

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET
STEPHENS CITY, VA

[540] 869-4019
9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG
JULY 30, 2023 PENTECOST 9



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PRELUDE *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Michael Burkhardt

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.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Stephan Aker

A reading from 1 Kings.

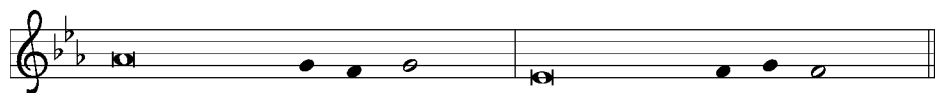
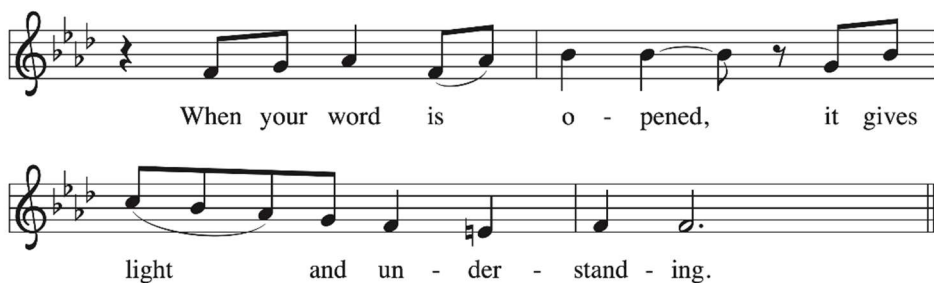
⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:129-136



¹²⁹Your de- | crees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

¹³⁰**When your word is opened | it gives light;
it gives understanding | to the simple.**

¹³¹I open my | mouth and pant
because I long for | your commandments.

¹³²**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,
as you always do to those who | love your name. R**

¹³³Order my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.

¹³⁴**Rescue me from those | who oppress me,
and I will keep | your commandments.**

¹³⁵Let your face shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.

¹³⁶**My eyes shed | streams of tears,
because people do not | keep your teaching. R**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

A reading from Romans.

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

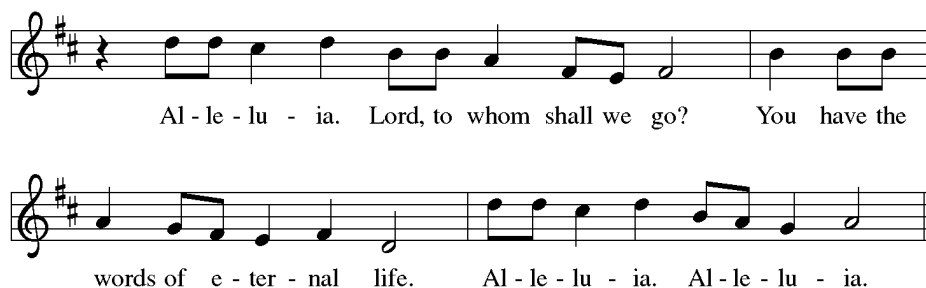
³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

SERMON

Pastor Bill Boldin

HYMN OF THE DAY

Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

Almighty God, we pray for the church and all servants of the gospel. Equip rostered and lay ministers to proclaim that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Form confirmands and catechumens into disciples. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, we pray for the well-being of creation. Safeguard the environment, clean polluted rivers and lakes preserve the mighty tree and the tiny mustard seed and send advocates for sustainable practices. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate God, we pray for the nations. Instill in all who govern the ability to discern between good and evil, free those who are oppressed, and protect those facing danger. Promote peace across the world and in our towns and neighborhoods. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, we pray for all in any need. Protect those fleeing from war, shelter any who are in poverty, clothe the naked, soothe all who grieve, and heal the sick especially Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Pat, Earl and others we name now (*worshippers may add names silently or aloud*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy God, we pray for this congregation, both those gathered today and those absent from our assembly. Grant safety to travelers and refreshment and safety for children attending summer camps or community programs. Give direction to any experiencing life transitions. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Eternal God, we give thanks for your saints who now rest from their labors. Inspire us by their witness to treasure the gospel, and continually nourish us with your grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Other prayers may be offered now.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.



OFFERING

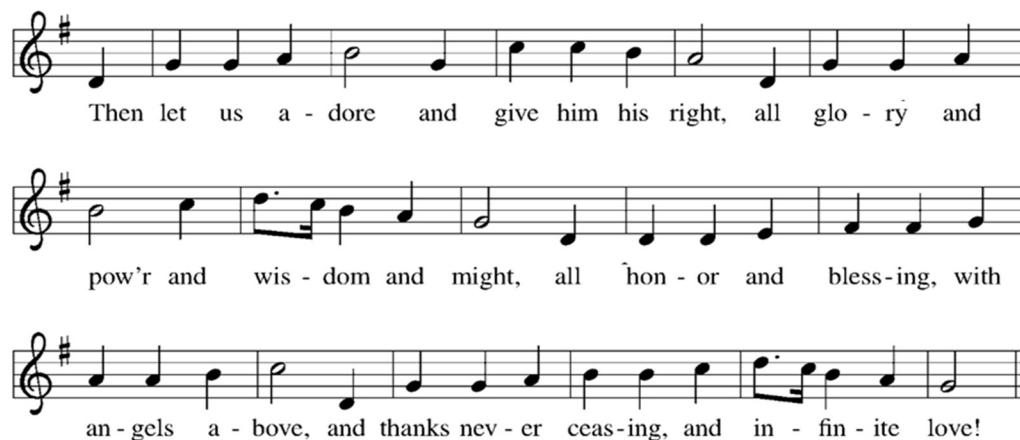
Just As I Am Phillip Landgrave

Trinity Choir

Offering is an act of worship that shows our gratitude to God for all that we are and have in our lives. The offering today will provide support for the ministries of Trinity both locally and in the world around us. You may provide your offering in person, scan the QR code adjacent or send it by mail. We thank you for sharing not only your monetary gifts but also your gifts of time and talent to further our mission to share Jesus' love in worship, fellowship, hospitality, and community, doing God's work with our hands.

PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

You Servants of God



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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

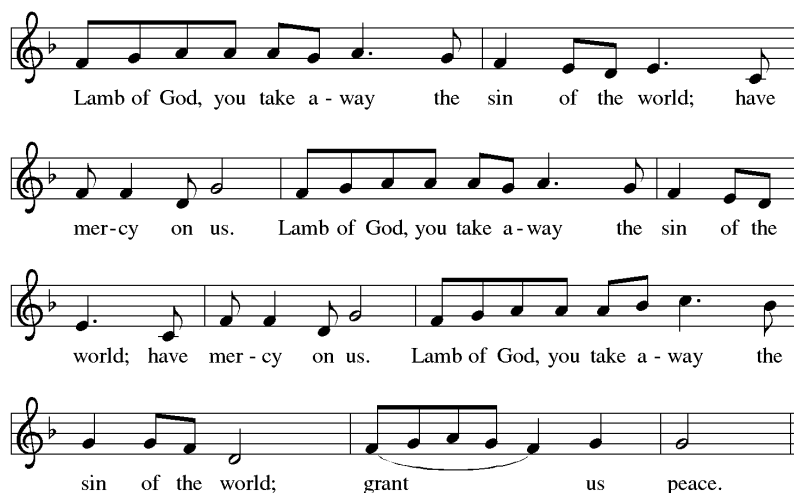
who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *Those communing from home, have your package ready to open, but do not consume the elements until the pastor acknowledges those at home and says: "Take and eat. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ is given and shed for you." Then you may partake.*

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION SONG

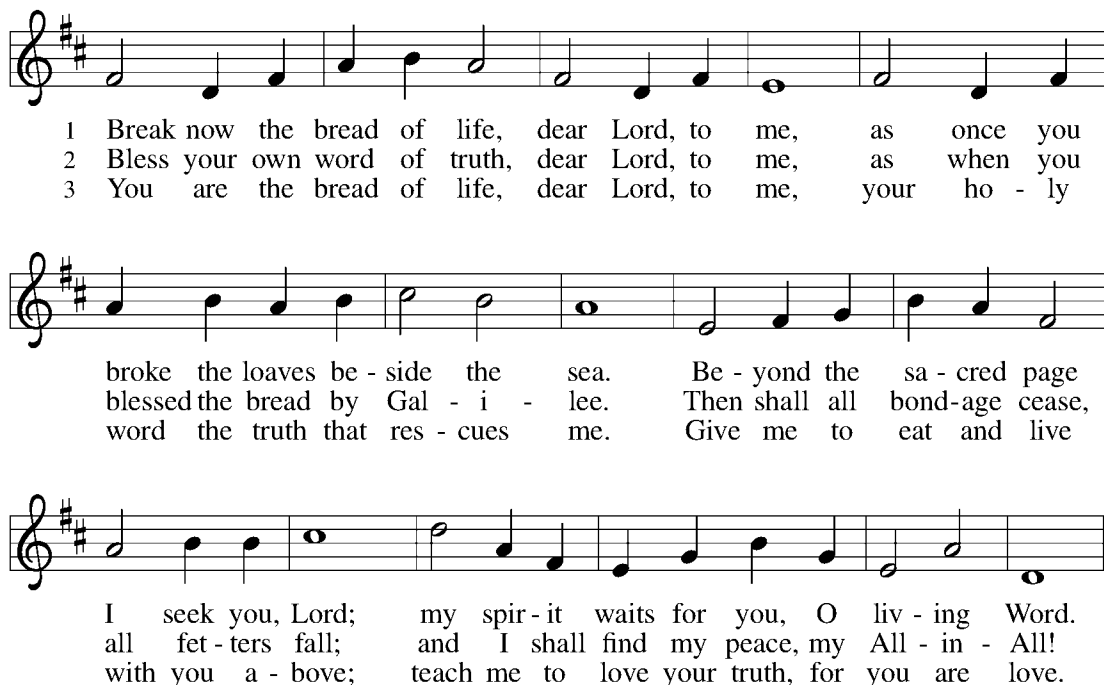


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

SONGS DURING

Break Now the Bread of Life

ELW 515



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly
broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live
I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Refrain

We eat the bread of teach-ing, drink wine of wis-dom, are
giv-en here a taste of the king-dom. To-geth-er
joined, the great-est and the least, we all are
one at Wis-dom's ho-ly feast.

1 Wis-dom calls through-out the cit-y, knows our
2 Sim-ple ones whose hearts are yearn-ing, come and
3 En-ter with de-light and sing-ing, for her

hun-ger, and in pit-y gives her lov-ing in-vi-
gain from Wis-dom's learn-ing; bread and wine she is pre-
rich-ness now is bring-ing us this joy-ous cel-e-

Refrain

ta-tion to the ban-quet of sal-va-tion.
par-ing, know her lov-ing in the shar-ing.
bra-tion; eat and drink in ju-bi-la-tion.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997
Music: WISDOM'S FEAST, Jerry Ray Brubaker, b. 1946
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Every Time I Feel the Spirit


Refrain




Ev - 'ry time I feel the spir - it mov - ing




in my heart, I will pray. Ev - 'ry time I feel the



spir - it mov - ing in my heart, I will pray.



1 Up - on the moun - tain my Lord spoke,
2 All a - round me looked so fine,
3 Jor - dan riv - er, chilly and cold,



Refrain

out of his mouth came fire and smoke.
asked . . . my Lord if all was mine.
chills the bod - y but not the soul.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: PENTECOST, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

L. Dean Bye

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This morning: Greeter: Sandra de Azagra; Communion Assistant: Sue Scheulen
Next week: Greeter: Sue Scheulen; Reader and Communion Assistant: Bob Lowden

Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 898 8887 8840 Passcode: 458736

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Facebook Live: you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account

<https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>

TRENDING @ TRINITY

Trinity extends a warm welcome again to Pastor Bill Boldin. Pastor JMe will be back next Sunday.

Next Sunday, Pastor JMe begins a Bible Study on Psalms following worship. Each week will be an individual lesson, so you are welcome to come to any sessions to which you are able. The first week will be a video with a fascinating interview between author Eugene Peterson (*The Message* Bible) and Bono (rock band U2). Study will be available on Zoom too, Meeting ID: 891 9921 7350 Passcode: 011119

Pastor JMe is out of the office through August 3rd. If you have a pastoral emergency during office hours (Mon-Thurs. 8AM-1PM) please call Brenda in the office (540-869-4019). After hours, contact Roger Wickboldt (614-477-2431).

Summer Hymn Sing starts Aug 6th! You may write down your request for the congregational prelude from the Summer Praise Song Book on the paper provided in the pew and place it in the wooden basket on the organ.

Congregational Picnic- September 17: Want to help with the picnic this year? Contact Martha Cooley or Sandra de Azagra ASAP to become part of the planning group.

Your input is welcome! On Sunday, September 10, congregations of the ELCA will join together for our annual day of service. "God's work. Our hands." Trinity is looking for ideas of service projects in our community the congregation can do on that day. Send your suggestions to Brenda via email (office@trinitychurchvirginia.org) or phone (540-869-4019).

It's July, so it's time to think about Christmas! Pastor JMe would like to host a Kringle Market this year, on Saturday, December 2nd. **People are needed to help, plan, organize and execute this project**, which it is hoped will become an annual tradition. Email or call Pastor JMe or Brenda if you'd like to participate.

August Calendar:

Choir rehearses each Sunday prior to worship
Pastor JMe out of the office August 1-3.
Pastor's Bible study on Psalms follows worship each Sunday

8 - 6:30pm, Congregation Council mtg.
12 - Yard Crawl
13 - Holy Baptism
20 - Noisy Offering benefits MAMA (Middletown Area Meal Assistance)
30 - 5:30pm, Community Meal - subs, assorted salads, dessert

August Birthdays:

10-Dick Jones
17-Pam Weinacht
20-Juanita Ryan
23-Holly Kowis
25-Ashley Landes,
Julian Reyna
30-Carole Pfisterer,
Greg Rogers,
John Defilippi