



Trinity Lutheran Church

292 Orange St., New Haven, CT

TrinityLutheranNH.org – (203) 787-6521

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

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost, October 18, 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: "Dearest Jesus, at Your Word" LBW No. 248

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word



1 Dear-est Je - sus, at your word we have come a - gain to
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark-ness
 3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of light from God pro -
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and ad - o -



hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred and in
 shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night, fill - ing
 ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light; help our
 ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most: your blest



glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is - es here
 us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and all good
 hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and songs may
 gos - pel's con - so - la - tion, while we here on earth a -



giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
 liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, adapt.
 Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

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. . . .

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations. Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:

²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96:1-9

¹ Sing to the LORD | a new song;*
sing to the LORD, all | the whole earth.
² **Sing to the LORD and | bless his name;***
proclaim the good news of his salvation from | day to day.
³ Declare his glory a- | mong the nations*
and his wonders a- | mong all peoples.
⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised;***
he is more to be feared | than all gods.
⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;*
but it is the LORD who | made the heavens.
⁶ **Oh, the majesty and magnificence | of his presence!***
Oh, the power and the splendor of his | sanctuary!
⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples;*
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.
⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor | due his name;***
bring offerings and come in- | to his courts.
⁹ Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;*
let the whole earth trem- | ble before him.

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: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first one written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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 22:15-22

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: "O Spirit of the Living God" LBW No. 388

O Spirit of the Living God



1 O Spir - it of the liv - ing God, in
 2 Give tongues of fire and hearts of love to
 3 Be dark - ness, at your com - ing, light; con -
 4 O Spir - it of the Lord, pre - pare a
 5 Pro - claim the gos - pel far and wide; the



all the full - ness of your grace, wher - ev - er hu - man
 preach the rec - on - cil - ing Word; give pow'r and unc - tion
 fu - sion, or - der in your path; souls with - out strength in -
 sin - ful world its God to meet; and breathe a - broad like
 tri - umphs of the cross re - cord; the name of Christ be



feet have trod, de - scend on our a - pos - tate race.
 from a - bove, wher - e'er this bless - ed sound is heard.
 spire with might; let mer - cy tri - umph o - ver wrath.
 morn - ing air, till hearts of stone be - gin to beat.
 glo - ri - fied; let ev - 'ry peo - ple call him Lord!

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.
 Music: MELCOMBE, Samuel Webbe Sr., 1740–1816

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, we thank you for imprinting the image of your Son upon your Church. Fashion our worship, fellowship, and love to fit his beautiful likeness. By your Word and Sacraments lead many people from trust in vain idols to life-giving trust in you. And help this congregation called Trinity to render to you all honor, worship, and praise; and to render to our neighbors the love, respect, and justice which you command. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As you once anointed Cyrus to accomplish your will, we ask that you would anoint the leaders of this and every nation to accomplish your will for all who are captive to injustice, bloodshed, poverty, or despair. Bring peace to those who suffer amidst violence and warfare. Take this nation under your care, and uphold all who serve others and whose work is difficult or dangerous. Be near to those who recover from peril and disaster. And teach us all to trust in you above all things. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We plead on behalf of all who are afflicted by pain, sorrow, disease, or turmoil; all who have asked for our prayers; and all whom we remember before you now. Come to their aid; heal their wounds; and restore them to wholeness of body, mind and spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we entrust into your never-failing care our beloved dead. Continue your work to fashion us into the likeness of your dear Son. And, at the last, bring us into that eternal Kingdom where we shall see him face to face, and shall behold his perfect image in the faces of everyone redeemed by his blood. 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: *"Sing a New Song to the Lord"* David Wilson

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: WOV (Blue) No. 738, LBW No. 474

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: *"Bind Us Together"* **WOV (Blue) No. 748**

DISMISSAL

D: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*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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