

# The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity

Cocoa and Granada Avenues Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033 (717) 533-2467

# Sunday, September 15, 2024 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

# **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

# Let us prepare for Worship.

# **GATHERING PRELUDE:**

Take Up Your CrossAustin C. LovelaceTake Up Your CrossAnthony Giamanco

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

+ All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

All: Amen.

P: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P: Eternal God our creator,
- All: in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God † forgives us all our sins.
- All: Amen.



Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606–1673; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt. Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

# **GREETING**

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

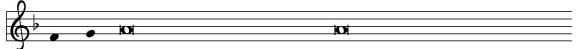
And also with you. All:

# **KYRIE:**



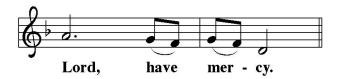






For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



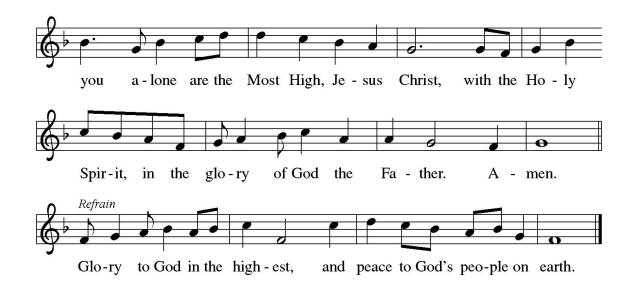


Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



# **HYMN OF PRAISE:** Glory to God





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

# FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.
<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

(continued)

<sup>7</sup>The Lord God helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me;

who will declare me guilty?

**Psalm 116:1-9** (*Congregation sings the refrain and bold verses.*)

# Refrain:



#### Verse:



<sup>1</sup>I love the Lord, who has | heard my voice, and listened to my | supplication,

<sup>2</sup>for the Lord has given | ear to me

whenev-| er I called.

<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave | came upon me; I came to | grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup>Then I called upon the name | of the Lord:

"O Lord, I pray you, | save my life." R

<sup>5</sup>Gracious is the | Lord and righteous; our God is full | of compassion.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord watches o- | ver the innocent;

I was brought low, | and God saved me.

<sup>7</sup>Turn again to your rest, <sup>1</sup> O my soul. for the Lord has dealt <sup>1</sup> well with you.

<sup>8</sup>For you have rescued my | life from death,

my eyes from tears, and my | feet from stumbling;

<sup>9</sup>I will walk in the presence | of the Lord in the land | of the living. **R** 

# **SECOND READING: James 3:1-12**

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

L: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia



Christ suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for | the unrighteous,\* in order to bring | you to God.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

# **Gospel: Mark 8:27-38**

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." <sup>29</sup>He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

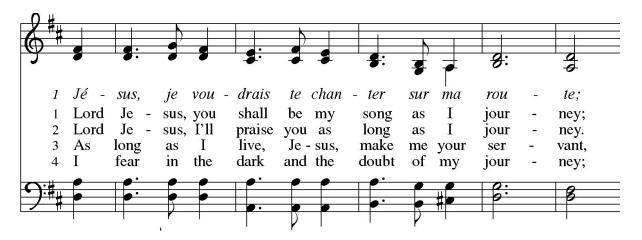
P: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **SERMON**

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song ...... ELW 808





# **APOSTLES' CREED**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please respond after each petition.

P: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

**MEAL** 

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry at Holy Trinity. Offering can be placed in the Offering Plates at the entrance to worship or in the narthex.

# **OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

A: Let us pray . . . Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

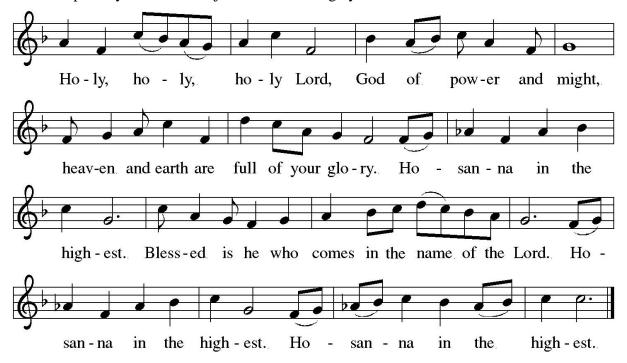
All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

# **PREFACE**

P: ....And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



# **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

# LORD'S PRAYER

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,

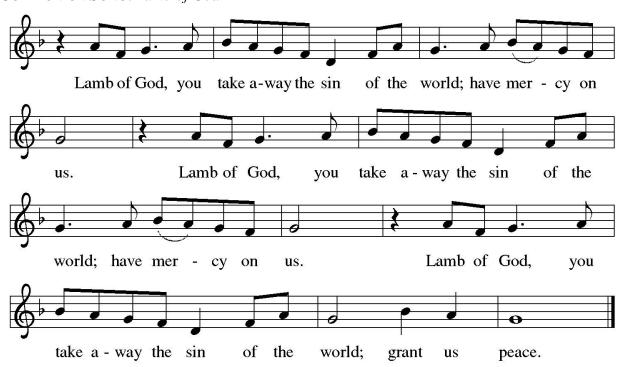
forever and ever. Amen.

# **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

All: Amen.

**COMMUNION SONG:** Lamb of God



#### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

# PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

All: Amen.

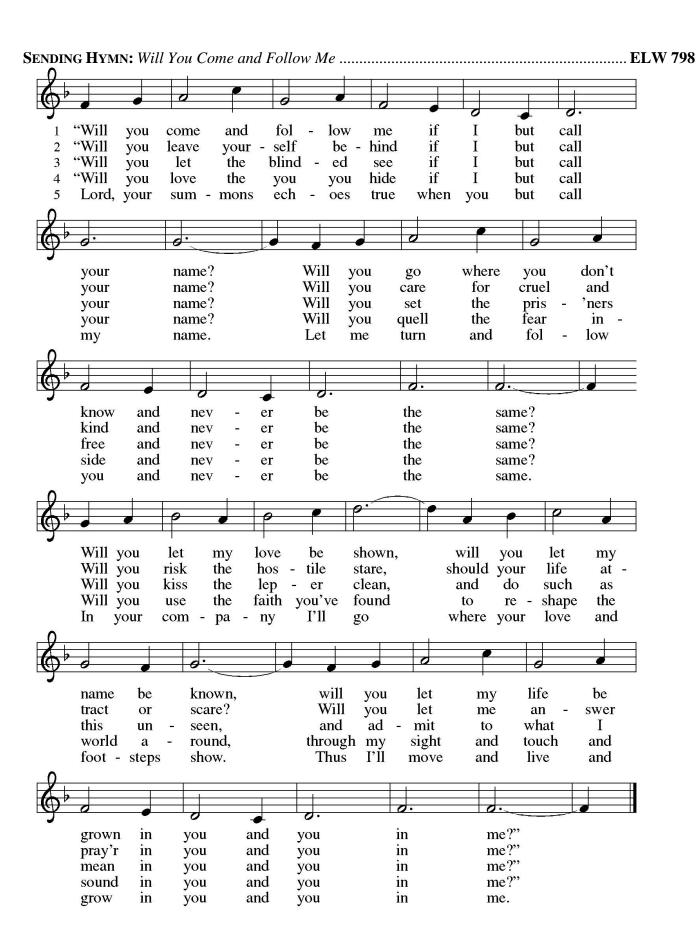
**SENDING** 

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### **BLESSING**

P: May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
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# **DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

All: Thanks be to God.

# FLOWERS AND BULLETIN IN THE CHURCH

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Jamie and Anne McQuaid in memory of Gary McQuaid and by Trish Foulkrod in memory of her granddaughter, Reagan, daughter of Jamie and Kristin Mc Quaid. The bulletin is given in memory of Kaeli Brandt by Mommy, Grand mommy and Pop Pop (The Weaver Family).

# **SERVING TODAY**

Reader:	Barb Trump
Assisting Minister:	
Communion Assistants:	
Livestream:	Bob Gehman
Acolytes:	Maddy Gniady and Else Nielsen



Dear Lord Jesus, When You walked upon this earth, You healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, caused the lame to walk, and raised the dead. Now we come to You in behalf of those who are in need today and pray that You would send them Your healing power. Hear our prayer for Your name's sake. Amen.

# PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

**Prayer Concerns:** Susan Bianchi, Jack Bishop, Jim Bomberger (friend of Jim and Peg Huebner), Lou Bushman (friend of Linda Ott), Kinleigh Connelly (friend of the Eby family), Donna Dixon, Bill Fosnacht, Janice Geiling, Glenn Hoffa, Ava Lehman (friend of the Dunham's), Darrin Mineke (cousin of the Dunham's), Chip Murray, Sharon Murray, Wanda Oliver (friend of the Lechleitner's), Julia Padgett, Tony Primerano (friend of Steve Shuey), Tom Rieger, Chris Ruff, and Mike Welty.

# **DAILY PRAYERS**

Roberta Anderson, Carole Bowman, Bruce Bunting (brother of Susan Bianchi), Alex Chubb, Elaine Chubb, Eric Chubb (brother-in-law of Susan Bianchi), Theo Epitropoulos, Virginia Frank, Mike Hamilton (friend of Kendra Ruhl and Steve Shuey), Drew Herdson (friend of the Dunham's), Bonnie Hess (friend of the Weavers), Dennis Lubold, Nancy Miller, Dona Pastuck, Ed Schaeffer, Georgie Sibert, Pete Stone, Irene Turzai, Bob Warden (friend of Mary Ann Kelly), Melissa West (friend of Susan Bianchi), Vwawa Congregation of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and all of our Homebound members.

**Members of Armed Forces and their families:** Evan Briggs, Marshal Fox, Michael Kristian, Riley Litman, Patrick Stewart, Tory Young

We invite you to pray for all on our prayer list. Please contact the office by email at <a href="https://https

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Thank you for joining us for worship today in-person and through livestreaming.

All are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite all people, as well as young children who are not yet receiving the Sacrament to come forward and receive a blessing. Please ask the Pastor if you need a gluten free option. At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. Thus, we believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine. At his table Christ grants us forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. May your hearts be opened, and your lives made new by his gracious love. Please give your completed communion card to the usher during communion.

**Holy Communion distribution today:** The usher will guide you down the center aisle. Prepackaged Communion elements with grape juice are available on the small table. If your preference is regular wine or non-alcoholic wine, take a cup from the silver trays. Proceed to the Pastor to receive a wafer or have the prepackaged elements blessed. Proceed to the rail where there will be an assistant on either side with regular wine. There will also be one assistant with non-alcoholic wine. Stand or kneel as you are able and remain at the rail for as long as you desire.

Consecrated Communion Elements are available for "Live Stream" worship at home. Please contact the church office at 717-533-2467 or by email at <a href="https://https

<u>Office Hours</u> The office will be open this week, Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The office will be closed on Friday. To contact the church: Phone Number: 717-533-2467, Email Address: <a href="https://https:

<u>Sunday School Information:</u> Beginning today, September 15, 2024 Children's Sunday School will meet every Sunday from 9:00am-9:45am in the Sunday School room (connected to the Fellowship Hall). An informational flyer with more details and registration forms are available in the church narthex. Confirmation Sunday School for Grades 6-8 meets every Sunday from 9am-9:45am in the youth room. Adult Discussion will meet from 9:00am-9:45am in room #16. All are welcome!

**Birthday Blessings!** Several congregation members will celebrate a 90+ birthdays in September. Irene Turzai on September 18<sup>th</sup> and Shirley Espenshade on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Cards may be sent to Irene at: 978 Groff Avenue, Elizabethtown, PA 17022 and to Shirley at: 210 Corson Hall, Suite 210, Cornwall, PA 17016. Happy birthday!

**HELP NEEDED** On Sunday, August 25th, the congregation voted to spend up to \$65,000 on improvements to our rental property at 216 Cocoa. This money is allocated to install a new heating/cooling system, refinish the wood floors and update fixtures in the bathrooms and a kitchen. In addition, we are rehabbing and painting all the walls – a formidable task. It is this particular task that we are looking for volunteers to help with, in an effort to keep within our budget. We have begun work on this but are woefully understaffed. We could use volunteers to help prep walls (sanding and washing) and also people to paint. If you are interested in helping please contact Jim Huebner (717-919-2311) or Karen Kline (717-443-1130). Thank you!

The 1st HTY (Holy Trinity Youth) Night of the "new" season is TONIGHT from 5 - 7:30pm (note NEW time) at the church. HTY is for anyone in grades 6 - 12. At HTY, is all about faith, fun, and fellowship. We will play wacky games, do group building activities, eat pizza together, have an interactive lesson, and much more. Please bring a snack to share! Please bring a friend or two! Snacks

are always needed, and friends are always welcome. As usual, dinner WILL be provided. Be here tonight!! Spread the word, invite those friends, HTY is BACK!!

HTY Tee's WILL be available (until sold out) TONIGHT at the 1st HTY Night!! They are a hipster blue with orange print. They feature our HTY symbol and my fav' phrase "Nuff Said". They are an updated throwback to the very first shirts that our youth group ever had in the mid-90's. The cost to you will be just \$10 a shirt!! Please bring exact cash to HTY to get one. They will be available at all HTY events and Family Fellowship events until they are gone. Bring that \$10 TONIGHT to the 1st HTY Night and get yours!!

"Fa la la la la, la la la!".... Christmas is coming, but Holy Trinity Choir Season comes first! The Choir will resume singing on September 15. We rehearse prior to the service at 9AM, so it's convenient and a pretty minimal time commitment. Come out on 9/15 at 9AM and we'll get started leading worship each Sunday from September through May/June. All voice parts are needed; there's no audition process, and all are welcome! Give it a try and get a front row seat in church! See or contact Alan if you have any questions or need more information. (hairlooms2@aol.com)

Holy Trinity's **Altar Guild** will meet on Sunday, September 22, 2024, at 9am in the back of the sanctuary. All are welcome to attend as the guild plans for the coming Fall season.

Many thanks for your generous donations! We continuously express our thanks to all for your faithfulness and generosity in giving which allows us to continue to operate valuable ministries and pay for the ongoing bills at Holy Trinity. The Simply Giving program offers automatic withdrawals from your bank account or charges to a credit card; donated through our website (htluth.org) by clicking on the 'Give Now" button; donated by downloading the Mobile App "GivePlus Church" (be sure to select Ev. Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity) or by taking a picture of the QR code. Please contact the church if you have any questions about any of these methods.



Please send articles and announcements for the Newsletter to Anita Housman, our Communications/IT Specialist. Please send articles to her at aahousman2@gmail.com. She is always gathering announcements and articles for the monthly newsletter. Just a reminder – submit articles for the newsletter by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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