

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



August 23, 2026
Trinity Lutheran Church
Morris Plains, New Jersey
Pastor David Russert

WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We are glad to have you at worship with us today,
as we receive God's good and gracious gifts!

At Trinity, we joyfully share God's love and Word with all people
through worship, learning, fellowship, and service.

Trinity is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), meaning our beliefs and teachings follow after the Bible-based teachings of Martin Luther, who sought to bring the Church back to the pure doctrines of Scripture. Simply put, we believe, teach, and confess what the Bible says—no more, no less.

As part of the LCMS, our beliefs and teachings can be summarized as:

Grace Alone: God loves the people of the world, even though they are sinful, rebel against Him & do not deserve His love. He sent Jesus, His Son, to love the unlovable & save the ungodly.

Faith Alone: Jesus' suffering & death as the substitute for all people of all time purchased & won forgiveness & eternal life for all. Those who hear this Good News & believe it receive these gifts. God creates faith in Christ & gives people forgiveness through Him.

Scripture Alone: The Bible is God's inerrant & infallible Word, in which He reveals His Law & His Gospel of salvation in Christ. It is the sole rule & norm for Christian doctrine.

God bless you as He speaks to us His Word during this time of worship!

**WE OFFER BIBLE STUDIES FOR ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN,
BOTH YOUNG AND OLD! PLEASE JOIN US!**

Adult Bible Study – 7:00 p.m. Thursday Evenings – Ages 12+

Confirmation Class – Contact the Church Office for more info

Membership Class – Contact the Church Office for more info

A NOTE ON COMMUNION:

In this congregation, the Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites those who trust His words and repent of all sin to His table.

Communion is also a confession of the faith confessed at this altar. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession different than that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (yet desire to receive the Sacrament) are asked to first speak with Pastor Russert or an usher.

“Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord.” 1 Cor. 11:27-28

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

OPENING HYMN

803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!

2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,

△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, Flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di - vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy - ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt., Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867, Text and tune: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment.

But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 2:6–7; Psalm 117; ant.: Psalm 115:18

*But we will | bless the LORD**

from this time forth and forevermore. | Praise the LORD!

As for me, I have | set my King*

on Zion, my | holy hill.

I will tell of | the decree:*

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have be- | gotten you.”

Praise the LORD, all | nations!*

Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. | Praise the LORD!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*But we will | bless the LORD**

from this time forth and forevermore. | Praise the LORD!

KYRIE

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

P The Lord be with you



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 51:1–6

- 1 “Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
- 2 Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.
- 3 For the LORD comforts Zion;
he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
- 4 “Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.
- 5 My righteousness draws near,
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.
- 6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;

but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 138; ant.: v. 8a

*The LORD will fulfill his pur- | pose for me;**
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

¹I give you thanks, O LORD, with | my whole heart;*
before the gods I | sing your praise;

²I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and
your | faithfulness,*
for you have exalted above all things your name | and your word.

³On the day I called, you | answered me;*
my strength of soul | you increased.

⁴All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, | O LORD,*
for they have heard the words | of your mouth,

⁵and they shall sing of the ways | of the LORD,*
for great is the glory | of the LORD.

⁶For though the LORD is high, he regards the | lowly,*
but the haughty he knows | from afar.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you pre- | serve my life;*
**you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand de- |
livers me.**

⁸The LORD will fulfill his pur- | pose for me;*
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work | of your hands.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son,*
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

The LORD will fulfill his pur- | pose for me;*
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

EPISTLE

Romans 11:33–12:8

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his
judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵“Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?”

³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

^{12:1}I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 192

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

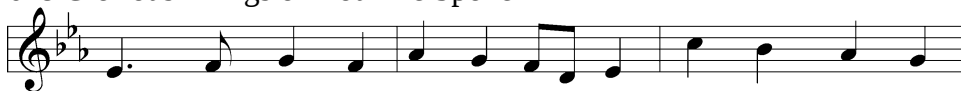
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried.
 He descended into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy Christian Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

648 Glorious Things of You Are Spoken



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
 2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e -
 3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, See the cloud and
 4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



of our God; He whose word can - not be bro - ken Formed you
 ter - nal love, Well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters And all
 fire ap - pear For a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, Show - ing
 mem - ber am, Let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will



for His own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges found - ed,
 fear of want re - move. Who can faint while such a riv - er
 that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner
 glo - ry in Your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain plea - sures,



What can shake your sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's
 Ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace, which like the
 Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed up -
 All their boast - ed pomp and show; Sol - id joys and



walls sur-round - ed, You may smile at all your foes.
Lord, the giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.
on the man - na Which God gives them on their way.
last - ing trea - sures None but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., Tune: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809, Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Pastor Bruce Smith

OFFERING

Stand

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

781 We Give Thee But Thine Own



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89, Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Healing & Comfort

FRANK FERRY

MARY SCHADEL

ANTHONY LANDGRAF

LYNIA REDDING

MARIE

WALTER

MARYANN REDONDO

PETER DOMBROWSKI

GIL SOTO

DENNIS MCCARTHY

LARRY GEORGE

MARISSA CHRISTENSON

RITA FERRY

STEVEN BRYANT

LAURA BRETON

BRUCE KASCAR

SANDRA TALMADGE

MARIA

RAMON ANGELES

MARY ANN REED

ANNETTE DAVIS

JOSE SOUSA

JOSEPH TRIFUN

THEO NIEGLOS

ELANTRA VEDENETRA

CAROLYN CHERMAK

LORENZO DINIA

MARC THOMAS

MELISSA NOTIS

FRED

JASON ANDRIOPOULOS

BROOKE MORGAN

BERT RADES

DEBBIE OLIVIERA

KATE OLIVEIRA

CAROL OLSEN

JESSICA IMHAUSER

ARLENE BACCAGLINI

SUE FRANCE

ANGELO

Strength & Comfort

PEDRO PEREZ

ELLA

SUANNE MARTIN

NICHOLAS

WARREN



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



PREFACE

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

LSB 194

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



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

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197



PAX DOMINI

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.

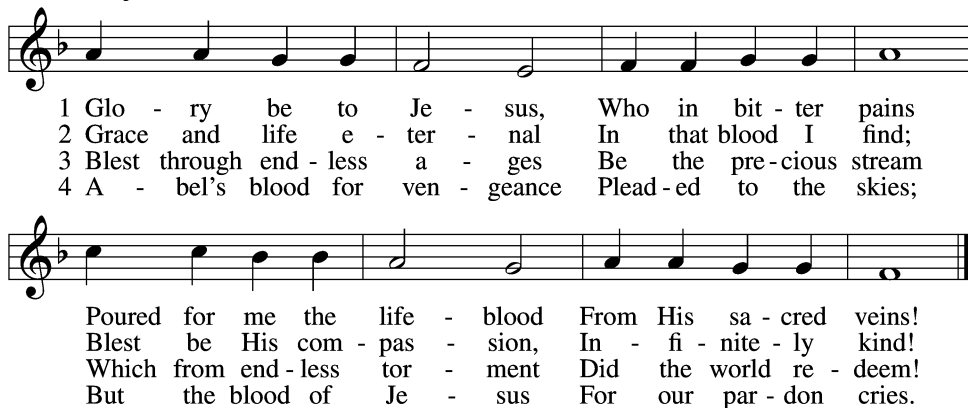


O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - - men.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

433 Glory Be to Jesus



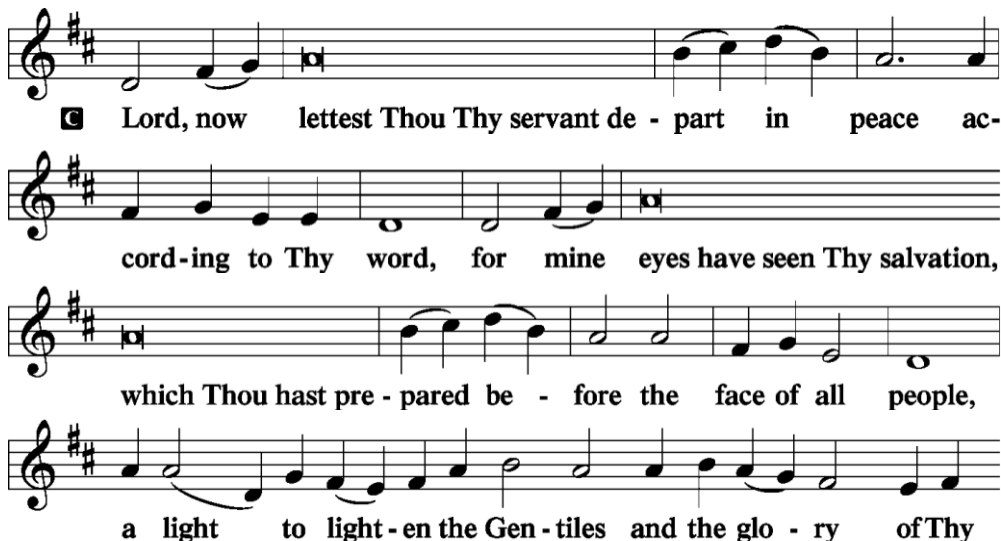
1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;
Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!
Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!
But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt., Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804–76, Text and tune: Public domain

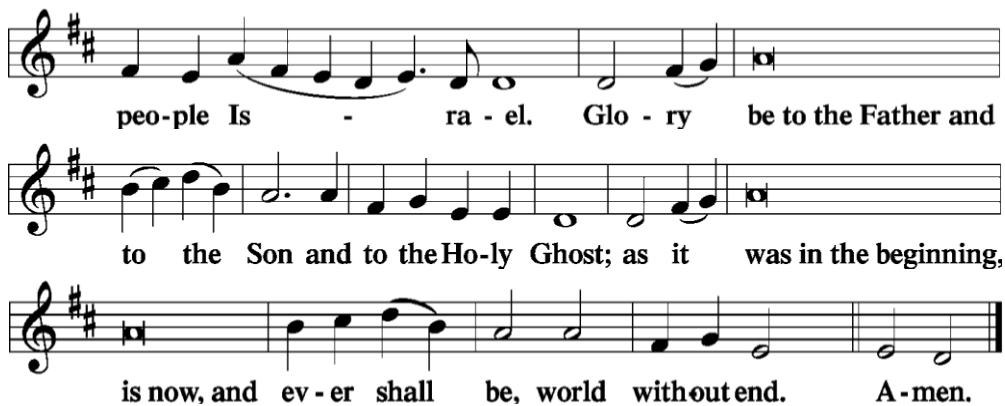
Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199



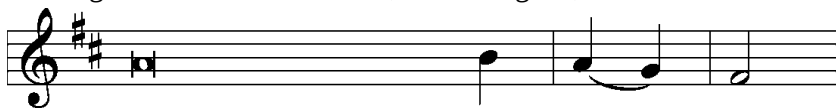
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN

918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,

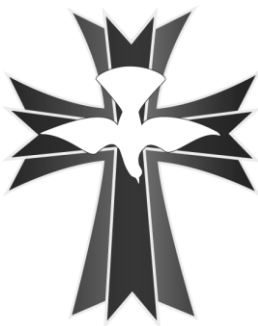


bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.
shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

Text: William Williams, 1717–91, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Peter Williams, 1722–96, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. William Williams, 1717–91, Tune: John Hughes, 1873–1932, Text and tune: Public domain



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Otto Palmer

GREETER

Barbara Schilling

COUNTER

Evankos

ALTAR GUILD

Maryann Ferry, Lisa Trifun



*Today's altar flowers are given
to the glory of God by the Altar Guild.*

We warmly welcome back Pastor Bruce Smith and thank him for leading our service today!

YEAR-ROUND OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year we are aiming to collect items for OCC shoeboxes all year. Each month will have a theme of the items to be purchased for the shoeboxes. Those items can be brought to the church and left in the Narthex in the box designated for shoebox items. **August's** theme is **School Supplies**.



BOARD OF DIRECTION

The Board of Direction meets each month.

Members of the congregation are invited to attend.

The next meeting is **Wednesday, September 9th, 7:00 p.m.**



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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