6th Sunday after Pentecost, Year C

Martha welcomed Jesus into her home Luke 10:38

810 Fairfax Street Stephens City, VA Sunday Worship, 9:30AM (540) 869-4019 July 20, 2025



~ The Chancel flowers are given this week by Christine and Bob Cornwell in celebration of their 43rd wedding anniversary.

Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 4718 0792 Passcode: 173681
Dial 1-301-715-8592 US
Facebook Live: you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/

This Weeks; Greeter: Mistie McPadalin. Lessons & Prayers Reader: William McPadalin. Communion Assistant: Barry Hockenberry. Next Weeks; Greeter: Martha Cooley. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Stephan Aker. Communion Assistant: Deb Wickboldt.

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PRELUDE <u>Summer Celebration</u> ~ WOV (Blue Hymnal) 675, & 721 Please stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God our maker who calls us to be a new people. Blessed be God our redeemer who claims us in grace. Blessed be God our life-giving breath who fills us with love and sends us in service. We gather to praise the Father, the Son ∔ and the Holy Spirit, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. Amen.

Trusting in the grace and mercy of God, let us confess the sin and brokenness in our lives and in the world.

Reconciling God, we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we turn from your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen. Beloved people of God, by the radical abundance of God's grace we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus,

through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

Our sins are forgiven.

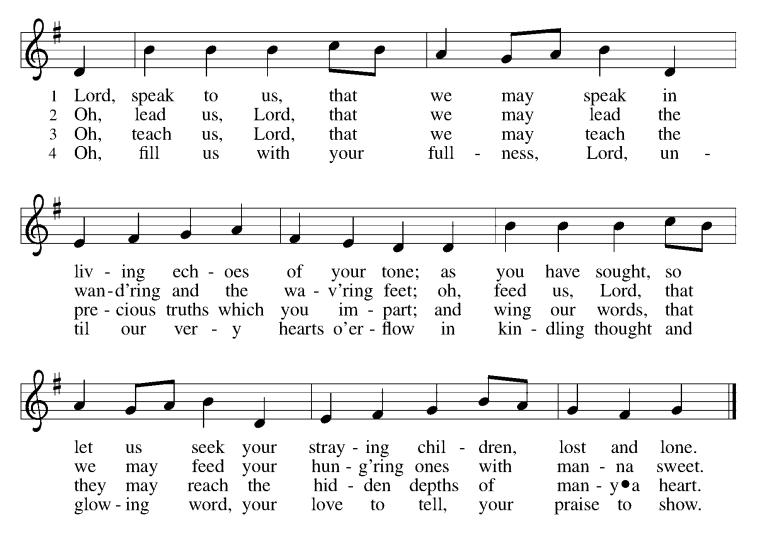
Let us live now in hope.

For God's love has been poured into our hearts

through the Holy Spirit.

GATHERING SONG

(ELW 676)



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt. Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810–1856

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.**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-10a

A reading from Genesis.

¹ The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a} Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



¹Lord, who may dwell in your ¹ tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your [|] holy hill?

² Those who lead a blameless life and do [|] what is right, who speak the truth [|] from their heart; R

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil ¹ to their friends; they do not cast discredit up- ¹ on a neighbor.

⁴ In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who ¹ fear the Lord. They have sworn upon their health and do not take ¹ back their word.

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- ¹ gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be [|] overthrown. **R**

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-28

A reading from Colossians.

¹⁵ [Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, ²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸ Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Please stand



Rev. Larry Closter

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

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.



Inspire your church, like Sarah and Mary, to listen with eager longing for your words of life. Equip biblical interpreters and teachers with faithful discernment, that your word may be more fully known. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Every creature under heaven has been promised the hope of the gospel. From that promise, generate in humankind an eagerness to protect and care for creation. Bring healing to the earth with your words of life. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Peel away the distractions, worries, and fears of all who govern the nations of the world. May your word of love and life dispel all other voices. Provide gracious hospitality in places where hostile forces hold sway. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Speak your word of comfort to any who suffer pain, illness, grief, depression, or despair especially Barb, Shirley, Louise, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Michael, Jeff, Lauren, Nancy (worshippers may add names silently or aloud). Bring honor to any who experience slander and evil intent or are discredited by others. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Enliven and uphold all siblings in Christ who strive to provide hospitality and safe spaces where everyone, without exception, can receive and be transformed by your word of life. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

For Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Mary, Martha, and all the saints who attended to your word, we give thanks. Open our ears to your voice until that day when we realize the promise of the gospel with all creation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Amen. Alleluia! & Alas! And did my Savior bleed (Ralph E. Hudson, 1843-1901) *Performed by* ~ Emily Hartman

The Noisy Offering today will benefit "I Can 2". Please see News section of bulletin for more information on this amazing program.



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 **Difference** 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.

Please stand



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

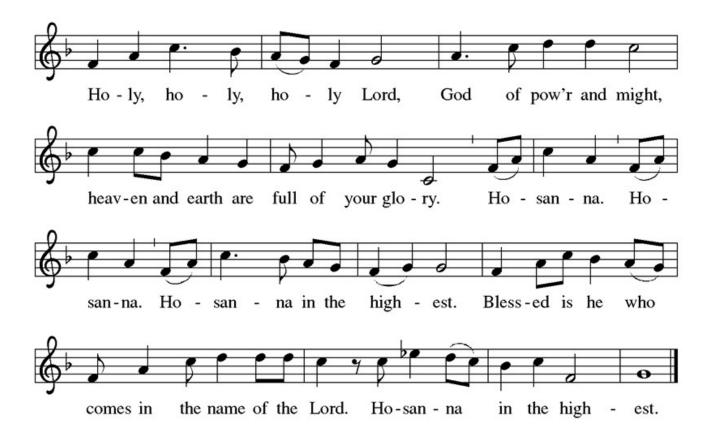
DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

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 through the cross cleansed us from all sin. 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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.** Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.** Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

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.

BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS (for the sick and homebound)

Let us pray. O God of tender compassion, as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger bless these elements with your divine grace and those who leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. May they be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready For those communing at home, have your package ready to open. The pastor will acknowledge your presence and request that you consume the elements at this time.

Please be seated

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

For those who prefer not to partake of the wine there are cups filled with grape juice in the center of the communion tray.

(ELW p. 146)

COMMUNION SONG



SONGS DURING COMMUNION

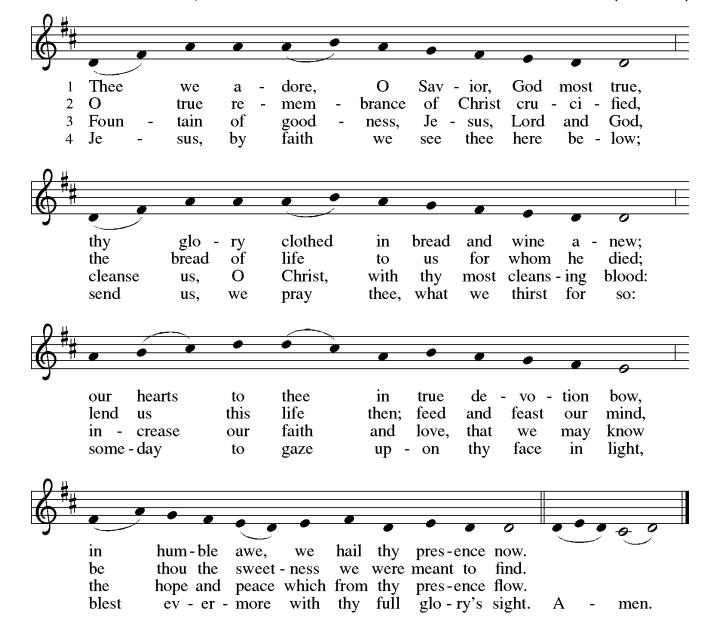
Come and See



Text: Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962, from John 1:38-39 Music: COME AND SEE, Robert A. Hobby Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

Thee We Adore, O Savior

(ELW 476)



Text: Thomas Aquinas, 1227–1274; tr. Gerard Manley Hopkins, 1844–1889, and James R. Woodford, 1820–1885, alt. Music: ADORE TE DEVOTE, plainsong mode V; Processionale, Paris, 1697

Please stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

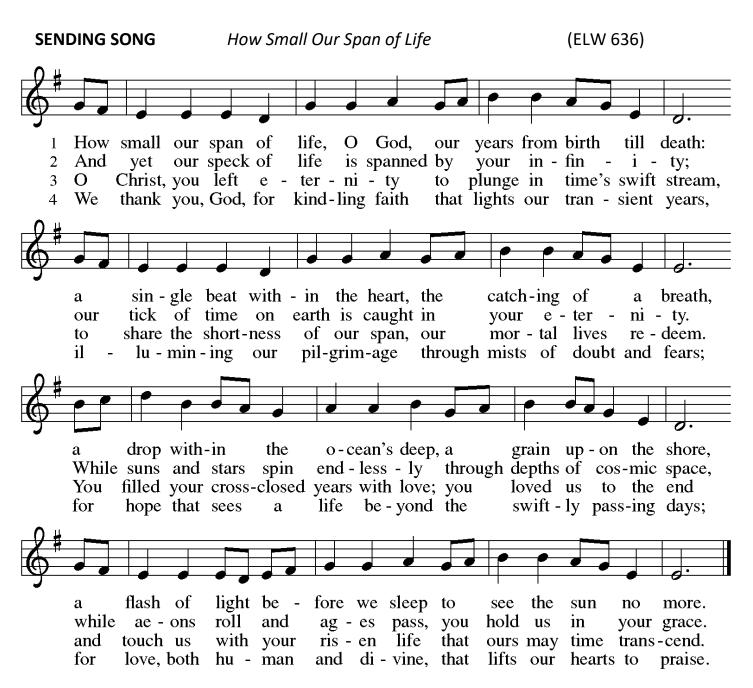
Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, 🕂 Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923 Music: KINGSFOLD, English traditional Text © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the good news. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fantasia

Telemann (1681-1767)

~The Trinity Times~ Church & Community NEWS

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY Here's what's happening at a glance:

- 🔝 Sunday, July 20
- Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM
- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall All are welcome!
- Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director
- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall
- 🛅 Monday, July 21
- 📰 Tuesday, July 22
- 📰 Wednesday, July 23
- 📰 Thursday, July 24
- Friday, July 25
- Happy Birthday Roger Wickboldt!
- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 10 AM | Parish Hall
- CMSP Music private lesson @ 5-6 pm | Upstairs class room
- 🛅 Saturday, July 26

– CMSP Music Together @ 9:00 AM (Summer Session – Week 3) | Upstairs Classroom

<u> BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK</u>

Happy Birthday to:

iii ~ July 25 – Happy Birthday Roger Wickboldt!

(Did we miss your birthday? Contact the church office to update your info!)

The Noisy Offering this week Supports "I Can 2"

This month's Noisy Offering will benefit **I Can 2**, a local nonprofit located right here in Stephens City that provides vocational training and life skills development for adults with disabilities.

Located at 5321 Mulberry Street, **I Can 2** offers a creative and supportive environment where participants can build independence, grow friendships, and develop real-world skills in areas like art, cooking, woodworking, animal care, floral design, photography, and more. Their goal is to help individuals with developmental disabilities discover purpose, joy, and meaningful work.

Let's support this incredible mission with our loose change and noisy gifts! Your generosity helps equip participants with tools and opportunities to thrive. Learn more at ican2.us

🍀 Volunteers Needed: Route 11 Yard Crawl – Saturday, August 9th 🌞

Trinity will be participating in the Route 11 Yard Crawl on **Saturday, August 9th** from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, and we need your help!

As part of our **Social Outreach Ministry Team's** parking lot vendor event, we'll be **opening our doors to the public**— offering **hot dogs, popcorn, lemonade, and water**.

Can you spare an hour or two?

Any time you can give will make a difference! Volunteers are needed to:

- Greet visitors
- Serve food and drinks
- Help with set-up/clean-up
- Be a welcoming presence inside and outside the building

Let's come together to serve our community with smiles, snacks, and hospitality.

Sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall, speak with Pastor Closter, or call the office
 640-869-4019.

Ongoing Announcements

• 🙏 Prayer Team Table

Located just inside the sanctuary entrance. Submit a card with your prayer request or contact **Mistie McPadalin** to add a name to the Prayers of Intercession.

Hospital Visitation

Pastor Closter is registered with Valley Health for hospital visits. Due to HIPAA laws, the hospital cannot notify us when someone is admitted.

To request a visit, contact the church office at **540-869-4019**, or after hours, call Pastor Closter at **540-848-5325**. You may also reach out to **Mistie McPadalin** or **Martha Cooley**.

- Interested in singing with the choir this summer?
 This is the perfect opportunity to join in—no midweek commitment required.
 Just come on Sunday mornings and help us make a joyful noise together! We'd love to have your voice join ours.
- Chime Choir Sundays after service | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director – music@trinitychurchvirginia.org
- Food Pantry Item of the Month: Pasta (Spaghetti) | Contact: Kim Begnaud-Hampton – <u>kbegnaud0101@yahoo.com</u>

Save the Date

July 27 – Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM

- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall

July 30 – Community Meal @ 5:30 PM | Parish Hall

(Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Assorted salads, Desert)

– Together in Prayer @ 7:00 PM | Sanctuary

– Happy Birthday Cooper Greene!

III Mark your calendars – August is here!

August 1– CMPS Private Lessons @ 5–6 PM | Upstairs Classroom

August 2– CMPS Music Together @ 9:00 AM | Upstairs Classroom

August 3– Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM

- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall - All are welcome!

– Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director

- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall

August 7– Bible Study @ 10 AM | Parish Hall

August 8– CMPS Private Lessons @ 5–6 PM | Upstairs Classroom

August 9– Route 11 Yard Crawl, 10 AM–6 PM

- Trinity open to the public with vendor sales, hot dogs, popcorn, and lemonade

August 10– Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM

- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall - All are welcome!

- Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director

– Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall

August 12– Congregational Council Metting @6:30PM |Parish Hall

August 14– Bible Study @ 10 AM | Parish Hall

August 15– CMPS Private Lessons @ 5–6 PM | Upstairs Classroom

August 17– Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM

- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall All are welcome!
- Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director
- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall
- Toisy Offering will benefit Froggy's Closet
 200 N Braddock St, Winchester, VA. State Learn more: frog-kids.org (Supporting families with clothing, diapers, and baby supplies)

August 20– 🎉 Happy Birthday Juanita Ryan!

– (No scheduled events)

August 21– Bible Study @ 10 AM | Parish Hall

August 22 – CMPS Private Lessons @ 5–6 PM | Upstairs Classroom

August 23– 🔆 Happy Birthday Holly Kowis!

August 24- Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM

- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall All are welcome!
- Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director
- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall

August 25– 🎉 Happy Birthday Ashley Landes and Julian Reyna!

– (No scheduled events)

August 27 – Community Meal @ 5:30 PM | Parish Hall (Menu TBD)

– Together in Prayer @ 7:00 PM | Sanctuary

August 28– Bible Study @ 10 AM | Parish Hall

August 29– 🗩 Happy Birthday Kim Barna!

– CMPS Private Lessons @ 5–6 PM | Upstairs Classroom

August 30– 🎉 Happy Birthday Greg Rogers, John Defilippi & Carole Pfisterer!

August 31– Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM

- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall - All are welcome!

- Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director
- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall

Stay in the Loop!

Want to receive our weekly Trinity Times Newsletter by email?

Fill out a welcome card (basket in the Narthex) with your name and email, and we'll add you to the list.

Prefer print? Pick up a copy **next to the name tag table in the Narthex**, or call the office to request a mailed version:

📞 540-869-4019 | 🕒 Tuesday–Friday, 8 AM–1 PM