

*October 1, 2023*  
*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*



O Word of God incarnate,  
O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,  
O Light of our dark sky:  
We praise You for the radiance  
That from the hallowed page,  
A lantern to our footsteps,  
Shines on from age to age.  
*LSB 523:1*

*Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*

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Our mission is sharing the saving love of Jesus




DIVINE SERVICE SETTING 4, LSB 203

**Hymn of Invocation**

*"This Is the Day the Lord Has Made"*

LSB 903



1 This is the day the Lord has made; He calls the  
 2 To - day He rose and left the dead, And Sa - tan's  
 3 Ho - san - na to the a - noint - ed King, To Da - vid's  
 4 Bless - ed is He who comes to us With mes - sag -  
 5 Ho - san - na in the high - est strains The Church on

hours His own. Let heav'n re - joice, let  
 em - pire fell; To - day the saints His  
 ho - ly Son! Help us, O Lord; de -  
 es of grace; He, in the Lord's name,  
 earth can raise. The high - est heav'ns, in

earth be glad And praise sur - round the throne.  
 tri - umphs spread And all His won - ders tell.  
 scend and bring Sal - va - tion from Your throne.  
 comes to us To save our fall - en race.  
 which He reigns, Shall give Him no - bler praise.

Text and tune: Public domain

**Confession and Absolution** *(stand)*

LSB 203

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. C **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Kyrie

LSB 204

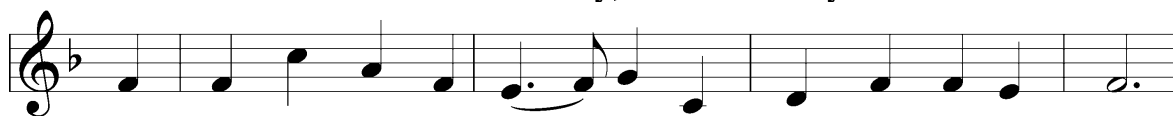


**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

### Gloria in Excelsis



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 205

P The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

P Let us pray together the Collect of the Day.

**C** Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Old Testament Reading: *(sit)*

*Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? <sup>3</sup>As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . . <sup>25</sup>“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? <sup>26</sup>When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. <sup>28</sup>Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? <sup>30</sup>“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.    C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading

*Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18*

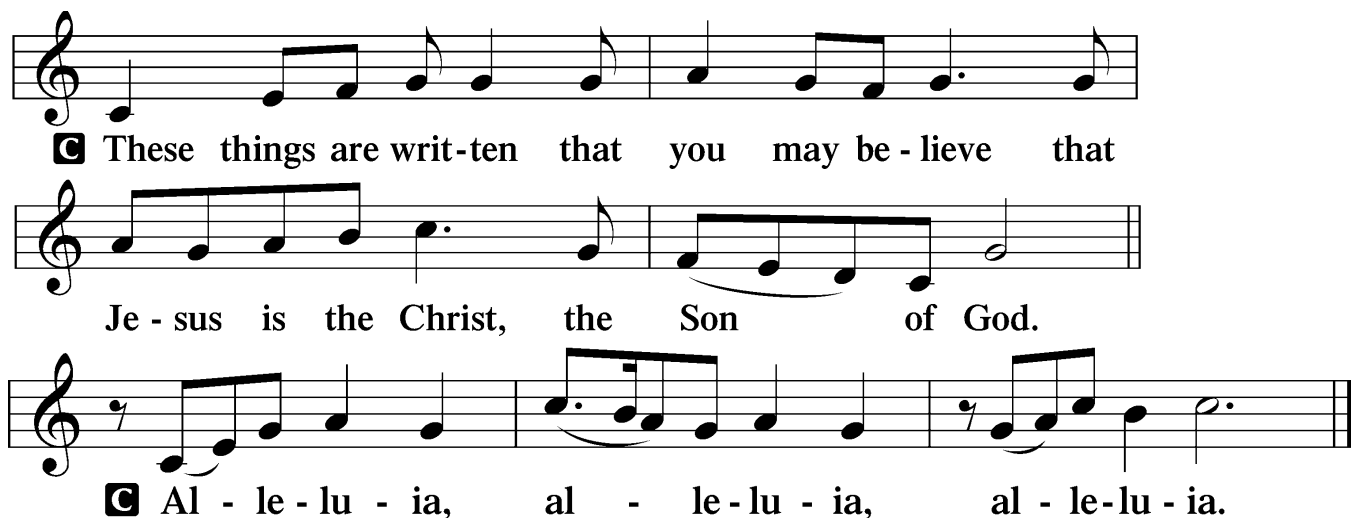
<sup>1</sup>If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . . <sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or questioning, <sup>15</sup>that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup>holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. <sup>17</sup>Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup>Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

P This is the Word of the Lord.    C **Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia and Verse *(stand)*

*LSB 205*





**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 21:23–27*

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Nicene Creed

*LSB 206*

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.  
 And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
 begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,  
 very God of very God, begotten, not made,  
 being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;  
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
 and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
 He suffered and was buried.  
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures

and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

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## Hymn of the Day *(sit)* "God Loved the World So That He Gave" LSB 571



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

- 5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth your troubled heart can  
cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from  
death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

- △6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessèd Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

(Eze. 18:1–4, 25–32)

## Prayer of the Church *(stand)*

LSB 207

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Merciful Lord, You founded Your Church upon the proclamation of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Purify the tongues of Your servants, that the tongues of the wicked may be silenced. Turn them from their evil ways, that their sins may be washed away. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Merciful Lord, encourage us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may not lose heart. Make us to be of one mind and will, that we may serve You with gladness, doing the works of Your kingdom here and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Merciful Lord, sustain all fathers, mothers and children; husbands and wives; friends and neighbors; laborers and employers; and teachers and students. Enable us all to serve our neighbors in godly vocations, delighting in the Lord's lovingkindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Merciful Lord, all the might of man is nothing before You, yet You have appointed earthly realms and rulers to punish evil and honor good. Give us faithful leaders who will serve honorably and well. Bless also those who serve in the armed forces to defend us and protect our liberty. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Merciful Lord, grant the encouragement of Christ and the comfort of His love to those who suffer, *especially* Carol and Nita. In every affliction, prove Yourself a ready and worthy Savior, especially to those who believe. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Merciful Lord, the name of Jesus stands above all names. Before it we bow our knees and confess Him as Lord and God. Inspire in us true devotion and worship as we approach His altar to receive our humble Savior in these humble means of bread and wine for our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Merciful Lord, in You there is no shadow due to change. Enkindle Your divine light in us, that we may stand united as Christ's own body, holding fast to the word of life and shining brightly in the midst of this world's darkness; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**Offering** *(God continually provides for us. Our giving should reflect our heartfelt cheerfulness that trusts in God. As your faith guides you, let your offering of all your gifts – time, talents, resources – enable us to move forward in the mission Christ has given us.) Rom. 12:1; 2 Cor. 8:1-9, 12; 2 Cor. 9:6-8*

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 208



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.



In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

### **Lord's Prayer**

*LSB 209*

**☩ 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.**

### **The Words of Our Lord**

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **Pax Domini**

*LSB 209*

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C Amen.**

## Agnus Dei

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## Distribution *(sit)*

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**Amen.**

## Distribution Hymns

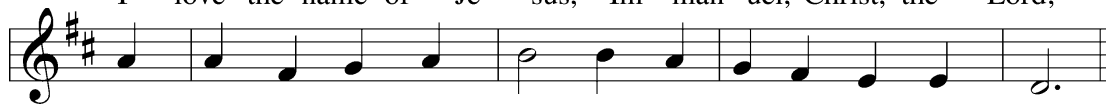
*"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"*

LSB 606

1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;  
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;  
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;  
He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.  
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.  
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains  
 I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;  
 I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.  
 He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.  
 Like fra-grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

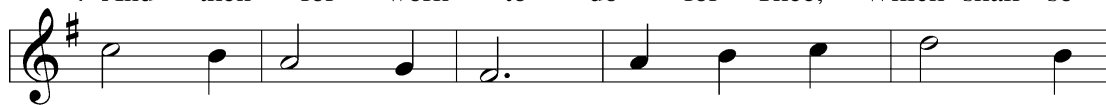
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## "Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed"

LSB 560



1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing  
 2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -  
 3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing  
 4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my  
 bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with  
 of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it  
 sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
 con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
 be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.  
 en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Text and tune: Public domain

## "O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"

LSB 554



1 O Je - sus, King most won - der - ful!  
 2 When once You vis - it dark - ened hearts,  
 3 O Je - sus, light of all be - low,  
 4 May ev - 'ry heart con - fess Your name,  
 5 Oh, may our tongues for - ev - er bless,



O Con - quer - or re - nowned! O Source of peace in -  
 Then truth be - gins to shine, Then earth - ly van - i -  
 The fount of life and fire, Sur - pass - ing all the  
 For - ev - er You a - dore, And, seek - ing You, it -  
 May we love You a - lone And ev - er in our



ef - fa - ble, In whom all joys are found:  
 ty de - parts, Then kin - dles love di - vine.  
 joys we know, All that we can de - sire:  
 self in - flame To seek You more and more!  
 lives ex - press The im - age of Your own!

Text and tune: Public domain

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C** Amen.

## Nunc Dimittis *(stand)*

LSB 211



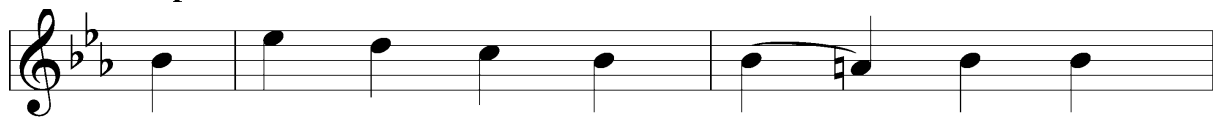
**C** 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is



to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Post-Communion Collect

LSB 212

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

## Benedicamus and Benediction

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace. **C Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

*"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"*

LSB 793



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet your  
2 Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple  
3 Fa - ther - like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble  
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore Him; You be - hold Him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,  
in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,  
frame He knows; In His hand He gent - ly bears us,  
face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,  
Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,  
Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia,  
All who dwell in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.  
al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.  
al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.  
al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

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## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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## IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK,

We pray to our merciful Heavenly Father for:

- ✝ **Healing for all those who are experiencing health issues** Carol Bogle (Randy Bogle's mother), Nita Whitney and all those in need.
- ✝ **Encouragement, strengthened faith and healing for those with long-term illnesses:** Chad Becktal (Brad Johnson's nephew), Delta Boden, Gary Bowen (Jack & Romelle Humphrey's brother-in-law), Teresa Groth, Glen Hogue, Melissa Pierpoint, Joni Scotter (Rich Scotter's mother), Emily Sheets (Jim & Lori Parrish's niece), Gary Spear, David Stelling, Elta Whitney and Jim Whitney.

## THOSE CELEBRATING SPECIAL DAYS


### THIS WEEK:

**Birthdays:** 10/3: Steven Jobe; 10/6: Rachel Bohling

**Baptisms:** 10/1: Wyatt Gauchat, Paul Tetrick; 10/2: Michael Zaruba

**Anniversaries:** 10/7: Melissa and Dustin Pierpoint



SUN – 10/1	MON – 10/2	TUE – 10/3	WED – 10/4	THU – 10/5	FRI – 10/6	SAT – 10/7	SUN – 10/8
<b>9:00 AM</b> Worship with Holy Communion <b>10:00 AM</b> Adult & Children's Sunday School		<b>6:30 PM</b> Bible Study & Prayer	<b>6:00 – 7:30 PM</b> Confirmation		 <b>11:30 AM</b> Monthly Trinity Luncheon  <b>6:30 -8:30 PM</b> Game Night		<b>9:00 AM</b> Worship <b>10:00 AM</b> Adult & Children's Sunday School

## THE GOSPEL AT WORK

### Christ's Servants:

Organist .Sandy Wilson

Pianist Vicki Ackerman

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### Our Thankful Response to Christ's Love:

Worship attendance.....48

Sunday School attendance

Adult .....16

Children/Youth .....3/3

Evening Bible Study .....7

**Lessons for next Sunday:** Isaiah 5:1-7; Phil. 3:4b-14; Matt. 21:33-46

**Adult Bible Study:** Our current study is looking at the book of Romans. This is an in-depth 21 lesson study of the entire book. Please plan to attend class as we work through this journey of Romans.

**GAME NIGHT!!!** Game night has continued to grow and expand. We have enjoyed board games, puzzles, paint-by-number, and impromptu youth skits! Please join us for these activities, suggest something new, or just enjoy the fellowship, fun, and refreshments! Friday nights from 6:30- 8:30 pm.

**Worship Readers Needed! Everyone** is welcome! If you are interested, have any questions or would like additional information, please see Pastor or an Elder.

**Please fill out the attendance slip in your pew rack** each Sunday to assist the Elders in maintaining an accurate worship record!

**Reminder:** if you have to use a door key to access the church building, *be certain to relock the door behind you to keep the building secure.*

## *Announcements October 1, 2023*

### *Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**National Life Sunday, TODAY, 1:30-2:30PM at the Hwy 136/75 intersection.** See the additional information on the narthex door for details; format will be as in years before.

**Reminder: practices begin today at 2:00PM** at Auburn Christian Church for Nemaha County Area Community Choir's cantata performance November 26 at the Auburn Berean Church. Additional info is on the narthex door.



**Monthly Trinity Luncheon, Friday, October 6, 11:30AM, Pizza Hut in Auburn:**

The first Friday of each month, ALL Trinity folks are invited to have lunch, fun and fellowship together! Feel free to bring friends! Contact Lisa Scotter (402 575-1960) with any questions.

**Save the date for Trunk or Treat. October 31st 5:00-6:30.** Everyone's welcome. Volunteers will be needed for serving food & trunks to hand out candy.

**Bible Study Opportunity: We're off to a great start!** Pastor is leading a Bible Study on Tuesday evenings through November 28 at 6:30 pm. The topic is prayer. Each week a lesson is presented and we spend time practicing in prayer together for our congregation and its members. All materials are provided. We hope you will join us for this opportunity to both learn and engage in prayer.

**Congregational Governance Committee:** a group has been formed to update and revise the constitution and by-laws of Trinity Lutheran Church. Currently, like many other churches, we are unable to meet the requirements of our constitution and by-laws. The ideas that are currently being considered are having fewer boards, which would require fewer people making long-term commitments and attending meetings. This could look like a manager, rather than a board, covering a particular ministry area (e.g., education or evangelism) who would recruit volunteers for short-term commitments to individual activities. The revision process is lengthy, and we will continue to provide updates. Before any revisions are finalized, the final results will be taken to the Voters Board for approval and then forwarded to the district for approval. We welcomed several new voters at the Voters meeting on Monday night (9/18). Please consider becoming a voter and having your voice heard in this process. The committee also welcomes all feedback, comments, and concerns as we move through the process. Brad Johnson (Chair), John Ackerman, Brent Berg, Tina Berg, Sarah Bogdanoff, Paul Hinrichs, Judith Ruskamp

**Long term prayers:** If you have someone that you would like the church to continue to pray for on the long term prayer list, please fill out a prayer request card. Once you have filled out the card please hand it to the pastor on your way out after service.