

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Created to Praise  
September 13, 2026  
The 16th Sunday after Pentecost

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140 N 7<sup>th</sup> Ave  
West Bend, WI  
262-334-2125

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TRINITY WELCOME**

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

**THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY**

*"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend."*

**Martin Luther King Jr.**

*"The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world."*

**Marianne Williamson**

*"The best way out is always through."*

**Robert Frost**

*"The magic in new beginnings is truly the most powerful of them all."* **Josiyah Martin**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (stand)

L: We enter a new season, trusting the God who has brought us this far.

**C: We are rooted in God's faithfulness and growing in hope.**

L: God meets us where we are and invites us to become new.

**C: By God's grace, we are renewed.**

L: We let go of fear, anger, and what keeps us bound.

**C: We make room for mercy, forgiveness, and new life.**

L: Rooted in love, we step forward together.

**C: God is good all the time!**

## **PRAISE SONG**

### **“God is Good All the Time”**



#### **Verse 1 (CTP Singers)**

If you're walkin' through the valley, and there are shadows all around;  
Do not fear; He will guide you. He will keep you safe and sound.  
He has promised to never leave you, nor forsake you; and His Word in true. (*Refrain: All*)

#### **Verse 2 (CTP Singers)**

We were sinners so unworthy, still for us He chose to die,  
Filled us with His Holy Spirit, now we can stand and testify  
That His love is everlasting and His mercies they will never end. (*Refrain: All*)

#### **Verse 3 (CTP Singers)**

Though I may not understand all the plans you have for me:  
My life in in Your hands, and through the eyes of faith, I can clearly see. (*Refrain: All*)

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**L:** Loving God,

**C:** You call Your people to move forward, even when the path is uncertain.  
We confess that we sometimes allow yesterday's failures and hurts to keep us  
from the life You are calling us to today. We have spoken harshly, judged  
quickly, withheld forgiveness, and allowed division to take root. Forgive us,  
Lord. Give us hearts to love and forgive as You have done for us.

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

**L:** God's grace is greater than our failures, and God's love is stronger than our divisions.  
Through Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and invited to begin again. God does not  
abandon us when we fall short but seeks us with steadfast love and mercy. God makes a  
way forward—a way marked by grace, reconciliation, and love. Receive God's forgiveness,  
extend that forgiveness to others, and walk forward in Christ as we are called to do.

**C: Amen.**

**RESPONSE****"Build Your Kingdom Here"**

1. Come, set Your rule and reign in our hearts a -  
2. (We) seek Your King - dom first. We hun - ger and we  
3. (Un) - leash Your King - dom's pow'r, reach - ing the near and

gain. In crease in us, we pray. Un - veil why we're made. Come  
thirst; re - fuse to waste our lives, for You're our joy and prize. To  
far. No force of hell can stop Your beaut - y chang - ing hearts. You

set our hearts a - blaze with hope, like wild - fire in our  
see the cap - tive's heart re - leased; the hurt, the sick, the  
made us for much more than this. A - wake the King - dom

ver - y souls. Ho - ly Spir - it, come, in - vade us now.  
poor at peace. We lay down our lives for Heav - en's cause.  
seed in us. Fill us with the strength and love of Christ.

1. Sing v. 2 2., 3. To chorus

We are Your church. We need Your pow'r in us. 2. We  
We are Your church. We pray re - vive this earth.  
We are Your church. We are the hope on earth.

Build Your King - dom here. Let the dark - ness fear. Show Your  
might - y hand. Heal our streets and land. Set Your church on  
fire. Win this na - tion back. Change the at - mos - phere. Build Your  
King - dom here, we pray. 2 1. Sing v. 3 2. Repeat chorus  
3. Un - Build Your

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE****Pastor Robb Kosky**

## **WORD**

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

### **First Reading**

*The first reading is Exodus 14:19-31*

<sup>19</sup> The angel of God had been traveling in front of Israel's army. Now he moved back and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved away from in front of them. Now it stood behind them. <sup>20</sup> It came between the armies of Egypt and Israel. All through the night the cloud brought darkness to one side and light to the other. Neither army went near the other all night long.

<sup>21</sup> Then Moses reached out his hand over the Red Sea. All that night the Lord pushed the sea back with a strong east wind. He turned the sea into dry land. The waters were divided. <sup>22</sup> The people of Israel went through the sea on dry ground. There was a wall of water on their right side and on their left.

<sup>23</sup> The Egyptians chased them. All Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. <sup>24</sup> Near the end of the night the Lord looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud. He saw the Egyptian army and threw it into a panic. <sup>25</sup> He jammed the wheels of their chariots. That made the chariots hard to drive. The Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The Lord is fighting for Israel against Egypt."

<sup>26</sup> Then the Lord spoke to Moses. He said, "Reach out your hand over the sea. The waters will flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen." <sup>27</sup> So Moses reached out his hand over the sea. At sunrise the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians tried to run away from the sea. But the Lord swept them into it. <sup>28</sup> The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen. It covered the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the people of Israel into the sea. Not one of the Egyptians was left.

<sup>29</sup> But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground. There was a wall of water on their right side and on their left. <sup>30</sup> That day the Lord saved Israel from the power of Egypt. The Israelites saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. <sup>31</sup> The Israelites saw the amazing power the Lord showed against the Egyptians. So the Israelites had great respect for the Lord and put their trust in him. They also put their trust in his servant Moses.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading**

*The second reading is Romans 14:1-12*

<sup>14</sup> Accept the person whose faith is weak. Don't argue with them where you have differences of opinion. <sup>2</sup> One person's faith allows them to eat anything. But another person eats only vegetables because their faith is weak. <sup>3</sup> The person who eats everything must not look down on the one who does not. And the one who doesn't eat everything must not judge the person who does. That's because God has accepted them. <sup>4</sup> Who are you to judge someone else's servant? Whether they are faithful or not is their own master's concern. And they will be faithful, because the Lord has the power to make them faithful.

<sup>5</sup> One person considers one day to be more holy than another. Another person thinks all days are the same. Each of them should be absolutely sure in their own mind. <sup>6</sup> Whoever thinks that one day is special does so to honor the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to honor the Lord. They give thanks to God. And whoever doesn't eat meat does so to honor the Lord. They also give thanks to God. <sup>7</sup> We don't live for ourselves only. And we don't die for ourselves only. <sup>8</sup> If we live, we live to honor the Lord. If we die, we die to honor the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. <sup>9</sup> Christ died and came back to life. He did this to become the Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup> Now then, who are you to judge your brother or sister? Why do you act like you're better than they are? We will all stand in God's courtroom to be judged. <sup>11</sup> It is written,

“‘You can be sure that I live,’ says the Lord.

‘And you can be just as sure that everyone will kneel down in front of me.

Every tongue will have to tell the truth about God.’”

<sup>12</sup> So we will all have to explain to God the things we have done.

P: Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

### ***The Gospel***

**Matthew 18:21-35**

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the eighteenth chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup> Peter came to Jesus. He asked, “Lord, how many times should I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but 77 times.

<sup>23</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to collect all the money his servants owed him. <sup>24</sup> As the king began to do it, a man who owed him 10,000 bags of gold was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> The man was not able to pay. So his master gave an order. The man, his wife, his children, and all he owned had to be sold to pay back what he owed.

<sup>26</sup> “Then the servant fell on his knees in front of him. ‘Give me time,’ he begged. ‘I’ll pay everything back.’ <sup>27</sup> His master felt sorry for him. He forgave him what he owed and let him go.

<sup>28</sup> “But then that servant went out and found one of the other servants who owed him 100 silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he said.

<sup>29</sup> “The other servant fell on his knees. ‘Give me time,’ he begged him. ‘I’ll pay it back.’

<sup>30</sup> “But the first servant refused. Instead, he went and had the man thrown into prison. The man would be held there until he could pay back what he owed. <sup>31</sup> The other servants saw what had happened and were very angry. They went and told their master everything that had happened.

32 “Then the master called the first servant in. ‘You evil servant,’ he said. ‘I forgave all that you owed me because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn’t you have had mercy on the other servant just as I had mercy on you?’ 34 In anger his master handed him over to the jailers. He would be punished until he paid back everything he owed.

35 “This is how my Father in heaven will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

### ***The Gospel Response:***

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(You may be seated)

### **MESSAGE**

***Pastor Robb Kosky***

### **MESSAGE RESPONSE**

*(Please Stand)*

### ***“It Really Is Amazing Grace”***

7 1. A - ma - zing Grace! How sweet the sound that saved a  
2. T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my

wretch like me. I once was lost but now am  
fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that grace ap -

13 Chorus (2x after vs 2)

19 found, was the blind but now I see. Sing-ing Hal - le -  
pear the hour I first be - lieved.

24 - lu - jah! There's no chains on me! Thank you Je - sus!

28 You have set me free - You wel-come - d me in, called me - by name. Was  
repeat last time

31 dead in - my sin, now - I'm danc - ing on that - grave. Hal - le -

- lu - jah! It real - ly is A - maz - ing Grace!

## ***THE PRAYERS***

P: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

*(Each petition ends: "Hear us, O God". The congregation responds: "Your mercy is great")*

P: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**

## **MEAL**

P: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

 ***THE OFFERING*** *(You may be seated)*

 *Please remember that your offerings of money, time and talents enable Trinity to "share the love and promise of God" through its ministries.*

***Special Music***

***"In God's Hands"***

***CTP Singers***

**Offering Prayer** *(Please stand as you are able)*

P: God of creation,

**C: you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

## ***THE COMMUNION SENTENCES***

P: Christ calls us to speak truth, seek healing, and restore one another.

**C: At this table, we are reconciled in the love of Christ.**

P: Christ's mercy is greater than our failures and greater than our divisions.

**C: We receive his grace and forgive as we have been forgiven.**

P: Christ gathers us together and welcomes us as beloved children.

**C: Fed by his love, we welcome others and live as one body in Christ.**

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy. All are welcome.

## THE DISTRIBUTION *(You may be seated)*

*All who celebrate Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to commune today.  
We commune by intinction. When you receive the bread, you may either dip the wafer  
in the first chalice of wine or the second chalice of grape juice  
Please indicate to the pastor if you need a gluten free wafer.  
(We also have celiac friendly individually packaged wafer/wine in the first pew.)*

## COMMUNION SONGS

### "Here at the Table"



Christ is here, here at the ta\_\_ - ble. Come gath - er and  
lay life's bur - dens down, here at the ta\_\_ - ble, at the ta -  
ble where love and peace a - bound. Oh, oh, oh, oh.  
Bring your hun - ger, bring your won - der,  
Bring your sad - ness, bring your mad - ness,  
Bring your yearn - ing, bring your turn - ing,  
bring your thirst - ing heart. Bring your trou - bles,  
bring your si - lent shame. Bring your sigh - ing,  
bring your deep - est needs. Bring your doubt - ing,  
bring your strug - gles, bring all that you are,  
bring your cry - ing, bring all of your pain,  
bring your shout - ing, bring all to be freed.



# ***"His Banner Over Me"***

His ban - ner o - ver me is love, His

ban - ner o - ver me is love; And He

takes me to His ta - ble of love

and He takes me to His ban - quet - ing

ta - ble of love. *Song ending.* Sure - ly His

good - ness and mer - cy shall fol - low me,

all of my life I will dwell in the

house of the Lord, of the Lord.

# "I Will Trust in You"

1. When I can't see dark - You, I is  
 2. And when the dark - ness

know You're here; When I can't feel You, I a -  
 clos - ing in, And I am run - ning

will not fear; I will trust in You and I  
 gainst the wind; I will trust in You and I

will not be a - fraid. And when the  
 will not be a - fraid. 'Cause when I'm

bat - tle stand - ing is close at hand I know You're  
 up - on that shore and all the

with me to help me stand; I will  
 bat - tles have gone be - fore, I will

trust in You and I will not be a - fraid  
 trust in You and I will not be a - fraid.

I will not be a - fraid. I will not be a -  
 fraid. I will trust in You, I will trust in You.

***THE COMMUNION BLESSING*** (please stand as you are able)

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

**C: Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION***

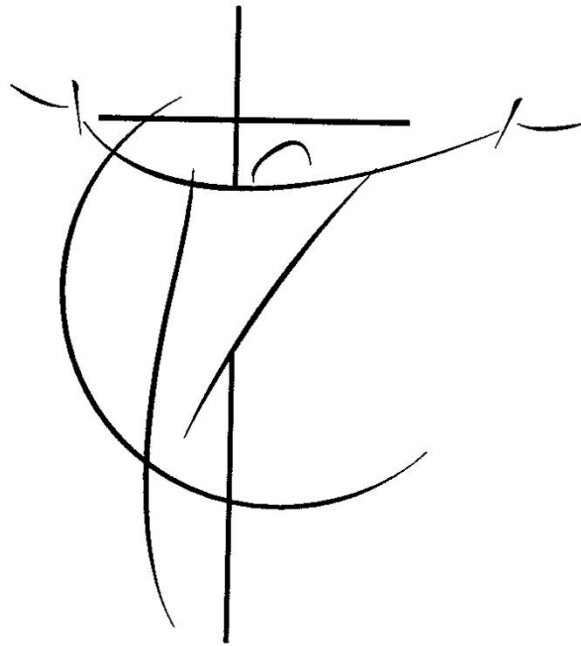
P: Gracious God,

**C: you have fed us with Christ's body and blood and called us to live in reconciliation with one another. Give us courage to address conflict with love, humility to seek restoration, and hearts ready to forgive as we have been forgiven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***SENDING***

P: Go in peace, and seek reconciliation with one another. Speak truth with love, forgive as Christ has forgiven you, and be instruments of God's peace.

**C: Amen.**



# THE SENDING SONG

## "Ubuntu"

*Chorus*

U - bun- tul U - bun- tul  
 shar- ing our vi - sions and dreams. U - bun- tul where  
 jus- tice flows like a life giv - ing stream. The  
 peo- ple to - geth- er join - ing our hearts and our  
 hands to wel - come the strang - er and cher - ish the friend and to  
 work for the peace of the land and so we do lifel

### *Verses (echo song leader)*

1. ... Sisters and brothers ... made for communion ... bound to each other ... one holy union  
 ... Drawn by a vision ... drawn by desire ... drawn to the circle ... round God's holy fire,
2. ... Called now we follow ... Jesus our brother ... Who gathers his children ... just like a mother  
 ... Tenderly holding ... this new creation ... Making and molding ... a new holy nation,
3. ... This is our vision ... life's in the sharing ... Holding back nothing ... dreaming and daring,  
 ... To live this communion ... that breaks us and binds us  
 ... Holds us and heals us ... frees us and finds us

*Bridge*

1. Made by God's po - wer to live as God's own;  
 2. Marked by the wa - ter and giv - en our name,  
 3. God, give us cour - age to do what we say,  
 made to be seen and be heard and to be known,  
 moved by God's Spir - it, be re - vived by hol - y flames,  
 Christ, give us strength for the liv - ing of these days.

# THE DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Please stay for an ice cream social following the worship service.*

**WE THANK OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**Pastor:** Pastor Robb Kosky

**Worship Assistant:** Anita Bayliff

**Reader:** Howard Vrankin

**Communion Set Up:** Tiffany Wilson

**Communion Servers:**

**Communion Baker:** Candy Sarauer

**Vocalists:** Cyndee Bruder, Rick Gilbertson,  
Gaytha Hillman, Phil Pierce

**Keyboard:** Lor Hassig **Bass:** Elle Doerr

**Ushers:** Nate Kenworthy, Daniel Schmidt

**Video:** Cheryl Scaffidi **Audio:** Heather Peters

**Counters:** Richard Hills, David Putnam

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Our Online Worship is streamed on our YouTube channel Sundays @ 9:00.

*There is a possibility that in person church attendees may be seen on the video stream.*

*Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and Potawatomi people. As such, we wish to give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home. It is our sincere desire that this acknowledgement initiates an ongoing instructive, and constructive journey toward respect, truth and healing regarding colonialism, the church community, and inclusivity for all children of the Great Spirit. We commit ourselves as God's children to pray for our indigenous siblings, to pray for God's blessings on them and for strength for them and for us as we work together for justice, dignity, respect and peace for all the diverse people of the land.*

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