

# 11th Sunday of Pentecost August 24, 2025

#### Welcome

P This is the day that the Lord has made! C Let us rejoice and be glad in it!



### Confession and Forgiveness

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- **P** Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

### Silence for reflection and self examination

- P Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.
- **P** We belong to Christ Jesus and we are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, our sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, we are a new creation. **Amen.**

## **Praise Songs**

### I Will Sing of the Mercies

### Refrain:

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever, I will sing, I will sing.
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever, I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

With my mouth will I make known

Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness; With my mouth will I make known Thy faithfulness to all generations. (Repeat refrain)

### Day by Day

Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me, bringing comfort to my anxious soul. Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal. Love divine, beyond all mortal measure, brings to naught the burdens of my quest; Savior, lead me to the home I treasure, where at last I'll find eternal rest.

Day by day, I know you will provide me strength to serve and wisdom to obey; I will seek your loving will to guide me o'er the paths I struggle day by day. I will fear no evil of the morrow, I will trust in your enduring grace. Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow till in glory I behold your face.

Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my burdens grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no matter what betide me, you will hold me ever in your hand. Savior, with your presence here to guide me, I will reach at last the promised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, b. 1936 Tr. © 1992 Augsburg Fortress

### Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray together. O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### The Peace

All are welcome to move about the sanctuary to share the peace with your neighbor through a handshake, elbow bump, peace sign or by any other means.

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

### First Reading Isaiah 58:9b-14

Please be seated

Don't mistreat others or falsely accuse them or say something cruel. Give your food to the hungry and care for the homeless. Then your light will shine in the dark; your darkest hour will be like the noonday sun. The Lord will always guide you and provide good things to eat when you are in the desert. He will make you healthy. You will be like a garden that has plenty of water or like a stream that never runs dry. You will rebuild those houses left in ruins for years; you will be known as a builder and repairer of city walls and streets.

But first, you must start respecting the Sabbath as a joyful day of worship. You must stop doing and saying whatever you please on this special day. Then you will truly enjoy knowing the Lord. He will let you rule from the highest mountains and bless you with the land of your ancestor Jacob. The Lord has spoken!

....The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

### <u>Psalm</u> *Psalm* 103:1-8

- Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
- <sup>2</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits
- <sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;
- <sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;
- who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- $^{\circ}$ O LORD, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.
- <sup>7</sup> You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.
- <sup>8</sup> LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

## Second Reading Hebrews 12:18-29

You have not come to a place like Mount Sinai that can be seen and touched. There is no flaming fire or dark cloud or storm or trumpet sound. The people of Israel heard a voice speak. But they begged it to stop, because they could not obey its commands. They were even told to kill any animal that touched the mountain. The sight was so frightening that Moses said he shook with fear.

You have now come to Mount Zion and to the heavenly Jerusalem. This is the city of the living God, where thousands and thousands of angels have come to celebrate. Here you will find all of God's dearest children, whose names are written in heaven. And you will find God himself, who judges everyone. Here also are the spirits of those good people who have been made perfect. And Jesus is here! He is the one who makes God's new agreement with us, and his sprinkled blood says much better things than the blood of Abel.

Make sure you obey the one who speaks to you. The people did not escape, when they refused to obey the one who spoke to them at Mount Sinai. Do you think you can possibly escape, if you refuse to obey the one who speaks to you from heaven? When God spoke the first time, his voice shook only the earth. This time he has promised to shake the earth once again, and heaven too.

The words "once again" mean that these created things will someday be shaken and removed. Then what cannot be shaken will last. We should be grateful we were given a kingdom that cannot be shaken. And in this kingdom we please God by worshiping him and by showing him great honor and respect. Our God is like a destructive fire!

....The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Please stand as you are

able

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter. (sung) Glory to you, O Lord.

## Gospel Luke 13:10-17

One Sabbath, Jesus was teaching in a synagogue, and a woman was there who had been crippled by an evil spirit for 18 years. She was completely bent over and could not straighten up. When Jesus saw the woman, he called her over and said, "You are now well." He placed his hands on her, and at once she stood up straight and praised God.

The man in charge of the synagogue was angry because Jesus had healed someone on the Sabbath. So he said to the people, "Each week has six days when we can work. Come and be healed on one of those days, but not on the Sabbath."

The Lord replied, "Are you trying to fool someone? Won't any one of you untie your ox or donkey and lead it out to drink on a Sabbath? This woman belongs to the family of Abraham, but Satan has kept her bound for 18 years. Isn't it right to set her free on the Sabbath?" Jesus' words made his enemies ashamed. But everyone else in the crowd was happy about the wonderful things he was doing.

...The Gospel of the Lord

### (sung) Praise to you, O Christ.

#### <u>Sermon</u>

### Hymn



## The Apostles' Creed

**A** Let us profess our faith through the words of the Apostles Creed.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the Church

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

You call your church to proclaim liberation and freedom to all. Give wisdom to bishops, synod councils and staff, and congregation leaders as they pursue a more just and equitable church and society.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

You inspire all creation to sing and bless your holy name. Send healing rains to parched places and relief to flooded lands. Lead us to enact policies to rebuild ruined ecosystems and habitats.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

You work vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. Strengthen the resolve of world leaders and local officials in the way of love and mercy, so that all persons may experience abundant life.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

You satisfy your people with good things. In your steadfast love, receive the cries of all who are bent over under the weight of addiction, isolation, and mental or physical illness. Manifest your healing presence in their midst.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We pray for those impacted by war and violence, for our men and women in the armed forces, and for all first responders. We also ask for your blessing on Barb, Glenda, Ralph, and Arlen, and for those for whom we now pray, either in our hearts or aloud:

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Invigorate worship planners and leaders with creativity to aid this assembly in faithful prayer and praise. Enable all who gather here to be nourished and renewed, and bless the ministries of TOL, Augustana, Good Shepherd and Pr. Sohail's South Asian community, as we serve our neighbors in love.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

With all your apostles, prophets, and saints, we give thanks and bless your holy name. As they now rest from their labors, guide us by the witness of their lives to pursue your reign, which can never be shaken.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.** 

### The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand as you are able

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 God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn (sung):

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

#### Words of Institution

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

#### Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray. 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.

{P The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.}

Communion Song Please be seated

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

<u>Communion:</u> Please be seated until the usher directs your row to the communion rail. Please come forward and stand or kneel. If you do not wish to receive communion, please come for a blessing. We believe Christ is present in the Sacrament; come join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. If you would like a gluten free wafer, please let Pastor know.

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

### Post-Communion Blessing

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.** 

### Prayer after Communion

**A** Let us pray. Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen**.

## **Blessing**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.** 

Closing Hymn (next page) Please stand as you are able

## Glories of Your Name Are Spoken



- 1 Glo ries of your name are spo-ken, Zi on, cit y of our God;
- 2 See, the streams of liv ing wa ters, spring-ing from e ter nal love,
- 3 Round each hab i ta tion hov-'ring, see the cloud and fire ap pear
- 4 Sav ior, since of Zi-on's cit y I through grace a mem-ber am,



he whose word can - not be bro - ken formed you for his own a - bode. well sup - ply your sons and daugh-ters, and all fear of want re - move. for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, show - ing that the Lord is near. let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will glo - ry in your name.



On the Rock of A - ges found-ed, what can shake your sure re-pose? Who can faint, while such a riv - er ev - er will their thirst as-suage? Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day, Fad - ing are the world-lings' plea-sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show;



With sal - va-tion's walls sur-round-ed, you may smile at all your foes. Grace which, like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age. safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way. sol - id joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil-dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Music: AUSTRIA, Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809

#### Dismissal

A Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C Thanks be to God.

Liturgical elements: Sundays & Seasons, Augsburg Fortress-License No. SAS026761

MINISTERS: All the Members of Our Congregation

PASTOR: The Rev. Frederick Kopp

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Pastor's Study: 716-836-4990 Email: pastor\_tol@verizon.net

Website: www.trinityoldlutheran.com

Music Minister: Don Grabau Media Minister: Jeff Ward

Today's Worship Assistant: Earlene Crocker Today's Prayer Partner: Lanny Repman Ushers: Nancy and Lanny Repman

### **Prayers and Announcements**

### **Prayers**

**Welcome:** We extend a very warm welcome to everyone worshiping with us today. If you are visiting, we are delighted to have you here, and we hope you enjoy your worship time.

**Thank you:** To Charlie Schmidtke for leading us in worship today while Pastor Fred and Anne are on vacation. We look forward to hearing your message, Charlie!

<u>Prayer Partner Ministry:</u> If you are in need of additional prayer, please come to the Parents' Room in the back of church following worship. Prayers are confidential. Today's prayer partner is Lanny Repman.

<u>Today's Altar Flowers:</u> Are given to the Glory of God from Velma Achenbach in loving memory of her husband Werner on his birthday, and from Earlene Crocker in celebration of Sandra's birthday.

**Offering**: Thank you for your gifts to TOL. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you send your offering through the US mail, please use checks only-please don't mail cash. We also have online giving through tithe.ly, which can be accessed through TOL's website (www.trinityoldlutheran) or on your smartphone.

Mission for August: The mission is ELCA Disaster Response: Texas Flooding. The ELCA is coordinating efforts with the Texas Synod in response to the needs of those impacted. Marked envelopes are available in the narthex, or mail your donation to the church office indicating the funds are for Disaster Relief: Texas Flooding.

<u>Friends of Night People – Special Summer Collection:</u> During the months of July and August, we are collecting new socks for Friends of Night People. They are always in need! Please place your donations in the marked laundry basket underneath the table in the hallway mission collection area. Thank you for your help!

<u>Harvest House Baby Shower:</u> During September, we will once again join with local Lutheran churches by collecting donations of diapers (any size) that will benefit the Harvest House Babies and Children's ministry, located in Buffalo. Please place your donations in the marked container in the main hallway near the bulletin board.

<u>Bible Study at Augustana:</u> Pastor Fred will hold a 4 week bible study about 1st John on Fridays from 10-11:30 a.m. at Augustana, beginning **Friday**, **September 5**. Hope to see you there.

Calling all Crafters and Bakers: We need everyone's help! On September 6 from 10 am -4 pm, we will hold our 2nd Annual Craft show/Basket Raffle/Baked Goods sale. There is a volunteer sign-up sheet posted on the main bulletin board to help with the various tasks. What's new this year is our own TOL Community craft table. If you would like to donate your completed craft items to this table, all proceeds will go to T.O.L. If you have a basket or items for a basket, or a gift card, to donate for the basket raffle, please bring your items in on any Sunday. We welcome your donations of cookies, breads, pie slices and brownies for the sale. Please deliver them to the church on Friday, Sept. 5 from 9 am - noon, or from 7 pm - 8 pm, or bring them Saturday morning by 9 am. We also need help on Friday evening, Sept. 5, from 7 – 8 pm to set up for the event. Thank you!

Worship and Picnic in the Park: On Sunday, Sept. 7 at 10 am, enjoy spending time with families from TOL, Augustana and Good Shepherd at Veteran's Park, Shelter #2, in the City of Tonawanda. There will <u>not</u> be a service at TOL that day, so we're hoping everyone will be able to come to the picnic for worship, followed by fellowship and lunch. Carpooling from TOL will be available! <u>Please be sure to add your name to the sign up sheet on the main bulletin board!</u>

Women's Luncheon Group: We will meet on Thursday, September 11, at 12:30 pm at Roman's Café, 797 Payne Ave., N. Tonawanda. If you need a ride, please contact Judy Menz at 716-435-6077 or Barb Maugans at 716-692-8116. All are invited!

<u>Pr. Sohail's 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:</u> Pr. Sohail is celebrating five years of ordained ministry, and everyone is invited to celebrate this milestone on **Sunday**, **September 14 at 10:30 am**, at First English Lutheran, 185 Locust Street, Lockport.

Request for Prayers and Assistance: This announcement concerns a less joyous subject. As you know Pastor Sohail, Afreen and their family were members of our church since they fled Pakistan and came to the United States. Sohail received asylum very quickly when he came to the USA over 15 years ago and Afreen and their family joined him here in Buffalo over 11 years ago. TOL housed them in our church, and when Sohail went to seminary we supported him and Pastor Fred was his intern

supervisor. Sohail was ordained and became a citizen along with two of his daughters during Covid. Now his wife, Afreen, according to their lawyer, possibly might be swept up in the administration's immigration policy. Because of this real fear we have started a legal fund for their family. The cost of lawyers, if the worst scenario plays out, will be over \$7,500, along with their immediate need of \$2,500. If you would like to help, there are envelopes in the narthex labeled "Legal fund for immigrants" or you can donate through tithely, choosing the category Legal fund for immigrants. Thank you for prayers and for considering a donation.

Adult Education Fall 2025 through Spring 2026: Charlie Schmidtke begins his next series of adult education in September. The classes begin at 1 pm, in person and on Zoom. The focus this year will be Places and Writings of the Early Followers of Jesus: The first two classes are as follows.

Monday, Sept. 15 Jerusalem – Peter, John and James Monday, Sept. 29 Damascus – Tarsus – Saul conversion

<u>Sermon Discussion/input:</u> Pastor Fred is asking for participants to join him in a **bag lunch** discussion of the texts for the next month of sermons. **We will not meet in August**, therefore the next discussion group will be **Wednesday**, **September 24** in the Fireside Lounge, at noon for two hours. Please inform Pastor Fred if you are interested, so he can prepare enough materials.

<u>Augustana Book Club</u>: September's book is <u>Wayward Girls</u> by Susan Wiggs. Please join us at Augustana on **Thursday**, **September 25** at 7 pm to discuss the book!

A Funny Thing Happened: On the Way to the Forum! Please join us for a live performance of the show at 3 pm on Sunday, September 28. Dinner at a local restaurant follows. This is a Niagara Regional Theatre Guild presentation at the Ellicott Creek Playhoure, 550 Ellicott Creek Road. Tickets are \$20 each and there are 20 tickets available. Please see the article in the September Tidings, or reach out to Stephanie Seyse or Peter Stecher for more details.

<u>Adult Retreat Coming in October:</u> The annual Adult Retreat will take place at beautiful Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center the weekend of **October 3 - 5**. This year's theme is "Do You Hear What I Hear." There is a display in the narthex with photos and memories of last year's retreat. There is a sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board.

<u>Dinner Theater at TOL:</u> On Friday, October 17, please join us for a potluck dinner at 6 pm, and at 7 pm, listen to Sancho (Charlie Schmidtke) talk about his adventures with Don Quixote de La Mancha. You will be taken to a world of ideals and windmills. Plus, you will get a glimpse into the importance of the Impossible

Dream. There is a sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board, or contact the office at (716) 836-4868 or by email at <a href="mailto:trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com">trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com</a>, or contact Charlie Schmidtke at <a href="mailto:schmidtkecharles@gmail.com">schmidtkecharles@gmail.com</a>.

<u>Please Sign up:</u> We need ushers for September. If you are an usher, you can also be the door monitor if you'd like. The door monitor sits in the narthex after the service has begun so that any latecomers are welcomed and given a bulletin to follow. The service can be heard and seen from the narthex. Please help us out by signing up!

Operation Christmas Child: The suggested donations for the months of July and August are school supplies. Examples of these items would be blue/black ink pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, markers, small pocket size notepads, and safety scissors. Please place your donations in the bin marked Operation Christmas Child in the hallway. Thank you!

**Book and Puzzle Sale:** Please visit our Book Sale in the Resource Library, which is the first room in the hallway near the main bulletin board. Books and puzzles are always being added, and are available for a fraction of the cost at retail. No cost for the greeting cards available. Proceeds are used for church building interior improvements, such as carpeting, door mats, etc.

#### We continue to collect for these ministries:

- Non-perishable food items for the food pantry at Good Shepherd.
- Aluminum can pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House box in narthex.
- Dash's Tapes for the Niagara Lutheran Health System box in hallway.
- Cans and bottles to be recycled barrel in hallway.
- Jars of peanut butter and jelly for the Sandwich Team ministry.
- Clothing and hygiene items for Friends of Night People blue barrel.
- Calendars for 2026 for Veterans Hospital.

Thank you for your contributions and generosity!

This week's calendar (Note: no Yoga this week)

	Sun	8/24	9:30 am	Worship Service at Augustana
Please notify the Church			11 am	Worship Service at TOL
Office of any schedule			3:30 pm	Abiding Faith Worship
changes, member illness,			7 pm	GA Meeting
prayer request, etc., so	Mon	8/25	10 am	OA Meeting
church staff can respond			6 pm	Sandwich Team #4
accordingly. Office hours	Tues	8/26	7:30 pm	CoDA
are Tuesday, Thursday and	Wed	8/27		
Friday, 9 am–12 noon.	Thur	8/28	7 pm	GA Meeting
For a pastoral emergency,	S			
please contact Pastor Fred.	Fri	8/29	10 am	Pr. Sohail's South Asian community
For office related matters,	Sat	8/30	4 pm	South Asian Worship community
please leave a voice mail	Sun	8/31	9:30 am	Worship Service at Augustana
message or send an email.			11 am	Worship Service at TOL

	3:30 pm	Abiding Faith Worship
	7 pm	GA Meeting

<u>Announcements</u>: If you'd like to submit a bulletin or Tidings announcement, please send to <u>trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com</u> or call 716-836-4868 by Wednesday morning.

<u>TOL's Free WiFi and Password:</u> N7W7y; Password = limp82hewer43dig





SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> AT 10 AM (WORSHIP AT 10 AM)

Enjoy spending time with our three church families.

Veteran's Park
City of Tonawanda
777 Niagara Street
Shelter #2

We will be collecting for Good Shepherd's Food Pantry for God's Work, Our Hands project. Please bring toothpaste, toothbrushes, Chunky soup, peanut butter, or jelly. Cash donations accepted

# **Please RSVP**

with the # of Children/Adults Attending and what Dish to Share you will bring (side dish or dessert)!

There is a sign up sheet

on the bulletin board

OR

call / email the Good Shepherd Church Office! 716-632-5390 / office.gslc.tona@gmail.com