

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**JULY 26, 2020**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP based on 2 Corinthians 1: 3-4**

L: Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort.

**P: who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.**

L: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: **And also with you.**

**GATHERING SONG: “Seek Ye First” Maranatha Music**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsBpM9IcBts>

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, who faithfulness endures from generation to generation. Amen.

**P: God, We confess that we do not trust in your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

L: By the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**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.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

SONG: *"Your Power Will Pull us Through"*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xS48-KihC0>

### FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>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, <sup>12</sup>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."

### PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 119:129-136

<sup>129</sup>Your decrees are wonderful;  
therefore I obey them with all my heart.  
<sup>130</sup>When your word is opened it gives light;  
it gives understanding to the simple.  
<sup>131</sup>I open my mouth and pant  
because I long for your commandments.  
<sup>132</sup>Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
as you always do to those who love your name.  
<sup>133</sup>Order my footsteps in your word;  
let no iniquity have dominion over me.  
<sup>134</sup>Rescue me from those who oppress me,  
and I will keep your commandments.  
<sup>135</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant  
and teach me your statutes.  
<sup>136</sup>My eyes shed streams of tears,  
because people do not keep your teaching.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39**

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

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

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>The very Son of God was not withheld, but was given up for all of us, will God not along with the Son also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

<sup>36</sup>As it is written,

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

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the one who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>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.

## **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13: 44-52**

<sup>44</sup>“The dominion of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

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

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

<sup>51</sup>“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” <sup>52</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the dominion of heaven is like a householder who brings out of the household treasure what is new and what is old.”

**SERMON: “*Surprised by the Kingdom of Heaven*”**

*Shivon Miller*

**SONG: “*Be Thou My Vision*” Audrey Assad**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Optrm7IF16s>

## CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' 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.**

## THE OFFERING

*Looking for a way to give to support Trinity ministry? We have now launched our Text to Give program. Simply text the amount you'd like to give to 833-610-0635. Kathy will also continue to check the mail and make deposits weekly Thank you for your generous giving that enables continued ministries.*

OFFERING SONG: "No Matter What" Ryan Stevenson

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CPeY\\_RK7akk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CPeY_RK7akk)

## OFFERING PRAYER

**God of glory, receive these gifts and the offering of our lives. As Jesus was lifted up from the earth, draw us to your heart in the midst of this world, that all creation may be brought from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light, and from death to life; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

From our many locations, yet held in one body by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need, responding to each petition with words from Psalm 119, Be gracious to us.

*A brief silence.*

For the church, O God of mercy, we pray. Open your word to Christians around the world. Reveal yourself to us in ways both traditional and surprising, in places old and new. Bless our bishops, pastors, deacons, and other church leaders, as they face their challenging tasks. Turn to us, O God:

**be gracious to us.**

For education and nurture in the church, O God of wisdom, we pray. Give us the will to seek your wisdom. Guide the many churches in their uses of technology, and show us during this time ways to study your word. Turn to us, O God:

**be gracious to us.**

For the earth, O creative God, we pray. Give to plants and animals the water and land they require. Form us into grateful and healing caretakers of your earth. Bless the efforts of scientists and researchers, especially those seeking a vaccine. Lead all people to honor the scientific discoveries that you grant to humankind. Turn to us, O God:

**be gracious to us.**

For the nations, O God of justice, we pray. Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and to resist the ways of violence. Stifle the lust for conquest. Bring peace to the Middle East. Visit the people of Hong Kong. Move us away from racist attitudes and policies. Form our president, governor, and legislators to speak with honesty, to strive for justice, and to work to alleviate the nation's needs. Turn to us, O God:

**be gracious to us.**

For all in need, O God of compassion, we pray. Heal the sick. Feed the hungry. House the refugee. Comfort the countless thousands who are dealing with the coronavirus. Accompany those living with anxiety and despair. Form us to be your arms of mercy. Turn to us, O God:

**be gracious to us.**

For the youth, O God of grace, we pray. Give to the youth of afflicted nations an inspiring dream of what their future might be. Give them patience to await a time of safety. Direct all schools from daycare through graduate school to find an acceptable way forward. Turn to us, O God:

**be gracious to us.**

You, O God, are our pearl beyond price. You are the tree giving us eternal refuge. Hear now, we pray, the petitions of our hearts.

*A longer time of silence*

Turn to us, O God:

**be gracious to us.**

In gratitude for the lives of our beloved dead, we pray that nothing, neither death nor life, will separate us from your love. At the end, gather us with all your saints in light everlasting. Turn to us, O God:

**be gracious to us.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered together 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 from Romans 8:38**

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 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. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG: “*Everlasting God*” Lincoln Brewster**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jP2nz6PG8KM>**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**