

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH @ SOUTH PARK

A PLACE OF GRACE WITH A CALL FOR ALL TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF JESUS

Jeffery Alvestad, Pastor

Kate Stephenson, Director of Congregational Life

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**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 17, 2023**

## PRELUDE

*Andante tranquillo (from Capriol Suite)*

by Peter Warlock

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GATHERING

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS   ELW p. 94

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

### Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven ELW 864

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;<br>joyfully your tribute bring.<br>Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,<br>evermore God's praises sing.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br>Praises everlasting ring!        | 3 Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,<br>blows the wind and it is gone;<br>but, as mortals rise and perish,<br>God endures unchanging on.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br>Praise the great Eternal One! |
| 2 God be praised for grace and favor<br>to our forebears in distress.<br>God be praised, the same forever,<br>slow to chide and swift to bless.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br>Glorious is God's faithfulness! | 4 Angels sing in adoration,<br>in God's presence, face to face.<br>Sun and moon and all creation,<br>all who dwell in time and space.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br>Praise with us the God of grace!    |

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847, alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927-2005

## GREETING ELW p. 138

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

**C: And also with you.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE ELW p. 139

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**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 OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

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.

**C: Amen.**

## THE WORD

### FIRST READING: Genesis 50: 15-21

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

### PSALM: Psalm 103: 8-13

(First time through, organ; second time through, cantor; third time through, congregation)

Refrain:

LORD, you are full of com - pas - sion and mer - cy,  
of com - pas - sion and mer - cy.

Psalm 103:8

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**Tone:**



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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- <sup>8</sup>LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;
- <sup>9</sup>**you will not al- | ways accuse us,**  
**nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.**
- <sup>10</sup>You have not dealt with us accord- | ing to our sins,  
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.
- <sup>11</sup>**For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,**  
**so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.**
- <sup>12</sup>As far as the east is | from the west,  
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.
- <sup>13</sup>**As a father has compassion | for his children,**  
**so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD. R**

**SECOND READING: Romans 14: 1-12**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those 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. <sup>4</sup>Who 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. <sup>5</sup>Some 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. <sup>6</sup>Those 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. <sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If 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. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup>Why 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. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

P: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW p. 142

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

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

### GOSPEL: Matthew 18: 21-35

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>Peter 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?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

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

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*God loves me, Jesus is my friend, and church is a great place to be. Amen.*

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

#### **Where Charity and Love Prevail ELW 359**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Where charity and love prevail,<br>there God is ever found;<br>brought here together by Christ's love,<br>by love we thus are bound. | as members of each body joined,<br>in him we are made one.   |
| 2 With grateful joy and holy fear,<br>God's charity we learn;<br>let us with heart and mind and soul<br>now love God in return.        | 4 Let strife among us be unknown;<br>let all contentions cease.<br>Be God's the glory that we seek;<br>be his our only peace.  |
| 3 Let us recall that in our midst<br>dwells Christ, God's holy Son;  | 5 Let us forgive each other's faults<br>as we our own confess,<br>that we may love each other well<br>in Christian gentleness. |

Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

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### **APOSTLE'S CREED ELW p. 105**

**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 ELW p. 143

A: ... Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: ... through Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

## PEACE ELW p. 143

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## MEAL

### MUSICAL OFFERING

*Today's anthem was originally written in response to the Asian tsunami in 2004. Craig Hella Johnson dedicated his arrangement of this piece to victims of natural disaster. Today we sing for the people of Lahaina, Morocco and Libya.*

*Requiem*

Eliza Gilkyson arr. Craig Hella Johnson

mother mary, full of grace, awaken- all our homes are gone, our loved ones taken  
taken by the sea.

mother mary, calm our fears, have mercy- drowning in a sea of tears, have mercy  
hear our mournful plea

our world has been shaken, we wander our homelands forsaken

in the dark night of the soul, bring some comfort to us all

o mother mary come and carry us in your embrace

that our sorrows may be faced

mary, fill the glass to overflowing- illuminate the path where we are going

have mercy on us all

in funeral fires burning, each flame to your mystery returning

in the dark night of the soul your shattered dreamers, make them whole,

o mother mary, find us where we've fallen out of grace, lead us to a higher place

in the dark night of the soul our broken hearts you can make whole,

o mother mary come and carry us in your embrace,

let us see your gentle face

mary



## OFFERING PRAYER

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## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ELW p. 144

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also, with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW p. 144

Musical notation for the Preface, consisting of four staves of music in a single system. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**THE LORD'S PRAYER ELW p. 145**

**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**

*You may commune where you are seated with the elements you brought with you, or you may come forward from the center aisle and Pastor will place, in your open hand, a wafer which you may then dip into the chalice of wine held by the assisting minister. After you have dipped the bread into the chalice of wine, you may return to your seat by the side aisle, or walk up to the altar and kneel for more prayer and reflection.*

**LAMB OF GOD ELW p. 146**

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.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING ELW p. 114**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

### My Life Flows On in Endless Song ELW 763

1 My life flows on in endless song;  
above earth's lamentation,  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn  
that hails a new creation.

#### *Refrain*

*No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?*

2 Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

3 What though my joys and comforts die?  
The Lord my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather  
round?  
Songs in the night he giveth. *Refrain*

4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my  
heart,  
a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his!  
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

## DISMISSAL ELW p. 145

P: Go in peace. Serve the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*Praise My Soul the King of Heaven*

arr. Dennis R. Johnson

## Readings and Psalm: Sunday, September 24, 2023

Jonah 3: 10 – 4: 11

Psalm 145: 1-8

Philippians 1: 21-30

Matthew 20: 1-16



**Assisting Minister:** Cathy Box

**Lector:** Kevin Boatright

**Crucifer:**

**Acolyte:**

**Usher:** Cathy Box, Charles Baars, Barb Kurtz

**Children's Message:** Cathy Box

**Altar Care:** Cathy S., Janet R.

**Livestreaming:** Deb Boatright

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