



Trinity Lutheran Church



September

20

2026

**15th Sunday
of Pentecost**

Together
in Community
Living
with Christ
Caring
for Neighbors

Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?

Matthew 20:13-15

www.trinitylutherantopeka.org

We are glad you are here!
It is always good to be together, hearing the Word.
Thank you for choosing to worship at Trinity Lutheran Topeka.
Thank you, Duane Pomeroy, for leading worship today.

PRELUDE

Evangelical Lutheran Worship — Setting 5

+ GATHERING +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through + Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Lord of Light

ELW 688

1 Lord of light, your name outshining all the stars and suns of space, use our talents in your kingdom as the servants of your grace; use us to fulfill your purpose in the gift of Christ your Son:

Refrain

Father, as in highest heaven, so on earth your will be done.

2 By the toil of faithful workers in some far outlying field, by the courage where the radiance of the cross is still revealed, by the victories of meekness, through reproach and suffering won: *Refrain*

3 Grant that knowledge, still increasing, at your feet may lowly kneel; with your grace our triumphs hallow, with your charity our zeal; lift the nations from the shadows to the gladness of the sun: *Refrain*

4 By the prayers of faithful watchers, never silent day or night; by the cross of Jesus, bringing peace to all and healing light; by the love that passes knowledge, making all your children one: *Refrain*

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860-1953, alt.. Text © Union of Welsh Independents

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we

giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one

will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord

heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in

praise you for your glo - ry.
ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual loving kindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: JONAH 3:10--4:11

¹⁰ When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it. ^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶ The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 145:1-8

Spoken responsively

¹ I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

² **Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

³ Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

⁴ **One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.**

⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

⁶ **They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.**

⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸ **The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

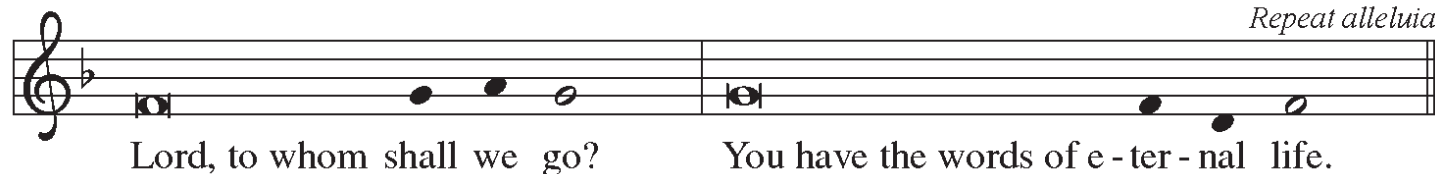
²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.
Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 20th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 20:1-16

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹ “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius.

¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

DUANE POMEROY

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord of All Hopefulness

ELW 765

Please stand for the final verse of the hymn.

- 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy: be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
- 3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace: be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm: be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day. Text: Jan Struther, 1901-1953. Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

APOSTLES CREED

P Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C 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.

THE PRAYERS

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

A brief silence.

A Hold your church accountable for our unwillingness to share your good news and our anger at your generosity to others. Nourish us by your grace to be witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Guide scientists and researchers studying responses to the climate crisis so that all your creation may inspire us to give thanks for your great goodness. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Show employers the benefits of equal pay standards for all their employees. Reconcile conflicts between employees. Fill places of employment with camaraderie, and bring an end to employment disparity. Encourage any who cannot work with the truth that their value comes from your everlasting love for them. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Provide for those who are injured, ill, and for all in any need, especially Charlotte O'Brien, Shelley Andrews, Liz Utech, Martha Nemeth, Linda Longren, and David McGinnis. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Strengthen all those in this congregation whose labor serves the needs of others in the community. Inspire all in this congregation to support community endeavors with our time and talents. We pray for the wider church community as we name Atonement Lutheran Church, Overland Park, KS, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wilson, KS, Salem Lutheran Church, Lenexa, KS, and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lohman, MO in our prayers. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Bless Janelle Meredith as she remembers her baptism. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Comfort us with the promise of the resurrection as we remember all our loved ones whose desire to be with Jesus is fulfilled. Hear us, O God.

C 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.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Let us greet one another with God's peace.

Please be seated.

+ THANKSGIVING +

OFFERING AND OFFERING SONG

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of creation, 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.

C Amen

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

A O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

C 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.

+ SENDING +

BLESSING

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✠ one God, bless, heal, and hold us today and always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

ELW 669

- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn; Christ rose triumphant that your hearts with nobler zeal might burn.
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! Despair engulfs earth's frame; as heirs of God's baptismal grace, the word of hope proclaim.
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom's task embrace; redress sin's cruel consequence; give justice larger place.
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain; stretch forth your hand of healing now, with love the weak sustain.
- 5 Commit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod; and, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936. Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Sept. 20.....	Community Relations meeting.....	9:30 AM
.....	Worship	10:30 AM
Mon., Sept. 21.....	Stroke Support Group.....	6:00 PM
Tues., Sept. 22.....	Quilters	9:30 AM
.....	Topeka Lutheran Home Assoc. meeting.....	7:00 PM
Sun., Sept. 27	Doorstep 60 for 60 deadline	
.....	Worship	10:30 AM

Worship Leaders & Assistants

Date	Acolyte	Ushers	Musician	Lector	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Worship Leader	Coffee Host
Sept. 20	Brayden Winsor	Howard Reece, Jeffrey Schafersman	Laurie Jackson	LaVell Winsor	Janice Greenlee & Team 2	Parker Jackson	Duane Pomeroy	LaVell Winsor
Sept. 27		Duane & Debbie Pomeroy	Mitchell Bean	Loni Reece	Janice Greenlee & Team 2	Marcy Carlson		Troy Abbott/ Jeffrey Schafersman



As you can see, we are in need of a volunteer for acolyte and worship leader on Sept. 27. Volunteers are special!



DOORSTEP
Neighbors Helping Neighbors

60 FOR 60 COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

WE DID IT! We delivered the 54 cases from church and six more with collected cash. Total weight was 752.4 lbs. Additionally, there had been 87.5 lbs of food delivered directly to Doorstep, so the grand total is 839.9 lbs. It was very helpful to have Brayden and others from Cair Paravel to load and unload.

COMPANION SYNOD VISITATION



Bishop Alexander Scheiermann

Scheiermann has been Bishop of the ELCUSFE since 2017. He was born in Omsk Russia, but moved back to Germany with his family as a teenager following the relaxation of emigration restrictions brought about by Perestroika. While his primary residence is in Germany, because he grew up in Russia, he is still able to travel back and forth between Germany and Russia to visit congregations and discharge his ministry as Bishop.



Rev. Bradn Buerkle

Buerkle spent two decades as a teacher and pastor in Russia and has been living in Germany since 2022. He is an ELCA pastor working for ELM (Hermannsburg) as Secretary of Theological Education in International Church Partnerships; this ministry keeps him connected with Russianspeaking Lutherans as well as others worldwide, especially those involved in the topic of lay minister training.



Pastor Waldemar Rausch

Rausch serves as the secretary for global sustainability and ecumenical relations with the Russian Federation at the Lower Saxony Mission Agency. Between 1998 and 2010, he worked in Russia on several occasions, including a threeyear stint as a missionary and pastor in Tomsk. He currently offers a holistic congregational program and is dedicated to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Urals, Siberia, and the Russian Far East.

LAWRENCE & TOPEKA KANSAS

**28
SEPTEMBER**
7:00 PM

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

1234 SW Fairlawn Rd. Topeka, KS

Community discussion and reception

**29
SEPTEMBER**
6:00 PM

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1245 New Hampshire St. Lawrence, KS

Meal and presentation



RSVP

**03
OCTOBER**
3:00 PM

WESTWOOD HOUSE (KU CAMPUS MINISTRY)

1421 West 19th St. Lawrence, KS

Tour and conversation

For more information on any of these activities, please contact the individual church offices.

Thank you to all of our host congregation for making this visitation a success.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Urals, Siberia and the Far East (ELCUSFE)

The Christians in Russia are emerging from nearly sixty years of persecution and violent suppression of religious activities. Even though the Russian government ended its official suppression of religion in the late 80s, churches still face obstacles and challenges from all parts of the Russian state and society. Our engagement with our "CoSyn Christians" there in Russia expresses our concern for them and gives them support and encouragement. These relationships enrich our lives, our faith, and our ministries by exposing us to the witness and perspectives of Christians in other parts of the world as we seek to work with one another to build up the body of Christ and share the Gospel with the world.

Learn More at www.css-elca.org/companion-synods.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Website: trinitylutherantopeka.org

OFFICE HOURS

10:00AM-3:30PM, Monday through Thursday

Together in Community
Living with Christ
Caring for Neighbors

Together in Community

We are a faith community brought together to worship God and to be of service to the needs of the world as the Great Commandment is our guide in our lives (Matthew 22:36-39, Mark 12:29-31, and Luke 10:26-27). We are a congregation that seeks to reach all those in our county with members spread throughout Topeka area, while being rooted in Historic Old Town. In our faith, we hope to be a symbol of Christ's love in the world (John 15:12), to be a community of support and care (Galatians 6:2), and to proclaim the good news that Jesus Christ came to be a Savior for all people (Colossians 1:13-14).

Congregation Council

President Duane Pomeroy (Spiritual Care)
Vice-President Steve Luoma (Administration)
Secretary Diane Bottorff (Congregational Life)
Treasurer Bob Kobbeman (Administration)
Troy Abbott (Administration)
Marilyn Heckman (Community Relations)
Parker Jackson (Congregational Life)
Curt Lewis (Maintenance) Howard Reece (Maintenance)