent members are reminded to direct their Choice Dollars each year any time after April 1st of the year.

This Week's Prayer Concerns

Pray for the Church...that the Holy Spirit would empower us to live in the image of God so that we would speak and act in every way bringing glory to God before all the nations and peoples with what we have been given...

Pray for our World...that pain of this Covid-19 pandemic, which has penetrated so many lives that your light Lord would help us to see your presence and that the Spirit would lead us to seek the truth and practice grace for all who are hurting...

Pray for all who are ill, afflicted, or recovering...that the Holy Spirit would give comfort and daily strength to Diane, Cindy, Sherry, Audrey, Kali, Jerry, Beth, Harold, Sarah, Pr. Naomi, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Milo, Ed, Carlos, Dorothy, Story, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Linette, Tammy, John, Tony, Ted, Connor, Kimora, and Mary Jo.

Pray for the beloved... who now rest from their labors in God's mercy and for all who mourn the personal loss of loved ones ... that God would fill each one with the hope of our Lord's promise to bring us to a new heaven and earth where suffering, crying, pain and death will be no more....

Pray for all families...that the Holy Spirit would bring compassion and mercy to all who are separated from one another and each would give way to mercy, love and reconciliation...

Pray for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces and those far from home...for Brady Augustin and his wife ...and for all of our military Veterans that the Holy Spirit would guard them in safety and keep their hearts stayed in Christ...

Pray for the missionaries of our church (ELCA)...that they proclaim their witness of the Gospel throughout the world.

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Number available.***