The Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



November 15, 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 TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Stand

OPENING HYMN

892 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–71, alt., Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93, 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

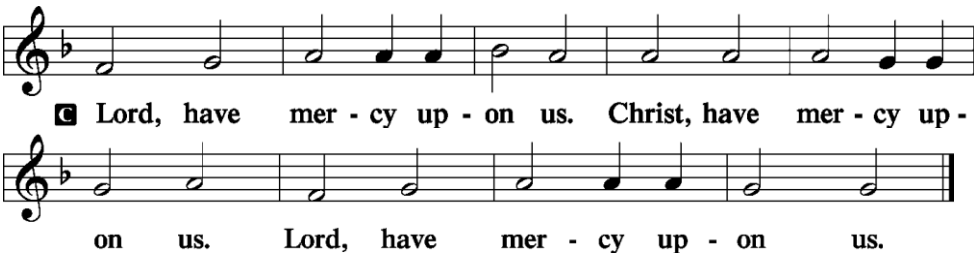
Introit

Psalm 143:2, 5–6, 10–11; antiphon: v. 1

*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.
I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that | you have done;*
I ponder the work | of your hands.
I stretch out my | hands to you;*
my soul thirsts for you like a | parched land.
Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God!*
Let your good Spirit lead me on | level ground!
For your name's sake, O LORD, pre- | serve my life!*
In your righteousness bring my soul out of | trouble!
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.
*Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!**
In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

KYRIE

LSB 186



HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis

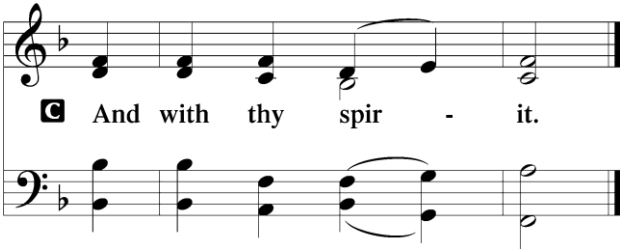
LSB 187


℗ 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,



Salutation and Collect of the Day

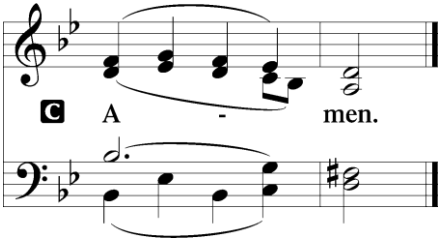
P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

.



Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 1:7–16

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD!
For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
8 And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.
9 On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
10 "On that day," declares the LORD,
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.
11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!

For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the men
who are complacent,
those who say in their hearts,
'The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'
13 Their goods shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them."
14 The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.
15 A day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm (spoken responsively)

Psalm 90:1–12; antiphon: v. 17

May the kindness of the Lord our God be upon us;
Give us success in what we're doing; yes give us success in what we're doing.

1 Lord, you have been our | dwelling place*
in all gener- | ations.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth | and the world,*
from everlasting to everlasting | you are God.

3 You return | man to dust*
and say, "Return, O chil- | dren of man!"

4 For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when | it is past,*
or as a watch | in the night.

[5]You sweep them away as | with a flood;*
they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the | morning:

[6]In the morning it flourishes and | is renewed;*
in the evening it fades and | withers.

[7]For we are brought to an end by your | anger;*
by your wrath we | are dismayed.

[8]You have set our iniquities be- | fore you,*
our secret sins in the light of your | presence.

[9]For all our days pass away un- | der your wrath;*
we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.

[10]The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength | eighty;*
yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we | fly away.

[11]Who considers the power of your | anger,*
and your wrath according to the | fear of you?

[12]So teach us to number | our days*
that we may get a heart of | wisdom.

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.

May the kindness of the Lord our God be upon us;
Give us success in what we're doing; yes give us success in what we're doing.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

[1]Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. [2]For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3]While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. [4]But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. [5]For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. [6]So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. [7]For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. [8]But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9]For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10]who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. [11]Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *LSB 190*



Holy Gospel

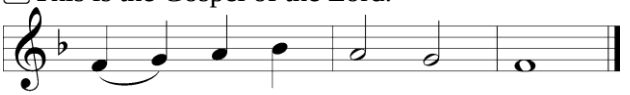
Matthew 25:14–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



[14][Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. [15]To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. [16]He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. [17]So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. [18]But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. [19]Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. [20]And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' [21]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [22]And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' [23]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [24]He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, [25]so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26]But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? [27]Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. [28]So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. [29]For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. [30]And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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

409 Hail, O Source of Every Blessing



Text: Basil Woodd, 1760–1831, alt., Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON *Pastor David Russert*

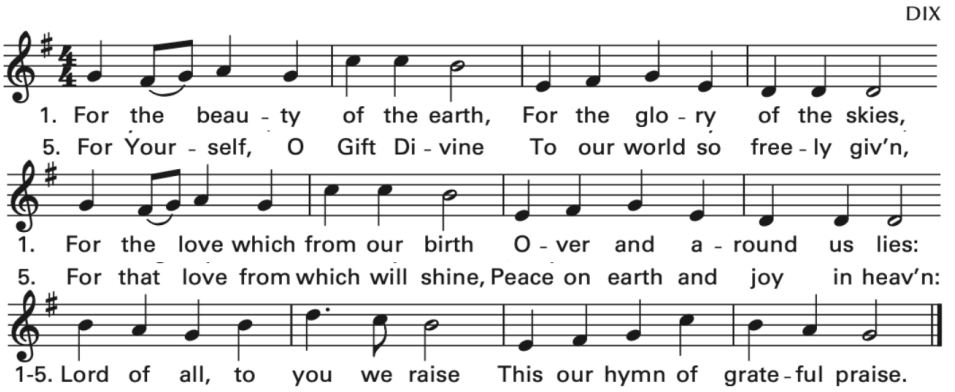
OFFERING

Stand

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

DIX



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

COURTNEY DONNELLY
DONNA FINKE
BILL FINKE
ZACH AUGER
FRANK FERRY
ANTHONY LANDGRAF
LYNIA REDDING
MARIE
WALTER
MARYANN REDONDO
PETER DOMBROWSKI
GIL SOTO
LAURA BRETON
BRUCE KASCMAR
SANDRA TALMADGE
MARIA
RAMON ANGELES
MARY ANN REED
ANNETTE DAVIS
JOSE SOUSA
JOSEPH TRIFUN
THEO NIEGLOS
ELANTRA VEDENETRA
CAROLYN CHERMAK
MARISSA CHRISTENSON
MELISSA NOTIS
FRED
BROOKE MORGAN
CAROL OLSEN
JESSICA IMHAUSER
ARLENE BACCAGLINI
SUE FRANCE
ANGELO
LORENZO DINIA
RITA FERRY
STEVEN BRYANT
MARC THOMAS
LINDA SULLIVAN

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.



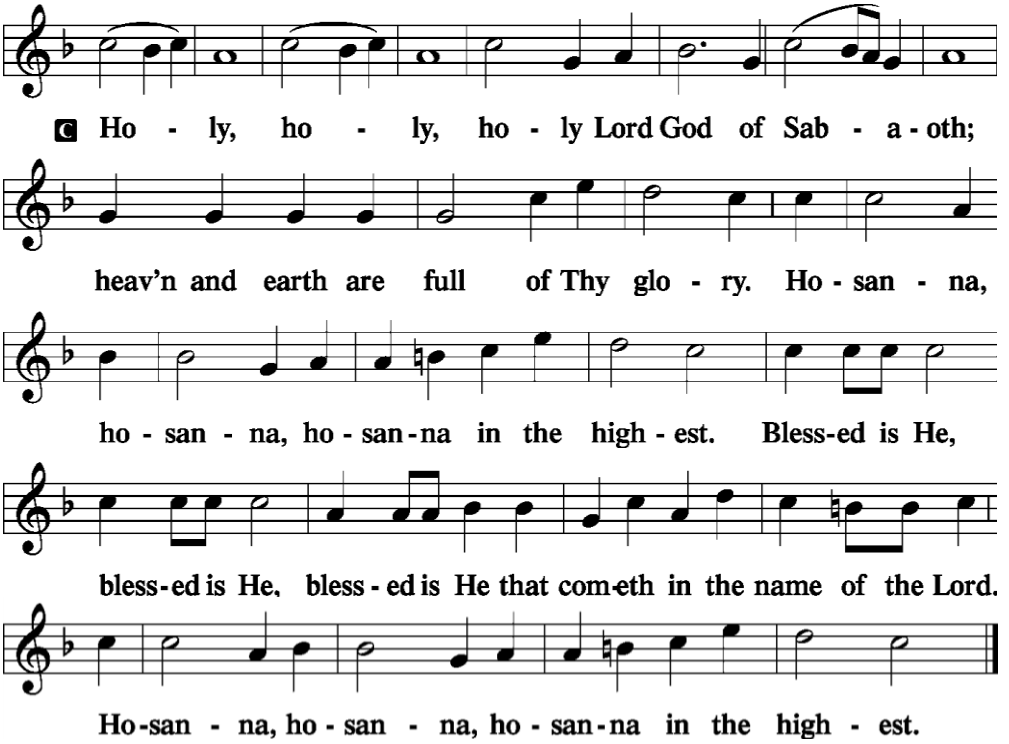
P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



PROPER PREFACE *LSB 194*

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

SANCTUS *LSB 195*



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.



AGNUS DEI *LSB 198*



Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

433 Glory Be to Jesus





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*



THANKSGIVING *LSB 200*

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



A 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 in 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.

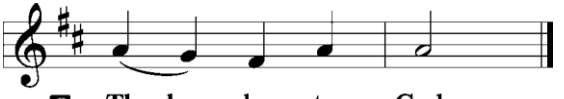


SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS *LSB 201*

P The Lord be with you.



P Bless we the Lord.



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.



CLOSING HYMN

893 Sing to the Lord of Harvest





By Him the roll - ing sea - sons In fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with His full - ness, All things with large in - crease;
Your hearts lay down be - fore Him When at His feet you fall,



Sing to the Lord of har - vest A joy - ous song of love.
He crowns the year with bless - ing, With plen - ty and with peace.
And with your lives a - dore Him Who gave His life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–75, alt., Tune: Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613, Text and tune: Public domain

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ORGANIST	*Bev McGregor*
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	*Patty Evanko*
USHER	*Otto Palmer*
GREETER	*Barbara Schilling*
COUNTER	*Evankos*
ALTAR GUILD	*Mary Ann Ferry, Lisa Leggett*

Today's flowers are given today by the Altar Guild for the glory of God.

Saturday November 28 9:00 we will be decorating the church for Christmas, all are welcome.

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 18th, 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

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Marie Meikle, Church Administration ♦ tlcmorrisplains@gmail.com