



“Two men went up into the temple to pray.”

Luke 18:9



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Trinity is a member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (www.clclutheran.org)

October 26, 2025

Pentecost 21

Serving Us Today

Organist: Kathy Conway



We Enter God's House and Prepare for Worship

Pre-service Meditation: *Psalm 90*

Pre-service Prayer:

Dear Jesus, You have invited the weak and heavy laden to come to You for rest, and that is me. I am weak. I am burdened by my sin, the troubles around me, and my struggles within. I come to You, casting my every care upon You. Be merciful to me, the sinner. Hear my prayers, forgive my sin, instruct me, strengthen me, restore to me the joy of my salvation. Amen.

Order of Worship

(The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 5)

*When the congregation is asked to stand, please do so only if you are able.
You may remain seated if standing is difficult.*

Welcome to Worship (Pastor)

Hymn: 16—Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (sings): **Amen**

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C (sings): **Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C (sings): **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

C (sings): **Amen.**

Responsive Reading: *Psalm 90:1-9, 12, 14, 16-17*

Pastor: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world,

Cong: from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

P: You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"

C: For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

P: You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:

C: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

P: For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.

C: You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

P: For all our days pass away under your wrath;

C: we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

P: So teach us to number our days

C: that we may get a heart of wisdom.

P: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,

C: that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

P: Let your work be shown to your servants,

C: and your glorious power to their children.

P: Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us;

C: yes, establish the work of our hands!

Congregation Sings (TLH, p.6ff)

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

The Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Pastor: Glory be to God on high:

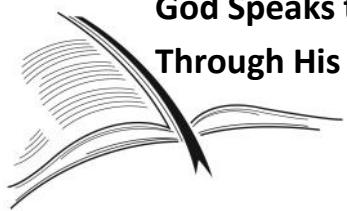
Cong: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, We glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who takes away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon us. You who takes away the sin of the world, Receive our prayer. You who sits at the right hand of God the Father, Have mercy upon us. For You only are holy; You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, Are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C (sings): And with Your spirit.

P: Let us pray...

C (sings): Amen!



God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Lesson:

Deuteronomy 10:12-11:1

In his final words to the people of Israel, Moses recounted how God had given the law to them. Then he spoke these words which declare God's expectation, why He is the one to have such expectations, the blessing He had given them, and their motivation for keeping God's law.

"And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good? Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven

and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn. For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen. Your fathers went down to Egypt seventy persons, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars of heaven. “You shall therefore love the LORD your God and keep his charge, his statutes, his rules, and his commandments always.

P: Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and treasure it! Hallelujah!

C (sings): Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Epistle Lesson: 2 Timothy 4:6-18

C (sings): Glory be to You, O Lord!

Paul’s closing words in his final letter to Timothy acknowledge the reality of his death which would come soon, but also the confidence Paul had even in the face of death. He also gave information, instruction, and counsel to Timothy—still serving the work of the gospel.

[Paul wrote], “I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. Do your best to come to me soon. For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. When you come, bring the

cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

C (sings): Praise be to You, O Christ!



Confession of Faith: The Apostolic 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.

Hymn: 323 — With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh

The Sermon

Text: Luke 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners,

unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

“Come to the Temple to Pray”

- I. Will I come with a “prayer” of self?
- II. Will I come with a prayer of repentance?
- III. With what will I return home?

Cong. (sings): Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me with Your free Spirit.

Hymn: 388 — Just as I Am, without One Plea

Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

Benediction (Pastor)

C (sings): Amen! Amen! Amen!

Hymn: 50 — Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing
(Please stand for the final verse)

Silent Prayer

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Welcome to worship at Trinity!

Guest and Visitors, we invite you to sign our guest book. We look forward to having you worship with us again! Please speak to the members and pastor if you wish to learn more about the Gospel ministry at Trinity.



Thank-offerings may be left in the offering plate in the back of the church, mailed to the church, or made electronically via the link on our website home page.

Next Week's Schedule

(If the Lord wills we shall do this or that)

Saturday (November 1)

9:15 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion

Greeters: Tom & Molly Bettinger

News & Notes

Trinity's Calls: In a voters' meeting last week, we extended a divine call to retired pastor Paul Tiefel to serve as a resident vacancy pastor. He has sent the following:

October 22, 2025

Dear Members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

In Christ Jesus Who left heaven to die on earth so that we could leave the earth to live with Him in heaven.

This letter is to let you know that I have received your call and the accompanying letter. I appreciate the opportunity to see the work that is being done in your congregation in the

Kingdom of God. I do recognize that this call merits serious and prayerful consideration. I have already talked to Pastor Drew Naumann. He was helpful in understanding the ministry in your midst.

I have also contacted the President of the CLC, your Conference Visitor, and mine, and they are joining you and me in asking that God's will is known and done.

In the name of our Redeemer.

Pastor Paul Tiefel

Pastor Aaron Ude continues to deliberate our call to serve as full-time pastor at Trinity.

Bible Classes: This morning, we began a study in “Words with Big Meanings.” We will, Lord-willing, continue in this study during the Saturday morning Bible classes. **We are still working on scheduling a midweek Bible Study**—if you are available to be part of such a study, let Pastor Eichstadt know so that we are able to schedule it in the best possible way.

CLC Coordinating Council Report: Today’s bulletin includes an insert that summarizes the reports from the various Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) boards from last month’s Coordinating Council meeting. Copies of the full report are in the north entry and available for taking/reading to learn all the information not included in the summary.



News from around the Church of the Lutheran Confession

Call News: Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has returned the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI / Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI, has returned the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church,

Middleton, WI / Pastor Michael Gurath of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ, has received the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI / Professor Mark Weis has returned the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN / Pastor Matthew Ude of Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, WI, has received the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

Northern & Southern California: Now that the vacancy at St. Stephen, Mountain View, CA has been filled by Pastor David Ude, the regular worship services have resumed in the Los Angeles and Sacramento areas. **LA Area:** Sunday October 26 at 6:30 PM in the conference room of a member's work place at 9278 Charles Smith Ave Rancho Cucamonga 91730. **Sacramento:** Tuesday October 28 at 5:15 PM at the Forever Easter House in Sacramento, CA (2725 52nd Ave Unit G). If you know of anyone in these areas to invite, please do; and/or contact Pastor Ude with the information and he will reach out.

Nominations for ILC Professor Call: The Board of Regents for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary invites “all pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the Church of the Lutheran Confession” (CLC Constitution) to nominate a male or males to

- 1) fill the vacancy which has been created by the resignation of Professor David Schaller; his work would begin in the 2026-27 academic year. It would be preferable for this male to be seminary trained and/or musically trained.
- 2) for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor Daniel Schierenbeck concludes on June 30, 2026. Nominees are to be to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2026.

Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 22, 2025 (letters postmarked November 12, 2025) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

MN Mission Festival - The congregations of the Minnesota Conference invite you to a joint Mission Festival service on at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 9 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Okabena, MN. Pastor Zack Sippert will be conducting the service and Pastor Em. Paul D. Nolting will be delivering the sermon.

Immanuel Lutheran College Visitors' Day is coming up on Friday, November 14th on the ILC campus in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Activities will begin with chapel at 10:05 A.M. in the Field House, followed by presentations and classroom visits until 2:50 p.m. Come and learn more about your church's college, and consider continuing your education in a solidly Christian setting! Visitors will be our guests for lunch and supper in the cafeteria, and in the evening are invited to join us for ILC's fall theatrical production, *"Enchanted Sleeping Beauty."*



November Cleaners

Sanctuary: Bettinger / **North Entry:** Clark
Basement: Helke

The
Lord stood
at my side and
gave me
strength.

2 Timothy 4:17