

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
after PENTECOST

OCTOBER 18, 2026

GIVE TO GOD THE THINGS THAT ARE GOD'S

MATTHEW 22:21

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 Fairfax Street
Stephens City, VA 22655

(540) 869-4019
Worship, 9:30 AM

office@trinitychurchvirginia.org
www.trinitychurchvirginia.org

WORSHIP | GROW | SERVE

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PRELUDE *The Will of God is Always Best* J. Kindermann (1616-1655)

CONFESSION OF SINS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose mercy is everlasting and whose love never fails.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Silence for reflection

Merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and actions.

We have been selfish when we should have been generous,

silent when we should have spoken up,

quick to judge when we should have shown mercy.

We have overlooked those who are hurting

and taken for granted the blessings you have given us.

We have caused harm to your creation

and denied dignity to others by being careless and self-centered.

Strengthen us to live as people who have been forgiven—

freely offering to others the grace we have received from you.

Hear the good news: God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor does he repay us according to our iniquities. In Jesus Christ, God has taken our sin upon himself, died for us, and risen again to give us new life. Therefore, by the authority of Christ and in obedience to his command, I proclaim to you that all your sins have been forgiven. In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

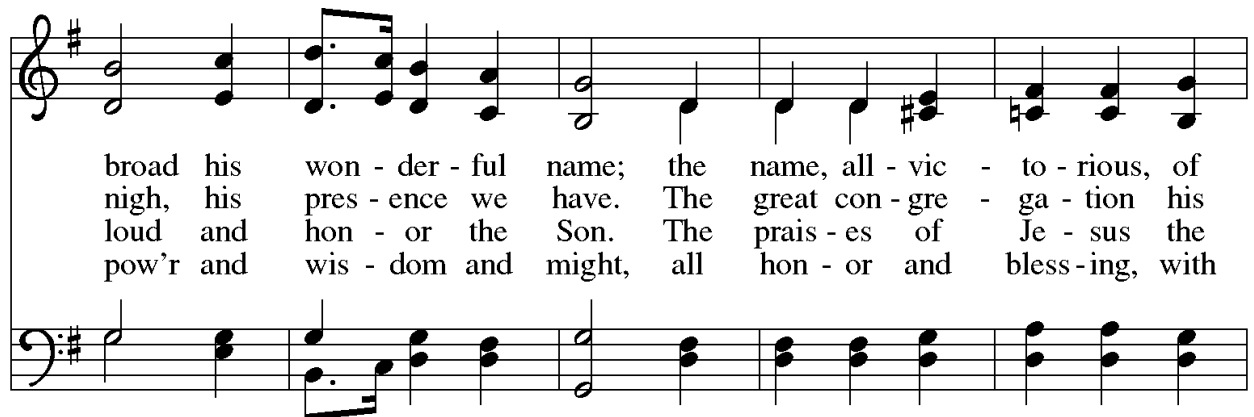
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

You Servants of God (ELW 825)



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
 nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
 loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
 pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
 tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
 an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

GREETING

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

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

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MY TRIBUTE

Irr.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
- ² I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
- ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
- ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
- ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
- ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
- ⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]



- ¹ Sing to the LORD, sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- ² Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.
- ³ Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴ For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods. R
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- ⁶ Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
- ⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.
- ⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth. R

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

- ¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.
- ² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth

from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

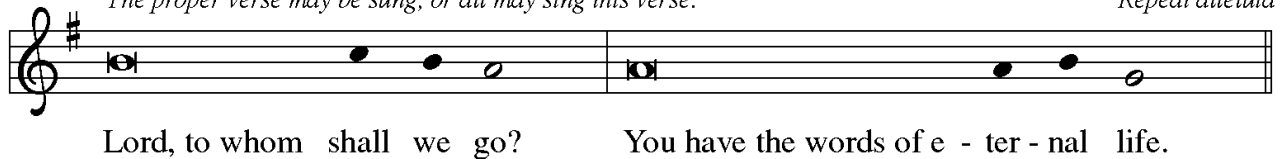
Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The proper verse may be sung, or all may sing this verse.

Repeat alleluia



Music: Plainsong mode VI

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

REV. LARRY CLOSTER

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* (ELW 674)



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering especially for Shirley, Louise, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Jeff, Adam, Anthony, Dan, Bernie, and Ashante.

(worshippers may add names silently or aloud).

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church (*congregational ministries may be named*). Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

OFFERING *Hide Me Under the Shadow of Your Wings* John West (1863-1929)

Christine Cornwell, Soprano Bruce Everly, Tenor

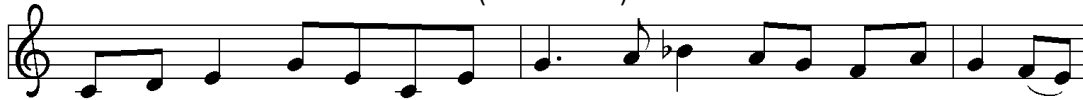
NOISY OFFERING The Noisy offering this week will benefit, **Shirley's Angels Animal Rescue**, PO Box 3462 Winchester, VA 22604. Visit <https://shirleysanimals.org/>



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



bless - ing. 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.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

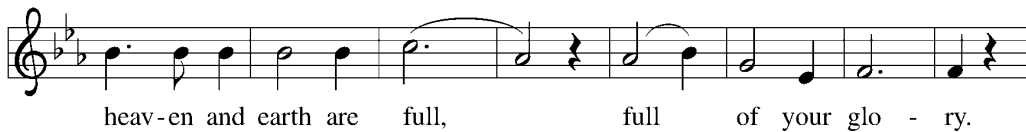
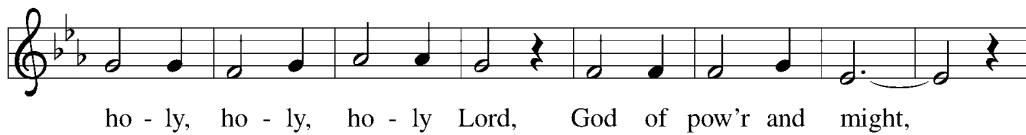
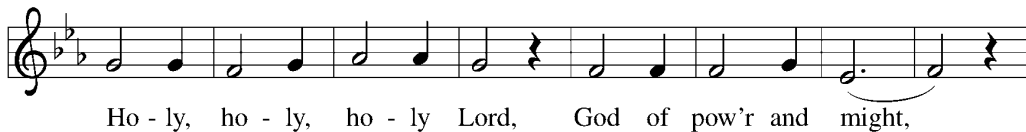
We lift them to the Lord.

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: our Good Samaritan, who tends the wounds of body and spirit with the oil of consolation and the wine of hope; the Sun of righteousness, who raises us to life on his healing wings. 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:



Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God most mighty,
O God most merciful,
O God our rock and our salvation,
hear us as we praise,
call us to your table,
grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void,
you formed order and beauty.
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,
you sent them a child;
When the Israelites were enslaved,
you led them to freedom.
Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,
and the psalmists cried out for healing,
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
He was born among the poor,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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 his death, we cry out Amen. **[Amen.]**
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **[Amen.]**
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **[Amen.]**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,
you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.
Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,
life in you, 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.

BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS (for the sick and homebound)

Let us pray. O God of tender compassion, as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger bless these elements with your divine grace and those who leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. May they be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

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
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SONGS DURING COMMUNION *Now the Silence* (ELW 460)

Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty hands up - lift - ed

Now the kneel - ing Now the plea Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come

Now the hear - ing Now the pow'r Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing

Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion

Now the wed - ding Now the songs Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing

Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny

Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
 Music: NOW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
 Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

By Your Hand You Feed Your People (ELW 469)

1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav-en's bread.
2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.
3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.

For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:
Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.
In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:

Refrain

Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow - ing, life out - poured,

giv - en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re - deemed, re - stored.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
Music: CAMROSE, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Please stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Through this holy meal, you have renewed us in your love, strengthened our faith, and united us with Christ and with one another. Shape our lives by the love we have received at this table, and make us instruments of your peace, justice, and compassion.

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 *God of Grace and God of Glory* (ELW 705)

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Postlude in C Minor* George Blake (1912–1986)

The Ministers of Service:

- ❖ Officiant: The Reverend Larry Closter
- ❖ Organist & Music Director: Ricky Gearhart
- ❖ This Service: Greeters: Marti Martin Lessons & Prayers Reader: Marcie Stern. Communion Assistant: David Reichert. Acolyte: Jacob Carroll.
- ❖ Next Service: Greeters: Marianne Watson. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Kathleen Carroll. Communion Assistant: Susan Scheulen. Acolyte: Joey Patterson

Worship live streaming Sundays @ 9:30AM, scan code or visit:

<https://trinityevangelicall-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, October 19

- Senior Connections Lunch

Tuesday, October 20

Wednesday, October 21

Thursday, October 22

- Choir Rehearsal 5:45 PM

Friday, October 23

- Bible Study @ 10:00 AM | Room 205
- CMSP Music private lesson 5PM

Saturday, October 24

- CMSP – Fall Music Together
9:00–10:00 AM | Room 202
- The Sons Of the American Revolution Honor Ceremony, Honoring John Bell Tilden and Thomas Steele @1 pm | Stephens City UMC Cemetery

Sunday, October 25

- **Reformation Sunday**, Worship @ 9:30 AM, following service; Fellowship Coffee Hour, Chime Choir, Bible Study

Attendance and General Offering

DATE	IN PERSON	ONLINE	OFFERING
9/20/2026	39	10	\$2,228.75
9/27/2026	36	10	\$1999
10/04/2026	35	9	\$2,294
10/11/2026	40	16	\$1383
WEEKLY OPERATIONAL COSTS \$ 4,649.00			

LCW Bedding Drive

Trinity's LCW (Lutheran Church Women) will be collecting NEW bedding throughout the month of October **to benefit Sleep in Heavenly Peace**, a nonprofit that provides beds and bedding to children ages 3–17 in Winchester and the surrounding counties.

Collection will begin October 1.

Needed items include:

- Twin-size sheet sets with pillowcase (NOT Twin long, or XL)
- Twin-size blankets (must fit a Twin bed; no small blankets or throws)
- Twin-size comforters
- Twin-size mattress covers
- Pillows for Twin-size beds

"Bed in a Bag" sets are an easy way to provide several needed items at once and can be found at Walmart, Target, and other stores.

Please bring donations to the church Nursery anytime during October. Monetary donations are also welcome; LCW members will be happy to shop for needed items on your behalf.

Thank you for helping provide a warm, comfortable place to sleep for a child in our community! Questions? Please speak with a member of LCW

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**.

The envelopes being distributed are not complete with regard to giving records. At this time, we are only asking you to review and verify the accuracy of your personal information.

This is a limited review period to help ensure that the information transferred to our new system is correct. **This is not a year-end giving statement or a complete record of your contributions.**

Year-end giving statements will be provided using records from both the old and new systems to ensure contributions are accurately accounted for during the transition.

Thank you for your patience and assistance as we work through this process. — *Michael Pyne*

The Sons of the American Revolution and
Cemetery Caretakers of Old Frederick present a
ceremony honoring the lives and services of the
Revolutionary War soldiers
John Bell Tilden and Thomas Steele.

Saturday, October 24 – 1 pm

Free Event



Stephens City UMC Cemetery
5291 Main St
Stephens City, VA



PAWS OF LOVE

A Celebration of
St. Francis of Assisi

Throughout the month of October,

we invite you to remember and celebrate the animals who have touched our lives
and to help provide care for animals in need.

ADD YOUR PET TO OUR TREE

Fill out a paw with your
dog or cat's name and
attach it to our
Paws of Love Tree.

DONATE TO HELP ANIMALS IN NEED

We are collecting
**pet food and
monetary donations**
to support:
Dakota's Dream
Shirley's Angels Animal Rescue

HONOR THEIR MEMORY

You may also make a
donation in memory of
a beloved pet who
has passed.

Every paw has a story. Every pet deserves to be remembered.

Thank you for helping us celebrate the spirit of St. Francis and care for animals in need.

Please consider helping our neighbors.
Sign Up to volunteer for WattsWeek, October
31 st~ November 7th.

SIGN-UP or scan the QR Code:

If you would like to donate items, the **Amazon Wish
List** :

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1I4GL3PD
431T8?ref_=wl_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1I4GL3PD431T8?ref_=wl_share).

Thank You!



WATTS
OVERNIGHT SHELTER
begins
OCTOBER 31ST

**AT STEPHENS CITY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Providing Hope, Warmth & Dignity.
ALL ARE WELCOME. | NO QUESTIONS. | NO JUDGEMENT.



10/19 Monday- Senior Connections Lunch 10AM –
1pm | Parish Hall

10/22 Thursday- Choir Rehearsals @ 5:45 PM

10/23 Friday - Bible Study @ 10:00 AM | Room
205

10/25 Sunday – Twenty-second Sunday after
Pentecost

– Service @ 9:30 AM– Coffee Hour | Parish Hall –
All are welcome!

– Chime Choir Practice – Bible Study @ 11:00 AM |
Parish Hall

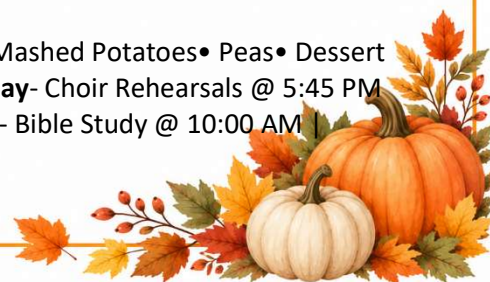
10/27 Tuesday - Sewing for the Savior @ 9:30 AM
| Room 204

10/28 Wednesday - Community Meal @ 5:30PM |
Menu:

• Meatloaf • Mashed Potatoes • Peas • Dessert

10/29 Thursday- Choir Rehearsals @ 5:45 PM

10/30 Friday - Bible Study @ 10:00 AM



Sunday, November 1st | Following Worship

Join us after worship for a delicious German-
style meal as we celebrate All Saints Day with
food, fellowship, and our Trinity family!

 Brats and pretzels will be provided by the
Outreach Committee.

Please bring a German side dish to share! Some
ideas include potato salad, sauerkraut, red
cabbage, German cucumber salad, spaetzle,
applesauce, or your favorite German-inspired
dish.

Please RSVP by October 25th using the sign-up
sheet in the Parish Hall or by contacting the
church office.

Come hungry, bring a dish to share, and enjoy
good food and fellowship! **Everyone is welcome!**



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