



Trinity Lutheran Church

October

4

9th Sunday
of Pentecost

Together
in Community
Living
with Christ
Caring
for Neighbors



The stone that the
builders rejected
has become the
cornerstone; this was
the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in
our eyes.

Matthew 18:35

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, Pr. Bob Dealey, 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

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

ELW 531

1 The trumpets sound, the angels sing, the feast is ready to begin. The gates of heav'n are open wide, and Jesus welcomes you inside

Refrain

Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight. Come and revel in heaven's love and light. Take your place at the table of the King. The feast is ready to begin; the feast is ready to begin

2 Tables are laden with good things; oh, taste the peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love divine; he'll turn your water into wine. *Refrain*

3 The hungry heart he satisfies, offers the poor his paradise. Now hear all heav'n and earth applaud the amazing goodness of the Lord. *Refrain*

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.

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 5:1-7

¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. ³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? ⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 80:7-15

Spoken responsively

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁸ **You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.**

⁹ You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰ **The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

¹² **Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴ **Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;**

¹⁵ behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

Paul writes: ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to

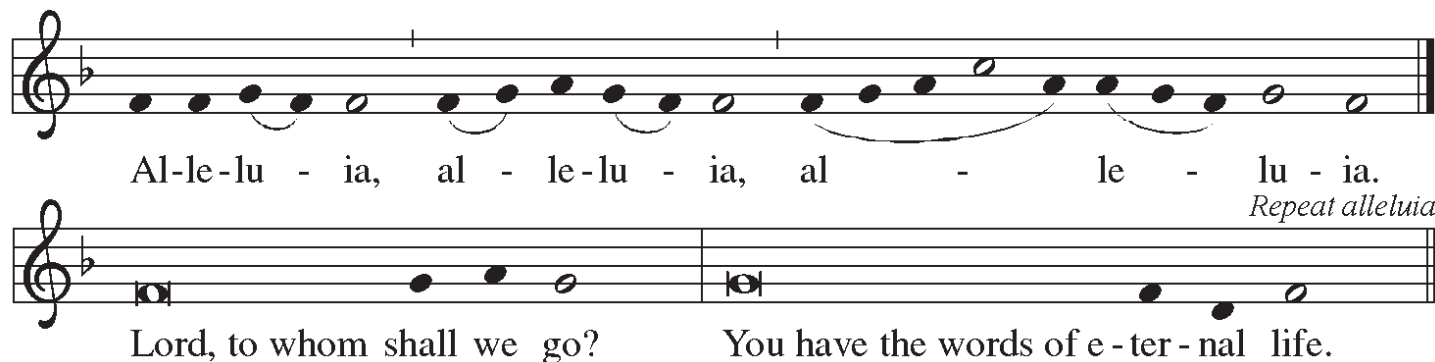
know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:33-46

Jesus said: ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” ⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? ⁴³“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.” ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ELW 803

Please stand for the final verse of the hymn.

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
- 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

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

A brief silence.

A God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones, and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering, especially Paula Soldan, Charlotte O'Brien, Shelley Andrews, Liz Utech, Martha Nemeth, Linda Longren, and David McGinnis. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for our faith companions Ella Bosch as she remembers her baptism and Bill & Marsha Ridinger as they celebrate their wedding anniversary. Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with their lives Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of all of our companion congregations, we pray for Elim Lutheran Church, Marquette, KS, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Prairie Village, KS, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Hoisington, KS, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Urals Companion Synod. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P God of Truth, as elections draw near, lead candidates, their advocates, and each of us to speak truthfully and genuinely. In the midst of competing voices and claims, empower your people to listen and learn, verify claims before spreading them, seek and find truth. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

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

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 -

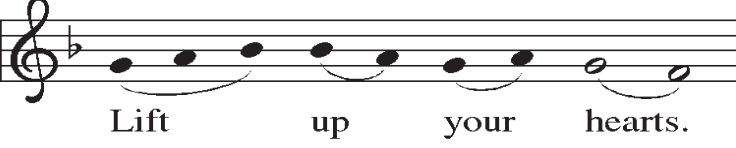
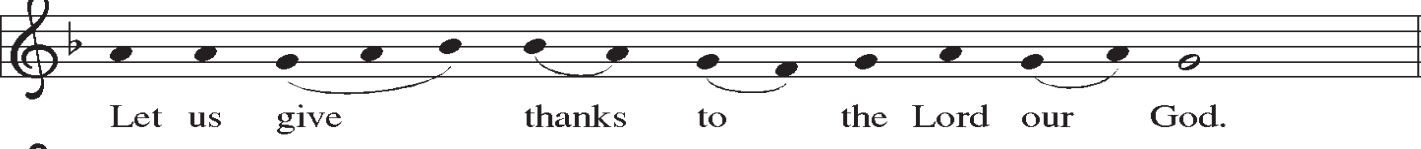
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

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

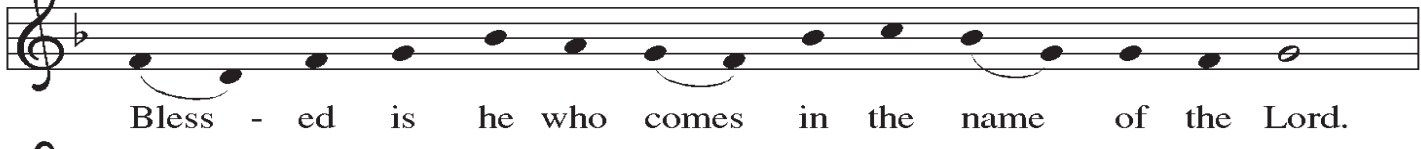
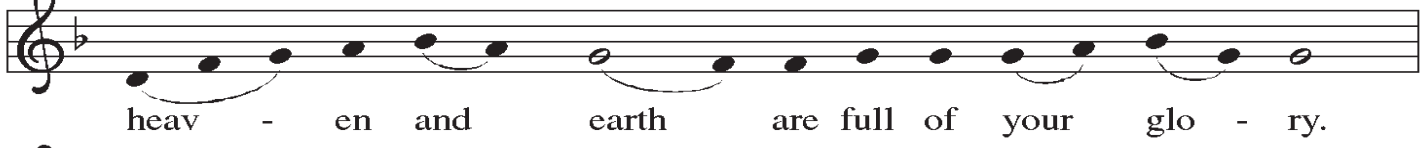
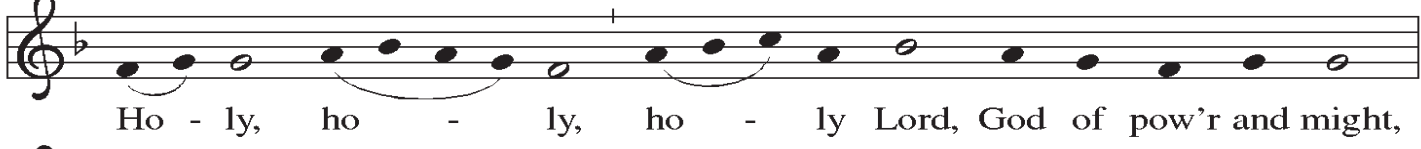
OFFERTORY PRAYER

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**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

<i>Presider</i>	<i>Response</i>
	
	
	
	

P 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:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

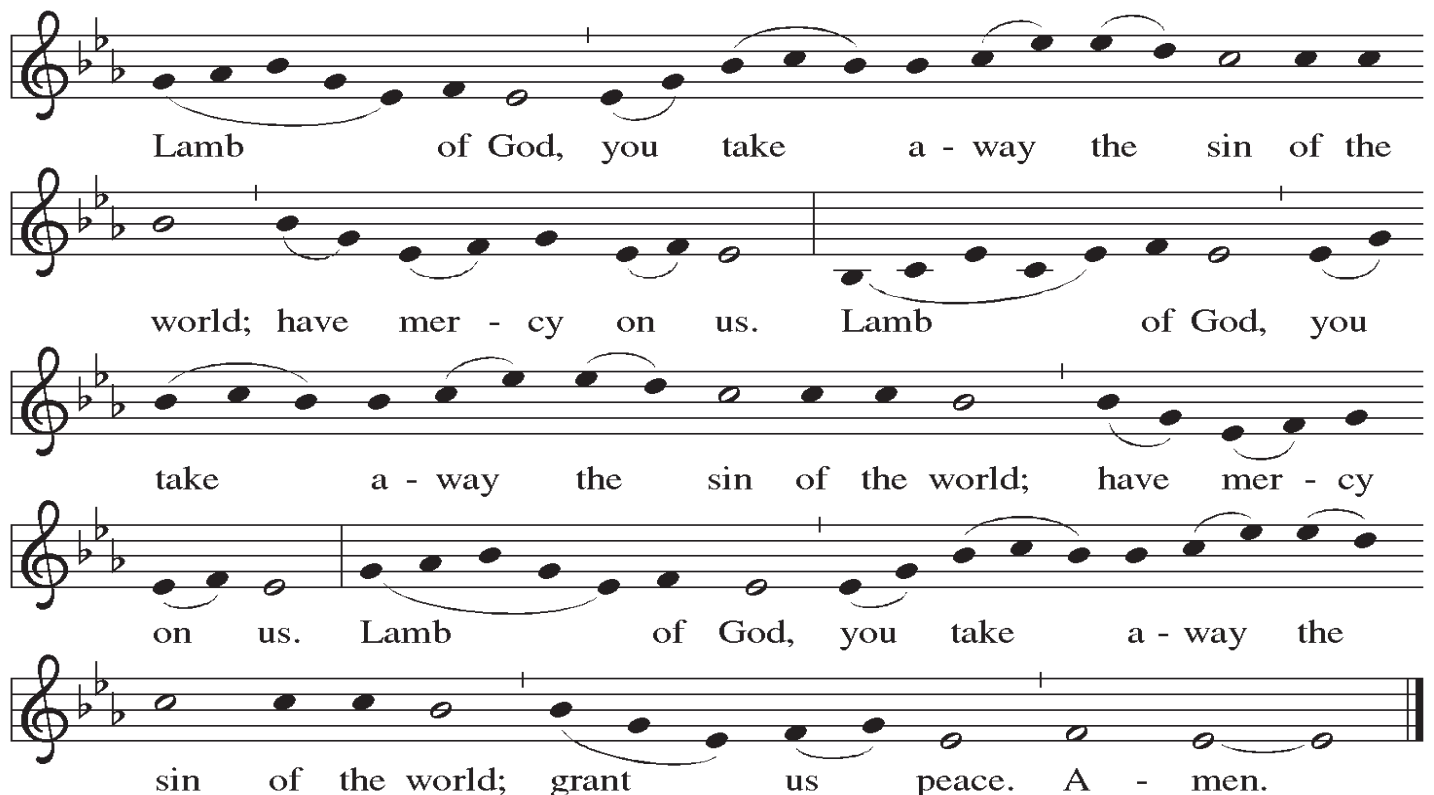
C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come! *We invite all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior to share in Holy Communion. Grape juice is available as an alternative to wine as well as gluten-free wafers. Everyone is invited to receive communion or a blessing. Hands cupped open indicate an openness to receive communion; hands closed reflect a desire to receive a blessing.*

Please stay in your seat; the pastor and assisting minister will bring the bread and wine to you.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

COMMUNION HYMN*Jesus Loves Me!***ELW 595**

- 1 Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong,
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain

Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me
so.

- 2 Jesus loves me! he who died heaven's gates to open wide; he will wash away my
sin, let his little child come in. *Refrain*

- 3 Jesus loves me! he will stay close beside me all the way; when at last I come to
die, he will take me home on high. *Refrain*

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.

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

C Amen.*Please stand as you are able.***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and
abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of
Jesus, in whose name we pray. **C Amen.**

SENDING PRAYER FOR COMMUNION KITS

P Gracious God, loving all your family with a parent's tender care: As you sent the
angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we
are sent forth. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we
bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood of your Son we all may
know the comfort of your abiding presence. **C Amen.**

+ SENDING +

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN*The Church of Christ, in Every Age***ELW 729**

- 1 The church of Christ, in ev'ry age beset by change, but Spirit-led, must claim
and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.
- 2 Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry for shelter and for
bread to eat, and never live before they die.
- 3 Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be a partner in
Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.
- 4 For he alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood, and teach
us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.
- 5 We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord; to care for all,
without reserve, and spread his liberating word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000. Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL

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

C Thanks be to God.**POSTLUDE**

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Oct. 4..... Doorstep Food Collection Day.....
 Hymn Sing Along..... 10:15 AM
 Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM
 Congregational Life meeting..... Noon
 Tues., Oct. 6..... Quilters 9:30 AM
 Sun., Oct. 11 Worship 10:30 AM
 PFLAG meeting..... 2:00 PM

Worship Leaders & Assistants

Date	Acolyte	Ushers	Musician	Lector	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Worship Leader	Coffee Host
Oct. 4	Curt Lewis	Howard Reece, Jeffrey Schafersman	Laurie Jackson	Laurie Jackson	Pam Kobbeman & Team 3	Marcy Carlson	Pr. Bob Dealey	Duane/Debbie Pomeroy
Oct. 11	Brayden Winsor	Diane Bottorff, Dean McGinnis	Mitchell Bean	LaVell Winsor	Pam Kobbeman & Team 3	Ted Murphy	Duane Pomeroy	Janice Greenlee
Oct. 18	Janeen Horton	Duane Pomeroy	Mitchell Bean	Steve Luoma	Pam Kobbeman & Team 3	Bob Horton	Bob Horton	

ALL TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE

Dear church,

In an interview after I was elected, I reflected on my experience as a mission developer, saying, “It is not about what you think you’re bringing into the community. It’s who you are in the community. The minute we showed that we cared is really when the community adopted us. People don’t care about what you know till they know that you care, and that was the biggest learning for me.”

Faithful. Informed. Engaged. This refrain captures a vision for Lutheran Christians living out their baptismal calling in the election season and beyond. Faith grounds us in God’s promises, and Christ sends us forth to love our neighbors and serve the world. Being informed equips us to address complex issues with wisdom, discernment and integrity. Being engaged reminds us that our participation in civic life is a key way we love and serve our neighbors. Our public witness is rooted in faith, guided by honesty and expressed through active citizenship.

ELCA ministries and leaders already play vital roles during election seasons. You register voters, provide rides to the polls, open your buildings as polling places and advocate for voting rights. Thank you! This year, I invite you to embrace an additional role to help strengthen our democracy: serving as trusted messengers in your communities.

Our church can be “all together in one place” as a powerful witness for truth, love of neighbor and honesty. False information remains a persistent challenge during elections. It can spread rapidly, undermining confidence in the electoral process and discouraging participation. Grounded in the commandment not to bear false witness, our churches and faith leaders are uniquely positioned to help address this challenge by seeking out and sharing accurate information and correcting misinformation when it arises. In a time when trust is often in short supply, serving as trusted sources of wisdom and guidance is a meaningful form of Christian witness. By helping our neighbors access accurate information and engage confidently in the democratic process, we live out our faith through responsible civic engagement and service to the common good. “Healthy civic engagement depends on clear distinctions between fact and all forms of falsehood, ranging from partial misstatements to intentional disinformation to outright lies. ... Our church, then, encourages us all to ask, in every personal interaction and on social media, whether our words or those we repeat represent the best possible understanding of our neighbor.”

ELCA social statement Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All (p. 62)

The ELCA offers a variety of resources to help congregations and individuals be trusted messengers. The new “ELCA Election Engagement Toolkit” provides guidance on topics that include serving as trusted messengers, engaging in election protection and modeling love of neighbor in polarized communities.

Through the “ELCA Civic Engagement Guide,” you can access materials on voter education, voter registration, candidate forums, legal guidelines for congregations, voting rights and ways to encourage participation in local communities.

I invite you to take faithful steps this election year:

- Register to vote if you have not already done so and check your registration to make sure it is up-to-date. Use the “Prepared to Vote Checklist” to think through local voting requirements.
- Learn about the issues, ballot measures and candidates that will shape your community. Participate in respectful conversations.
- Check sources of information before sharing it in conversations or online.
- Pray for those who serve in public office, for election workers and for all who will exercise the privilege of voting. Create spaces for faithful, open conversation with voters, candidates or neighbors in your community.
- Encourage your family members, friends and neighbors to take part in the democratic process.

Be faithful, informed and engaged as disciples of Jesus seeking the well-being of our neighbors and the common good of the communities God has entrusted to our care. Every act of informed participation, every conversation marked by grace and every vote cast with prayerful discernment is an opportunity to bear witness to God’s love in the world.

In Christ, The Rev. Yehiel Curry

Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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

Caring for Our Neighbors

Jesus commands us that when we care for the least of these; that we are in the presence of Christ (Matthew 25:44-45). As a congregation, we deeply care about serving those in need in our community. We hope to be a place of refuge and support for our neighborhood and to be a place to uplift those people that struggle around us. We also support ministries both local, national, and global as a church in the ELCA. As a congregation, we focus our efforts to partner with community organizations like Doorstep, while expanding opportunities to help our neighborhood through activities like our food ministry and community garden. We continue to be open to the ways that God calls us to be a presence in our community and to create a world where all are cared for in our society (Philippians 2:4).

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)