

15th Sunday after Pentecost September 1, 2024



Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
Holy Communion 9:00 AM
Adult Sunday School 10:15 AM

Welcome in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Our worship follows a traditional order inspired by scripture and rooted in ancient patterns. The full order for worship (liturgy) is found in this bulletin.

*Please stand as you are able. Spoken congregational responses are in **Bold**.

GATHERING

Worship begins with the organ prelude. It's a time for silent meditation as we turn our hearts and minds to God.

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*GATHERING HYMN - The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing Hymn 531

*GREETING

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

*KYRIE - (Lord have mercy) page 147

In Peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

Help, save comfort and defend us gracious Lord.

Amen

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. ⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? ⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 15 (*spoken responsively*)

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the
innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING - James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down
from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we
would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. ¹⁹You must understand this, my
beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger
does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and
rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has
the power to save your souls. ²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who
deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like
those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going
away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect
law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who
act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not
bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that
is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in
their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC: Be Thou My Vision Brady Cassell, Piano



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL - Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 7th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord. (*spoken*)

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' ⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." ¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile. ²¹"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person." The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON The Rev. Michael Yesenko

*HYMN OF THE DAY - Precious Lord, Take My Hand Hymn 773

***APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** (After the prayer) **Amen.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERING - (*offering plates are located in the narthex as you exit the sanctuary.*)

***OFFERTORY HYMN - (Create in Me a Clean Heart)**

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, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

*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.**

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*SANCTUS - ("Holy, holy, holy") Page 153



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

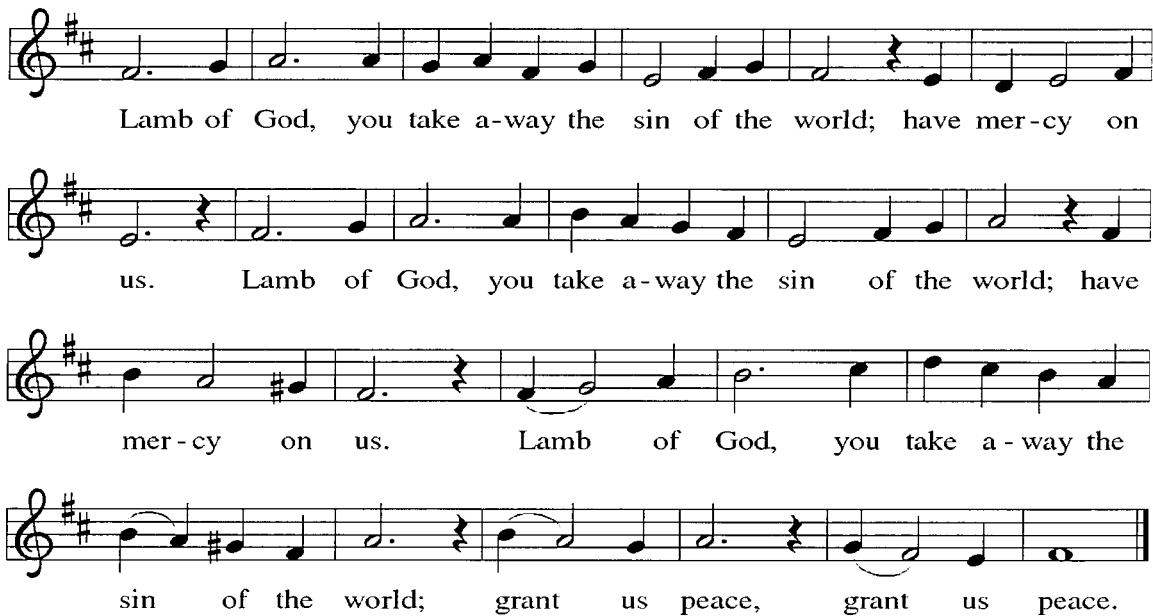
***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at the Lord's table. **Amen.**

***AGNUS DEI - (Lamb of God) Page 154**



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

THE SENDING

*BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful ☩ bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN - Restore in Us, O God Hymn 328

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Michael Yesenko

Paul Copenhaver - Minister of Music

Christine Paradise - Organist

Heather Buffington - Bell Choir Director

Sue Ann Houser - Lay Assistant

Louise Lector - Lector

George Dodson & Stephanie Kaylor - Greeters

♿ *Elevator access to upper and lower levels is located at rear entrance of church.*

📵 *Remember to silence cell phones & other electronic device*

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY:

Sunday, September 1 - Palm Lutheran Noon Meal 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Monday, September 2 - OFFICE CLOSED for Holiday

Tuesday, September 3 - Christian Education Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 4 - Private Event 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

PRAYER UPDATE: We have been asked to keep Bryan Albright, Barb Atwood, Barb Baeckert, Linda Blessing, Roy Brossman, Terry Clearwater, Monique & Jack Derfler, Jim Dibert, Deb Dobson, Susie Eckert, Dan Fox, Mo Gockley, Mike and Nancy Hentz, Patty Hess, Joette Hollinger, Bella Johnson, Stephanie Kaylor, Raymond Kohr, Doris Kreiser, Jim & Judi Light, Dean Mitchell, Julia Schott, George Smith, Marie Smith, Ernie Thompson, Nancy Warner, and Mary Yeagley in our prayers.

PRAYER CONCERNS: If you no longer wish to be included in the prayer update list, please let the Church Office know to remove your name.

COMMUNION: Please record your communion monthly. Cards can be found in the pews.

NAMETAGS: Please stop by the Welcome Table (parking lot entrance) and pick up your nametag. We are asking that you wear your nametag to Church until an announcement is made. If you do not have a nametag, please contact the Church Office.

SHARE & CARE BOX: The following items are needed: ramen noodles, canned: vegetables, beans, tuna and chicken pasta, spaghetti sauce (no glass), peanut butter, cereal, granola bars, spam, soap, shampoo, toilet paper, razors, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes, etc. Items can be placed in the bin marked Share & Care box located in the Giving Place. Monetary donations can also be made by marking the blank envelopes found in the pew, "Share & Care."

VOICES NEEDED: Choir season is right around the corner. Senior choir will begin rehearsals on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm in the choir room beginning September 10th. The senior choir normally sings at 2 Sunday services a month, and a few special church services through May. We are flexible with your schedule, and we would love to see new members give it a try. Youth choir is for any youth in 3rd grade or higher. We will be rehearsing in the choir room right after church until the start of Sunday school beginning Sunday September 8th. The youth will be singing occasionally throughout the church year. Being able to read music is not required and we are happy to teach what is needed. I hope you or your children consider singing in a choir this year. Like Psalm 98 sates "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise." Please contact me if you need more information Paul "PJ" Copenhaver (717) 507-8247

SUPPORT FRIENDS OF SPANG CREST: It's time for the fall chicken barbecue by Kauffmans. The event takes place on Friday, September 6 from 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Spang Crest, 945 Duke Street. Tickets are \$11 and include 1/2 chicken, baked potato, roll and applesauce. For tickets see Denise Rhoades or the Church Office.

BELL RINGERS TO BEGIN NEW SEASON: Come join the fun and fellowship of ringing for the Lord. Please contact Heather Buffington (717) 926-3917 for more information and/or to let her know of your interest. Praise Ringers (4th grade through adult - Beginner choir) No experience necessary. Want to just give it a try? Come for a few rehearsals before you make a commitment. Don't read music? Not a problem - we offer on-the-job training. Have a seasonal conflict? (sports, band, etc)? We'll work around it. Need a ride? We'll arrange one for you. Rehearsals are in Luther's Place on Monday evenings from 6:00-7:00PM starting on Sept 9. Praise Ringers play in one church service a month, October through May. Psalm Ringers (Experienced ringers) Rehearsals are in Luther's Place on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30PM starting on Sept 9. Psalm Ringers play in one church service a month, September through May, as well as occasional additional performances.

GET YOUR GOODIES!: It's that time of year again! The fresh fruits and vegetables are coming into season and the Church ladies have been busy turning these goodies into jam and chow chow. Strawberry and peach jam: 1/2 pints \$2.75 each; pints \$5 each. Chow chow: pint \$4; quart \$8. Louise Battistelli and Linda Brandt will be selling our goodies before and after Church or you may contact the Church Office 717-273-8567, if you would like any to pick up during the week.

SCHOOL YEAR PRAYERS NEEDED: The new school year began on August 26th. Please join me in prayer for all school students, teachers and staff as they return to school once again this year. *Loving God please bless this new school year. We pray for the children. Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences and a love of learning. May confidence be their foundation, may grace be their guide and may hope be their compass toward a bright future. We pray for the teachers. Enable them to teach with wisdom for they help to shape the mind. Equip them to teach with truth for they help to shape the conscience. Encourage them to teach with vision for they help to shape the future. Empower them to teach with love for they help to shape the world. Together we pray that it will be a year filled with your grace, favor and goodness. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen* Together may we give our children the roots to grow and the wings to fly. Thank you.
- Karen Weaver

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School starts September 8. Grades 4 and under will meet in the Kindergarten Room. Grades 5 and up will meet in the Youth Room.

CALLING ALL YOUTH: Make plans to join us Sunday, September 8 at the 9 a.m. Worship Service. Feel free to bring your backpack (if you don't, that's ok) for BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS. All youth will receive a special keychain with a blessing.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: Bring your pet(s), a stuffed animal friend, or photo to be blessed by pastor. The event will take place in the parking lot directly behind the Church on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Starting September 8, all youth in attendance at Worship will be invited and encouraged to join Pastor Althea for a special Children's Sermon.

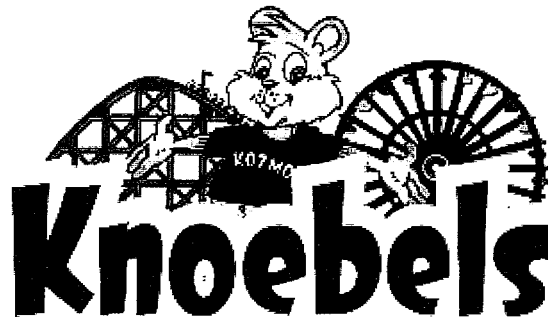
YOU ARE INVITED!: The adult Sunday School Class invites you to join them for the video series "The Chosen." Pastor Althea will be the presenter. All are invited!



Saturday, October 5 at 12 p.m.

CHURCH
picnic

This event is open to your
family and friends!
More information
and sign-ups sheets
coming soon!



GOT PLANTS?: The plant booth is back again for this year's bazaar! If you would like more information on how you can help, please contact Pam Gainer at 717-279-6873 or Beth Moore at 610-451-0488. You can also bring donations of items and place them in the Giving Place bin marked "Plants." If you will be donating living plants, please hang on to them until closer to the event.

Plant and Garden Corner Donation wish list:

- Potted herbs for indoor window gardens
- Potted House plants (any kind or size) in good condition
- Succulents in pots and/or Succulent soil
- Garden Pots Clean new/ gently used. No cracks.
- Garden tools Clean new/used and functional: watering cans, hand pruners, tomato cages, trowels, hoes, spades, etc.
- No lawn mowers, blowers, or power tools
- Gardening gloves/apparel
- Garden décor
- Dried seeds in unopened seed packs from flowers and vegetables (identified)

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF: WELCA thanks you for your generous contributions to our Lutheran World Relief school kits and personal care kits campaign this year. On September 22nd I will share with you the totals for this campaign and make an additional request for monetary assistance with the shipping costs to provide these kits to people in need around the world. Cash or check donations can be made by placing a blue WELCA envelope designated for Lutheran World Relief Shipping Costs in the offering plate. Check donations should be made payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church with Lutheran World Relief Shipping Costs written in the memo line. Thank you again for all the support you have bestowed on this campaign thus far and we would be grateful if you would consider this additional donation to help reduce shipping costs to ensure these kits are delivered to people in areas of greatest need throughout the world. - Karen Weaver, WELCA Projects Chair

CALLING ALL FRIENDS AND RELATIVES OF HOLY TRINITY!: Would you like to become a voting member of our church? We want to acknowledge people who wish to become official members of our congregation. Pastor Althea will be installing new members on Reformation Sunday, October 27, 2024. She already has a few people interested and would love to welcome others. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED please see the sign up sheet at the welcome tables or call the church office. QUESTIONS? Please contact Pastor Althea. New Member meetings: Tuesday, September 10th at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, September 19th at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, September 19th at 5:30 p.m.

Please join us for the



Installation

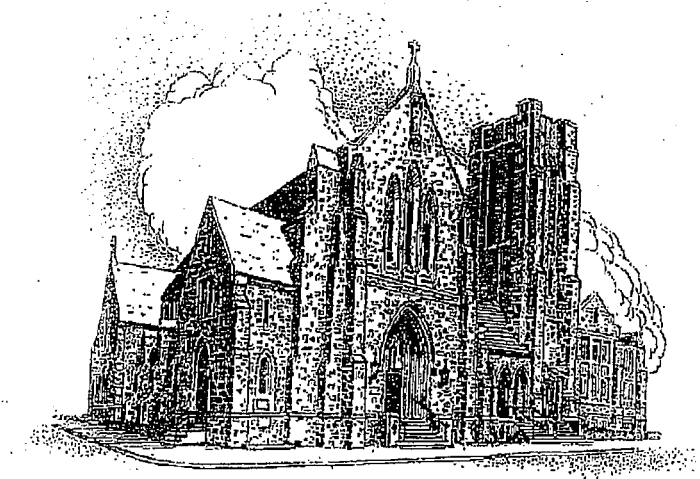
of Holy Trinity's new pastor,

Rev. Althea Seidel

Sunday, September 29 during
the 9 a.m. Worship Service.

*There will be a reception
following the service.*

*Please note, there will be no
Sunday School that day.*



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

723 Lehman Street, Lebanon, Pennsylvania 17046

Telephone - 717-273-8567 www.trinityleb.org

YouTube: Holy Trinity Lebanon PA www.facebook.com/htlclebanonpa

Pastor Althea Seidel: pastoralthea3@gmail.com • cell: 484-345-0399

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.,
also available by phone, email, text message, or appointment

Stephanie Kaylor: stephanie@trinityleb.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.