

19th Sunday after Pentecost October 4, 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, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God, we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **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.**

Praise Songs

Holy Ground

We are standing on holy ground, and I know that
There are angels all around. Let us praise Jesus now,
We are standing in His presence on holy ground.
(Repeat)

Wellspring

River of Joy flowing deep in my soul,
Wellspring of Life won't You come make me whole
Water the desert of my thirsting days,
Fountain of Love, hear my sweet song of praise.

Chorus:

I sing with joy as I rest in You,
I sing with faith s I trust in You.
I sing with love as I worship You:
Wellspring of Life, come and make me new.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. **Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, 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 5:1-7***

I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

...This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:7-15

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

⁸ **You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.**

⁹ You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

¹⁰ **The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;**

¹¹ it sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.

¹² **Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?**

¹³ The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

¹⁴ **Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see; have regard for this vine,**

¹⁵ the stock that your right hand planted.

Second Reading *Philippians 3:4b-14*

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

... 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 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel ***Matthew 21:33-46***

Jesus said “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?”

“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

...The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Youth Time

Choir Anthem

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *(next page)*

Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three lines of music. The first line has four vocal parts (1-4) with lyrics: '1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in', '2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the', '3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the', '4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -'. The second line continues the melody with lyrics: 'liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so', 'wan-d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that', 'pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that', 'til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and'. The third line concludes the piece with lyrics: 'let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.', 'we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.', 'they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.', 'glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.'

1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in
2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the
3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the
4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -

liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
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glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810–1856

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 Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering. 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 Glenda 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.**

God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith. Bless the ministries of TOL, Augustana, Good Shepherd, and Pr. Sohail's South Asian Community. Fill all of our hearts with your Spirit, that we inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through 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 Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!}*

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. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **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)

Lift High the Cross

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Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till
all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied
4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,

Refrain

Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.
Bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
As thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.

- 5 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Dismissal

A Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C Thanks be to God.

MINISTERS: All the Members of Our Congregation
Leading Worship Today: Rev. Adam Arends
Church Office: 716-836-4868 Office Email:
trinityoldlutheranchurch@gmail.com
Website: www.trinityoldlutheran.com
Music Minister: Don Grabau Media Minister: Jeff Ward
Worship Assistant: Earlene Crocker
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. Adam Arends, for leading us in worship today. We look forward to hearing your message, Pr. Adam!

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.

Today's Altar Flowers: The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God from Sue and Sonny Wloch in celebration of their 56th wedding anniversary, and from Earlene Crocker and Sandra Covelli in loving member of their sister, Sharon, on her 80th 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.com) or on your smartphone.

Mission for September: The mission for October is Operation Christmas Child. Please use the marked envelopes in the narthex. Donations can also be made through [tithely](http://tithely.com). Thank you.

4th Annual Harvest House Baby Shower: Now through the end of October, we are joining with other local Lutheran churches in collecting diapers, baby wipes, new children's socks, bottles and feeding supplies. Please place your items in the marked container in the donation basket in the hallway. Thank you for your continued support.

Pr. Fred New Address: Pastor Fred and Anne's temporary new address is 719 Holter Street, Helena, Montana 59601. Pr. Fred's email is popitude@gmail.com.

Upcoming Tri-Church Worship:

Sunday, October 25: We will worship Reformation at Augustana 9:30am

Sunday, November 15: Tri- church worship Veteran's Day Worship at TOL 11:00am

Sunday, December 6: We will celebrate a Christmas program at Good Shepherd

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

Monday, Oct. 19 The Apostles

Monday, Oct. 26 Early Christian women leaders

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, Oct. 6**. Please see Charlie or Diane Schmidtke for a Zoom link. The meetings begin at 10 am.

Tri-Congregation Team Meeting at TOL: This **Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 7 pm**, is the next meeting of the three teams to continue our work toward merging our three congregations: Liturgy/Communication, Mission/Ministry, Legal/Finance. We will continue to keep you informed of new developments.

Women's Luncheon Group: We will meet this **Thursday, October 8**, at the Fieldstone, 5986 S. Transit Road, Lockport. If you need a ride, please contact Judy Menz at 716-435-6077 or Barb Maugans at 716-692-8116. All are invited!

TOL Fall Chicken Chowder: Volunteers are needed for soup prep on **Friday, Oct. 23** and the day of the sale, which is **Saturday, Oct. 24 starting at 12 noon**. See the chart in the narthex for how you can help with donations of soup ingredients. Please speak to Matt Grabau.

Fall Fest at Augustana: After you purchase your chowder, you are invited to visit Augustana (same day – **Saturday, Oct. 24** from 11 am till 2 pm) for some apple cider and donuts, games and activities, and trunk or treat. Bring the family!

Curtains Up: On **Saturday, Nov. 7**, please join us at Ellicott Creek Playhouse for a live performance of "Man of LaMancha." There is a sign up sheet on the main bulletin board, and there are 30 seats available.

Devotionals: If you would like a "Christ in Our Home" devotional for **October through December 2026**, please pick one up in the narthex or call the church office.

Friends of Night People: Thanks to our volunteer teams who continue to prepare and deliver 100 sandwiches each week! We also collect clothing, sleeping bags, blankets, warm clothing, hygiene items, lip balm & mugs. Please place donations in the blue barrel in the hallway. Thanks!

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.

Thank You for your Continuing Support of these ministries:

- Non-perishable food items for the food pantry at Good Shepherd.
- Aluminum can pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House – bin in hallway.
- Dash's Tapes for the Niagara Lutheran Health System – bin in hallway.
- Cans and bottles to be recycled – barrel in hallway.
- Clothing and hygiene items for Friends of Night People– blue barrel.
- Items or cash donations for Operation Christmas Child boxes – bin in hallway.

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	10/4	9:30 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting
	Mon	10/5	1 pm 5:00 pm 5:45 pm 6:30 pm	OA Meeting Sandwich Team #1 Yoga AA
	Tues	10/6	10 am 5:45 pm 7:30 pm	Grief Support Chair Yoga CoDA
	Wed	10/7	5:45 pm 7 pm	Yoga Flow Tri-Church Task Force @ TOL
	Thur	10/8	9:30 am 12 noon 5:45 pm 7 pm	Yoga Women's Lunch Group Yoga GA Meeting
	Fri	10/9	10 am	South Asian Lutheran Community
	Sat	10/10		
	Sun	10/11	9:30 am 11 am	Worship at Augustana Worship at TOL

			3:30 pm 7 pm	Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting
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TOL's Free WiFi and Password:

N7W7y; Password = limp82hewer43dig

