

RENEWAL SUNDAY THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 7, 2025

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINNEAPOLIS

WELCOME TO ALL

We honor that we gather and worship on the **Dakota Homeland**.

The people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church wish to extend a **special welcome** to all visitors! Please leave your name and phone number on the visitor card found in the pew.

We are committed to the inclusion of all people, with no exception. Therefore, we practice **open communion**, welcoming all to the table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Children are full participants in this congregation's worship, educational, and community life! The Mary Martha Room is a quiet space for infants needing to nurse or to nap. For active toddlers, the Community Room has a Children's Corner with books and a table at which to play. Our ushers are ready to assist you in finding the place that best fits your family's needs.

Accessible and all-gender restrooms are located in the basement. Single-use, all-gender restrooms are located on the 1st floor.

For over forty years, this congregation has advocated for the **full welcome**, **inclusion**, **and equity** of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the church and the community. We invite all people into lives of authenticity, integrity, and wholeness.

Hearing assist devices and large-print bulletins are available. Ask an usher if you are interested.

Our services are livestreamed on Vimeo and Facebook every week. The live shot includes the main floor of the sanctuary. Our members who watch from home love to see their friends at church! If for privacy reasons you prefer not to be on camera, the balcony is outside of the camera's range.

If you are seeking pastoral care, please speak to a pastor today.

GATHER

+invites the congregation to stand

PRELUDE Beach Spring Anne Krentz Organ

+GATHERING HYMN

God Is Here!

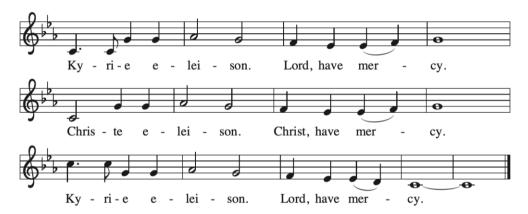
Please stand and face the cross at the rear of the sanctuary.



+GREETING

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

+KYRIE



+GLORIA



+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Jealous God, you call us to hate the life that is an echo of death and a whisper of fear: give us the courage to pass through shadows and count the cost of a love beyond measure; through Jesus Christ, the one who is fully alive.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WELCOME

Word

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Word of God; word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1

Robert Buckley Farlee

Refrain (first time: Cantor, then All):



Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel $\ ^{\mid}$ of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners,

nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law | of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching | day and night. Refrain

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that ¹ do not wither; everything they ¹ do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so | with the wicked;

they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council ¹ of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way ¹ of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall ¹ be destroyed. Refrain

SECOND READING

Philemon 1-21

Word of God; word of life. Thanks be to God.

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



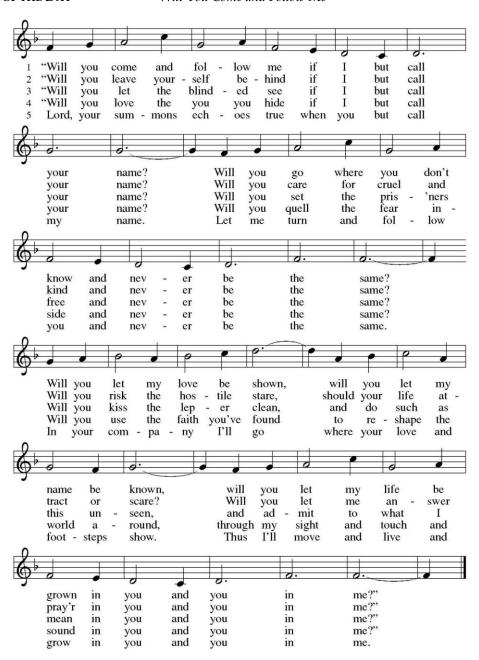
Cantor: Let your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes (Psalm 119:135). Alleluia

+GOSPEL READING

Luke 14:25-33

Word of God; word of life. Thanks be to God.

SERMON



Please be seated.

THE HEDGEHOG BLESSING: A BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING FOR CHILDREN AND TEACHERS

Children, youth, and teachers participating in Sunday School and Confirmation are invited to come forward.

A hedgehog stuffed animal is given to each one as this blessing is shared.

Beloved Children of God: As hedgehogs roam far and wide and investigate the world, may you have room to discover and grow, may you be filled with curiosity and wonder, may your body move, your heart thrill, and your mind explore. Let us bless them as we pray.

God, bless these beloved ones.

As hedgehogs are the most deeply hibernating creature on the planet and have no problem curling up for a nap anytime throughout their waking days, may you take many breathers and breaks when you need them: brain breaks and mask breaks and friend breaks and screen breaks. And may you know when to let go and relax, and when you are tired, may you find deep rest. Let us bless them as we pray.

God, bless these beloved ones.

As hedgehogs are very vocal with their grunts and snuffles and squeals, so may you speak up and speak out. Share your joys and your sadnesses, your worries and your celebrations. May you make new friends and listen to their grunts and snuffles and squeals too, because we are all in this together. Let us bless them as we pray.

God, bless these beloved ones.

As hedgehogs curl into a ball, may you too let yourself feel your feelings. If you are sad or angry, scared or worried, God will join you there and hold you in it. And as hedgehogs enjoy being held and not forced to come out of their ball but allowed to uncurl when they are ready, may you trust that you are held in God's love, and it's OK to just rest there, and not to move too quickly. Let us bless them as we pray.

God, bless these beloved ones.

As hedgehogs lose their baby spines and grow adult ones, many of you will lose your baby teeth and grow adult teeth, which we will celebrate with you as milestones of growing up. But all of us get to let go of the ways that no longer serve us in protecting ourselves, and grow new, brave ways to stay both connected to God and other people and true to ourselves. Let us bless them as we pray.

God, bless these beloved ones.

God of the whole universe and of the hedgehog too, bless these children, youth, and teachers with all these things, and in all these ways, as they begin a new school year. **Amen.**

+INTERCESSIONS Sundays and Seasons

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

(silence)

We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace, **Receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace,

Receive our prayer.

We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace, **Receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely, especially Mary Heltsley; Tre Tellor's mom Jill; Michael Miller; Chris Amundson; Tina and Neela; Tracey Baubie's mom ShaRon; Jeff Olsen Biebighauser's mom Jo; Rick Lathrop; Mary Petersen; Karen Batdorf's sister Marie; Mike Kelly; Katie Murray's mom Pat; Josie Tober; Kaia Ellis and her family on the death of her cousin; and those we hold in our hearts or speak with our voices now (*the congregation may name loved ones in need of God's care*). May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. God of grace,

Receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. God of grace,

Receive our prayer.

You are invited to offer spoken petitions. At the conclusion of your petition, please close with "God of grace," to which the congregation will respond, "Receive our prayer."

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

+PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

OFFERING

You Are Holy

setting, David Cherwien

Baskets will be passed in the sanctuary. If you prefer to donate to the mission and ministry using Venmo or card, the QR codes can be found on the back page of the bulletin.



+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.

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places, offer 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:

+SANCTUS



+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together:

Our Creator, Our Mother, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

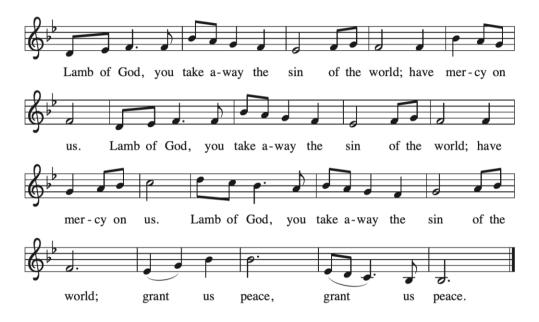
Give us today our daily bread.

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.

+LAMB OF GOD



Please be seated.

COMMUNION INVITATION

All are welcome at the table. This is Christ's table where no one is a stranger.

For those worshiping at home, hear these words spoken for you: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

All are welcome at the table.

Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the server.

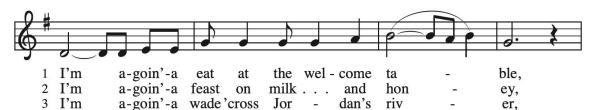
An usher will direct you down the center aisle, where you can pick up a communion cup. You are invited to stand or kneel in front of the table, beginning from the middle and moving toward the outside. After you have received the bread and the wine, please return to your seat by way of the side aisle, where an usher will receive your communion cup.

If you wish to receive communion from your pew, please let an usher know.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

3 I'm

Welcome Table



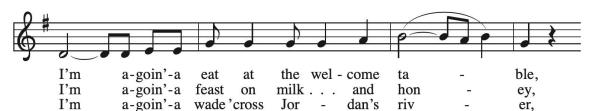


dan's

riv

er,

I'm the wel-come ta-ble, some of these days. a-goin'-a eat at I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days. a-goin'-a wade'cross Jor - dan's riv-er, some of these days. I'm





I'm goin' - a the wel-come ta-ble, some of these eat at days. I'm goin' - a feast milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days. on I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor dan's riv - er, some of these days.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

In God Alone My Soul



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment



- 1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
- 2 Shar-ing lav ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
- 3 Gen-ders, rac es, tribes, and na tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta - bles set and doors wide o - pen wel-come an - gels un - a - ware. stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man - y folds. bid - ding all to work to - geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.



Plead for the peace of all cre - a - tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



+BLESSING

The body and blood of Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

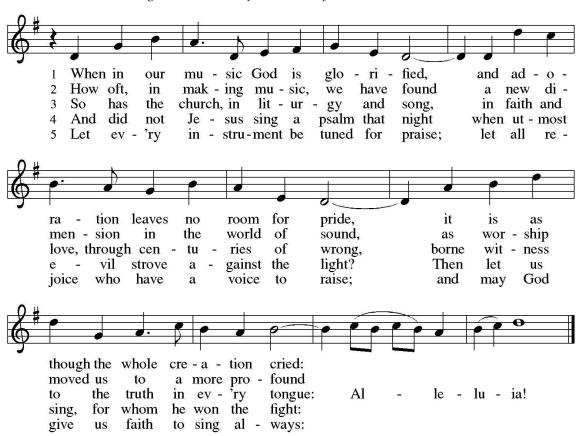
Amen.

SENDING

+SENDING HYMN

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

Children and youth are invited to join the worship leaders as they recess and gather at the rear of the sanctuary to share the dismissal.



+BENEDICTION

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.

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbors. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Allegro from Concerto for Violin, TWV 51:G8

G. P. Telemann

After worship, join us on the front lawn for a joyful celebration to kick off the new program year! There will be something for everyone: a bounce house, face painting, breakfast and carne asada tacos, music, and plenty of fun. Whether you've been coming for years or are brand new, come be part of the joy and community. All are welcome

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"Will You Come and Follow Me" Text: Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949. Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc. agent.
"Be Still, My Soul" Text: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752; tr. Jane Borthwick, 1855. Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius
"Welcome Table" Text: African American spiritual. Music: WELCOME TABLE, African American spiritual
"In God Alone" Text: Taizé Community. Music: MON AME SE REPOSE, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
Text and music © 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.
"Commonwealth Is God's Commandment" Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, Southern Harmony', 1835. Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc.
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Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924. Text © 1972 Hope Publishing Company

"God Is Here!" Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000. Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 612-729-8358 ★ htlcmpls.org

LITURGY: ACS SETTING TWELVE

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Preacher	Doug Mork (he/him)	
Presiding Minister	Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her)	
Crucifer		
Cantor	Paul Rasmussen (he/him)	
Violin	Joanna Phillips (she/her)	
Assisting Minister		
Communion	Andrea Hansen (she/her), Kris Christians (she/her), Nicki Hines (she/her)	
Ushers	Alan Libra (he/him), Chris Engen (he/him), Chuck Jordan (he/him)	
Altar Guild	Ginny Jordan (she/her), Mary Engen (she/her)	
Coffee Servers	Tacos on the front lawn	
Counters	Annie Hines (she/her)	
Video Operator	Jeff Weiss (he/him)	
Closer	Roberta Shaw (she/her)	

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STAFF

Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her), Lead Pastor
David Larson-Martínez (he/him), Associate Pastor
Doug Mork (he/him), Part-time Associate Pastor
Kathy Ekwall (she/her), Communications &
Congregational Coordinator (on sabbatical)
Nolan Gusdal (he/him), Building Maintenance
Phil Radtke (he/him), Cantor
Kaia Ellis (she/her), Financial Administrator

STAFF, CONTINUED

Sue Roberts (she/her), Publications Coordinator Edgar Alvarez (he/him), Custodian Dana Simms (he/him), Custodian Logan Olson (he/him), Gloria Ringers Director Andrew Winfield (he/him), Accompanist

LEADERSHIP

Anne Beschnett (she/her), Council President Sandra Hisakuni (she/her), Council Vice President James Nysse (he/him), Council Secretary George Henry (he/him), Council Treasurer

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT: CHANTING THE PSALMS IN HOPE, THURSDAYS, 7:00 P.M.

Join Ann Schrooten on Thursday evenings to lean into the ancient practice of chanting the psalms. Ann says, "In the coming days and weeks, our intention will be to sing through all 150 Psalms in order, beginning to end."

BIKE RIDE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 5:25 P.M.

All are invited to join Sheryl Undem, Mary Beth Bierwagen, Pat Libra, and Julie Cahoy for an evening bike ride. Meet at HT Rain Garden at 5:25 p.m. for a 15-mile "Bridge Ride" that will end at E Lake DQ! Sign up in the Community Room or just show up. Bring lights. (If it rains, we'll meet on Friday, September 12.)

BOOK STUDY WITH BOB HULTEEN AND ALEX BRANDT TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Agrarian Spirit: Cultivating Faith, Community, and the Land by Norman Wirzba, a Wendell Berry devotee and professor at the Duke Divinity School, has crafted a deep dive into the intersection of and interaction between our relationships to land, community, and spirituality. He gives pragmatic suggestions that renew a deeper connection to dirt.

Alex grew up on a farm in Northwest Iowa and now works for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Bob was born on a farm near Bemidji and was radicalized by agrarian movements in North Dakota, where he grew up. Copies of the book are available in the Community Room, and all are welcome to join our discussion group on Tuesday, September 16, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

ADULT RETREAT FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 3 - SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 5

The Adult Retreat will be held at the Benedictine Center of St. Paul's Monastery in Maplewood from October 3 to 5. Our theme this year is "Building community starts with belonging. What are we called to do in response?" The rooms have two beds; shared rooms are preferred (two people to a room with a shared bath). \$110 total for the weekend for room and meals. Single rooms are an option (\$50 per night) after double rooms are filled. Scholarships are available. See Pastor David. Sign up in the Community Room by September 14.

SHARE THE BOUNTY!

Are your gardens overproducing, your CSA giving you too much abundance or have you overbought at the Farmers market? The Creation Care Committee would like to give you an opportunity to avoid food waste and share your abundance. We will have a table in the Community Room on Sundays, Bring your extra produce on Sunday morning to share. We will share with congregation members in both HT and Swahili congregations. What is left will be shared with Soup for You! and their guests. Share instead of wasting or composting.

CHURCH SCHEDULE

Monday, September 8	6:30-8:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, September 9	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Discussion
	6:45 PM	Big Meeting Night
Wednesday, September 10	5:00-6:00 PM	Choir Family Meal
	5:45-6:30 PM	Jubilation Youth Handbell Ensemble
	5:45-6:45 PM	Children's Choir
	6:30-8:00 PM	Gloria Ringers
	6:30-8:00 PM	Open Gym
	6:45-7:30 PM	Cantate!
Thursday, September 11	7:00 PM	Chanting the Psalms with Ann Schrooten
Sunday, September 14	9:00 AM	Adult Forum
	9:00 AM	Youth Education
	10:00 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	12:00 PM	Swahili Service

ADULT FORUM

9:00 a.m. each Sunday in the Library

TODAY "The Way It Looks from Here" Pastor Ingrid Rasmussen

As we begin a new program year, Pastor Ingrid will offer reflections on congregational and community life in a special Adult Forum titled "The Way It Looks from Here." She'll reflect on our shared calling to cultivate a community where everyone is known, needed, and loved. In a world marked by disconnection, the church can be a powerful place of belonging—if we choose to build it that way. Come hear what's emerging in and through our congregation, ask questions, and join the conversation. Whether you've been at Holy Trinity for decades or are just getting to know us, you are warmly invited to be part of this time of reflection and visioning. Join us at 9:00 a.m. in the library.

September 14 "Bible Refresher" John Buzza

Feeling the need for a Bible refresher or a spiritual anchor in chaotic times? Join John Buzza for an engaging overview of the Bible, with a special focus on the thread of love woven throughout scripture. Whether you're new to the Bible or simply looking to reconnect with its central message, this session offers a grounding introduction.

DONATE

We are grateful for your donations that allow us to build community in this corner of Minneapolis and beyond!



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