



Trinity Lutheran Church

292 Orange St., New Haven, CT

TrinityLutheranNH.org – (203) 787-6521

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

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 27, 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: "Let the Whole Creation Cry" LBW No. 242**Let the Whole Creation Cry**

1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
 2 War - riors fight - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with his word,
 3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,



Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise him, our al - might - y king!"
 those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
 and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;



Praise him, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
 Kings of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
 from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - jice.
 all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
 "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt.
 Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702, 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.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. . . .

God of love, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them; keep us from those things that harm us; and guide us in the way of salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of

Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-8

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my | trust in you;*
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

² **Let none who look to you be | put to shame;***
let the treacherous be disappointed | in their schemes.

³ Show me your | ways, O LORD,*
and teach | me your paths.

⁴ **Lead me in your | truth and teach me,***
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁵ Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,*
for they are from | everlasting.

⁶ **Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;***
remember me according to your love and
for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

⁷ Gracious and upright | is the LORD;*
therefore he teaches sinners | in his way.

⁸ **He guides the humble in | doing right***
and teaches his way | to the lowly.

Gloria Patri (chanted 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: Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: "At the Name of Jesus" LBW No. 179

At the Name of Jesus



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
 2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,
 3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name
 4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
 5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.
 all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,
 from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.
 on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,
 thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,
 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;
 Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
 all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.
 brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.
 let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.
 and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–1877
 Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
 Music from *Songs of Praise*, © Oxford University Press 1925.

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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, give to your Church throughout the world the same mind as your Son, who emptied himself for us, taking the form of a servant. Fashion your Church into the image and likeness of Jesus Christ, so that the light of his love may shine in the world, and many may turn to him and live. And put the mind of Christ into this congregation called Trinity; that his humility and self-giving love might shape and direct our worship and our lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Make all leaders--of nations, communities, business, education, science, the arts, and all other useful fields of human endeavor--into your wise and willing servant-leaders. Give to each of us a mind and heart eager to do your will; to care for our neighbors in need; to work for health, safety, and opportunity in our neighborhoods and nation; and to live at peace with each other. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring the joy of your saving help to everyone in distress, sorrow, danger or need, especially those we have named or remember before you now. Lead them through the things that afflict and endanger them with the light of your presence. And give them the joy of restored health, hope, and fellowship with those who love them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you, Heavenly Father, for the lives of your faithful servants who have now been gathered into your eternal Kingdom. Wipe away the tears of those whose grief runs deep. And, at the last, bring us safely to our heavenly home, where you have prepared a room for us through the loving sacrifice of your own Son, and where we will rejoice in your goodness forever. 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](#).*

CHOIR ANTHEM: *"Salvation belongs to our God"*

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.*

COMMUNION HYMNS: LBW Nos. 360, 440

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: *"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"* **LBW No. 424**

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our
 4 Yes, the sor - row and the suf - f'rings which on
 5 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your

life - blood as the price, nev - er grudg - ing
 free - ly, of your own. With the sun - shine
 hum - blest char - i - ty in your own mys -
 ev - 'ry hand we view chan - nels are for
 life - blood as the price, nev - er grudg - ing

for the lost ones that tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;
 of your good - ness melt our thank - less hearts of stone
 te - rious sen - tence, "You have done it all to me."
 gifts and of - f'rings due by sol - emn right to you;
 for the lost ones that tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.

and with that have free - ly giv - en bless - ings
 till our cold and self - ish na - tures, warmed by
 Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, that you
 right of which we may not rob you, debt we
 Give us faith to trust you bold - ly, hope, to

count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
 you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py
 deign for alms to sue, say - ing by your
 may not choose but pay, lest that face of
 stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of

and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.
 and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you?"
 love and pit - y turn from us an - oth - er day.
 all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt.
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

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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