



Keep *in* step

with the Spirit | Galatians 5:25



MEMBER OF THE CHURCH



OF THE LUTHERAN
CONFESSION



Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

September 10th, 2023

Organist: Jarrod Lentz

Video: Stan White & Ben Reim

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Bible Class: 9:15am
Worship: 10:30am

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Service of the Word

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

TLH 8 Father, Who the Light This Day

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P Our Help is in the Name of the Lord,

C **Who made heaven and earth**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with you there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, and to call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our own unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Kyrie - Lord, Have Mercy



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis - Glory to God in the Highest



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C (spoken) And also with you.

P Let us pray. . .

C (spoken) Amen

First Reading

Proverbs 4:14-23 (ESV)

Do not enter the path of the wicked,
and do not walk in the way of the evil.

15 Avoid it; do not go on it;
turn away from it and pass on.

16 For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong;
they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.

17 For they eat the bread of wickedness
and drink the wine of violence.

18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,
which shines brighter and brighter until full day.

19 The way of the wicked is like deep darkness;
they do not know over what they stumble.

20 My son, be attentive to my words;
incline your ear to my sayings.

21 Let them not escape from your sight;
keep them within your heart.

22 For they are life to those who find them,
and healing to all their flesh.

23 Keep your heart with all vigilance,
for from it flow the springs of life.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 1:1-3

P Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,

C **Nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful;**

P But his delight is in the law of the Lord,

C **And in His law he meditates day and night.**

P He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water,

C **That brings forth its fruit in its season,**

P Whose leaf also shall not wither;

C **And whatever he does shall prosper.**

Second Reading

Matthew 12:9-21

Now when He had departed from there, He went into their synagogue. 10 And behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. And they asked Him, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"—that they might accuse Him.

11 Then He said to them, "What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out? 12 Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." 13 Then He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and it was restored as whole as the other. 14 Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him.

15 But when Jesus knew it, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all. 16 Yet He warned them not to make Him known, 17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the

prophet, saying:

18 "Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen,
My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased!

I will put My Spirit upon Him,
And He will declare justice to the Gentiles.

19 He will not quarrel nor cry out,
Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets.

20 A bruised reed He will not break,
And smoking flax He will not quench,

Till He sends forth justice to victory;

21 And in His name Gentiles will trust."

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be-lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits 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.

Hymn of the Day

LSB 704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light

1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, And let my
2 Re - move the pow'r of sin from me And cleanse all
3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, That glad - ly
4 Grant that I on - ly You may love And seek those

heart and soul be bright, Il - lu - mined with the
my im - pu - ri - ty That I may have the
I o - bey Your Word. Let what You will be
things which are a - bove Till I be - hold You

light of grace That is - sues from Your ho - ly face.
strength and will Temp - ta - tions of the flesh to still.
my de - sire, And with new life my soul in - spire.
face to face, O Light e - ter - nal, through Your grace.

Sermon

Galatians 5:13-26

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies,

outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Walk With Your Hands

I: You are led by the Spirit – not the flesh
II: You are alive in the Spirit – through Christ
III: So walk in the Spirit – by faith

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

OFFERTORY

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Hymn

TLH 390 Drawn to the Cross, which Thou hast Blest

Offering

Prayer of the Church + The Lord's Prayer

P . . . in whose Name we also join to pray together:

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

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

WS 727 Our Paschal Lamb, that Sets Us Free

Silent Prayer

Acknowledgments

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Welcome to worship at Trinity!

Please wait to be ushered out of the sanctuary. Please do not leave any bulletins or other materials behind. **Offerings** may be left in the offering plate in the rear of the sanctuary or mailed to the church.

Guest and Visitors, we are delighted to have you here for worship with us this morning and are grateful for the opportunity to share the saving gospel message of Jesus Christ with you! Because He lives, we shall live also! We invite you to sign our guest book in the entryway. Please speak to the members and pastor if you wish to learn more about the Gospel ministry here at *Trinity*, and we hope to see you again!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSING YOUR GLASSES? – A pair of glasses was found on the altar. If these are yours, they've been placed on the table in the entryway.

BIBLE CLASS – This morning we resumed our Bible class studies and will continue to do so each Sunday morning at 9:15 and each Tuesday afternoon at 2pm in the North entryway. Please don't miss out on this opportunity to grow in faith, join in fellowship, and ask those burning questions!

CHURCH COUNCIL + WOMEN'S CIRCLE – Church council and Women's Circle will meet today following worship.

CHURCH CLEAN-OUT – We will be having a church clean-out day scheduled a week from today, September 17th, after worship. If you are able, please come to church in work clothes and help us sort through and dispose of some of the things we no longer have use for at church.

CHURCH PICNIC – We will be having a church picnic scheduled on September 24th following worship at Stan and Laurie White's residence. Burgers, hotdogs, buns, condiments, and drinks will be provided. Members are asked to bring a side or a dessert if they are able. Please join us and bring a friend or two!

PRAYERS REQUESTED

- Please keep the family of **Randy and Lynne Estes** in your prayers. Recently, Randy's mother passed away. May the light and hope of the Gospel shine upon the Estes family and give them the peace which passes understanding!

- **Molly's friend, Jeanne**, has continued to take chemotherapy treatment five times a week to treat a brain tumor they discovered a few months ago. She will have another scan this month to check on her progress. May the Lord, in His love, alleviate any pain and suffering and may her scans reveal progress in her treatment if it is His will!
- Please keep **Pastor John Hein and his family** in your prayers as he continues treatment for his thymic carcinoma. For updates on his care, visit: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/pastorjohnhein>. Additionally, a GoFundMe has been set up to help offset medical and travel expenses: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/john-and-janelle-hein-family>.

CALL NEWS

<> **Pastor David Pfeiffer** of Holy Trinity Lutheran in West Columbia, SC is *considering* the call to be the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI.

FRUITS OF FAITH AT TRINITY		
Date	Attendance	Offering
8/13/23	21	\$545
8/20/23	Cancelled	-
8/27/23	23	\$1,370
9/3/23	21	\$2,830

GREETER SCHEDULE	
Next Sunday	Jeanne Helke
9/24	Dennis & Linda Lux
10/1	Ben Reim

SEPTEMBER CLEANING SCHEDULE	
North Entry	Clark
Sanctuary	Bettinger
Basement	Naumann

THE CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION'S

MINISTRY BY MAIL



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Excerpts from the 2023 Christian Education Sermon from Ministry by Mail

"CRITICAL REDUNDANCIES"

Based on 1 John 2:24-28

There are multiple redundancies built into every critical function of modern commercial aircraft. In fact, it's not uncommon for critical flight software to have four separate and independent systems, each of which was written by a different team and hosted on separate systems to avoid systematic errors. I, for one, don't really want to know how often even one of those systems fails. It's just nice to know the lengths manufacturers will go to keep all of those tons of metal and plastic in the air. It's also a lesson in the value of redundancies – especially in areas where failure is just not an option.

Surely if it is important to safeguard human life, it is even more important to safeguard spiritual, eternal life – our relationship with the One before whom we must all one day stand. Our God in his wisdom and love has established three separate systems for our spiritual safety: the home, church, and Christian education. It's a marvelous system our God has put in place to protect and strengthen his beloved children.

The first and obviously primary system that God established is the home, and the instruction that must begin there. God the Holy Spirit through Solomon spoke of the importance of this first system when he wrote in Proverbs 22: "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

What if that primary system fails? Knowing the importance as he does, what is God's backup plan to protect and preserve his beloved little lambs if parents "disable" the primary? The church, of course, but that too can be effectively disabled by simply never utilizing what the church offers. It can also be short-circuited by choosing the wrong church. A church that holds to the inerrancy of God's Word, together with a pastor who faithfully instruct on the basis of that Word alone, are invaluable gifts from God.

To safeguard our Christian faith and our eternal future, we need nothing beyond the Word of God, and we want nothing in any aspect of our lives that in any way contradicts that Word of truth.

An interesting, disturbing dynamic takes place, by the way, when home and church are at odds. Multiple studies have found that irrespective of what is taught in the home, failing to attend church regularly results in even poorer attendance by children when they are grown and on their own. In other words, disabling the second safeguard (church) also tends to compromise God's primary safeguard (Christian instruction in the home). Dads play the lead role here, as their actions most dramatically affect their children's later church participation.

We come finally to the third critical redundancy: Christian education. From the time children reach somewhere around the sixth year of life, and typically right up until they leave the home, children spend about half of their waking hours in school.

Return one last time to those critical redundancies in airplanes and consider a scenario where there are just three systems and one fails. You are down to two. How important is it that both of those functioning backup systems be reliable? To put it another way, would you be satisfied and comfortable, cruising at 35,000 feet, knowing that one system was completely unreliable, and that you could never be certain which one routinely provided faulty information and which could be trusted? Again, the pilot would just need to guess, continually. Obviously unacceptable.

Now switch back to God's critical redundancies for our Christian walk and salvation, for the preservation of our Christian faith and eternal future - the Christian faith and eternal future of our beloved children and grandchildren. If given the choice, how could it ever be considered safe or wise to knowingly adopt a system that injects both truth and error into tender human hearts for roughly half of every waking moment of their formative years - simply hoping that Jesus' little lambs would be able to consistently separate truth from error? That's not a fail-safe. That's not God's plan for critical redundancy. In fact, it's just the opposite since it introduces error and uncertainty. You recall how John warned in our text: "I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you." Is there a greater source of deception today than our society's public education system? Children's programming on television perhaps runs a solid second, but public education still wins that race by about a hundred furlongs.

And it doesn't have to be. You have options. Some are blessed with the amazing gift of a Christian Day School. Some opt to home school. God's third fail-safe is fully intact and functional in both of these. No contradictions, only harmony. We can no longer rely on the public school system to teach objective truth, like the "3 R's." Some may well live in a fairly conservative school district, but public schools cannot teach from a Christian perspective, and God's Word speaks to that. In Proverbs 9:10 we are told that "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom." In Proverbs 1:7 God the Holy Spirit broadened the point, telling us in fact that "the fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge." Knowing and believing in God, and in his Savior Jesus the Christ, isn't just the starting point of wisdom, it is the gateway to all true knowledge - the only path by which truth can be accessed. Math, for example, only works because God designed it to work. Science is rudderless, hopelessly lost and adrift, unless you begin with the basic truth of God as Creator. Sociology, geology, astronomy, botany, biology, anatomy - nothing works unless it begins with the foundation of the Triune God as Creator and Lord.

Everything in God's plan is designed to first create and then protect saving Christian faith. Just after our text in this same letter, the Apostle John wrote: "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." (1 John 3:1) Why would anyone want to disable any of the blessed redundancies that our God has established for our protection? Why would we ever consider removing Christ-crucified as the center of the home where we live, the church where we belong, or the school where our children are taught? God knows us now as his children, and his loving desire and plan for our lives is that we continue to exist as his children for all eternity. Trust his plan to safeguard that privileged status that is even now your personal possession through faith in your Savior. Amen.