

# Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

*Sunday, September 17, 2017*

*8:30 am*

*~*

*15th Sunday after  
Pentecost*

*Love God,  
Love Our Neighbors,  
Serve the World*

*\*Please stand if able*

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome**

### **\*Confession & Forgiveness**

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  
the one who fashions us,  
the one who heals us,  
the one who reforms us again and again.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

Source of all life,  
**we confess that we have not allowed  
your grace to set us free.  
We fear that we are not good enough.  
We hear your word of love freely given to us,  
yet we expect others to earn it.  
We turn the church inward,  
rather than moving it outward.  
Forgive us. Stir us.  
Reform us to be a church powered by love,  
willing to speak for what is right,  
act for what is just,  
and seek the healing of your whole creation.  
Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us  
and to empower our lives in the world.  
Our sins are forgiven,  
God's love is unconditional,  
and we are raised up as God's people  
who will always be made new,  
in the name of Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

“Morning Has Broken”

#556

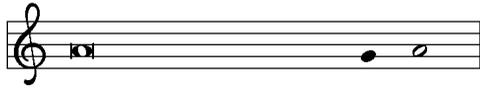
**\*Greeting**

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.**

# Kyrie

Cantor



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation



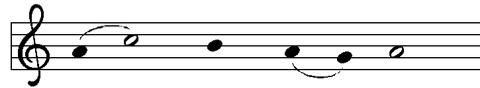
Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation



Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



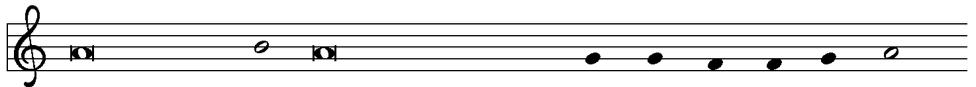
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation



Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

# Canticle of Praise

Cantor

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

**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.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## Special Music

“Family of Christ”

Senior Choir

## First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

*After Jacob’s death, the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.*

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph’s brothers said, “What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?” <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>‘Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

- <sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
- <sup>2</sup>**Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all God's benefits—**
- <sup>3</sup>who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases;
- <sup>4</sup>**who redeems your life from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**
- <sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- <sup>6</sup>**O LORD, you provide vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
- <sup>7</sup>You made known your ways to Moses  
and your works to the children of Israel.]
- <sup>8</sup>**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**
- <sup>9</sup>you will not always accuse us,  
nor will you keep your anger forever.
- <sup>10</sup>**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**
- <sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
- <sup>12</sup>**As far as the east is from the west,  
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**
- <sup>13</sup>As a father has compassion for his children,  
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

## Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

*This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and*

*personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants 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.

<sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>For it is written,

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

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel: Matthew 18:21-25

*When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.*

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?”

<sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>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.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he

would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>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.**

*(Please be seated.)*

**Sermon**

*Jonathan Heinz*

**Hymn of the Day**

“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”

#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 into hell. 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**

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

## **\*Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(Please extend a greeting of peace to those around you.)*

*(Please be seated.)*

## **Offering**

### **Offering Prayer**

God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

**Amen.**

### **\*Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Announcements**

### **\*Blessing**

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn**

“On Our Way Rejoicing”

#537

**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. Matthew 18:21-22 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 18:21-22



A P T Z U H W J E S N N M H H  
A W U K G T K E S X G X Q D X  
H T K G T W U S M A N Y I D B  
E K A J I B F U B C G E U K G  
A F S T I M E S U K O O C U W  
M W K W N B O T G P E T E R A  
O P E R G R E L P W W O X H T  
F A D X B R O T H E R G H X E  
K O N A F X S D C R Z L Q W Y  
X E R S V Q J L E I L O Z R Q  
E Z B G W Q D Q D V O R K P H  
E N Z Y I E J P Z L M D J I O  
S W U Q H V R S E V E N A C W  
W L B Q L L E E I I F W C A C  
H U S I N S K T D C F X M T C

PETER  
SINS  
ASKED

ANSWERED  
FORGIVE  
TIMES

MANY  
HOW  
BROTHER

JESUS  
LORD  
SEVEN