

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025



PRELUDE

“Peace is Flowing Like a River”

Carey Landry
(Women’s Trio)

© 1975 NALR, OCP# 612768

WELCOME STATEMENT

PROCESSIONAL

“Remembering The Promise”

Larry Olson

Chorus

We are remembering the promise of God’s love Oh...
we are remembering the Savior’s dying love. Oh...
we are remembering the promise of God’s love
and we know that we will never be alone.

Through the years and through the wonder, we will never be alone.
Through the tears and through the laughter, God is here with us.
(Chorus)

Through the fear and through the silence, we will never be alone.
Through the life and through the dying, God is here with us.
(Chorus)

Through the word and through the water, we will never be alone.
Through the cross and the risen Savior, God is here with us.
(Chorus)

© 1989 Dakota Road Music, CCLI# 194160

GREETING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God, we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Knock on the Door”

Sara Thomsen
(Women’s Trio)

© 1999 Sara Thomsen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's only people, and boldly asks for mercy for them. .

A reading from Exodus.

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back – those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God

PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 51:1-10

(Assembly reads the bold font in the Congregational Response.)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

A reading from First Timothy.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

(Assembly stands for the gospel.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Help Us, O Lord”

Peterson

The musical score is written on three staves in the key of D major (one sharp) and common time (C). The melody is simple and suitable for congregational singing. The lyrics are: "Help us O Lord to hear your word O - pen our hearts to feel your word Give us the strength to live your word each day". Chord markings are placed above the staff: D, DM7, D7, G, Em7, G/D, and A.

© 1997 Dakota Road, CCLI# 2527370

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

The gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING 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 ... And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

HOLY

Brenton Brown

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

© 2001 Vineyard Music, CCLI# 3233773

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory...to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Modern Version

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as our Savior taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All who wish to know the love of God in Jesus Christ are invited to Holy Communion. Inform a communion assistant if you need a gluten-free host. Grape juice is located in the center ring of the tray. If you are not receiving the sacrament today, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest for a blessing.

PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

(The assembly stands)

With the whole church, let us affirm our faith through the words of 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 BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

Gracious God, as we extend our hands toward these quilts, we join giver and receiver, recognizing the unity of all your people in the body of Christ.”

We celebrate being the children of God.

We give thanks for the variety of gifts that compose these quilts: donations of materials, thread and sewing machines, the faithful people who cut the squares, design the patterns, sew the tops, iron the fabrics, make backs and fillers, tie and stitch the bindings, and pack the quilts.

We celebrate generosity.

We give thanks for the fellowship of all who have worked together to make these quilts, the laughter, the shared stories, the joy of crafting something with one’s hands and heart for another and the time to reflect and wonder about the recipient.

We celebrate community.

We send these quilts as a sign of God’s love and blessing for each person who receives one, trusting that their quilt will be a source of comfort and hope. May each quilt be a symbol of Christ’s love to those who weep and a reminder to each recipient that they are a beloved child of God - no matter who they are or where they are on life’s journey.

We celebrate hope.

We remember those who have received our quilts in the past and continue to pray that their lives may be blessed.

We celebrate the gift of life.

We ask for your grace, that together we may minister to our neighbors in need.

Bless all who give and all who receive, as we are sewn together in the unity of your Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each prayer petition, please respond: ...God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

... We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

OFFERING/OFFERING HYMN

“Everybody’s Got Something to Offer

Larry Olson

Chorus

Everybody’s got something to offer
Young and old, the prince and the pauper
Everybody’s got something to offer
In the name of the Lord

To the lost and the lowly ones the message is clear
We have all got a gift to give our hands, our hearts, our tears
(*Chorus*)

To the believers gathered here the message it is true
We have all got a gift to give in all we say and do
(*Chorus*)

© 1989 Dakota Road Music, CCLI# 1453143

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let our hearts not be hardened to those living on the margins
you're There is room at the table for everyone
This is where it all begins, this is how we gather in
There is room at the table for everyone
community

Too long we have wondered, burdened and undone
But there is room at the table for everyone
Let us sing the new world in, this is how it all begins
There is room at the table for everyone

Chorus

There is room for us all
And no gift is too small
There is room at the table for everyone
There's enough if we share
Come on pull up a chair
There is room at the table for everyone

No matter who you are, no matter where
from
There is room at the table for everyone
Here & now we can be the beloved

There is room at the table for everyone
(*Chorus*)

Let our hearts not be hardened
to those living on the margins
There is room at the table for everyone
Room at the table for everyone
Room at the table for EVERYONE!

© 2014 Carrie Newcomer

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**BLESSING**

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING

Our Eucharist has ended.

Now it must be lived.

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“I Believe, I Do Believe”

Hans Peterson & Larry Olson

© 1993 Dakota Road Music, CCLI# 1413396

*****Trinity at a Glance*****

- **The 2026 calendars have arrived!** Marj Nelson and Kate Reed have copies available in Java Junction after church most Sundays. You can call Marj at 815-973-1286 or Kate at 815-830-2061. You can also pick up a copy at the church office during regular office hours. Last year they sold out, so don't delay! **Profits go to the Growing Project.**
- **The Giving Tree recipient for September will be Trinity Rose Montessori School.** Thank you for your continued Spirit of Giving to help enrich the lives of others.
- In partnership with Open Table on **Saturday, September 27th, Bobby Jo Valentine will be having a concert in the Trinity Sanctuary at 7 pm.** This is a free event. Bobby Jo Valentine is an explorative, hopeful, spiritual, christian, folk musician. He has won multiple awards for his songwriting, given a TedX Talk and is a believer in the soft and steady power of everyday acts of love to heal our world.
- Mark your calendars! **October 5th will be the Pet Blessing.** This will be an outdoor service.
- The next **blood drive** is **Wednesday, October 8th, Noon - 5 pm.**
- **Trinity is honored to welcome 'Partners in Pride.'** This dedicated organization works to support, uplift, and advocate for LGBTQ+ individuals, their families and allies through education, community outreach, counseling and compassionate connection. Their mission aligns with our congregation's and synod's shared values of love, inclusion, and dignity for all people. We're grateful for the opportunity to host a group committed to joining us in creating a more just and welcoming world. Learn more at www.mypartnersinpride.com.
- 🍷 **Trunk-or-Treat at Trinity!** 🍷
Join us for Trunk-or-Treat in the **north parking lot of Trinity Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 18th from 1-3pm!** Dress up, decorate your trunk, and bring some candy to share with our neighborhood kids. Don't worry - extra candy will be provided if you run out! It's a fun and safe way to celebrate the season with our community. All are welcome - invite your friends and neighbors!
- **Recent events have severely impacted people in Africa, Gaza and other places in our world.** Millions are struggling to stay alive from starvation, the loss of available medical treatment, and more. The loss of help through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has made things worse. Help is needed now! There are a number of ways that you can help with monetary gifts. You can designate your donation on your offering envelope or through one of these websites:
 - Lutheran Disaster Response disaster@ELCA.org
 - Lutheran World Relief give.lwr.org
 - ELCA World Hunger elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/elca-world-hungerPlease contact the Mission-Outreach Committee with any questions.
- **CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:**
 - August Income = \$17,156.02 (Income YTD = \$160,201.83)
 - August Expense = \$17,706.49 (Expense YTD = \$161,045.53)
 - Income Less Expense = -\$550.47 (Income Less Expense YTD = -\$843.70)
 - Loan Payment = \$2,943.30
 - Principal Payment = \$1,000.00
 - Left On Loan = \$12,099.00

● **THIS WEEK @ TRINITY:**

- **Monday (9/15):** *No Staff meeting*
10a Drum Fit (Community Room)
- **Tuesday (9/16):** 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)
4:30p Property Committee (Conference Room)
6:30p TRMS Board Meeting (Community Room)
- **Wednesday (9/17)** *No Bible Study*
6:30p Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- **Thursday (9/18):** 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)
7p Church Council Meeting (Java Junction)
- **Friday (9/19):** 7a Sunrise Rotary
- **Saturday (9/20):** *National Pepperoni Pizza Day* 🍕
- **Sunday (9/21)** 9a Sunday Session
9a Affirmation Class
10a Holy Communion
6p Book Club (Open Table)

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE -

Please sign up using the binder at the back of the aisle.

<p><u>Sunday, September 14, 2025</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: Ushers: Lector: <i>Amy Boyles</i> Communion Assistants: Altar Guild: <i>Becky Glaser, Ann Enke</i> Video Tech: Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever & Mary Heider</i> Altar Flowers: <i>In honor of Harold Salzman from the Mathis Family</i></p>	<p><u>Sunday, September 21, 2025</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: Ushers: Lector: <i>Justin Reed</i> Communion Assistants: Altar Guild: <i>Debbie Guenther, Linda Scott</i> Video Tech: Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever & Mary Heider</i> Altar Flowers: <i>In honor of Sonja Gromm & Aase Schulz from Brad Gromm</i></p>
--	---