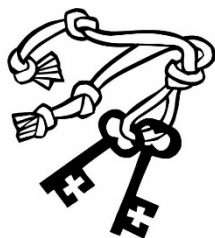


13th Sunday after Pentecost August 23, 2026

Welcome

P This is the day that the Lord has made!

C Let us rejoice and be glad in it!



Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God, we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, **Amen.**

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, our sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Greeting

P 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.**

Opening Hymn (next page)

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. **O** God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

First Reading *Isaiah 51:1-6*

If you want to do right and obey the LORD, follow Abraham's example. He was the rock from which you were chipped. God chose Abraham and Sarah to be your ancestors. The LORD blessed Abraham, and from that one man came many descendants. Though Zion is in ruins, the LORD will bring comfort, and the city will be as lovely as the garden of Eden that he provided. Then Zion will celebrate; it will be thankful and sing joyful songs.

The LORD says: You are my people and nation! So pay attention to me. My teaching will cause justice to shine like a light for every nation. Those who live across the sea are eagerly waiting for me to rescue them. I am strong and ready; soon I will come to save and to rule all nations.

Look closely at the sky! Stare at the earth. The sky will vanish like smoke; the earth will wear out like clothes. Everyone on this earth will die like flies. But my victory will last; my saving power never ends.

...This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸**You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

Second Reading *Romans 12:1-8*

Dear friends, God is good. So I beg you to offer your bodies to him as a living sacrifice, pure and pleasing. That's the most sensible way to serve God. Don't be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to him.

I realize God has treated me with undeserved grace, and so I tell each of you not to think you are better than you really are. Use good sense and measure yourself by the amount of faith that God has given you. A body is made up of many parts, and each of them has its own use. That's how it is with us. There are many of us, but we each are part of the body of Christ, as well as part of one another.

God has also given each of us different gifts to use. If we can prophesy, we should do it according to the amount of faith we have. If we can serve others, we should serve. If we can teach, we should teach. If we can encourage others, we should encourage them. If we can give, we should be generous. If we are leaders, we should do our best. If we are good to others, we should do it cheerfully.

... This is 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 Matthew, the 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel ***Matthew 16:13-20***

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

...The Gospel of the Lord.

(sung) Praise to you, O Christ.

Youth Time

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *(next page)*

Built on a Rock



1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
 2 Not in our tem - ples made with hands God, the Al - might - y, is
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, built for his own hab - i -
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is
 5 Through all the pass - ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
 dwell - ing; high in the heav'n's his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our
 ring - ing, man - y may come to hear God's Word where he this



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet he who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
 life and sal - va - tion. Were two or three to seek his face, he in their
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with
 prom - ise is bring - ing: I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 midst would show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.
 world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.
 Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

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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

A With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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 Glenda and Arlen, and for those for whom we now pray, either in our hearts or aloud:

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and those of Augustana, Good Shepherd and Pr. Sohail's South Asian worshipping community. Strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!}

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.

Communion: Please be seated until the usher directs your row to the communion rail. Please come to the communion rail and stand or kneel. If you do not wish to receive communion, please come for a blessing. All who share our confession that Christ is present in the Sacrament are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available in the center of the communion cup 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. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **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

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-ings' 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 Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C Thanks be to God.

MINISTERS: All the Members of Our Congregation
Leading Worship Today: Pastor Johanna Andritz
Church Office: 716-836-4868 Office Email:
trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com
Website: www.trinityoldlutheran.com
Music Minister: Don Grabau Media Minister: Jeff Ward
Worship Assistant: Charlie Schmidtke
Prayer Partner: Earlene Crocker

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 here with us.

Thank you: To Pr. Johanna Andritz, for leading us in worship today. We look forward to hearing your message, Pastor Johanna!

Prayer Partner Ministry: 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 Earlene Crocker.

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.com) or on your smartphone.

Mission for August: The mission for August is ELCA Disaster Response: Venezuela. In the aftermath of two catastrophic earthquakes. Marked envelopes are available in the narthex, or mail your donation to the church office indicating the funds are for Disaster Relief: Venezuela. Donations can also be made through tithe.ly.

Pastoral Care: During the month of August, if you are in need of Pastoral care or assistance, please contact Pastor Johanna Andritz at 716-870-8518 or email her at jdandritz@aol.com. For any general questions, please call the church office.

Worship and Picnic in the Park: Next Sunday, August 30 at 10 am, enjoy spending time with families and friends from TOL, Augustana and Good Shepherd at Veteran's Park, Shelter #2, in the City of Tonawanda. **There will not be a service at TOL next Sunday, and we're hoping everyone will be able to come to the picnic for worship, followed by fellowship and lunch.** There are sign up sheets on the main bulletin board, and carpooling from TOL will be available! There is a map on page 14.

Grief Support Meeting at TOL: For those who have experienced the death of a child or grandchild. We meet the first Tuesday of each month, next on **Tuesday, Sept. 8.** Please see Charlie or Diane Schmidtke for a Zoom link. The meetings begin at 10 am.

Women's Luncheon Group: After a summer break, the group will meet for lunch at Alton's Restaurant in Cheektowaga (2250 Walden Avenue, near Union Road; phone 716-681-7055) on **Thursday, Sept. 10 at 12:30 pm.** All are invited! Please contact Judy Menz or Barb Maugans if you have any questions.

Adult Education Fall 2026 through Spring 2027: The classes begin at **1 pm**, in person and on Zoom. The focus will be on religious leaders, led by Charlie Schmidtke: The first two classes are as follows.

Monday, Sept. 14	Moses – Mt. Sinai / The Law
Monday, Sept. 28	Maimonides - Andalusia

Tri-Congregation Team Meeting: On **Tuesday, Sept. 15**, there will be a meeting of the three teams to begin working to merge our three congregations: Liturgy and Communication, Mission and Ministry, Legal and Finance. We will continue to keep you informed with our progress.

Calling all Crafters and Bakers: We need your help! **On Saturday, September 19 from 10 am -4 pm**, we will hold our 3rd 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. If you have an idea for a craft, please share with us. We will have a craft night here on **Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 6:30 pm.** If you have a basket or items for a basket, or a gift card, to donate for the basket raffle, please drop them off at church.

Adult Retreat: Please see the article in the August Tidings about the upcoming Adult Retreat which will take place at beautiful Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center the weekend of **October 2 - 4.** There is a signup sheet on the main bulletin board.

Ken-Ton Closet and Operation Christmas Child: Thank you for your contributions to the Ken-Ton Closet. We had an amazing response from you! We

continue to have a collection bin in the hallway for Operation Christmas Child donations. 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.

Introducing Pr. Adam Arends

Hello TOL!

I'm Pastor Adam Arends, and I'm excited to join Trinity Old Lutheran as we continue our work on the next faithful step with Augustana and Good Shepherd Lutheran churches. I have been the transition pastor working with Good Shepherd for the last few years, and I have a three-quarter time call with St. Timothy Lutheran Church on Grand Island.

My role with TOL, Augustana and Good Shepherd is as Transition Pastor, which means that I will help the three congregations through a transition period towards what is next. My covenant with these three churches is for six months to start, and we'll see where we go from there. During this time, I will meet with council, check in with the office weekly, and help lead pastoral care visits. While I won't be leading worship at TOL every week, I will lead worship once or twice each month. We have worship leadership scheduled through the end of the year.

As a bit of a background, I have been in ordained ministry for 7 years and before that held positions in a number of fields including with several non-profits, as a High School English teacher for a time, and some years in automobile crash research at Calspan.

My wife Kristen and I have two children, both high schoolers at Kenmore East: Anna is a senior this year, and Weston is a freshman. Kristen has been ordained as a Lutheran pastor for one year and serves at St. Paul Lutheran in Eggertsville.

In my free time, I love watching movies, playing trading card games, disc golf, and singing with the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus.

I look forward to getting to know the people of TOL as we partner in this season to continue the amazing ministry you continue to do.

In Grace and Peace,

This week's calendar

<i>Please notify the Church Office of any schedule changes, member illness, prayer request, etc., so church staff can respond accordingly.</i> <i>Office hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 am–12 noon.</i>	Sun	8/23	9:30 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting
	Mon	8/24	10 am 3 pm 5:45 pm 6:30 pm	OA Meeting Sandwich Team #1 Yoga AA
	Tues	8/25	5:45 pm 7:30 pm	Chair Yoga CoDA
	Wed	8/26		
	Thur	8/27	9:30 am 5:45 pm 7 pm	Yoga Yoga GA Meeting
	Fri	8/28	10 am	South Asian Lutheran Community
	Sat	8/29	4 pm	South Asian Worship Service
	Sun	8/30	10 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Picnic in the Park Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting

TOL's Free WiFi and Password:

N7W7y; Password = limp82hewer43dig



Operation Christmas Child

If you would like to help us with this mission, contact Debbie (716-946-2683) or the TOL church office (716-836-4868).

You can use your own plastic shoebox or we can provide one for you. The boxes may be filled with a variety of items that are appropriate for boys or girls, ages 2-4, 5-9, 10-14. The biggest need is for boys ages 10-14.

Some ideas are dolls, soccer balls with pump, small stuffed animals, crayons, pencils, markers, note pads, glue sticks, combs, brushes, hair bands, toothbrushes, wash cloths, and card games. Also, books, play dough, jewelry, hats, gloves, sunglasses, puzzles, jump ropes, and yo-yos.

Unacceptable items are: candy, toothpaste, food, war-related toys, liquids, glass items, and soap.

If you are able to include \$10 for shipping, that would be so appreciated.

