

Trinity Lutheran Church

19th Sunday After Pentecost
October 8, 2023

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

304 E. Ferris St.
Galesburg, IL 61401
"the welcome place"

19th Sunday After Pentecost
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This week we practice releasing shame, anxiety, guilt, greed, or anything that keeps us from freedom and wholeness. We release the elements of our money story that prevent us from fully living into God's story. In Matthew, we see a man grieved to let go of his wealth. In Deuteronomy, we find the radical social mandate of cancelled debts, a communal release that is practiced for the good of all. Releasing is a spiritual practice that frees us from ourselves and liberates others.

+ + + GATHERING + + +

Prelude

Andante

Francesco Turini

**Welcome, Announcements & Friendship Registries-Please Sign In
Release Instructions**

(Stand)

Call to Worship

Through Moses, God said,

"Let my people go." (Ex.9:1)

In scripture, the law declares:

"In the seventh year, you must cancel all debts." (Deut.15:1)

With grace, Jesus said:

"Give one coat away." (Luke 3:11)

With honesty, Jesus taught:

"Sell what you have, give that money to the poor." (Matt. 19:21)

Faith has always involved letting go, releasing, setting free, Dropping our nets, giving to others, and following.

So in this hour of worship, may we release that which binds us.

May we worship with open, untamed, and porous hearts, so that we can walk freely with God.

Let it be so.

Amen.

Written by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Confession and Forgiveness

Gracious God,

We admit to holding tight to that which we know and understand.

We put you in a box to avoid the shades of gray that come with faith.

We put worship in a box to avoid the discomfort of change.

We put ourselves in boxes labeled with gender expectations and societal norms.

We put others in boxes labeled “worthy” and “unworthy.”

We put all that we have in a box and pray we won’t run out.

So in this moment, we confess to holding tight to fear, greed, and worldly structures. Forgive us for missing the point.

Open our eyes to a new way—

to a holiness found in open boxes, unclenched fists, shades of gray, and holy release. Gratefully we pray,

Amen.

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Silence is kept for reflection.

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.

Greeting

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

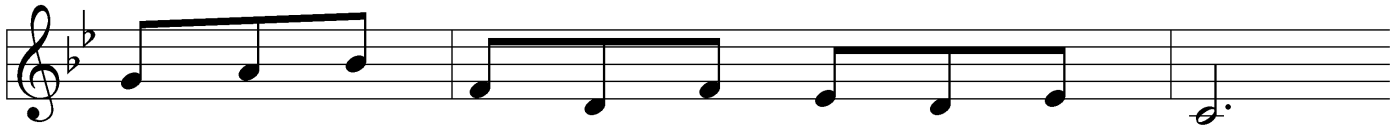
And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Glory to You



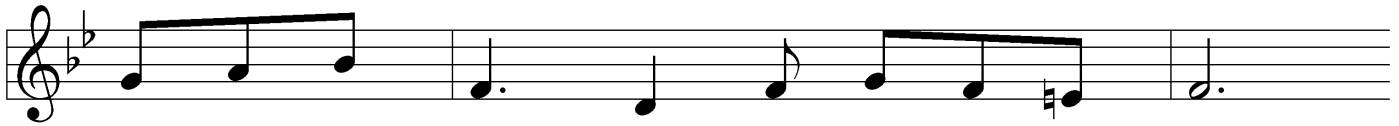
1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



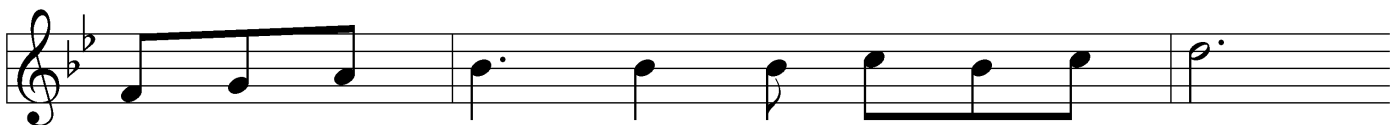
yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of Illumination

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious God,

We release our hearts to you.

First, we remove the pressure,

For release requires the freedom to be moved.

Then we allow our hearts to return to their original resting position—

In sync with you, with the rhythm of summer cicadas, and this whole wild creation.

Then, we pray that you will find our hearts available— Not just physically, but emotionally and spiritually.

So like the mockingbird releases her song, We release our hearts to you.

Move in them.

Stir us awake.

Speak to us now. We are waiting. **Amen.**

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(Sit)

+ + + WORD + + +

First Reading Deuteronomy 15:1-11

Every seventh year you shall grant a remission of debts. And this is the manner of the remission: every creditor shall remit the claim that is held against a neighbor, not exacting it of a neighbor who is a member of the community, because the Lord's remission has been proclaimed. Of a foreigner you may exact it, but you must remit your claim on whatever any member of your community owes you. There will, however, be no one in need among you, because the Lord is sure to bless you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you as a possession to occupy, if only you will obey the Lord your God by diligently observing this entire

commandment that I command you today. When the Lord your God has blessed you, as he promised you, you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you.

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, “The seventh year, the year of remission, is near,” and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, “Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Poetic Reading: But First

I want to practice being free.

I want to unstitch my heart

From the edge of my sleeve

So that I can give it a life of its own— A real chance to love and be known.

I want to practice opening

My mind, my doors, and window panes, Anything with a hinge, everything with a frame, Until the breeze carries through—

A new point of reference, truth, and you.

I want to practice a holy escape,

Losing track of my minutes that turn into days Because the only time that matters now
 Is time with you and this golden hour.
 I want to practice release,
 Removing the stones that weigh down my wings— Stones of fear, shame, and grief,
 Stones that build walls between you and me.
 I want to do all of these things—
 Be untamed and wild, open and free,
 The first to give and the last to hold tight,
 Because gratitude and clenched fists never felt right.
 And I am just starting to see
 That this life is a river, a holy stream.
 And if life is a river then God is the sky,
 Touching everything at once and inviting us to try Letting go of the raft, to float on our backs,
 So that we and God can be eye to eye—
 A lifetime of baptism and nothing but sky.
 But first, you have to release.

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(Stand)

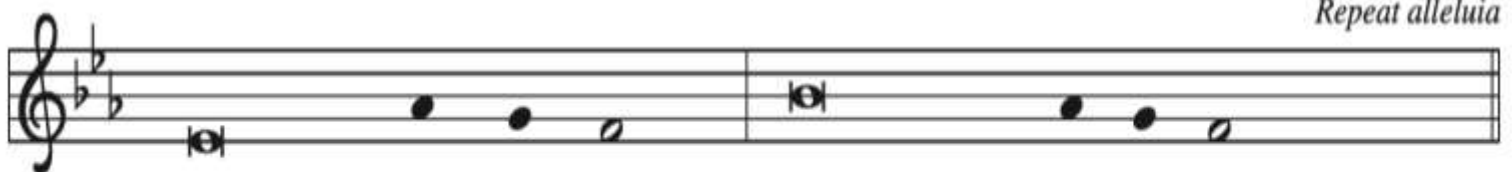
Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

ACS Setting 12



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.



Repeat alleluia

Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

Gospel Matthew 19:16-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then someone came to him and said, “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” And he said to him, “Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.” He said to him, “Which ones?” And Jesus said, “You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” The young man said to him, “I have kept all these; what do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Sit)

Children’s Message

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes

(Stand)



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem-'ry's roots a - live
 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
 so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
 shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
 not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
 till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Affirmation of Faith

Let us join together in affirming our faith.

**We believe that on the first day,
 God released love and creativity over a void;
 and that void became mountains and rivers, sunsets and
 starry nights.
 We believe God released
 God's people from the grips of slavery, liberating us day in
 and day out.
 We believe God laid down with death
 and was released from its grip,**

knowing suffering and freeing us from this fragile life.
And we believe God invites us—
day in and day out—
to release our fears,
let go of assumptions, tear down walls,
throw open the doors, and walk closer to love.
May it be so. Amen.

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(Sit)

Prayers of Intercession.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all people may
be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal
your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the
ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another
and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation,
that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others
and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant
that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he
loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation especially Bonnie, Jean, Lynette, Tony, Jen, Sara, Dena, and Bev.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We offer to you these prayers as well as those we now name to you either aloud or in our hearts.

A brief silence.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Book of Common Prayer (Episcopal)

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ + + MEAL + + +

(Sit)

Offering Meditation

Pastor Carrie Carnes

Come, Let Us Eat

Anne Krentz Organ

(Stand)

Offering Prayer

Holy God,
It is not always easy to give what we have.
We count pennies.
We weigh the pros and cons.
We calculate what we have given before,
And we remind ourselves what we are giving to now.
We all have our money stories.
And yet,
Even though it can take work for us to practice release, We trust
that you can take these gifts—
However freely or reluctantly given—
And use them to build a more beautiful world.
For that is who you are.
You are forever building castles out of sand,
Disciples out of people, and new life out of cautious gifts. We
believe; help our unbelief.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

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Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creator God,

Prayer has never been easy for us.

Our mind flutters with news updates and questions of faith—
our thoughts like a river that won't stop.

So today we take a deep breath—

Inhaling your name into the cobwebs of our lungs,

Willing your presence to wipe away the dust of self-doubt and fear. And with that breath,
We join with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven as we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

We remember and we speak that truth out loud, praying
together....

adapted from A Sanctified Art

The Lord's Prayer

We remember and we speak that truth out loud, praying together,
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom
come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us
today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and
deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the
glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

The dinner table is always a place where we tell stories.
We tell stories of growing up and falling in love, of making
mistakes and figuring it out.

We tell stories that make us laugh, stories that make us cry, and
stories that help us remember.

This table is no different.

For at this table we tell stories about a God who loves us
unconditionally.

We tell stories about a man who fed the hungry, washed the feet of his disciples, and said, “This is my body—for you.”

So friends, as you come to this table today, bring your stories—Stories about who you are and who you want to be.

Stories of shame and disappointment, stories of fear and faith.

Bring your money stories, your faith stories, your love and heartbreak stories—bring them all. For no matter the narrative, God welcomes us at this table.

You belong here.

There is a seat saved for you.

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All are welcome to receive communion at Trinity Lutheran Church. If you wish to receive you may come forward as dismissed by the usher and will be given a wafer in the center aisle. Then you may take a small cup from the tray. Red wine is along the outside, and white grape juice is located in the center of the tray. Gluten-free bread is also available. Place empty cups in the bowls located at the side aisle as you return to your pew. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, you may indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest as you come forward.

(Sit)

Distribution of Communion Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus

ACS Setting 12



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

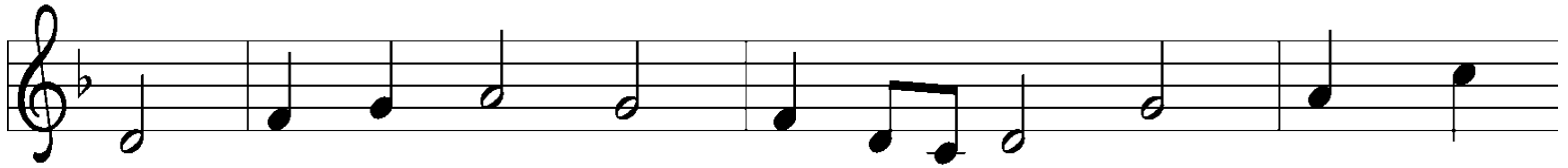


Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post Communion Hymn ELW# 467 We Place Upon Your Table, Lord



1 We place up - on your ta - ble, Lord, where you by
2 With - in these sim - ple things there lie the height and
3 Ac - cept them, Lord; they come from you; we take them



grace have bid us dine, these to - kens of our dai - ly
depth of hu - man life: our pain and tears, our thoughts and
hum - bly from your hand; put these your gifts to high - er



work, the food of life, the bread and wine.
toils, our hopes and fears, our joy and strife.
use: the ho - ly meal that you com - mand.

(Stand)

Prayer After Communion

Holy God,
As we leave this table, help us to remember this moment.
Help us remember that with you, all are invited.
Help us remember that with you, there is a seat for everyone.
Help us remember that with you, there is enough food to go
around,

that even Judas was invited to the meal,
and that there is manna in the wilderness.
Help us remember so that as we go, we can build tables like this
in the world. We need more tables like this in the world.
Gratefully we pray,
Amen.

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+ + + SENDING + + +

Blessing

The God of all grace ✚ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Song ELW#679

For the Fruit of All Creation

Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the story.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude Little Preludes and Intermezzi #6 Hermann Schroeder

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As you leave, please take a moment and greet one another.

Worship Participants

Audio: Hillary Hoffman

Video: Bill Sime

Usher: John McClean, Erin Crawford, Charla Taylor

Communion Setup: Janet Page

Assisting Minister: Julia Robinson

Reader: Mark Holmes

Wine Server: Jennifer Holmes, Roberta Majors

Closing Duties: Annie Maier

Acolyte: Lucia Crawford

Coffee Fellowship Servers: Phyllis Anderson, Louise Allen

Organist: Bette Mohr

Director of Choirs: James Hutchings
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes



Today's Altar Flowers were donated by **Dave & Carol Simpson**,
In Memory of a special anniversary & birthday.

Today's Radio Broadcast was sponsored by **Brenda Patterson**, *To God be the Glory.*

Announcements

Coffee Fellowship-Everyone is welcome, meet us in Fellowship Hall

Bells Practice is at 8:30 am every Sunday

Choir Practice is at 6:30 pm every Wednesday

Our Money Story: Devotionals and Journals are available in the Narthex

The Tie That Binds will meet Tuesday at 9 am

Council Meeting Tuesday at 7 pm

Prayers: If you're in need of prayer for yourself or a loved one, please fill out the salmon-colored slips in the Narthex and drop them into the collection plate.

Current Prayer List:

Praying For	Prayer
Bev	Quick recovery & healing
Dena (Hilma McDorman's daughter)	Comfort, peace, & health Has cancer
Bonnie	Health improvement
Jean	Healing
Lynette & Tony	Peace
Sara	Comfort, Health improvement, Healing
Jen (Andy Crawford's sister)	Health
Jack Lundeen	Health

Happy Clergy Appreciation Day to our Pastor, Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes. TLC is blessed to have such a loving, caring, passionate Pastor, thanks for all that you do!

Release: Coffee Filter Project

Today we are practicing release. Release literally means: *“To relieve from something that confines, burdens, or oppresses.”* When it comes to money, many of us long to release shame, fear, or past harm. Maybe we need to release what is holding us back from trusting in God wholeheartedly. Using your washable marker, (markers are located in the pews and the narthex), you are invited to write a word or phrase, naming anything you wish to release to God. We encourage you to fill up your coffee filter with words, doodles, and color.

Following worship, you are invited to dip your coffee filter in the bowls of water which can be found in the narthex and in the fellowship hall. As the dye runs in the water, you may imagine God receiving all that you want to release. Then place the coffee filter on the towel-covered table.