

— TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH —
STEPHENS CITY, VIRGINIA



The kingdom
of heaven
is like a
merchant
in search
of fine pearls

MATTHEW 13:45



NINTH SUNDAY
after Pentecost

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026

WORSHIP 9:30 AM | 810 FAIRFAX STREET | STEPHENS CITY, VA 22655 | 540-869-4019

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SUMMER SONG CELEBRATION

In the Garden, & Let there Be Peace on Earth, Pam Reichert's favorites.

(Please see insert page)

CONFESSION OF SINS

Please stand. (All may make the sign of the cross)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Gather Us In (ELW 532)



- 1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
- 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ers,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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REETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (UMH 99)

To God be the glo - ry, to God be the glo - ry,

to God be the glo - ry for the things he has done.

With his blood he has saved me; with his power he has raised me;

to God be the glo - ry for the things he has done.

WORDS: Andraé Crouch, 1971
MUSIC: Andraé Crouch, 1971

© 1971 Communiqué Music, Inc.

MY TRIBUTE
Irr.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

A reading from 1 Kings.

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:129-136 *Spoken Responsively*

¹²⁹ Your de- | crees are wonderful;

therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

¹³⁰ **When your word is opened | it gives light;**

it gives understanding | to the simple.

¹³¹ I open my | mouth and pant

because I long for | your commandments.

¹³² **Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,**

as you always do to those who | love your name. R

¹³³ Order my footsteps | in your word;

let no iniquity have dominion | over me.

¹³⁴ **Rescue me from those | who oppress me,**

and I will keep | your commandments.

¹³⁵ Let your face shine up- | on your servant

and teach | me your statutes.

¹³⁶ **My eyes shed | streams of tears,**

because people do not | keep your teaching. R

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

A reading from Romans.

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

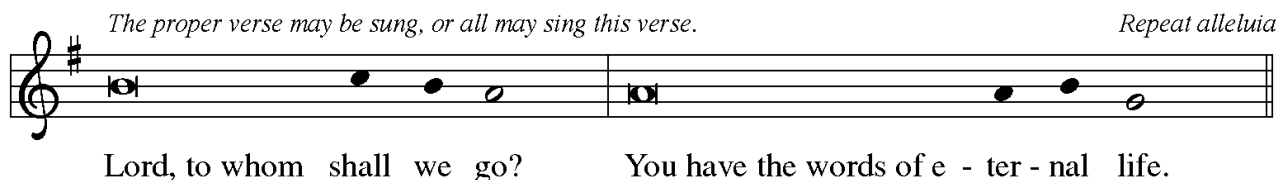
"For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Music: Plainsong mode VI

GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 44-52

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

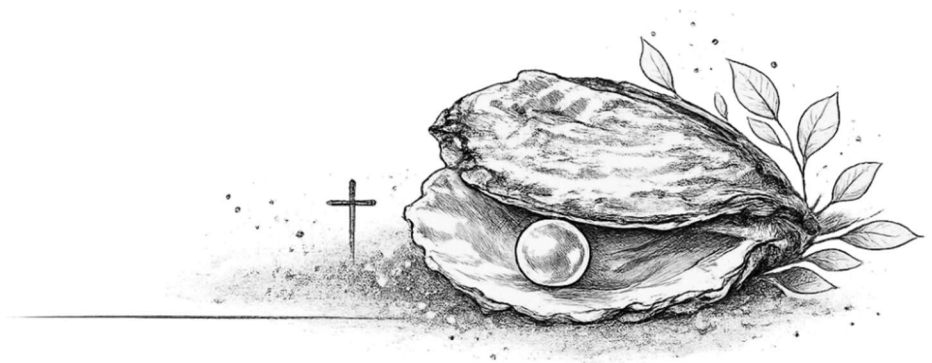
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

REV. LARRY CLOSTER



Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Be Thou My Vision (ELW 793)



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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

Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us pray for the church, the nations, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God our wisdom and our song, we pray for bishops, candidacy committees, those preparing for seminary, those awaiting call as deacons or pastors, and all who seek to lead your disciples in any way. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our breath and our heartbeat, help us to recognize signs of your presence among us. Protect and support diverse ecosystems, from national parks to family farms, from ranches to wild places. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our peace and our guide, help civic leaders hear all their peoples' stories with compassion and curiosity, and remind us of your love from which we can never be separated. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our intercessor and our lawgiver, dismantle the barriers to care and recognition of all who live with chronic illness, mobility struggles, pain, and uncertainty. We pray especially for Shirley, Louise, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Jeff, Adam, Phyllis, Anthony, Dan, Sandra, and Bonnie (*worshippers may add names silently or aloud*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our redeemer, may we trust your love above and beyond all else that distracts, annoys, frightens, exhausts, or divides us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God who seeks, finds, and saves, for our community's part in the ongoing gift of creation, and for the riches of faith and hope which came before, we give you thanks. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Face to Face

Breck, Tullar

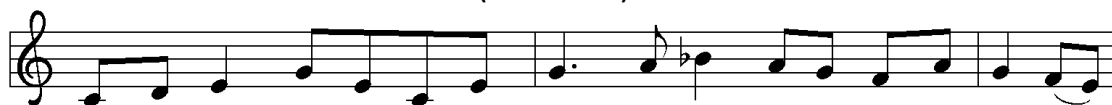
Bruce Everly, Tenor



Offering is an act of worship that shows our gratitude to God for all that we are and have in our lives. The offering today will provide support for the ministries of Trinity both locally and in the world around us. You may provide your offering in person, scan the QR code adjacent or send it by mail. We thank you for sharing not only your monetary gifts but also your gifts of time and talent to further our mission to share Jesus' love in worship, fellowship, hospitality, and community, doing God's work with our hands.

Please stand

OFFERING PRESENTATION (ELW 182)



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
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.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

For those communing at home, have your package ready to open. The pastor will acknowledge your presence and request that you consume the elements at this time.

Please be seated

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

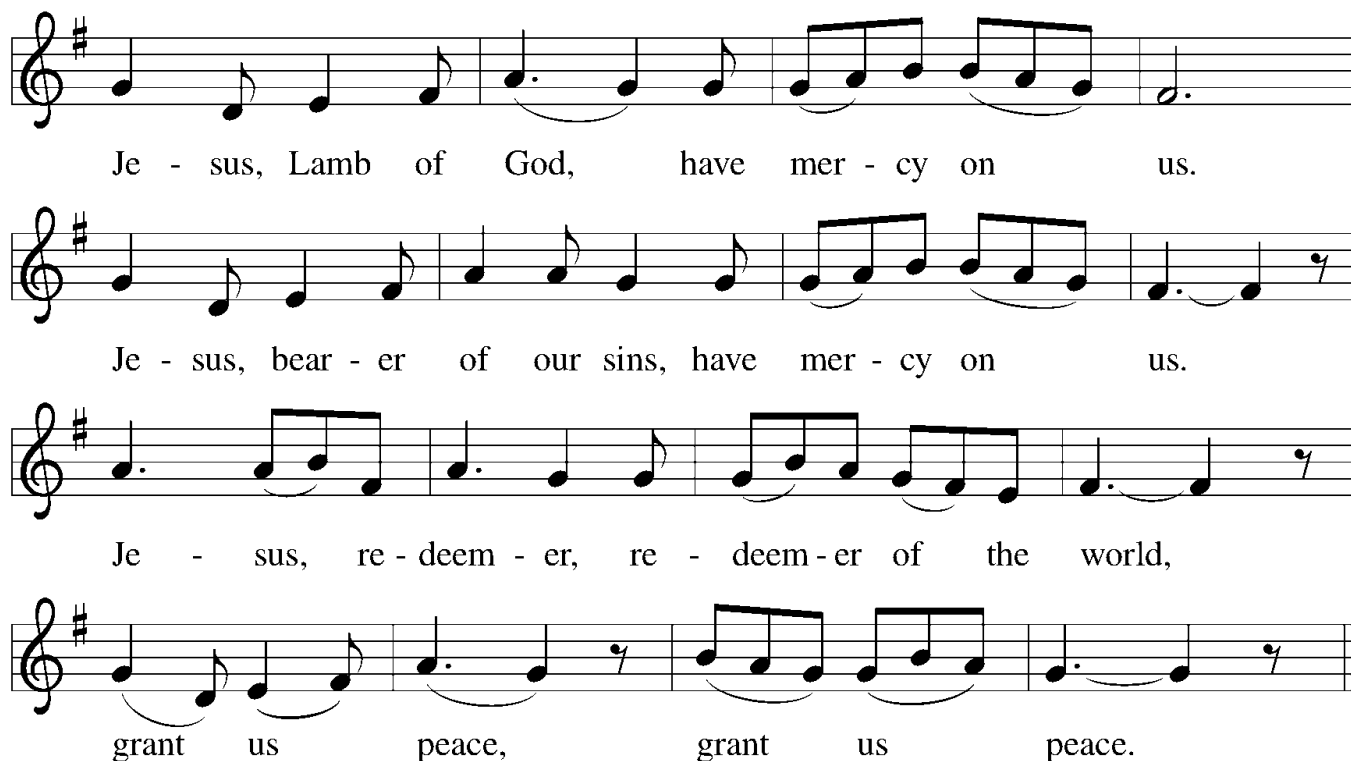
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

For those who prefer not to partake of the wine there are cups filled with grape juice in the center of the communion tray.

COMMUNION SONG



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com
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SONGS DURING COMMUNION

Seek Ye First (WOV 783)

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al -

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
3 We do not live by bread . . . a - lone, but by

le - lu - ia, al - le -

righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
you shall find; knock and the door shall be
ev - 'ry word that pro - ceeds from the

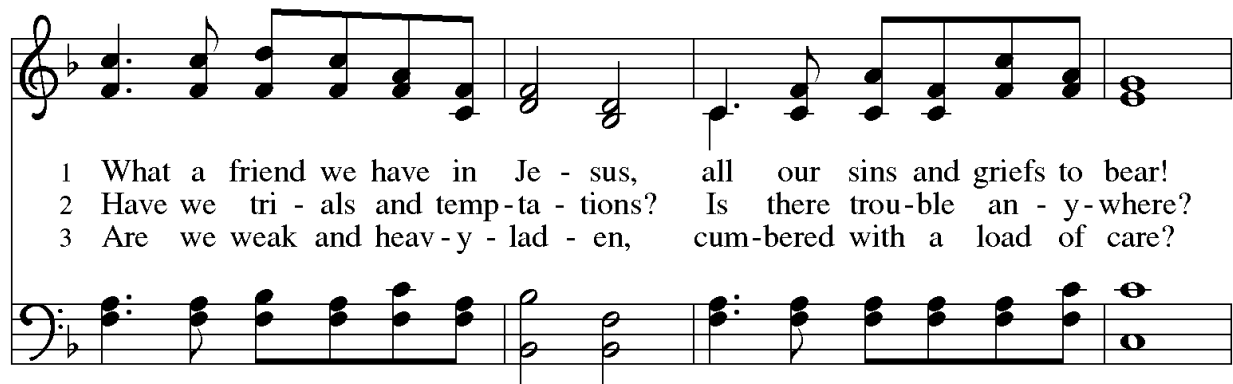
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
mouth . . of . . . God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: st. 1, Matt. 6:33, adapt. Karen Lafferty, b. 1948; st. 2, Matt. 7:7; st. 3, Matt. 4:4
Music: Karen Lafferty, b. 1948
Text st. 1 and music © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. The Copyright Co.

LAFFERTY
irregular

What a Friend We Have in Jesus (ELW 742)



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Please stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

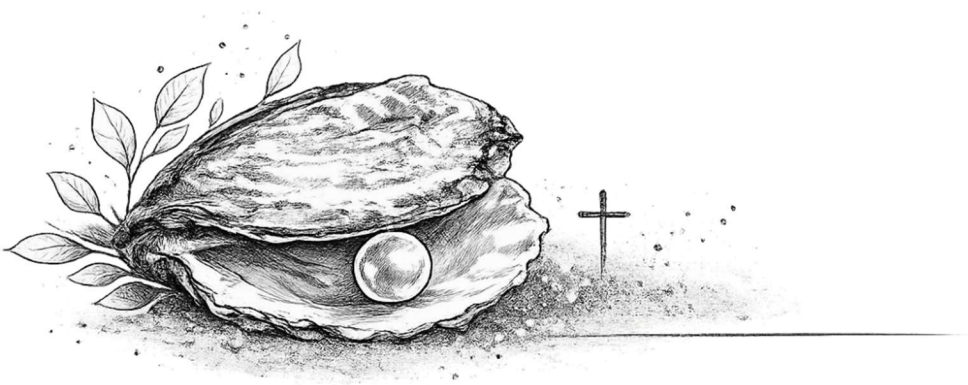
BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

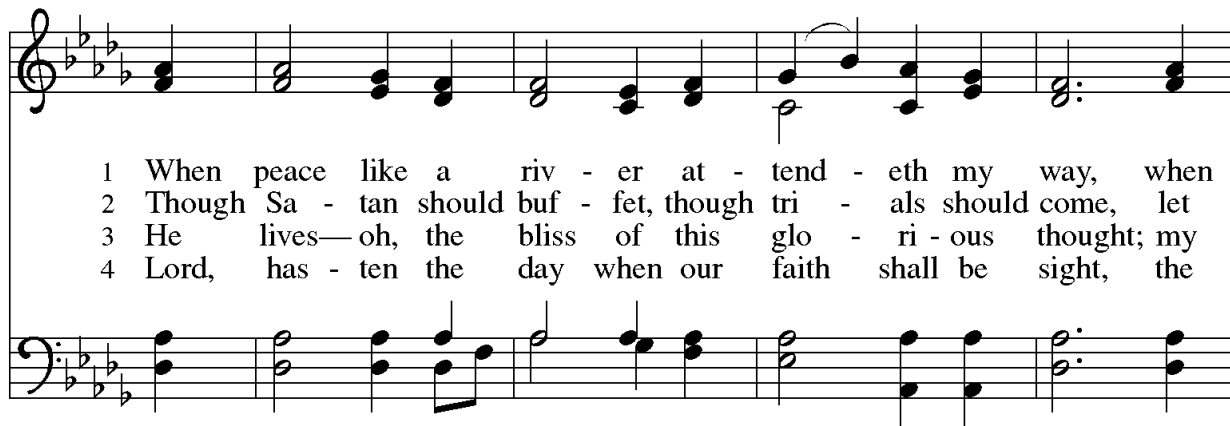
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

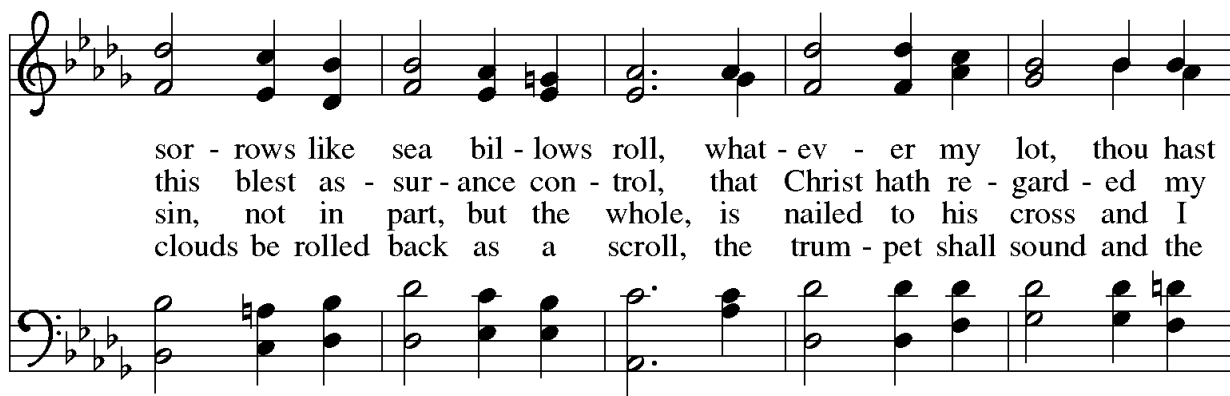
Amen.



SENDING SONG *When Peace like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)* (ELW 785)



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul,

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

G.Lachenauer (b.1933)

The Ministers of Service:

- ❖ Officiant: The Reverend Larry Closter
- ❖ Organist & Music Director: Ricky Gearhart
- ❖ This Service: Greeters: Jamie Wright. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Kathleen Carroll. Communion Assistant: Susan Scheulen. Acolyte: Joey Patterson.
- ❖ Next Service; Greeters: Laurie Closter. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Jamie Wright. Communion Assistant: Barry Hockenberry. Acolyte: Wayne Wright



Worship live streaming Sundays @ 9:30AM, scan code (left) or link:

<https://trinityevangelical-8vs9.subspla.sh/hphnbh5>

Services will also stream on the churches **Facebook Live**:

<https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>

and on the churches **YouTube** page:

<https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranchurchsteph7103/videos>

Please Consider Donating Chancel Flowers

Would you like to honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion? Consider donating **chancel flowers** for a Sunday service. Flower donations are a beautiful way to:

- Honor or remember someone special
- Celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or milestone
- Add beauty to our worship space

If you'd like to donate flowers for an upcoming Sunday, please sign up on the **flower calendar** in the church Narthex or contact Martha Cooley.

You're welcome to take the flowers home after the service, or they can be delivered to someone in need of encouragement.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

~ Here's
what's
happening...

Welcome, scan the QR code—we'd love to connect with you.



In The Know

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY *Here's what's happening...*

Monday, July 27

Pastor Closter is away July 27th – August 2nd.
He will return to the office on Monday, August 3rd.

Tuesday, July 28

Wednesday, July 29

- No Youth Bible Study
- **Community Meal**- Summer Cookout @ 5:30 PM: Menu; Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Assorted Salads, Desserts.

Thursday, July 30

Friday, July 31

- No Bible Study
- CMSP Music private lesson @ 5-6 pm

Saturday, August 1

- CMSP Music together summer program @9- 10AM

Sunday, August 2

- Tenth Sunday After Pentecost, Worship @ 9:30 AM, Fellowship, Chime Choir rehearsal, No Bible Study after this service.

Council Corner –

Thank you to everyone who stayed after worship for our Congregational Council Cross-Ministry Check-In. Your positive feedback, thoughtful ideas, and meaningful conversation were truly encouraging and appreciated.

Meeting notes from the discussion will be available soon for everyone to review.

Next Steps: Following the next Congregational Council meeting, an action plan will be shared with the congregation as we continue moving forward together in our shared ministry.

Attendance and General Offering

DATE	IN PERSON	ZOOM	FACEBOOK	OFFERING
6/28/2026	42	0	7	\$2,729
7/05/2026	45	2	7	\$9,554
7/12/2026	48	1	7	\$3469
7/19/2026	45	-	-	\$1865
WEEKLY OPERATIONAL COSTS \$ 4,649.00				

PASTA WITH A PURPOSE

A Summer Food Drive

June 1 – September 6

During the summer months, many children lose access to school meal programs, and local food pantries often face increased demand. Help support our neighbors in need by participating in our Pasta with a Purpose Summer Food Drive.

Please bring pasta-related food items to church anytime between June 1 and September 6.

Donations will be delivered to our local food pantry as part of a **Virginia Synod Hunger Task Force** initiative.

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Servants

We'd love your help in making each Sunday special. Whether you'd like to greet, read, assist with Communion, or take part in special services—there's a place for you! Reach out to **Christine Cornwell** or sign up through **SignUpGenius** in the newsletter.

Prayer Team Table

Located just inside the sanctuary entrance. Submit a card with your prayer request or contact **Laurie Closter 540-840-8401**, to add a name to the Prayers of Intercession. Or simply scan and submit



Hospital Visitation

Pastor Closter is registered with Valley Health for hospital visits. Due to HIPAA laws, the hospital cannot notify us when someone is admitted. To request a visit, contact the church office at **540-869-4019**, or after hours, call Pastor Closter at **540-848-5325**. You may also reach out to **Pastor Closter** or **Martha Cooley**.



Next Community MEAL
SUMMER COOKOUT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2026 | **5:30 PM**

MENU

- Hamburgers & Hot Dogs
- Assorted Salads (Potato Salad, Coleslaw, etc.)
- Dessert

Great food, good company, and summer fun for everyone!

Free-will donations welcome — all proceeds support the ELCA World Hunger Program.

ELCA World Hunger Program

Community Meal Ministry in Action

As we prepare for our next Community Meal, we celebrate the impact of your generosity. Trinity recently received a thank-you from ELCA World Hunger for our gift of **\$342.47**, helping provide food, clean water, education, and hope to people in need. Thank you for helping us share God's love—one meal at a time.

ORGAN PROGRAM *Sunday*

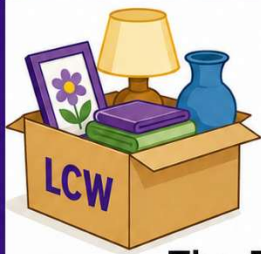
AUGUST 2
FOLLOWING COFFEE TIME

Ricky will present ***An American Tribute***, a suite of patriotic songs on the organ to further reflect and celebrate America's 250th birthday.

Enjoy coffee and snacks, then come to the sanctuary for a relaxing short program.

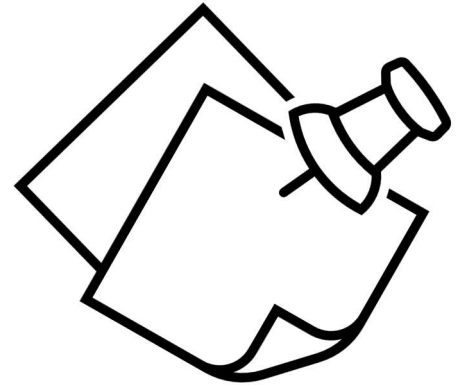
Hope to see you there!





SAVE YOUR TREASURES for the LCW YARD SALE!

The Rt. 11 Yard Sale is on **August 8**.
Start setting aside items for Trinity's
Annual LCW Yard Sale!



DONATION DROP-OFF



Monday, Sept. 7 –
Friday, Sept. 11



9:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Parish Hall

YARD SALE



Saturday,
September 12

DONATION GUIDELINES



Clothing should
be clean and in
good condition.



No electronics
(TVs, stereos,
computers, etc.).



No large
furniture.



Please do not bring donations before September 7,
as storage space is limited.



Extra clothes hangers are always appreciated!



Questions? Please contact any LCW member.



Thank you for helping make this annual ministry and fundraiser a success!

Save the Date! AUGUST 2026



— • Mark Your Calendar – You're Invited! —



AUGUST 2 – Sunday – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

- Service @ 9:30 AM
- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall – All are welcome!
- Organ Program, *An American Tribute* following Coffee Hour
- Monthly Birthday Celebration!
- Chime Choir Practice
- Bible Study & Discussion of the Book of Revelation @ 11:00 AM | Parish Hall



AUGUST 3 – Monday

Pastor Closter Back from Vacation



TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

WEDNESDAYS – August 5, 12, 19 & 26

Youth Bible Study & Discussion of
the Book of Genesis @ 2:30 PM | Room 202



AUGUST 7 – Friday

No Bible Study

(Pastor is away at the Youth Conference, August 7–8)



AUGUST 8 – Saturday

Rt. 11 Yard Crawl



AUGUST 9 – Sunday – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

- Blessing of the Backpacks
- Service @ 9:30 AM
- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall – All are welcome!
- Chime Choir Practice
- Bible Study & Discussion of the Book of Revelation @ 11:00 AM | Parish Hall



AUGUST 10 – Monday

Senior Connections Lunch
10:30 AM – 1:00 PM | Parish Hall



AUGUST 11 – Tuesday

Congregational Council Meeting
@ 6:30 PM | Parish Hall



AUGUST 12 – Wednesday

Frederick County Schools –
First Day of School



AUGUST 15 – Saturday

Sustainability Cooking Class
1:00–5:00 PM



SUNDAYS – August 16, 23 & 30

- Service @ 9:30 AM
- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall – All are welcome!
- Chime Choir Practice
- Bible Study & Discussion of the Book of Revelation @ 11:00 AM | Parish Hall



FRIDAYS – August 14, 21 & 28

Bible Study & Discussion of
the Book of Revelation @ 10:00 AM | Room 205



AUGUST 26 – Wednesday

Community Meal @ 5:30 PM



AUGUST 29 – Saturday

Newtown Heritage Festival
(Make-Up Date, if needed)

I Can 2

With God All Things Are Possible

I Can 2 Meets on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

They gather in the Parish Hall for 10 - 20 minutes before either going upstairs to room 203 or departing for events, they gather back downstairs on Mondays to have lunch, and then again prior to departure at 3 pm on those days.

(unless room conflict then they gather in the Narthex instead of Parish Hall)





TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

STEPHENS CITY, VIRGINIA

Growing in God's Grace

TRINITY LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Growing in God's Grace

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Larry Closter

Interim Pastor

Cell: (540) 848-5325

Ricky Gearhart

Organist & Music Director

Jodie Broccolo

Administrative Assistant

Mark Greene

Treasurer

Vacant

Bookkeeper

Mike Pyne

Financial Secretary

TRUSTEES

- Diann Daily
- Barry Hockenberry
- Tom Righter

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL • 2026

Carole Pfisterer

President

Marianne Watson

Vice President

Patty Stringer

Secretary

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Bruce Everly • Jim Hall • David Reichert

Tom Righter • Dorothée St. Germain

CHURCHWIDE LEADERSHIP

The Rev. Yehiel Curry

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rev. Dr. Phyllis Blair Milton

Bishop

Virginia Synod, ELCA



VISIT US

810 Fairfax Street
Stephens City, VA 22655



CONTACT US

(540) 869-4019
office@trinitychurchvirginia.org
trinitychurchvirginia.com



OFFICE HOURS

Church Office:
Monday–Thursday • 8:30 AM–1:00 PM

Pastor's Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 AM–1:00 PM



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP



SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM