

REFORMATION DAY SERVICE



October 25, 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 TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

OPENING HYMN

657 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat - ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546, Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003957, 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 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
 and shall not be | put to shame.
 I will bless the LORD at | all times;*
 his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.
 My soul makes its boast | in the LORD;*
 let the humble hear | and be glad.
 Come, O children, lis- | ten to me;*
 I will teach you the fear | of the LORD.
 The LORD redeems the life of his | servants;*
 none of those who take refuge in him will | be condemned.
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 speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
 and shall not be | put to shame.

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



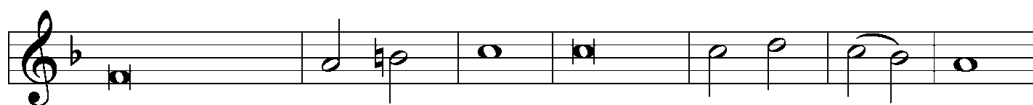
Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



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



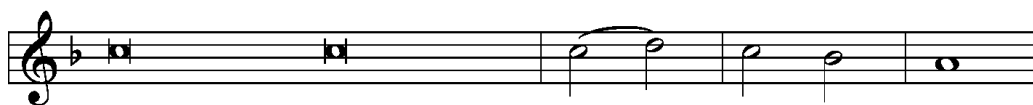
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



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,



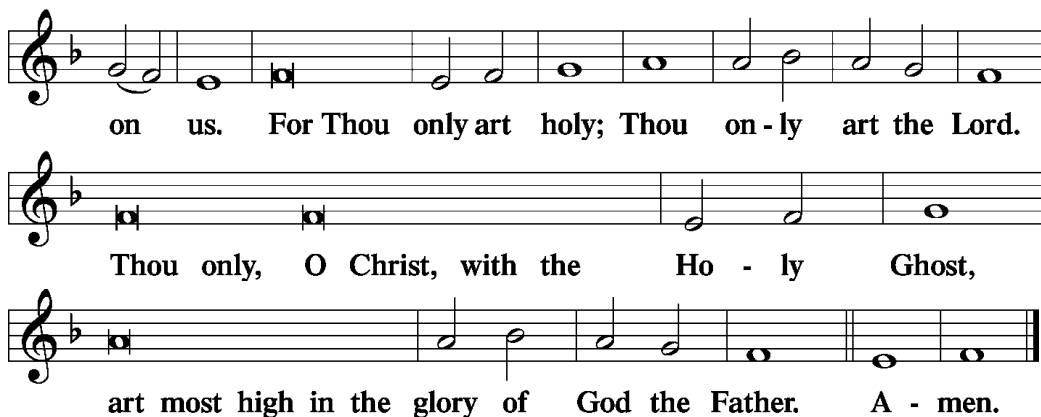
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



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.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; 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.

Sit

First Reading

Revelation 14:6–7

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm (spoken responsively)

Psalm 46; antiphon: v. 7

⁷The LORD of hosts is | with us,*
the God of Jacob is our | fortress.

¹God is our ref- | uge and strength,*
a very present help in | trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear though the | earth gives way,*
though the mountains be moved into the heart | of the sea,

³though its waters | roar and foam,*
though the mountains tremble at its | swelling.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,*
the holy habitation of the | Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of her; she shall | not be moved;*
God will help her when | morning dawns.

⁶The nations rage, the kingdoms | totter;*
he utters his voice, the | earth melts.

⁷The LORD of hosts is | with us;*
the God of Jacob is our | fortress.

⁸Come, behold the works | of the LORD,*
how he has brought desolations | on the earth.

⁹He makes wars cease to the end | of the earth,*
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots | with fire.

¹⁰“Be still, and know that | I am God.*
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted | in the earth!”

¹¹The LORD of hosts is | with us;*
the God of Jacob is our | fortress.

**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.**

⁷*The LORD of hosts is | with us;**
the God of Jacob is our | fortress.

Epistle

Romans 3:19–28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

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

John 8:31–36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.

³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

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

658 Preserve Your Word, O Savior



- 1 Pre - serve Your Word, O Sav - ior, To us this lat - ter day,
- 2 Pre - serve, O Lord, Your hon - or, The bold blas - phem - er smite;
- 3 Pre - serve, O Lord, Your Zi - on, Bought dear - ly with Your blood;
- 4 Pre - serve Your Word and preach - ing, The truth that makes us whole,
- 5 Pre - serve in wave and tem - pest Your storm-tossed lit - tle flock;



And let Your king - dom flour - ish; En - large Your Church, we pray.
 Con - vince, con - vert, en - light - en The souls in er - ror's night.
 Pro - tect what You have cho - sen A - gainst the hell - ish flood.
 The mir - ror of Your glo - ry, The pow'r that saves the soul.
 As - sailed by wind and weath - er, May it en - dure each shock.



O keep our faith from fail - ing; Keep hope's bright star a - glow.
 Re - veal Your will, dear Sav - ior, To all who dwell be - low,
 Be al - ways our de - fend - er When dan - gers gath - er round;
 Oh, may this liv - ing wa - ter, This dew of heav'n - ly grace,
 Stand at the helm, our pi - lot, And set the course a - right;



Let noth - ing from truth turn us While liv - ing here be - low.
 Great light of all the liv - ing, That all Your name may know.
 When all the earth is crum - bling, Safe may Your Church be found.
 Sus - tain us while here liv - ing Un - til we see Your face.
 Then we will reach the har - bor In Your e - ter - nal light.

Text: Andreas Gryphius, 1616-64; tr. William J. Schaefer, 1891-1976, alt. Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen, Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003957, Tune: Public domain

OFFERING

Stand

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

DIX

1. For the beau - ty of the earth, For the glo - ry of the skies,
5. For Your - self, O Gift Di - vine To our world so free - ly giv'n,

1. For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies:
5. For that love from which will shine, Peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

1-5. Lord of all, to you we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Text: 77 77 77; *Lyra Eucharistica*, 1864; Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872; adapt. by William H. Monk, 1823–1899.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Healing & Comfort

DONNA FINKE
BILL FINKE
ZACH AUGER
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
CAROL OLSEN
JESSICA IMHAUSER
ARLENE BACCAGLINI
SUE FRANCE
ANGELO
LORENZO DINIA

Strength & Comfort

TOM O'GRADY
PEDRO PEREZ
SUANNE MARTIN
NICHOLAS
WARREN
GERALDINE KINGSLEY



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

537 Beautiful Savior



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



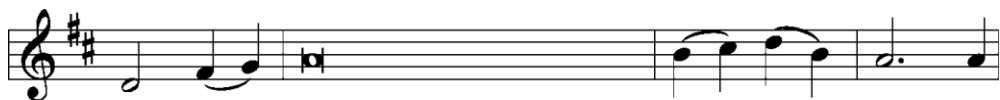
serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904, Tune: Silesian, 19th cent., 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,



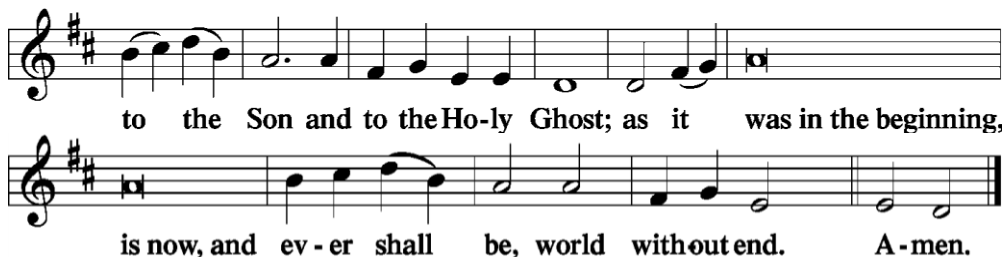
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



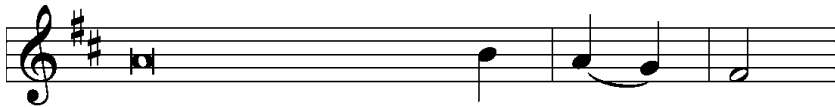
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



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.



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

CLOSING HYMN

660 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus



1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the cross.
2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;
3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; Stand in His strength a - lone.
4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The strife will not be long;



Lift high His roy - al ban - ner; It must not suf - fer loss.
Stand forth in might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.
This day the din of bat - tle, The next the vic - tor's song.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my He shall lead
Let all His faith - ful serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;
Put on the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer.
The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see



Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished, And Christ is Lord in - deed.
Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.
Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
And with the King of Glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818–88, alt., Tune: George J. Webb, 1803–87, Text and tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORGANIST
WORSHIP ASSISTANT
USHER
GREETER
COUNTER
ALTAR GUILD

*Bev McGregor
Ed Amducci
George Nelson
Barbara Schilling
Evankos
Elaine Dimitry, Lisa Trifun*



Today's flowers are given by Laurie Udes in celebration of Reformation Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes and all who helped pack shoeboxes at the packing party last Sunday!

More donations are needed to fill a few of the shoeboxes. Items such as children's clothing, toys, wash cloths or coloring books would be helpful.

Additionally, we're asking for donations to ship the shoeboxes. The shipping amount is \$10 per box. Please make checks out to Trinity Lutheran Church and mark it as OCC.

If you plan to create your own shoeboxes, the last day to drop them off is Sunday, November 22. We will then take them to the drop-off location where they will be packed and sent to the processing locations.

BOARD OF DIRECTION

The Board of Direction meets each month. Members of the congregation are invited to attend. The next meeting is **Wednesday, November 11th, 7:00 p.m**

Sunday, November 22 is Church Giving! We will be making a thanksgiving craft and enjoying a meal and fellowship. The church will be providing assorted sandwiches. Please sign up to bring a side dish or dessert.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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