



Trinity Lutheran Church

Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost
September 13th, 2026

Trinity Lutheran Church

304 E. Ferris Street
Galesburg, IL 61401

“the welcome place”

Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost September 13 th , 2026
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+++GATHERING+++

In today’s second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus’ challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God’s boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

Prelude Music

Thanks Be to God

G. F. Handel

Welcome - Please Sign Friendship Registry

The red ELW hymnal and the purple ACS hymnal are in the pew racks

(Stand)

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.

Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Before the Waters Nourished the Earth,
ACS (purple) #1046

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.



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 the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Sit)

First Reading: Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

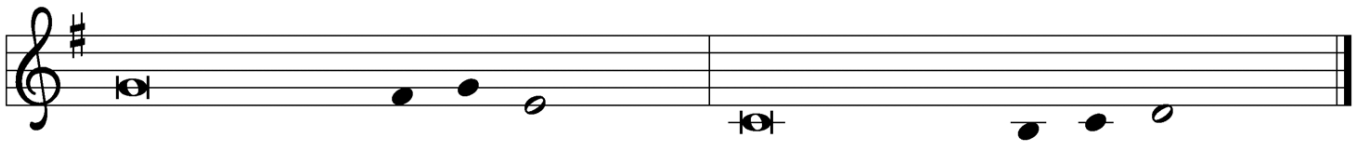
²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the Lord, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



- ¹ Hallelujah! When Israel came | out of Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people | of strange speech,
² **Judah became God's | sanctuary**
and Israel | God's dominion.
³ The sea beheld | it and fled;
Jordan turned | and went back.
⁴ **The mountains | skipped like rams,**
and the little hills | like young sheep.
⁵ What ailed you, O sea, | that you fled,
O Jordan, that | you turned back,
⁶ **you mountains, that you | skipped like rams,**
you little hills | like young sheep?
⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence | of the Lord,
at the presence of the | God of Jacob,
⁸ **who turned the hard rock into a | pool of water**
and flint-stone into a | flowing spring.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to

the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

ACS, Setting 12, pg. 33



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



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

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to

be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

(Sit)

Children’s Message

Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes

(Stand)

Hymn of the Day

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive,
ELW (red) #605

Apostles’ 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.

(Sit)

Prayers of Intercession

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Move your church throughout the world away from judging and despising others. Lead us to embody the forgiveness you have given us in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The endless beauty of your creation reminds us of your mercy. Protect those who care for farms and ranches. Guide those who lead us to wonder at your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Raise up leaders like John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, whom we remember today to hold all in authority accountable for any misuse of the power entrusted to them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Calm the fears of all in need with your promises. Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need especially Jenn, Carolyn, Sean, and Rosey. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ground this congregation in the welcome you show us in forgiving our sin. Inspire each of us to welcome others for your honor and glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With you is found the joy and promise of eternal life. Keep us in that joy as we remember Charles and all those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(you may offer each other a sign of peace)

+++MEAL+++

Offertory Music

10,000 Reasons
Senior Choir

Lloyd Larson

(Stand)

Offering Prayer

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.

All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.

Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

Amen.

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of
everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ACS, Setting 12, pg. 36

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.

We praise you, all-holy God,
for the universe beyond our knowing,
and for friends and strangers and family.
We praise you for your covenant people,
and for centuries of faithful Christians.
We praise you for your Son Jesus Christ,
who on the night before he died 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.

And so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for your Holy Spirit,
nourish us with the body and blood of Christ,
and renew the world with your mercy.

We praise you, all-holy God,
today, tomorrow, and forever. Amen.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**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

Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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 bread 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

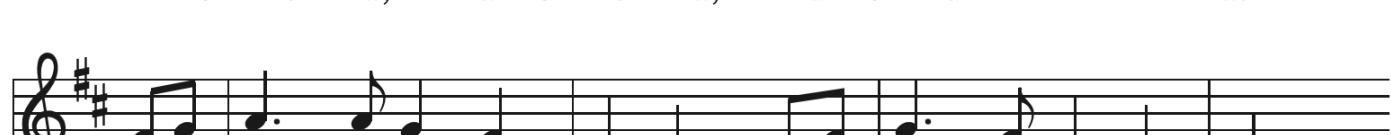
ACS, Setting 12, pg. 40



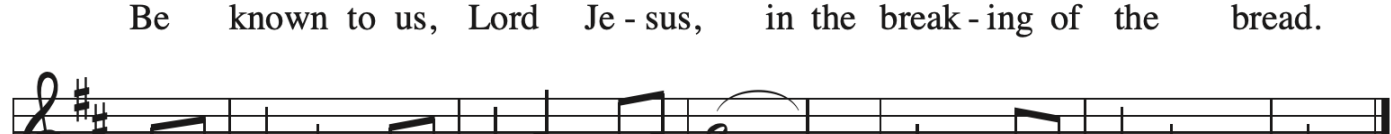
Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



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.

Communion Music

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J. S. Bach

(Stand)

Prayer After Communion

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

+++SENDING+++

Blessing

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

I Come With Joy, ELW (red) #482

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Music

Allegro

G. F. Handel

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

Worship Participants

Audio: Hillary Hoffman

Video: Bill Sime

Ushers: Erin & Cecilia Crawford

Communion Setup: Janet Page

Assisting Minister: Carol Simpson

Reader: Mark Holmes

Wine Servers: Jennifer Holmes, Annie Maier

Coffee Fellowship: Confirmands

Acolytes: Hudson Babcock

Closing Duties: Bill Sime

Organist: Bette Mohr

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes

Announcements

Coffee Fellowship will be held immediately after service.

Sunday School will be held after service, at 10:45 am. Please join us after service.

Youth Group scheduling has been changed to Sundays at 5:00 pm.

John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, died 407

John was a priest in Antioch and an outstanding preacher. His eloquence earned him the nickname “Chrysostom” (“golden mouth”), but it also got him into trouble. As bishop of Constantinople he preached against corruption among the royal court. The empress, who had been his supporter, sent him into exile. His preaching style emphasized the literal meaning of scripture and its practical application. This interpretation stood in contrast to the common style at the time, which emphasized the allegorical meaning of the text. Chrysostom’s skill in the pulpit resulted in the description of him as the patron of preachers.

Prayer List: If you or loved ones need prayers, please fill out the salmon-colored form located on the bulletin table in the Narthex, and return it to the Office mailbox or drop it in the offering plate.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Prayers for...</u>
The family & friends of Charles Thorson (Lynn Armstrong’s father)	Peace
Jenn Calloway (Erin Crawford’s sister)	Healing
Carolyn Davis	Healing
Sean Patrick	Healing
Rosey Miyler & family	Healing

This Week at Trinity

Sun, Sept. 13 th	10:30 am	Coffee Fellowship
	10:45 am	Sunday School
	5:00 pm	Youth Group
Mon, Sept. 14 th	7:00 pm	Knox County Genealogical Society
Tues, Sept 15 th	7:00 pm	Committee Meetings
Wed, Sept. 16 th	11:00 am	Sack Lunch Program
	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
Thur, Sept. 17 th	12:00 pm	3 rd Thursday Lunch Bunch @ Two Brother's Cafe
	--	Tidings Article Deadline
Sat, Sept. 19 th	5:00 pm	TLC evening service

Rev. Dr. Carrie Carnes, Pastor, Out-of-office: Friday

Cell phone: 618-803-8778

Church Office: Phone 309-343-4191

Hours 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, Monday-Friday

1st & 3rd Saturdays; Worship 5:00 pm; Holy Communion

Sunday Worship at 9:30 am; Holy Communion

Sunday Radio Ministry at 9:30 am on WRAM – 1330 AM, Facebook

trinitylutheran@trinitygalesburg.org

Vision Statement

Developing Disciples – Connecting to Christ

Mission Statement

Led by the Spirit, we receive Christ's love, share God's forgiving grace, and reach out to welcome, encourage and serve all.

Welcome Statement

At Trinity Lutheran Church, we believe God's grace is extended to everyone. Members of Trinity Lutheran Church are freed by the Gospel to seek reconciliation and wholeness. We welcome people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, whether believer, doubter, or seeker. In Christ's love we invite you, so that led by the power of the Holy Spirit we will join together to strive for racial equity, justice, peace, and love in all the earth.

Our Guiding Principles

1. Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior.
2. We faithfully worship through Word and Sacrament.
3. We invite and welcome everyone.
4. We engage all generations in education and ministry.
5. We serve local and global communities.