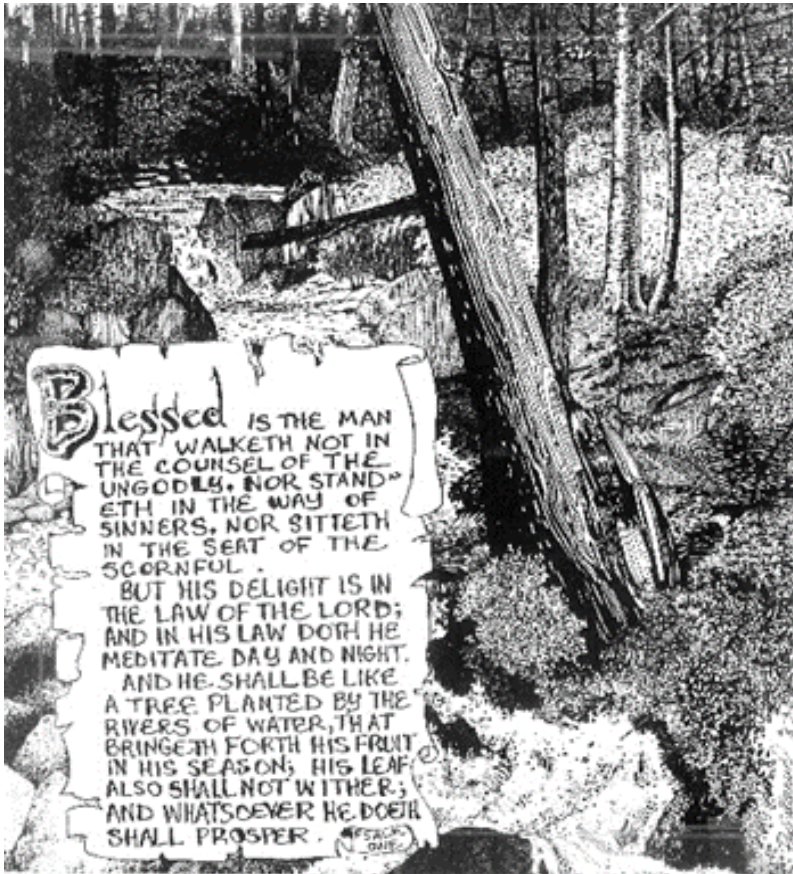


Heritage of Our Fathers

Preaching the Word of God with the Lutheran Confessions



Office of the Keys



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



October 24, 2026

Pentecost 23

Serving Us Today

Organist: Kathy Conway

Greeters: Dennis and Linda Lux

We Enter God's House and Prepare for Worship

Pre-service Meditation: *Psalm 1* (Hymnal p. 123)

Pre-service Prayer:

Lord God, strengthen my watchfulness against sin in my heart and life,
embolden me to turn away from all that provides a fertile field for
temptation. Give me a loving watchfulness for others so that I may serve
Christian brothers and sisters who may be caught up in sin; give me also a
patient spirit to receive their correction with humility and thankfulness.
Amen.

Order of Worship (Worship Supplement pp. 1ff)

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

Hymn: 19 – All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

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

Congregation (spoken): **Amen**

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

C: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a fellow believer called by Christ to serve among you and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C (spoken): **Amen.**

C (sings): **Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.**

(WS2000 pp. 2-3)

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth.

Cong: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship You, we give you thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

**You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Prayer (Pastor)

Congregation (speaks): **Amen**

Old Testament Lesson:

Numbers 15:27-31



God Speaks Through

Sin is sin whether committed unintentionally or not, and thus all sin needs atonement before God. Sin that is committed with a high hand (defiantly, without repentance) separates the sinner from the holy God.

"If one person sins unintentionally, he shall offer a female goat a year old for a sin offering. And the priest shall make atonement before the Lord for the person who makes a mistake, when he sins unintentionally, to make atonement for him, and he shall be forgiven. You shall have one law for him who does anything unintentionally, for him who is native among the people of Israel and for the stranger who sojourns among them. But the person who does anything with a high hand, whether he is native or a sojourner, reviles the Lord, and that person shall be cut off from among his people. Because he has despised the word of the Lord and has broken his commandment, that person shall be utterly cut off; his iniquity shall be on him."

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 1:1,3

Pastor: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

Cong: **but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.**

P: He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season.

C: **and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers**

P: The Lord knows the way of the righteous,

C: **but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:7-35

Jesus gives wide-ranging instruction concerning sin: 1) temptations will come, but seek to remove what causes temptation; 2) the love of our Savior seeks the lost, we too should seek those who sin against us; and 3) forgiving others as we have been richly forgiven by God.

“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.” Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand

talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

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

C (sings): Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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: 416 – Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

The Sermon

Text: *Galatians 6:1*

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

“Restoration”

- I. Transgression creates the need
- II. Gentleness is the approach
- III. Watchfulness is the demeanor

Congregation (sings): Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold me with Your free Spirit.

Hymn: 779 – Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven

Prayer



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

Offering Prayer (Congregation sings)

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be; All
that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

(TLH 441:1-2)

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction (Pastor)

C (spoken): **Amen.**

Hymn: 464 – Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Silent Prayer

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture references are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.



Welcome! to all who have gathered for worship this morning. We especially welcome guests and visitors —please sign our guest book in the north entry. We look forward to having you worship with us again!



This Week's Schedule

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

Today (October 24)

9:00 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

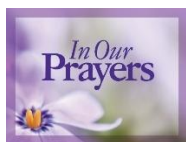
Next Saturday – Reformation (October 31) *Set your clocks back 1 hour.*

9:00 a.m. Bible Class

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

11:30 a.m. Fellowship

Greeter: Randy Estes



Hospitalized: Donna Zarling (Sacred Heart)

News & Notes

October Cleaners

Sanctuary: Estes / **North Entry:** Clark

Basement: Helke



Time Change: Just a friendly reminder that Daylight Saving Time ends this weekend! Remember to set your clocks **back one hour on Saturday night, October 31**, before going to bed. Enjoy the extra hour of rest.

Surgery Scheduled: Pastor Eichstadt is scheduled to have hip surgery replacement on November 5. Lord-willing, after a few days of recovery he will be able to work back into a full schedule without difficulty.



October 2026 Notes from Church Council

The Council approved the following worship schedule for the special services of November and December:

- **Thanksgiving Worship:** The worship service on Saturday, November 21 will serve as our Thanksgiving worship service.

- **Midweek Advent services:** No midweek worship will be held at Trinity. Members are encouraged to attend midweek worship at Gethsemane (1:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.). The 6:30 p.m. worship service is also live-streamed.
- **Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:** Worship led by seminarian Darion Buck.
- **New Year’s Day:** Since New Year’s Day is on Friday and our regular worship is on Saturday, we will not have a separate New Year’s Day worship service on January 1. New Year’s will be part of the Saturday service on January 2.

November 7 Lay-Service: Charles Maguire will lead the worship service and Bible Class on November 7 while Pastor Eichstadt recovers from surgery.

Church Phone Number: The Council is exploring options for a new church phone number since the current phone number forwards to Pastor Naumann and no amount of effort has discovered a way to stop that from happening.

Future Plans: The Council discussed and will continue to discuss, evaluate, and seek congregational input regarding the calling of a full-time pastor and other future plans. The Council will bring a recommendation to the congregation in the coming weeks.

September 2026 Financial Summary

	September	Year-to-Date
Income	\$5,631	\$54,399
Expenses	\$6,501	\$47,594
General Fund Gain/Loss	- \$870	\$6,805

Note: Extra expenses in September were vicar travel costs and mileage during the summer vicarage.

Total Trinity Funds	\$65,113
General Fund	\$27,064
Designated Memorials	\$38,049



News from around the Church of the Lutheran Confession

Call News: Pastor Rob Sauers of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL, has **returned** the call from the CLC Board of Missions to serve as Part-Time Missionary to India. / Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Loganville, GA, and Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO, has **returned** the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD. / Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church, Watertown, SD, and Zion Lutheran Church, Hidewood Township, SD, has **accepted** the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI. / Pastor Neal Radichel of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has **received** the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. / Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI, has **received** the call to Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND, and to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN. Missionary Todd Ohlmann is **considering** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI/ Pastor Timothy Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD, Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD, is **considering** the call from the CLC Board of Missions to serve as Part-Time Missionary to Mexico /

Pray for Laborers--Current locations that are in need of pastor-trained men:

1. Our Redeemer, Red Wing
2. Living Hope, Appleton
3. Trinity, Spokane
4. Holy Cross, Phoenix
5. St. Paul's, Austin
6. St. Luke's, Lemmon
7. Trinity/Zion, Watertown/Hidewood, SD
8. Messiah, Eau Claire (3rd pastor)
9. Gift of God, Mapleton/St. Paul, Ponsford

CLC Midwest Women's Retreat: Registration is now open for the 2027 CLC Midwest Women's Retreat. Theme: "Planted in the House of the Lord" (Psalm 92:12-14). Dates: April 23-25, 2027. Location: Banquets of Minnesota, Fridley, MN. Host Congregation: Grace Lutheran Church (Fridley). Cost: \$100 before February 15. Register at: <https://womensretreat.clclutheran.net/midwest-womens-retreat/>. Questions? Contact Annette Kuehne at: womensretreat.midwest@gmail.com.

We Believe & Confess

The office of the Keys is the special power Christ gave to His church on earth to forgive the sins of penitent sinners and to retain the sins of the impenitent as long as they do not repent. The holy evangelist John writes in chapter 20, *"Jesus breathed on His disciples and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'"*

A Christian congregation, with its pastor, uses the keys according to Christ's command by forgiving those who repent of their sins and are willing to change, or by excluding from the Christian congregation those who are obviously impenitent. These actions are valid and certain in heaven also as if Christ our dear Lord were dealing with us Himself.

Additional Reading in the Confessions: *The Smalcald Articles*, Part III #9

