

The FOURTEENTH sunday

AFTER PENTECOST

**tRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** | *Saline, Michigan*

***August 26/29, 2021***

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**Thank you** for joining us in God’s house today! We cordially ask that our Guests with us this morning sign one of the guestbooks located at either the front or back entryways.

**THANK OFFERING:**  Members of Trinity give their offering as an expression of love and thankfulness to the Lord and to help support the Lord’s work in our community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

**Restrooms** are located at the back of the upper level (the annex), and in the basement (down the back stairs of the sanctuary or annex). Handicap access is available, please ask an usher for assistance.

**Young Families / Toddler Bags** – We are **GLAD YOU BROUGHT YOUR CHILDREN** to our worship service. Jesus said: *“Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”* We know that having little children in church can be a challenge, but **DO NOT WORRY** about it. Many of your fellow worshippers have been in your shoes and are just happy you brought your children with you. For your convenience, we have reserved the back rows of seating for parents with small children. These areas provide more flexibility for your family, as well as, easy access to move downstairs if necessary. A closed-circuit TV system allows families to continue participating in the service while downstairs. Pre-school **toddler bags** and **children’s bulletins** are available for their enjoyment. Ask an usher for one to use during the service and please return the toddler bag afterwards.

SERVICE of the word Christian Worship, page 38

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**PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE**

# invocation

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

**PRAYER AND PRAISE**

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**OH, TASTE AND SEE**

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

***The minister says the Prayer of the Day.***

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**The Word**

**the FIRST LESSON Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18**

**1**Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, and he summoned the elders of Israel, its heads, its judges, and its officers, and they presented themselves before God.

**2**Then Joshua told all the people, “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, has said.”

**14** “Now, therefore, fear the Lord and serve him wholeheartedly and faithfully. Remove the gods that your fathers served in the region across the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. **15**But if you see no benefit in serving the Lord, then choose for yourselves today whomever you will serve—whether the gods that your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household—we will serve the Lord!”

**16**The people responded by saying, “Far be it from us to forsake the Lord in order to serve other gods! **17**For the Lord our God, he is the one who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, where we were slaves. He is the one who performed these great signs right before our eyes and protected us on the whole journey that we made and among all the peoples through whom we passed. **18**The Lord drove out of our presence all the peoples and the Amorites who were living in the land. We too will serve the Lord, because he is our God!”

**PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 71, CW page 92**

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***Refrain***

In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge;\*

let me never be put to shame.

Rescue me and deliver me in your righteousness;\*

turn your ear to me and save me.

Be my rock of refuge to which I can always go;\*

For you are my rock and my fortress.

***Refrain***

Since my youth, O God, you have taught me,\*

and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

Even when I am old and gray,\*

do not forsake me, O God,

till I declare your power to the next generation,\*

your might to all who are to come.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\***

**and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

***Refrain***

Refrain Tune: Robert J. Thompson. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, <www.giamusic.com>. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**THE SECOND LESSON EPHESIANS 5:21-32**

**21**and by submitting to one another in reverence for Christ.

**22**Wives, submit to your own husbands as to the Lord. **23**For the husband is the head of the wife, just as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he himself is the Savior. **24**Moreover, as the church submits to Christ, so also wives are to submit to their husbands in everything.

**25**Husbands, love your wives, in the same way as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her **26**to make her holy, by cleansing her with the washing of water in connection with the Word. **27**He did this so that he could present her to himself as a glorious church, having no stain or wrinkle or any such thing, but so that she would be holy and blameless. **28**In the same way, husbands have an obligation to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. **29**To be sure, no one has ever hated his own body, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, **30**because we are members of his body, of his flesh and of his bones. **31**“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will be one flesh.”

# Verse of the day

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# *PLEASE Stand, if you are able*

# THE GOSPEL LESSON john 6:60-69

M: The Gospel according to John 6:60-69

**60**When they heard it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching! Who can listen to it?”

**61**But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, asked them, “Does this cause you to stumble in your faith? **62**What if you would see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? **63**The Spirit is the one who gives life. The flesh does not help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. **64**But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning those who would not believe and the one who would betray him. **65**He said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is given to him by my Father.”

**66**After this, many of his disciples turned back and were not walking with him anymore. **67**So Jesus asked the Twelve, “You do not want to leave too, do you?”

**68**Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life. **69**We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

***After the Gospel, the congregation sings:***

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**SERMON HYMN #466 CW**

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**SERMON Joshua 24:1-18**

**“Which God Will You Serve?”**

**One of the gods of the past**

**One of the gods of the present**

**The One God of the past, the present, and the future**

***PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE***

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**C: 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.**

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**HYMN #506 CW**

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**PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**M:** Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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M:Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

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**CLOSING HYMN #332 CW**

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# Serving In Worship

**Liturgy** Pastor Natsis

**Preacher** Pastor Natsis

**Organist** Ann Hoeft

**Deacons** (Thursday) Dave Frey and Duane Mason

(Sunday - 8:30) Jim Tice and Ed Wheeler

(Sunday – 11:00) Robert Niethammer and Jeff Neuburger

**Altar Guild** Marcia Marion Ackling and Scott Ackling

**Videographer** Ann Latowski

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