

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



The servant's master
took pity on him, canceled the debt
and let him go.

Matthew 18:27

September 13, 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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

OPENING HYMN

1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band Up -
3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why
4 "You see Him now, as - cend - ing high Up

hymns through - out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia,
on the Mount of Ol - ives stand. Al - le - lu - ia,
stand and gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia,
to the por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
al - le - lu - ia! And with His faith - ful fol - l'wers
al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior," thus they
al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall

trod, As - cends un - to the throne of
see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -
say; "This is His glo - rious tri - umph
see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -

God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia,	al - le - lu - ia,	al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia,	al - le - lu - ia,	al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia,	al - le - lu - ia,	al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia,	al - le - lu - ia,	al - le - lu - ia!

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,

© 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 143:1–2; ant.: v. 9

*Deliver me from my enemies, | O LORD!**

I have fled to you for refuge!

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*

In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

Enter not into judgment with your servant,*

for no one living is righteous be- fore you.

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.

*Deliver me from my enemies, | O LORD!**

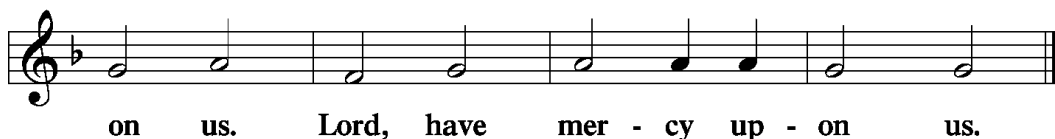
I have fled to you for refuge!

KYRIE

LSB 186



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

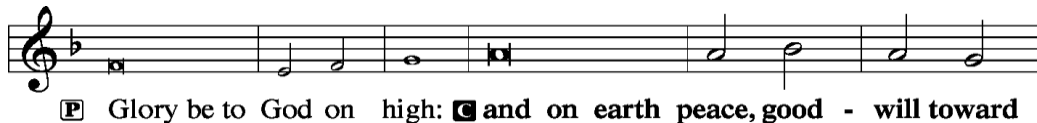


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis

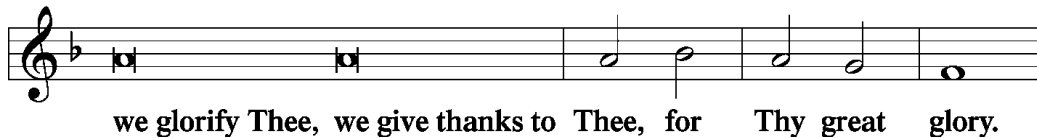
LSB 187



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.



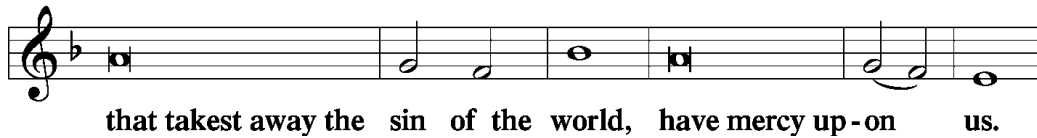
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



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



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



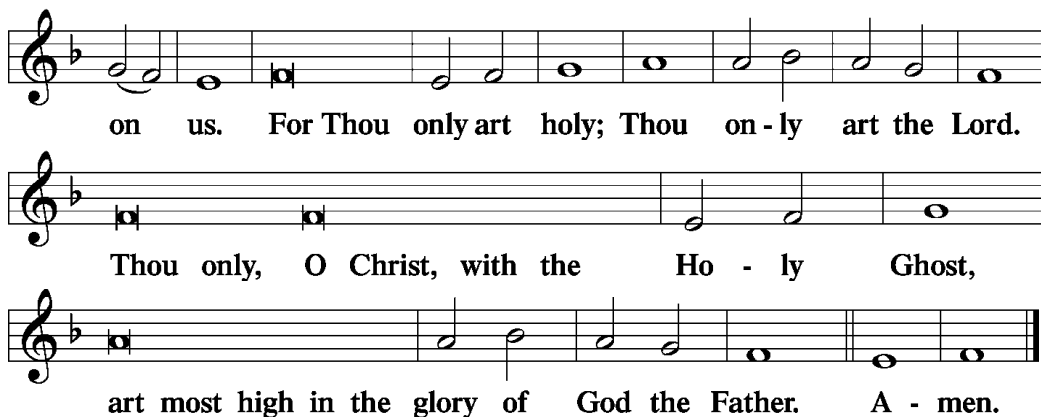
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



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 -



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.



C A - men.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*As a father shows compassion to his | children,**
so the LORD shows compassion to those who | fear him.

¹Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

²Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and forget not all his | benefits,

³who forgives all your in- | iquity,*
who heals all your dis- | eases,

⁴who redeems your life | from the pit,*
who crowns you with steadfast love and | mercy,

⁵who satisfies | you with good*
so that your youth is renewed like the | eagle's.

⁶The LORD works | righteousness*
and justice for all who | are oppressed.

⁷He made known his ways to | Moses,*
his acts to the people of | Israel.

⁸The LORD is merciful and | gracious,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

⁹He will not | always chide,*
nor will he keep his anger for- | ever.

¹⁰He does not deal with us according | to our sins,*
nor repay us according to our in- | iquities.

¹¹For as high as the heavens are a- | bove the earth,*
so great is his steadfast love toward those who | fear him;

¹²as far as the east is | from the west,*
so far does he remove our transgres- | sions from us.

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.

*As a father shows compassion to his | children,**
so the LORD shows compassion to those who | fear him.

EPISTLE

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each

one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If 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. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

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

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

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 18:21–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your

heart.”

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

524 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

sts. 1–4



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole And
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My
4 O Je - sus, shep - herd, guard - ian, friend, My



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
calms the heart's un - rest; 'Tis man - na to the
shield and hid - ing place; My nev - er - fail - ing
Proph - et, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my



heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.
hun - gry soul And to the wea - ry, rest.
trea - sury filled With bound - less stores of grace.
way, my end, Ac - cept the praise I bring.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.
Tune: Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799-1877
Text 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

ANTHONY LANDGRAF

LYNIA REDDING

MARIE

WALTER

MARYANN REDONDO

PETER DOMBROWSKI

GIL SOTO

LARRY GEORGE

MARISSA CHRISTENSON

RITA FERRY

STEVEN BRYANT

MARC THOMAS

LAURA BRETON

BRUCE KASCAR

SANDRA TALMADGE

MARIA

RAMON ANGELES

MARY ANN REED

ANNETTE DAVIS

JOSE SOUSA

JOSEPH TRIFUN

THEO NIEGLOS

ELANTRA VEDENETRA

CAROLYN CHERMAK

MELISSA NOTIS

FRED

JASON ANDRIOPOULOS

BROOKE MORGAN

BERT RADES

CAROL OLSEN

JESSICA IMHAUSER

ARLENE BACCAGLINI

SUE FRANCE

ANGELO

ZACK AUGER

LORENZO DINIA

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

570 Just as I Am, without One Plea

sts. 1-4



2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my

3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a

4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each

con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -

heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

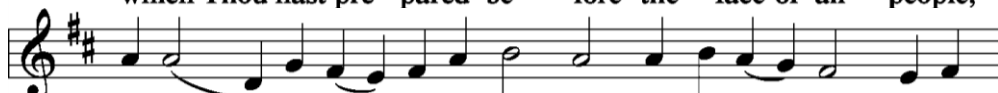
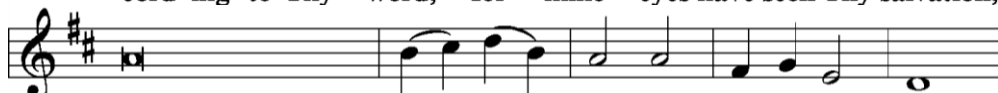
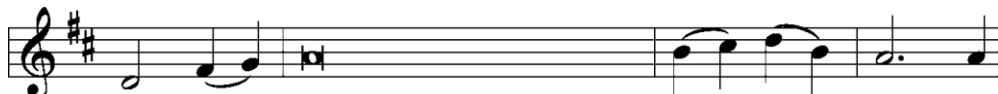
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871
Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199



peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

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

804 O Worship the King *sts. 1-4*



1 O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
2 O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
3 This earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
4 Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?



O grate - ful - ly sing His pow'r and His love;
Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
Al - might - y, Thy pow'r hath found - ed of old,
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,



Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
Es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,



Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
And round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
And sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

Text: Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt.
Tune: William Croft, 1678-1727
Text and tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORGANIST

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

USHER

GREETER

COUNTER

ALTAR GUILD

Bev McGregor

Ed Amaducci

Otto Palmer

Mary Ann Ferry

Lisa Leggett

Lisa Leggett, Lisa Trifun



Today's altar flowers are given by Sally Sparling in loving memory of her son Joel, Ed & Arline Amaducci in celebration of their 44th anniversary and in celebration of Emily & Devin's 5th anniversary.

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

131 Mountain Way, Morris Plains, New Jersey 07950

Office: 973-538-7606 ♦ www.tlcmp.com

Marie Meikle, Church Administration ♦ tlcmorrisplains@gmail.com