

Trinity Lutheran Church

July 23, 2023

**Eighth Sunday
after
PENTECOST
Lectionary 16**

217 Brackenridge
Southwest
Sleepy Eye, MN

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9-Noon

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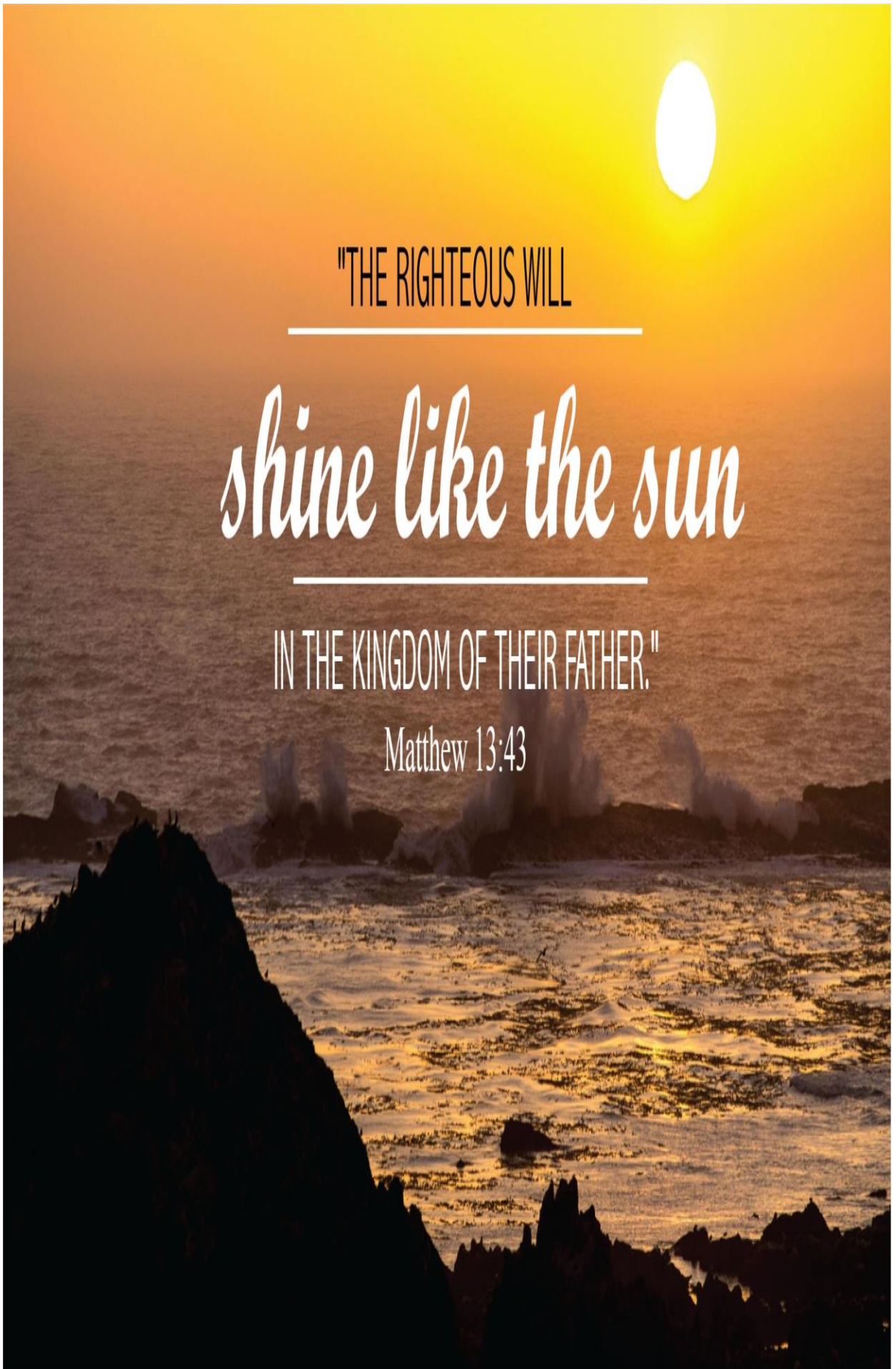
Patrick Lowther

"THE RIGHTEOUS WILL

shine like the sun

IN THE KINGDOM OF THEIR FATHER."

Matthew 13:43



EIGHTH WEEK AFTER PENTECOST

ELW SERVICE OF THE WORD

9:00 A.M. ~ Sunday, July 23rd, 2023

Welcome to



ALL ARE WELCOME! *Jesus invites everyone, guests and visitors to join in receiving God's Word. We thank Cheryl Neidt for leading our worship service today. 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: *It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL / ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. May God grant you entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ELW #693



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home;
4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home.



All be safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin.
wheat and tares to- geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;
Gath-er then thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear.
give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy gar-ner to a-bide.



Come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.
Come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

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.

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

NOISY OFFERING

Children's
Message



WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 44:6-8

The first reading is in Isaiah chapter 44, verses 6 - 8.

The first reading is in Isaiah chapter 44, verses 6 - 8.

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?

Let them tell us what is yet to be.

Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it?

You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me?

There is no other rock; I know not one.

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

SECOND READING

Romans 8:12-25

The second reading is in Romans chapter 8, verses 12-25.

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

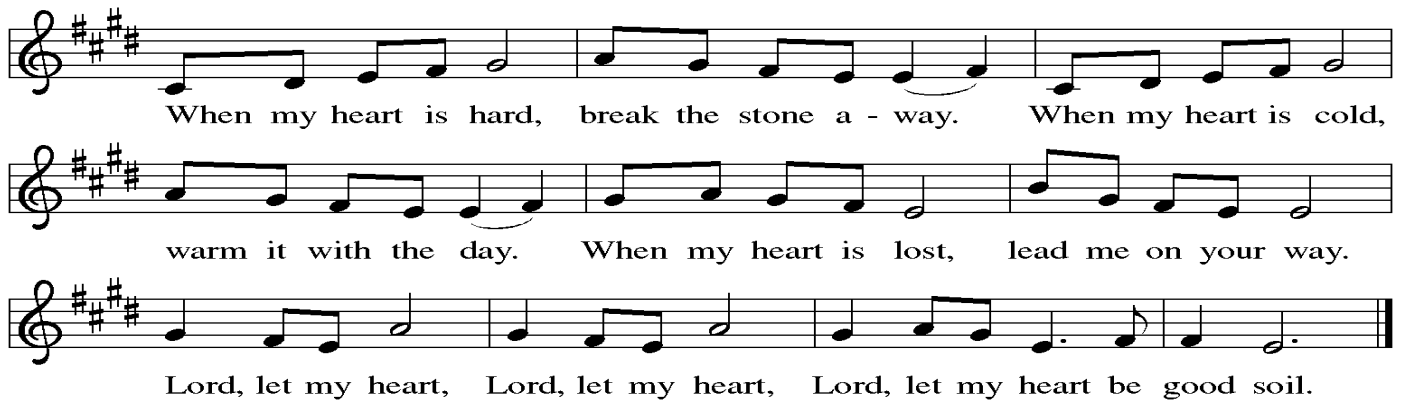
The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL

ELW #512





GOSPEL

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!



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

MESSAGE

Cheryl Neidt

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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.**

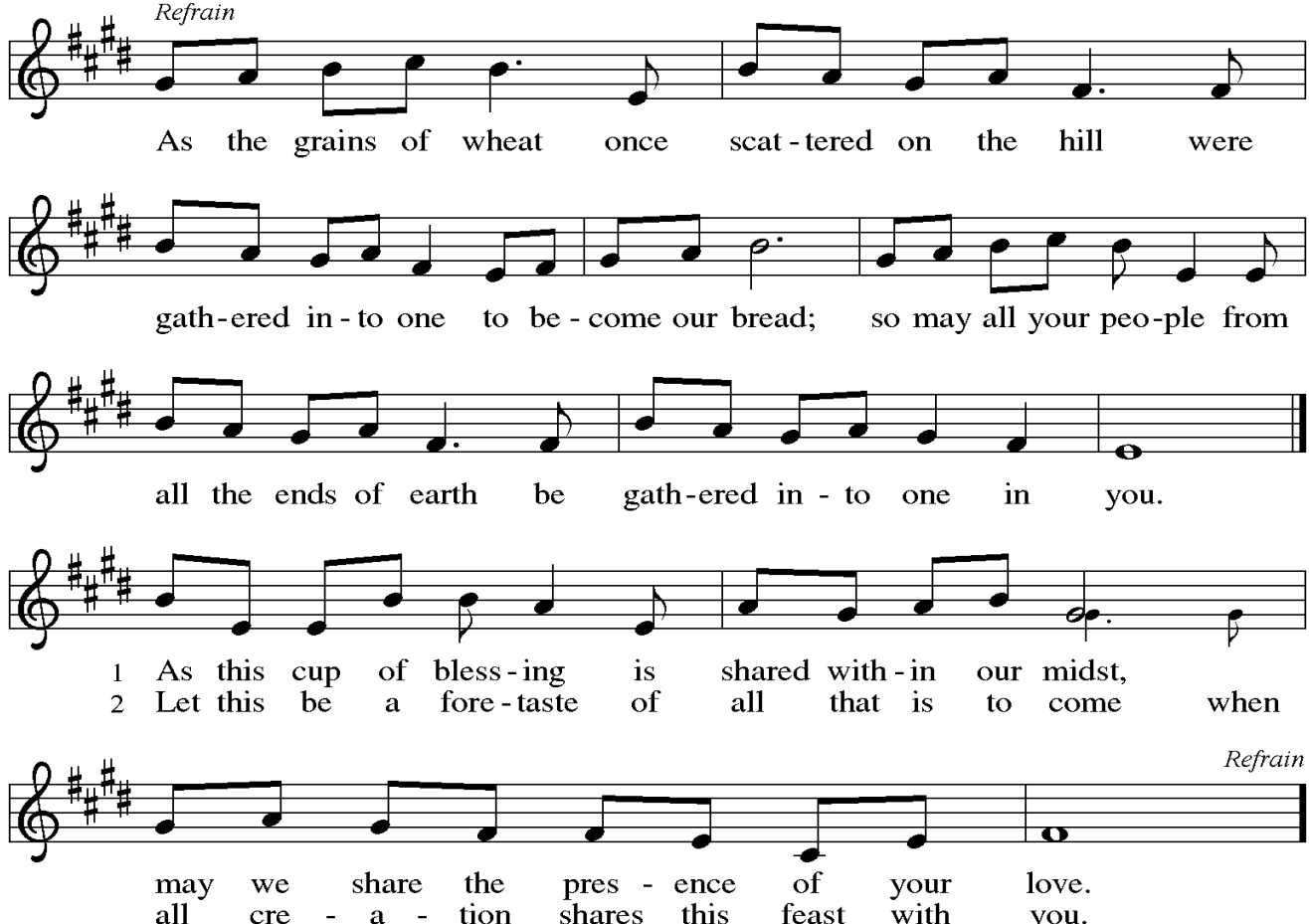
PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING (PLEASE SIGN THE ATTENDANCE RECORD DURING THE OFFERING)

ELW #465

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.
1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when
Refrain
may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

(THE USHERS BRING UP THE OFFERING)

OFFERING PRAYER

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW #733



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy



hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

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
Acolyte	Kenley Jensen
Reader	Terry Newgord
Sound Techs	Russ Sorensen
Greeter	Keith & Sarah Lentz
Ushers	Harold & Bonnie Pettis
Altar Guild	Judy Johnson, Terry Newgord



Great thanks to you, Cheryl Neidt, for leading our Worship Service this morning!

We also thank all helped clean up the yard here at Trinity on Tuesday!

Please sign up to help with this summer's deep cleaning of our church. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the back entrance. Make it a family project or join with another family to pick an area. Thank you for your help!

SUMMER COFFEE FELLOWSHIP IS HERE. There is a signup sheet by the ramp door for your convenience. Coffee will always be available even if there is an open Sunday. Thank you for serving.



With the delicious meals available in the freezer located in room 109 just off the dining room we now need your help. The meals are to be given to people who are experiencing some sort of life changing event, be it a new baby, illness, a death in the family, or anyone you think would benefit from a tasty, readymade dinner. Remember, you are the hands of Jesus in our world.

Thank you for being the hands of Jesus!

This summer the Board of Social Ministry would like to challenge our congregation to support Ivy House in New Ulm through donations both monetary and actual. Ivy House (formerly known as the Southern Minnesota Crisis Nursery) is a 24/7 crisis nursery which provides direct care to children aged 0-12 whose families are in crisis or a stressful situation. In addition to providing up to 72 hours of direct care they also connect families with community resources. You can learn more about Ivy House from their website: ivyhousemn.org. Items needed by Ivy House include: Children's Activities: Play-Doh; Kinetic sand; Finger paints; Fidget toys. Personal Care: Pull-ups: Girls and boys (5T); Girls underwear sizes 10-12 or 14/16. House needs: Unscented laundry detergent; Clorox wipes, Dishwasher soap; Hand soap; Dish soap; Kleenex; Garbage bags. Office supplies: Postage stamps; Business size envelopes; Printer paper; HP 952XL toner - black and color. Other: Five point harness NEW car seats; New computer monitors. We will be collecting both monetary donations for Ivy House or individual items from this list. A basket will be placed in the narthex for your donations. We will be collecting donations through the end of August. Thank you in advance for your support.



***Remember...Our Food Shelf Box is in the back of the Sanctuary.
The Good Work of this Church continues!***

July 23, 2023

We are seeds, planted to grow in God's field.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	The parable of the weeds
Monday	Matthew 7:15-20	A tree and its fruit
Tuesday	John 15:4-8	Bearing fruit
Wednesday	Revelation 14:14-16	The harvest of the earth
Thursday	Colossians 1:9-14	Growing in knowledge
Friday	Galatians 5:16-26	Fruit of the Spirit
Saturday	Psalms 92	The righteous will flourish
Sunday	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-53	Parables of the kingdom



SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

**“Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.”** Psalm 86:11 (NIV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Teach us your ways, Lord. Give us hearts that are not divided between you and other things. Amen. (Psalm 86:11)

Mealtime Prayer:

O God, thank you for putting food on our table, love in our hearts, and hope in our souls. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you live and grow as a child of God's kingdom. May you belong to God, now and always. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION

Discuss in your household or small group:

- When you hear the words *good* and *evil*, what comes to mind?
- In his parable about the weeds (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43), Jesus tells us that evil and good are all mixed up together and sometimes very hard to tell apart. Do you agree?
- In the parable, who is given the task of deciding who is good and who is evil? What does this teach us about how to think about and treat others?
- What will God finally do about evil in our world? What hope does Jesus give to the people of God's kingdom (see verse 43)?

DEVOTIONS

In Jesus' parable, he spoke of good seeds that were planted by God and weeds that came from the devil. Set up two containers—one containing seeds and the other containing weeds. When you gather together this week, share what has been “seedy” in your lives (good things from God) and what has been “weedy” (wrong, sinful, evil). Pray for each other, asking God to protect you from evil and to help good things come to you and through you.

SERVICE

Romans 8:20-22 tells us that all of creation is suffering because of sin. Help clean up God's creation from its abuse by people. Go on a litter collection walk in your neighborhood or clean up a weed-infested area.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

July 22nd is the church feast day of Mary Magdalene. Mary Magdalene was one of the women who followed Jesus and was the first person to see him after his resurrection (John 20:10-18). There is an old legend passed down in the Eastern Church that says that when Mary Magdalene went to the tomb she brought along cooked eggs to share with the other women, and that the eggs miraculously turned brilliant red when she met the risen Christ. The egg is taken to represent the boulder over the entrance to the tomb of Jesus. Boil some eggs and then dye them red. Enjoy your “red” eggs on Tuesday in memory of Mary Magdalene

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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@trinitysleepyeve.org or call the office at 507 794-5051. Leave a message.

TRINITY'S WEBPAGE Send an email to the church office at secretary@trinitysleepyeve.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.sleepyeveonline.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:	73
Weekly Giving: (5730.00 Needed)	\$3265.86
July Giving: (\$28,650.00 .Needed)	\$10,162.10
Yearly Contributions to Date	\$123,414.54
Amount needed to meet Budget	\$166,160.00



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, Rodney, Chris, Kathy, Emmett, Joan, Lois, Joyce, Emma, Milo, Ed, Carlos, Dorothy, Story, Tina, Ethan, Robyn, Carmen, Julia Ann, 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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ONE
PEARL
of GREAT
VALUE



Matthew 13:45-46