



15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020

Gathering

PRELUDE

GREETING

The presiding minister and those gathered greet each other.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The presiding minister shares announcements from the Trinity community.

GATHERING SONG *Heaven is Singing for Joy (ELW 664)*

Those gathered are invited to sing.



El cie - lo can - ta a - le - grí - a, ¡a - le - lu - ya!
1 Heav - en is sing - ing for joy, al - le - lu - ia,
2 Heav - en is sing - ing for joy, al - le - lu - ia,
3 Heav - en is sing - ing for joy, al - le - lu - ia,



por - que en tu vi - da y la mí - a bri - lla la glo - ria de Dios.
for in your life and mine is shin - ing the glo - ry of God.
for your life and mine u - nite in the love of our God.
for your life and mine will al - ways bear wit - ness to God.

Refrain / Estribillo



¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le -
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

The presiding minister speaks to those returning to school and offers a blessing.

God of all love,

We give you thanks for the opportunity to learn and to grow, especially as we return to a new school year.

We thank you for our **backpacks** that carry everything we need. Although they may be heavy with school supplies, may the children that wear them be unburdened. May the children who do not have backpacks or supplies receive the things they need, so that they can get off to a good start this school year. Bless these backpacks, and bless the ones who wear them.

We thank you for **devices**, which have helped us to stay connected during times of physical distancing, given children opportunities to continue learning, opened up the world for us to learn about our neighbour. Bless our devices so that they enrich our learning and our relationships.

We thank you for our **lunch boxes**, filled with food to help our bodies and minds grow strong and mighty. We know that there are children whose lunch boxes are empty, and we pray that their lunchboxes might be filled with good food from caring people. Bless these lunchboxes and the bodies they feed.

We thank you for our **teachers**, who fill our children's minds with knowledge, who nurture their spirits, and who protect them while in their care. We thank you for our principals, counselors, custodians, nurses, classroom aides, cafeteria workers and bus drivers who take care of our students. May they receive the support they need and the honor they deserve as they live into their calling to educate this generation. Bless our teachers in their sacred work.

We thank you for our **parents**, grandparents, and other childcare providers who support and encourage their students in all that they do, and who spend countless hours helping with homework, volunteering in classrooms, and driving the carpools. Bless our parents in their sacred work.

We thank you for our **students**, for the blessing that they are to us. Strengthen their bodies, minds and spirits throughout this school year, that their knowledge

might grow and their imaginations soar with new thoughts, new achievements, and new dreams. Bless our students in all that they do, work and play, for it is all sacred work.

Let all God's children say, Amen. **Amen.**

Word

READING: Romans 14:1-12

The assisting minister reads the lesson.

A reading from Romans.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

The presiding minister reads the gospel.

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

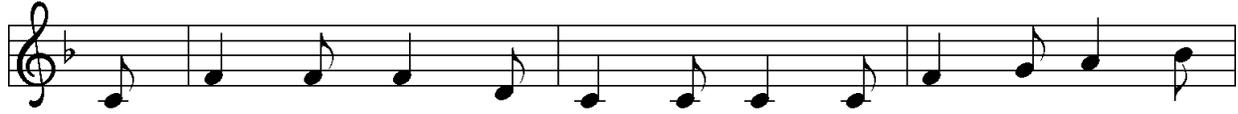
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The preacher delivers the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY *I Come with Joy (ELW 482)*

Those gathered are invited to sing.



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assisting minister leads the prayers.

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes, and youth ministries. Nurture new

ministries of education and growth. With the worldwide ecumenical community, today we pray for the churches of Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. We pray especially for Doris, Paul, Kim, John, Paul, Lisa, Todd, Bruce, Rita, Gerry, Art, Arlene, Ron, Marina and her family, and those we name in the silence of our hearts. [a pause]
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and those gathered greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Meal

DIALOGUE

The presiding minister greets those gathered.

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister continues.

We give you thanks, O God,
that you sowed your Word in Jesus,
to grow your kingdom here on earth
and draw us ever near.

Jesus planted mercy wherever he went,
to reap a greater righteousness.
He shared bread with outcasts and sinners
and healed the brokenhearted.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us
Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you,

he broke it, gave to his friends, and said,
Take, eat, this is my body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing,
gave it to his friends, and said,
Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new covenant in my blood,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his dying and rising,
we offer you this bread and wine,
and ourselves in grateful service.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
and all your people here today.
Breathe your Spirit over all creation
that together we may cultivate peace
in every corner of the world.

Then bring us to that blessed mountain
where with the meek and pure in heart
we will live forever in blessedness
as we taste the fruits of heaven.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Life-giving Spirit,
we worship you, Creating God,
in songs of endless praise.
Blessed are you, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

The presiding minister introduces the Lord's Prayer.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads the prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.

Lead us from this worship, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

Mothering God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister sends us into mission.

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Liturgical texts and music copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS103461. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Liturgical texts also adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Vol. 2* © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press.

Hymn texts and music are in public domain, except the following, reprinted by permission under OneLicense, license #A-724555.

Heaven is Singing for Joy

Text and music © Pablo Sosa

I Come with Joy

Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

Permission to stream copyrighted music in this service is obtained from OneLicense, license #A-724555.



Lynn Thompson, president ▪ **Tanya Ramer**, pastor
Jamie Courtney, parish administrator & minister of music
Helen Toman, visitation pastor ▪ **Heidi Van Schaik**, youth worker ▪ **Brian Racho**, sexton
Ron Leonard, honorary assistant pastor ▪ **Gywin Murray**, emerita director of music

+ + +

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church ▪ 23 Church Street ▪ New Hamburg, Ontario ▪ N3A 1J1
Phone (519) 662-1810 ▪ **E-mail** mail@telc.ca ▪ **Web** www.telc.ca