

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



September 20, 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 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

OPENING HYMN

790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt; Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneuerten Gesang-Buchs, 1665, Stralsund, 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

Psalms 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

What shall I render | to the LORD*
for all his bene- | fits to me?

I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

O LORD, I am your | servant;*

I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have | loosed my bonds.

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.

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of 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.



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



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



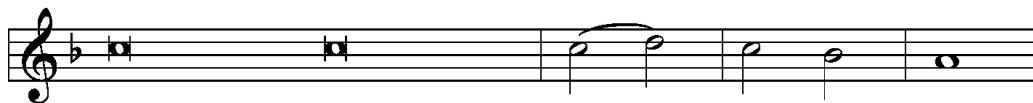
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



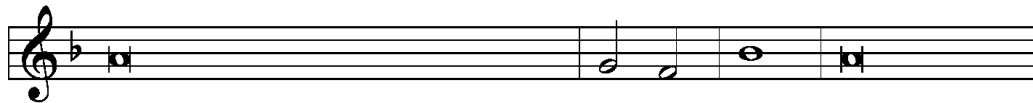
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



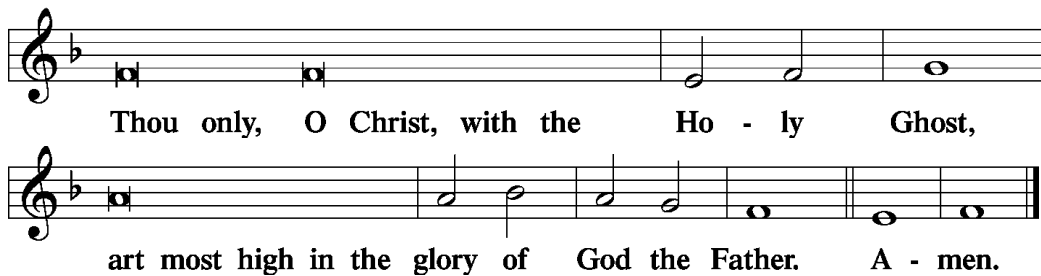
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



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.



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

LSB 189

P The Lord be with you



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 55:6–9

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(spoken responsively)*

Psalms 27:1–9; antiphon: v. 4a

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom | shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I | be afraid?

²When evildoers assail me
to eat | up my flesh,*

my adversaries and foes,
 it is they who stum- | ble and fall.
³Though an army encamp against me,
 my heart | shall not fear; *
 though war arise against me,
 yet I will be | confident.
⁴One thing have I asked of the LORD,
 that will I seek | after: *
 that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
 all the days of my life,
 to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
 and to inquire in his | temple.
⁵For he will hide me in his shelter
 in the day of | trouble; *
 he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
 he will lift me high up- | on a rock.
⁶And now my head shall be lifted up
 above my enemies all around me,
 and I will offer in his tent
 sacrifices with | shouts of joy; *
 I will sing and make melody | to the LORD.
⁷Hear, O LORD, when I | cry aloud; *
 be gracious to me and | answer me!
⁸You have said, | “Seek my face.” *
 My heart says to you,
 “Your face, LORD, | do I seek.”
⁹Hide not your face from me.
 Turn not your servant away in | anger, *
 O you who have been my help.
 Cast me not off; forsake me not,
 O God of my sal- | vation!

EPISTLE

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .
¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you

all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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 20:1–16

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 20th chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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

827 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling



1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus call-ing, "Who will go and work to - day?
2 Some take up His task in morn-ing, To their Lord re - spond-ing soon;
3 For as rain and snow from heav-en Wa - ter seeds in dust - y soil,
4 Hear - ken to the Lord whose com-ing Marks the time when grace shall end,



Fields are white and har-vests wait-ing— Who will bear the sheaves a - way?"
Some are called in heat of mid-day, Oth - ers late in af - ter-noon;
Caus - ing them to bud and flow - er, Giv - ing bread to those who toil;
When with His an - gel - ic reap - ers He in glo - ry shall de-scend.



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth; Rich re-ward He of - fers thee.
E - ven as the sun is set - ting, Some are sent in - to the fields,
So the Lord sends forth His prom - ise, Words of life and joy and peace—
Soon the night, the fi - nal har - vest; Soon the time for work shall cease.



Who will an-swer, glad - ly say - ing, “Here am I, send me, send me”?
 There to gath - er in the boun - ty That God’s Word so rich - ly yields.
 Nev - er void to Him re - turn - ing, Bear - ing fruit with great in - crease.
 Then the souls His grace has gar - nered Shall en - joy His Sab - bath peace.

Text (st. 1): Daniel March, 1816–1909, alt.; (sts. 2–4): Stephen P. Starke, 1955, Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96, Text (sts. 2–4): © 2001 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003957, Text (st. 1) and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Pastor David Russert

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

LAURA BRETON

MELISSA NOTIS

ANTHONY LANDGRAF

BRUCE KASCMAR

FRED

LYNIA REDDING

SANDRA TALMADGE

JASON ANDRIOPOULOS

MARIE

MARIA

BROOKE MORGAN

WALTER

RAMON ANGELES

+BERT RADES+

MARYANN REDONDO

MARY ANN REED

CAROL OLSEN

PETER DOMBROWSKI

ANNETTE DAVIS

JESSICA IMHAUSER

GIL SOTO

JOSE SOUSA

ARLENE BACCAGLINI

LARRY GEORGE

JOSEPH TRIFUN

SUE FRANCE

MARISSA CHRISTENSON

THEO NIEGLOS

ANGELO

RITA FERRY

ELANTRA VEDENETRA

ZACK AUGER

STEVEN BRYANT

CAROLYN CHERMAK

LORENZO DINIA

MARC THOMAS

Strength & Comfort

PEDRO PEREZ

SUANNE MARTIN

NICHOLAS

WARREN

GERALDINE KINGSLEY



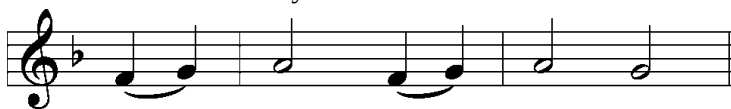
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



LSB 194

PREFACE

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.



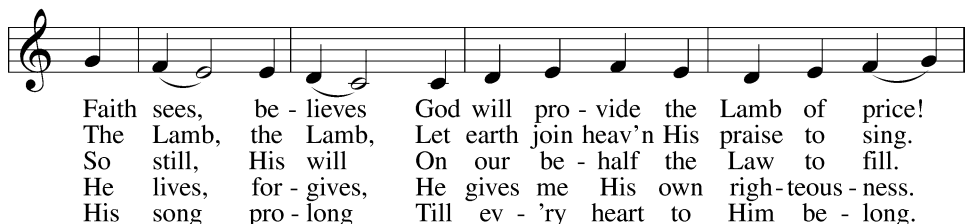
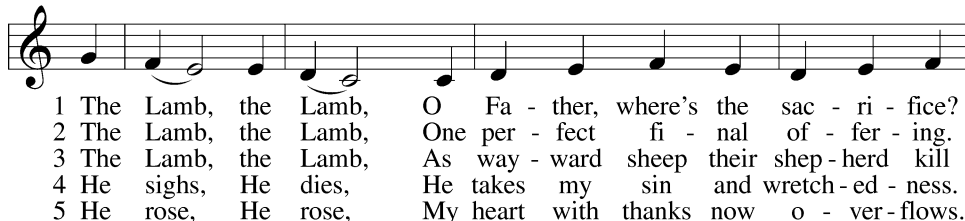
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



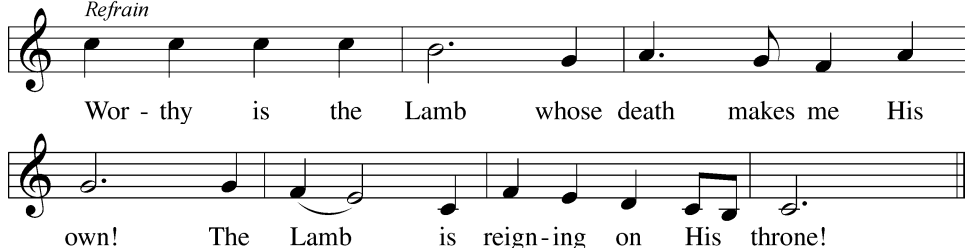
Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

547 The Lamb



Refrain



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Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199

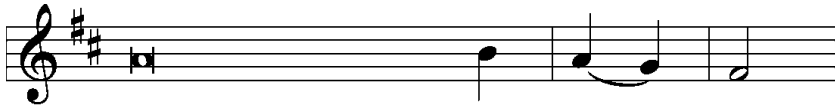




THANKSGIVING

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.

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.



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

CLOSING HYMN

699 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to Me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light.



Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up - on My breast."
 The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down and drink and live."
 Look un - to Me; thy morn shall rise And all thy day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, So wea - ry, worn, and sad;
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of that life - giv - ing stream;
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found In Him my star, my sun;



I found in Him a rest-ing place, And He has made me glad.
 My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in Him.
 And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, alt.
 Tune: Amanda Husberg, 1940–2021
 Text: Public domain

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORGANIST

Bev McGregor

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

Arline Amaducci

USHER

Tom Guild

GREETER

Laurie Udes

COUNTER

Mary Ann Ferry

ALTER GUILD

Elaine Dimitry, Kim Bryant



Today's altar flowers are given by Arlene Baccaglini In memory of Russell C Baccaglini at the time of his birthday.

Maryann and Frank Ferry in celebration of Marie's birthday.

The Dimitry family in celebration of Elaine's birthday.

FOOD DRIVE

Trinity will be helping with the Act Against Hunger food drive on Saturday, September 19, from 9 AM to 4 PM at the Boonton Kings. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. All proceeds go to the Interfaith Food Pantry of Morris County.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON

There will be a potluck luncheon following the service on Sunday, September 20. Please bring a dish and attend. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



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. **September's** theme is **Games**.



BOARD OF DIRECTION

The Board of Direction meets each month. Members of the congregation are invited to attend. The next meeting is **Wednesday, October 14th, 7:00 p.m.**



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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