

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

Sunday, October 6, 2024 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

GATHERING

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

Let us prepare for Worship.

GATHERING PRELUDE:

MERTON (God,	When Human Bonds Are Broken)	G. Winston Cassler
MERTON (God,	When Human Bonds Are Broken)	Malcolm Archer
The Gift of Love		Hal Hopson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

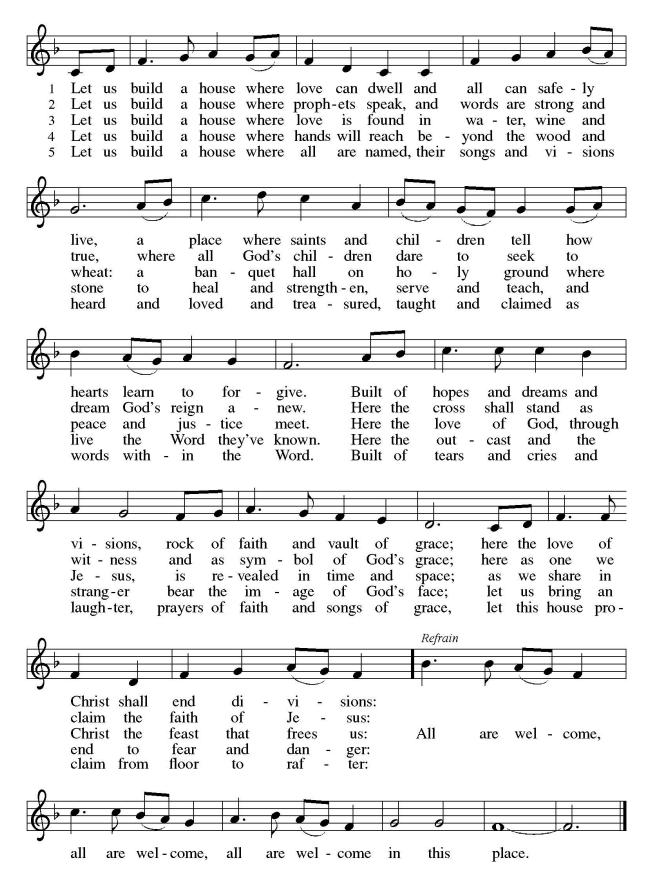
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

+ 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: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

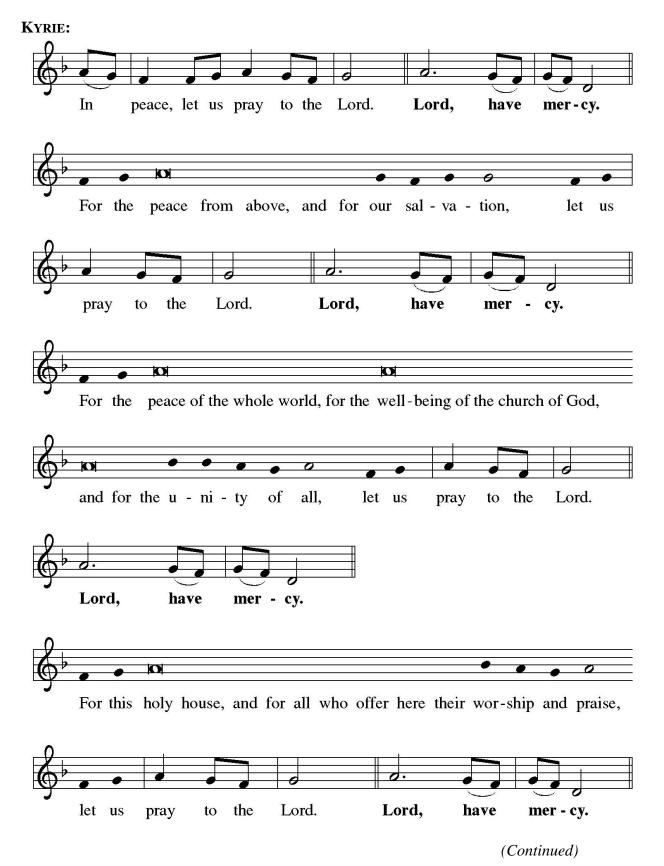
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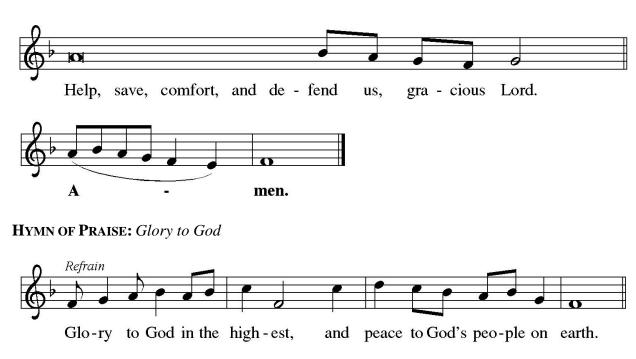
GREETING

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

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All: And also with you.
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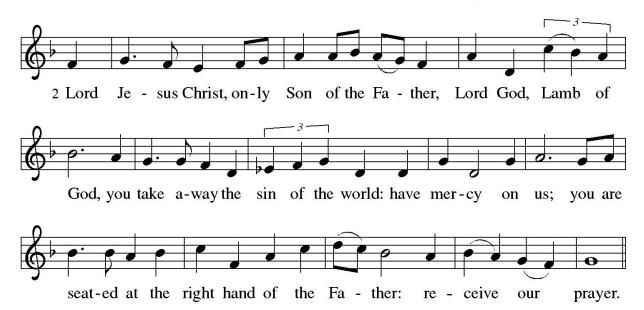


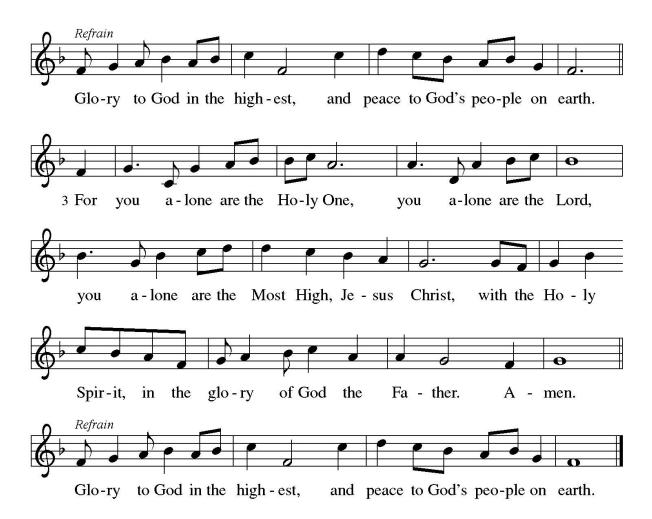






Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.





PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Let us pray... Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- All: Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other "one flesh." The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and

brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

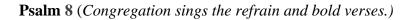
"This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;

this one shall be called Woman,

for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.





¹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!----

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in-[|] fants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe [|] and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work [|] of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

 4 what are mere mortals that you should be mind- $^|$ ful of them,

human beings that you should | care for them? R

⁵Yet you have made them little less | than divine;

with glory and hon- | or you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works | of your hands;

you have put all things un- | der their feet:

⁷all | flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts | of the field,

⁸the birds of the air, the fish [|] of the sea,

and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.

⁹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth! **R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them,

or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

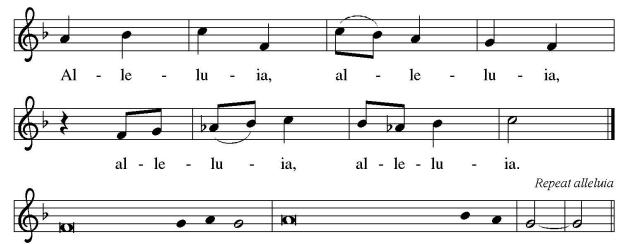
"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

L: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia



If we love one another, God | lives in us* and God's love is perfect- | ed in us.

- P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 10th chapter.
- All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

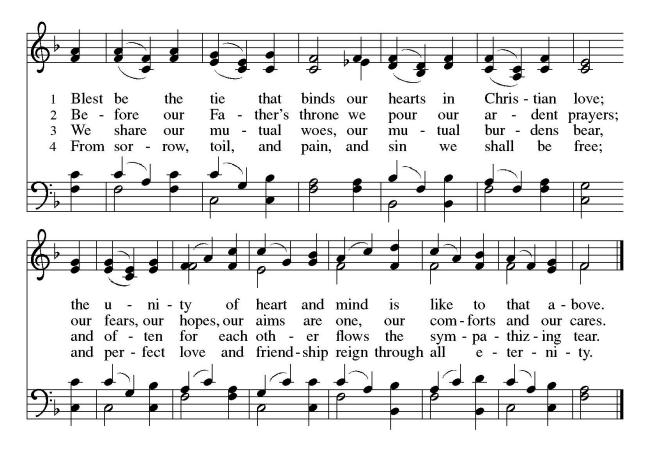
¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

P: The gospel of the Lord.All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.





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: God of Grace,All: hear our prayer.

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.

TABLE SETTING SONG: The Trumpet Sound, the Angels Sing
 ELW 531

 (Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

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:

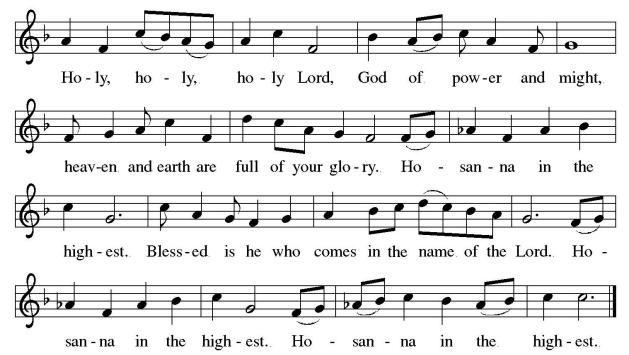
- A: Let us pray . . . Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- All: Amen.

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

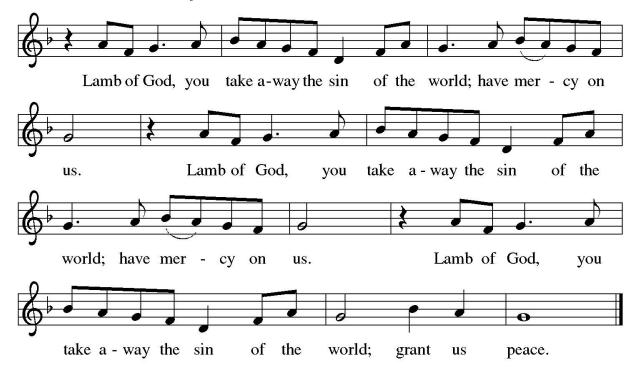
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the 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.

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: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878 Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

DISMISSAL

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

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Chorale Improvisation on "Now Thank We All" (Marche triomphale) Sigfrid Karg-Elert

FLOWERS AND BULLETIN IN THE CHURCH

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God for the beauty of the service in memory of Dick Kieffer, his parents, H. Cleon and Edna Kieffer and brothers, Cleon and George Kieffer by Dorothy Kieffer. The bulletin is given in loving memory of Nan M. Bettleyon by her loving family, Vicki and Kirk Sponaugle, Kellen Kulbacki and Matt Kulbacki.

SERVING TODAY

Reader:	Danielle Mariano
Assisting Minister:	Chip Haak
Livestream:	e
Acolytes:	Teagan Haak and Jordan Paul
Communion Assistants: Livestream:	Charis Miscavage and Kendra Ruhl Bob Gehman

HOLY TRINITY STAFF

Senior Pastor	Rev. Cindy A. Brommer (<u>PastorBrommer@comcast.net</u>)
Director of Music Ministries/Organist	
Director of Youth and Family Ministries	Peter A. Fox (youthyg@yahoo.com)
Director of Faith Formation	Colleen Nielsen (<u>NielsenC@mhs-pa.org</u>)
Administrative Assistant	Elizabeth Stuart (<u>htluth@comcast.net</u>)
Property Manager	Karen Kline (<u>karenhtlc@comcast.net</u>)
IT/Communication Specialist	Anita Housman (<u>aahousman2@gmail.com</u>)
Treasurer	Stephanie Gross (<u>stephaniegross@comcast.net</u>)
Giving Secretary	Peg Huebner (<u>peghuebner@comcast.net</u>)
Membership Secretary	Elizabeth Stuart (<u>estuart@path1tv.com</u>)



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, Lou Bushman (friend of Linda Ott), Kinleigh Connelly (friend of the Eby family), Donna Dixon, Bill Fosnacht, Janice Geiling, Glenn Hoffa, Marilyn Hoffa, 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, Jim Bomberger (friend of Jim and Peg Huebner), 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), Dennis Lubold, Nancy Miller, Darrin Mineke (cousin of the Dunham's), 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 <u>htluth@comcast.net</u> or leave a message on the office phone (717-533-2467) if you have any changes to the prayer list.

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 <u>htluth@comcast.net</u> to arrange to pick up elements or have them delivered to your home.

<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: <u>htluth@comcast.net</u>; Holy Trinity website: htluth.org. **In case of emergency** please call the church office and follow the prompts for emergency contact information.

<u>Sunday School Information</u>: All classes meet from 9:00am-9:45am. Children's Sunday School will meet in the Sunday School room (connected to the Fellowship Hall). Confirmation Sunday School for Grades 6-8 meets in the youth room. Sunday School for Grades 9-12 meets downstairs next to the Youth Room. Adult Discussion will meet in room #16. All are welcome!

HELP NEEDED Our rental property at 216 Cocoa Avenue is undergoing renovations!! We are installing a new heating/cooling system, refinishing the wood floors and updating fixtures in the bathrooms and 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!

Calling HTL Youth who play Musical Instruments! Youth in 5th grade and above, interested in offering their musical talents during HTL church services, are invited to bring your instruments to the front of the church immediately after service today (October 6). Alan Hair will meet with you to get a sense of what sort of instrumental support might be feasible during church services in the future.

The Second HTY Night is TONIGHT from 5 - 7:30pm!! HTY is for anyone in grades 6 - 12. At HTY, is all about faith, fun, and fellowship. Meet at the church for wacky games, group building activities, pizza together, 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. Spread the word, invite those friends, see you TONIGHT at HTY!! **Remember: Bring your \$10 to get your HTY T-shirt!! Please bring exact cash. Rep HTY wherever you go. When they are gone, they are gone. Get yours TONIGHT!! Nuff Said...**

Blood Pressure screenings will be offered TODAY, Sunday, October 6th! Holy Trinity will offer blood pressure screenings the first Sunday of every month in the front of the sanctuary after the worship service.

Bible Art Journaling will be offered on Sunday, October 13th at 6-7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Attention Families: The 1st Family Fellowship Luncheon is right around the corner. It is scheduled for Sunday, October 20th after church (say 11:15 to 1pm-ish). We will enjoy conversation, share a meal, play table games, and close down in prayer together. PLEASE come out and help me spread the word to other families in the church about this event. If you can help provide a meal or side dish for this event, please contact Danielle Mariano (the sooner, the better). See you at this cool event!!

Birthday Blessings! Several congregation members will celebrate 90+ birthdays in October. Eva Shoop on October 23rd, Herb Huebner on October 24th and Dona Pastuck on October 28th. Cards may be sent to Eva at 2209 James Buchanan Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022, to Herb at 1020 N. Union Street, Apt. 302, Middletown, PA 17057, and to Dona at 301 East Second Street, Apt. 108, Hummelstown, PA 17036. Happy birthday to all!

The Faith in Action committee will have our Fall highway cleanup activity on Saturday, October 26th. We will meet at the church at 8:30 before starting the clean-up. Please contact Rodney Gross if you can help for a few hours that morning. The more hands we have the faster the work. In case of rain, we'll meet on Saturday, November 9th. Thanks for your consideration.

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^{th} of the month.

Readers, Greeters and Flower Deliverers for October and November are needed to greet people as they come into church and deliver flowers after the service on Sunday. Readers are needed to read the 1st and 2nd reading and the Psalm. The lists are available on the bulletin board. Please sign up today or contact the church office if you would like to volunteer.

Devotionals for Fall- Devotionals for October, November and December are available in the Narthex. The Word in Season is scattered around the Narthex. Christ in Our Home is a large print devotional located on the hospitality desk inside the front door. Spark family for kids is on the Little Lutheran table. Please help yourselves.

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You are Welcome Here!

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church welcomes and affirms everyone seeking God's love and grace, regardless of faith background, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, size, class, immigration, or relationship status. We explicitly stand against hate and discrimination, as our Church community strives to continually grow and learn within the Body of Christ according to Christ's teachings. We are committed to creating and maintaining a welcoming and safe environment for all people.