



Trinity Lutheran Church

292 Orange St., New Haven, CT

TrinityLutheranNH.org – (203) 787-6521

Service of Holy Communion—*Lutheran Book of Worship*, Setting II

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 6, 2026

In-Person at 10:15 am & Live at Facebook.com/TrinityLutheranNH

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" LBW No. 551

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,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



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.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. . . .

Almighty and eternal God, you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 33:7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack

Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:33-40

³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes,*
and I shall keep it | to the end.

³⁴ **Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your law;***
I shall keep it with | all my heart.

³⁵ Make me go in the path of | your commandments,*
for that is | my desire.

³⁶ **Incline my heart to | your decrees***
and not to | unjust gain.

³⁷ Turn my eyes from watching | what is worthless;*,
give me life | in your ways.

³⁸ **Fulfill your promise | to your servant,***
which you make to | those who fear you.

³⁹ Turn away the reproach | which I dread,*,
because your judg- | ments are good.

⁴⁰ **Behold, I long for | your commandments;***
in your righteousness pre- | serve my life.

Gloria Patri (spoken after the psalm)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the / Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore-/ ver. Amen

SECOND LESSON: Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION/ALLELUIA

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Jesus Sinners Will Receive" LBW No. 291

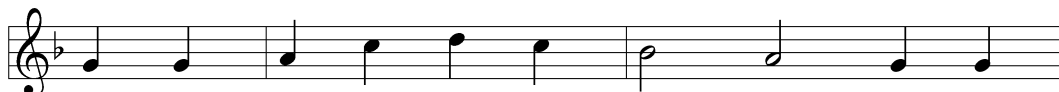
Jesus Sinners Will Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners will re - ceive; may they all this say - ing
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, yet his words, rich grace re -
 3 When their sheep have lost their way, faith - ful shep - herds go to
 4 Come, O sin - ners, one and all, come, ac - cept his in - vi -
 5 Je - sus sin - ners will re - ceive. E - ven me he has for -



pon - der who in sin's de - lu - sions live
 veal - ing, par - don, peace, and life pro - claim.
 seek them; Je - sus watch - es all who stray,
 ta - tion; come, o - bey his gra - cious call,
 giv - en; and when I this earth must leave,



and from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is
 Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing; we with
 faith - ful - ly to find and take them in his
 come and take his free sal - va - tion! Firm - ly
 I shall find an o - pen heav - en. Dy - ing,



hope for all who grieve:
 hum - ble hearts be - lieve
 arms, that they may live— Je - sus sin - ners will re - ceive.
 in these words be - lieve:
 still to him I cleave—

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756; tr. *Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book*, 1912, alt.
 Music: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT, Johann Ulich, 1634-1712

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen**

THE PRAYERS

D: In our prayers today and this week, please remember: [prayer list]. We also invite your own petitions either aloud or silently in your hearts.

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, your Son promised that wherever two or more are gathered in his Name, he is here among us. Bless your Church as it gathers in his Name, that we may be quick to confess our sins and eagerly hear the Good News of your forgiving love. Bless this congregation called Trinity this season, that loving our neighbors as ourselves, many may come with us to renewed faith in our risen Savior. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Take this nation under your merciful care, and give to those in authority the wisdom to know they must give account to you, the King of Creation. Protect the vulnerable and uphold the needy, that we may live according to your will. And watch over those who serve others in our communities, that we may all live quiet and peaceable lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son dignified all labor by sharing in our toil. Be with your people wherever they work. Make those in every business and industry responsive to your will; remember those who suffer from lack of work; and give to all of us pride in what we do and a just return for our labor. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift before you all those whose lives are shadowed by suffering: the sick, the hospitalized, the grieving, and the dying. Hear our prayers, and grant them health, hope, and the light of your love in their lives. Clothe everyone who cares for them with the spirit of compassion and healing, and bestow your saving love upon us all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for gathering into your eternal keeping all who have died in faith. Give us grace to live as your children: trusting and obeying you; helping and forgiving each other; and always being guided by Jesus' presence in our midst. And, at the last, bring us with all your saints into the brightness of your Kingdom, where we shall see you face to face. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord...

PEACE

OFFERING *The ushers collect the offering. You can also give electronically through our website, Facebook page, or by [clicking here](#).*

OFFERTORY: *"Let the Vineyards"*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

D: Let us pray...

Merciful Father,

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD

THE COMMUNION *To all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord, are baptized, and confess Jesus' real presence in the Holy Communion, we invite you to join us in the Holy Eucharist. At the usher's invitation you may come forward to kneel or stand at the altar rail. Please take an empty individual cup from the tray and bring it with you to the rail. The host wafer will be placed into your open hands to eat. Your cup will be filled from the pouring chalice, take and drink. Individual cups filled with non-alcoholic grape juice are also available, please point to receive one. Sealed pre-consecrated Communion packages are also available. Please remain at the altar rail until all have finished and a blessing is given.*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: *"Thank the Lord"*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

D: Let us pray...

We give you thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Hymn Lottery*

DISMISSAL

D: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*To joyfully share God's Word and Sacrament in order to
serve our Greater New Haven neighbors with the love of Christ.*

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