

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2026



PRELUDE

We arrive from many places as music gathers us into one shared moment in the Spirit.

WELCOME STATEMENT

Everyone is invited into God's story and the life of this community.

GATHERING SONG

GREETING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of the living, we confess that we have not lived as the risen body of Christ in the world. We have failed to abide in your love, and have not loved one another as you love us. Strengthen us with your Spirit, that we may draw our life from you, the vine, and bear fruits of your grace and mercy in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our ✝ risen Lord, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Blue Book, Page 2

SONG OF PRAISE

Blue Book, Page 3

SPECIAL MUSIC

Mary Heider, Solo

"Be a Light"

Miller, Dragstrem, Thompson, Akins

Arr. by Tim Hayden

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING

Isaiah 51: 1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

A reading from Isaiah.

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 138

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND READING

Romans 12: 1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

A reading from Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Help Us O Lord"

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GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16: 13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

The gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

SERMON

Rev. Phillip Potaczek

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Built On A Rock"

ELW 652

STATEMENT OF FAITH *(from 'Dakota Road: Remembering the Promise' edition)*

We believe God is our creator and has promised to love us always. We believe Jesus Christ, fully God and fully human, is God's promise living among us. He experienced all the pain and joy and challenges of human life. God's forgiving love was revealed to us when Jesus suffered death on the cross. He came back to new life and has promised us new life in unity with God. We believe the Holy Spirit is God's promise touching our spirits and animating our lives, guiding us - even through our most difficult moments. We believe God is among us in community. Mysterious, yet very real, God promises to be with us always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition, Song Response: *“The Spirit intercedes for us...”*

Receive our prayers... in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

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OFFERING PRAYER

In response to your promise of life, we offer our life. In response to your promise of love, we offer our love. In response to all of your promises, we offer our gifts. **Amen.**



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION/EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth...Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

All are welcome to God’s table of grace, receiving Christ’s presence as nourishment for the journey.

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.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Lamb of God”

Blue Book, Page 8

COMMUNION HYMN

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God,...through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“Let’s Go Out”

Blue Book, Page 9

SENDING

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**



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

August 23, 2026

- **Next Sunday, August 30th, will be our final Dakota Road Sunday for the season.**

- **Fall Book Club: The Divine Art of Dying**

How do we prepare to live well all the way to life's end? What does our Christian faith have to say about hope, letting go, reconciliation, gratitude, and the promise that nothing can separate us from the love of God? This Fall, TLC Book Club invites you into a thoughtful and compassionate conversation as we read *The Divine Art of Dying* by Herbert Anderson and Karen Speerstra. Written by a pastoral theologian and a hospice patient, the book explores the spiritual journey of preparing for our own deaths-not with fear, but with honesty, faith, and grace. Pick up your copy from

<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/9781506478876/The-Divine-Art-of-Dying-Second-Edition>

Please note: this is not a class about dying; it is a conversation about living faithfully in light of God's promise. This will be a welcoming space for conversation, reflection, and prayer. *All are welcome!*

We will meet on **Tuesdays at 6pm, in the Education Building Community Room:**

September 8: Read Part 1

September 22: Read Part 3

September 15: Ready Part 2

September 29: Read Part 4

- Rotary Club will be hosting a **Culver's Night on Wednesday, September 16th, 5-8pm.** *Come out and join the fun!*
- **Rally Day** will be Sunday, **September 13th, 9am.** **Volunteers are needed for Rally Day!** The Volunteer Sign Up Sheet is in the back of the Sanctuary by Java Junction. Come sign up! Have fun and help us make this a successful event!
- The next **Trinity Lutheran Blood Drive** is happening **Wednesday, September 16th, 12pm to 5pm.** For an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Appointments are preferred but not necessary. Contact Carol Wahlstrom for more information, carolwahlstrom@gmail.com, and to volunteer.
- **Affirmation class** and first **Sunday Session** will begin at **9am September 20th.**
- **Sunday, September 20th is Quilt Sunday** this year. Quilt Sunday is a beautiful display of the Trinity Stitchers' work laid out on the pews in the Sanctuary. You don't want to miss this!
- **German Dinner Tickets are on sale now** at \$20 each. Tickets can be purchased at the Office during regular business hours, from any Rotary member or by calling 815-343-7655. Save the date in your calendar; **Friday, September 25th 5-7pm** at Trinity Lutheran Church. Proceeds support Rotary's scholarships for Marquette Academy, Ottawa High School Opportunity School, IVCC, and Trinity Rose Montessori School.
- **Mission/Outreach would like to thank those who participated in Project Apple Tree**, providing school supplies for children in need through Youth Service Bureau. Because of your generosity, 10 more students are ready and confident for the beginning of school with all their supplies in hand.
- There were **21 sweet corn pickers at Kate and Justin Reed's on Saturday, August 1st.** A pickup bed full of sweet corn was taken to Barrington United Methodist Church the next morning. Worshipers were given a dozen ears free; they did give donations that totaled \$1,044.50. Kate's dad John Hughes thanked the congregation for our Growing Project's partnership; to raise money to help women in the Western Highlands of Guatemala improve their food production. John was presented with a sizable check for the congregation's support of our project. 237 lbs of the surplus sweet corn was taken to a nearby food pantry. **Thanks to everyone for their help!**



- **CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- July Income = \$14,835.35
- July Expense = \$17,706.93
- Income Less Expense = -\$2,871.58

(Income YTD = \$137,137.67)
(Expense YTD = \$139,181.49)
(Income Less Expense YTD = -\$2,043.82)

THIS WEEK @ TRINITY:

- **Monday (8/24):**
 - 9a Tai Chi (Fellowship Hall)
 - 10a Drum Fit (Community Room)
 - 10a Staff Meeting (Office)
- **Tuesday (8/25):** 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)
- **Wednesday (8/26)** *No Bible Study Today*
- **Thursday (8/27):**
 - 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)
 - 1p Trinity Stitchers (Fellowship Hall)
- **Friday (8/28):** 7a Sunrise Rotary (Fellowship Hall)
- **Saturday (8/29):** *Individual Rights Day!* 
- **Sunday (8/30):** 10a Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE -

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

<u>Sunday, August 23, 2026</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: Ushers: Lector: <i>Anne Lauterjung</i> Communion Assistants: <i>Anne Lauterjung</i> Altar Guild: <i>Kari Castelli, Katrina Bromann</i> Video Tech: <i>Anne Lauterjung</i> Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever & Mary Heider</i> Altar Flowers:	<u>Sunday, August 30, 2026</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: Ushers: Lector: <i>Jane Goetz</i> Communion Assistants: <i>Jane Goetz</i> Altar Guild: <i>Cindy and Jay Komater</i> Video Tech: <i>Anne Lauterjung</i> Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever & Mary Heider</i> Altar Flowers: