

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
RED RIBBON SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 27, 2020**



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: With people from all times and places,

P: God calls us to worship and share together this mystery of life, and faith, and love!

L: In the company of those well-known and little known,

P: God invites us to journey together along this way of mystery,

L: We do not pretend to fully understand the mystery of the faith to which you have called us. Open our hearts that we may be prepared for the journey, so that, as the scripture is read and your word proclaimed, we may receive with joy what you have for us today.

P: Amen

GREETING

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

P: Amen.

GATHERING SONG: “Gather Us In”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HuLORivEet4>

(Note: While this may seem like an odd song choice since we are unable to gather in one space, BUT this song reminds us that we ARE always gathered together into the Body of Christ, wherever we are.)

Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken
Gather us in, the blind and the lame
Call to us now and we shall awaken
We shall arise at the sound of our name

We are the young, our lives are a mystery
We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of history
Called to be light to the whole human race
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song (continued on next page)

GATHERING SONG: “Gather Us In” (continued)

Here we will take the wine and the water
Here we will take the bread of new birth
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters
Call us anew to be salt for the earth
Give us to drink the wine of compassion
Give us to eat the bread that is you
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true

Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining
Now is the kingdom, now is the day
Gather us in and hold us forever
Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in, all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates, redeems and sustains us and all creation.

P: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Faithful God,

P: **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgement on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgression, and turn us again to life in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: God hears the cries of all who call out in need and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ. Let by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God’s work in the world.

P: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray. God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

P: Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME: “Fun in the Sun: The God Loves the World Beach Ball”

SONG: “God’s Got the Whole World”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-T1CLIMjiTw>

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the LORD God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the LORD is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the LORD is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the LORD God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the LORD God. Turn, then, and live.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 25:1-9

¹To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, although being in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but relinquished it all, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And

being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God, the Father. ¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for God’s good pleasure.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21:23-32

²³When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the dominion of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

MESSAGE: Shivon Miller

SONG: “All the People Said Amen” Matt Maher

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R377Az6RQil>

CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CONFESSION OF FAITH SONG: “I Believe” Newsboys

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjZ01FcK0yk>

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: “Build Your Kingdom Here” Rend Collective

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

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

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need, responding to each petition with the words “Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.”

A brief silence.

Throughout the globe is the church: many assemblies are postponed by the virus, our songs quieted, our leaders searching for new ways forward. ***A brief silence.*** That you will continue to inspire all the baptized with the mind of Christ, we pray to you, faithful God.

Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

Around us nature is strained: polar ice is melting, excessive rains ravage the land, fires consume forests, fields, and homes, and animals are deprived of habitat. ***A brief silence.*** That you will preserve and protect the earth, we pray to you, mighty God:

Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

Around us is a needy world: governments allow injustice, violence threatens stability, people experience prejudice, reforms are thwarted, workers are unemployed, medical facilities are strained, children are abused. ***A brief silence.*** That you will save the people in all the nations of the world, we pray to you, compassionate God:

Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

In our nation’s courts, we see justice delayed and justice denied. Yet we thank you for the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg and for her passion for equality under the law. That you will uphold honest judges and insightful juries throughout our criminal justice system, and that you will assist our nation in its task of filling the Supreme Court, we pray to you, righteous God:

Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

Around us are the sick: there is starvation, the virus continues, many persons receive no medical attention, our neighbors and dear ones are ill.

Marilyn Peterson, Jim Lockwood, Mae, Julia, Fred, Myrt, Jim, Kaylie, Dorlene, Alex and Trista, and Adrien

A brief silence.

That you will bless all ministries of care and will relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit, we pray to you, merciful God.

Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

Nearby are needs of which we are unaware. That you will send your holy angels to uphold all who face personal troubles, we pray to you, benevolent God:

Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

Inside many hearts there is both joy and sorrow. We pray now for ourselves:

A longer period of silence.

That you will give us new hearts and a new spirit, we pray to you, loving God.

Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

Before us lived countless of the faithful — the famous and the forgotten, our relatives and strangers. We lament their deaths, and we praise their witness. That we may confess Jesus Christ as Lord through our life and at our death, we pray to you, eternal God.

Hear our laments, and receive our prayers.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Savior and Lord.

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.

RED RIBBON RALLY SUNDAY

There was a red ribbon inside your Fall ECHO. We invite you to hold your ribbon now. We celebrate our shared life in Christ, remembering that all our ribbons came from the same spool.

Let us give thanks for God’s Spirit which gathers us into this community.

Let us pray for the members, friends and ministries of the Trinity community.

Let us ask God to continue to be at work in and through us.

Following worship today or in the days to come, we invite you to drive to the church building.



When you arrive take a moment to hold the ribbon in your hands and say your own prayer for the Trinity community. Then tie your ribbon on a link of the chain link fence that lines the path to the front sanctuary steps. Just like that chain link, we continue to be linked together as the Body of Christ.

(We ask that everyone abide by safety protocols while on the church property. Please sanitize your hands before and after tying your ribbon onto a link, wear a mask, and keep social distance if you encounter other people. Thank you for caring for one another and the wellbeing of Trinity in this way.)

SONG: “Bind Us Together Lord”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=emCaGJfM0gs>

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together in love.

BLESSING from Romans 15

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: “God Be With You” by Selah

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KpaL_rjT0I8

God be with you till we meet again, By good counsels guide, uphold you
With a shepherd’s care enfold you, God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet, will we meet at Jesus’ feet;
Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; holy wings securely hide you.
Daily manna still provide you; God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; when life’s perils thick confound you,
Put unfailing arms around you; God be with you till we meet again.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!