

**Trinity Evangelical
Lutheran Church**



**Contemporary Worship
Service
September 21, 2025
15th Sunday of Pentecost
Harvest Home**

Good Morning and Welcome! We invite you to worship with us often, and ask if you need any assistance! If you are visiting us today, please sign the Guest Register in the Narthex, please include your address and phone number. Please place your offering envelope in the plate in the Narthex. Thank You!

Remember in your prayers:

Lynn Wolfgang, Angie Smith, Erika Zaiser, Brandon Stauffer, Betty Moore, Barbara Stewart, Kathy Gamler, Bill Brensinger, Richard Eck, Becky Yescavage, BillyRay Pearce, Sr., Kathy Sell, Dennis Brooke, Donna Day, Linda Allmendinger, Karen Essig, Elaine Dotterer, Jeff Reitnauer, Jerry Bryce, Deanna Heydt, Ralph Rothenberger, Anna Spencer, RuthAnn Goode, Jennifer MacDonald, Pete Schmoyer, John Logan, Oscar Smith, Carole Mest, Bob McElwee, Eileen Heffner, Tammy Strunk, Terry Kemp, Mary Snyder, Howard Shafer and Wendy Bowers.

Friends & Family:

Michelle Hiriak, Donald Hays, Linda Stark, Martha Van Parys, Joyce Kemp, John McCarron, Corbin Riegner and Shirley Ciaciak.

Families of:

Dan Ritter, Ted Sheetz, Geri Passante, Nancy Umstead and Justine Rick.

Also members, relatives and friends in the community who are serving in the military including:

Christopher Heffner, BillyRay Pearce, Jr., Noah Heydt, Ben Rhode, Steven Herbst, David Crews, Jeff Lydic, Jory Huie, Seth Kurtz, Clinton Bowen, Eli Abner and Johnne Knepp.

Our sister congregation, the Marienkirche in Borna, Germany.
(Website: Kirche-bornae-land.de)

Please note: Names of friends and family will be kept on the bulletin prayer list for one month. If still in need of prayers, these names will then appear in the newsletter prayer list. Names on the friends and family list will only be kept on the newsletter prayer list for one year. If you wish for names to remain longer, please speak to Pastor Gene, Linda Ritter or contact the Church Office. Thank you for helping us keep the prayer list current!

Members of the Worship Team

Angie Renninger	Guitar
Kurt Yescavage	Trumpet
Pastor Zaiser	Guitar

Vocals By:

Mardell Blanford
Sharon Renninger
Janice Sheetz

September 21, 2025

15th Sunday after Pentecost—Harvest Home

Today we will be receiving a Free Will Offering for the Boyertown Area Multi-Service.

The Altar Flowers are presented to the glory of God, by Mr. Dennis Brooke, in Loving Memory of his Wife Ruth and also by Ms. Kim Shaner, in Honor of all of her Nieces & Nephews.

The Extra Bouquet of Flowers are presented to the glory of God, by Richard Eck, in Memory of Wife Arlene and Son Jeffrey.

The Bulletins are presented to the glory of God, by Jerry Bryce, to thank the Lord for his guidance with my three children, as they help me get through my health situation. Praise the Lord!

The Eternal Flame Candle is presented to the glory of God by Richard & Pat Beekley, in Memory of Family.

- **Opening Song**

Announcements, Concerns, Praises: a time for congregation to lift up prayer requests and thanks.

- **Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Loving God, we come before you this day to worship and praise you, yet we know that we have not always been the people you've wanted us to be. In our actions, our words, and our thoughts, we have often disappointed you by not loving and forgiving others as you would have us do. We come asking your forgiveness, knowing that you are merciful and loving, even when we are not.

C: **Dear Lord, have mercy on us. Do not count our wrongs against us, but rather forgive us for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ. Refresh our spirits, so that we can serve you and others as we ought to. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross so that we might be forgiven. For his sake, God does not count our wrongs against us, but rather gives forgiveness and everlasting life to all who believe. Amen.

- **The Greeting**

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.**

Worship Songs

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
 and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over
 so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath,
 so that we may offer wheat for sale?
 We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
 and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals,
 and selling the sweepings of the wheat."
⁷The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
 Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13

Presentation of the Gospel by Heart

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?

¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Sermon

• Apostles Creed

**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 into hell.**

**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**

Prayer of the People

Closing Songs

- **Mission Statement and Sending**

P People of Trinity, what is our mission?

C **We shall, as individuals and as a congregation, strive through word, worship, and witness to further the kingdom of God by knowing and sharing Christ's Love in our hearts, in our homes, in His church, in the community, and in the world.**

- **Sending**

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

September Update on Church Financial Status From The Finance Committee:

As reported in the current Newsletter (Financial Reports Section), the General Fund has a Negative balance of \$7,420 (an improvement from Negative \$10,452 in July, largely due to 5 Sundays of giving in August). While this is an improvement, our congregation is not meeting the income needs of the budget for 2025, which was approved by the congregation at the December Congregational Meeting. This means some Bills are being paid by borrowing “internally” from other accounts. Also to note: This year is not the start of this issue as the General Fund is Negative by \$30,703 since the start of 2023.

The committee met in early May and again in July to discuss and is asking all members to consider the following actions to help us recover from the current situation:

- Increase your giving - even a small increase by many will help.
- Start to buy, or increase your purchases of, Gift Cards from the church on the 1st Sunday of each month. The church receives a % of each sale.
- Review the Simply Giving program and consider setting up automated donations to the church which helps smooth the income stream over the whole year, and makes your giving easier and typically more consistent.
- Support fundraisers and special events at the church - note that not all fundraisers and events benefit the General Fund. And...**Thank you for supporting 2 new fundraisers in August!**

New item - if you own products through Thrivent that generate Thrivent Choice Dollars, consider directing them to our church as we generally receive over \$1000 of Thrivent Choice Dollars per year.

Kindly consider how you can help, with respect to your current individual or family situation.

If you have already done this, we thank you for your prayerful consideration and any resulting actions.

The Finance Committee thanks everyone for their financial support of the church and our 2025 budget along with all other donations and contributions you are providing to the church to support our mission.

The committee will continue to monitor our Financial situation closely and communicate further as needed.

If you have any questions, please reach out to a Finance Committee member as listed in the monthly newsletter or chairperson Kurt Yescavage.

Finance Committee Meeting: The next 2 Finance Committee meetings will be **Today, Sunday, September 21 at 6:30 PM and Sunday October 5**, both in the Parish Hall. If you are on this committee, please make plans to attend.

Harvest Home: Today is the celebration of Harvest Home. It is the time we celebrate God's Harvest. We will be collecting donations for Boyertown Area Multi-Service throughout September. **Nonperishable items** can be placed in the box in the Narthex. Please see the list of top pantry needs in this bulletin.

Today is the deadline for the October Newsletter. Please submit your information to Karen in the church office.

Prayer Listing-If you wish to make any changes, please see Linda Ritter, Pastor Gene or contact the church office, in order for the change to be made in the October Newsletter.

The Basket Party is Saturday, September 27th, ladies start getting your baskets together. Doors Open at 9AM, Drawing Begins at 10:30AM. Tickets are \$20. Please see Mardell Blanford or the church office to purchase tickets.

Help Wanted: The Bechtelsville Community Fall Fest will be held October 4, 11:00-3:00. Volunteers are needed to help with carnival games: soda ring toss and candy roulette wheel, and at the children's craft station. Please consider sharing Christ's love in the community by volunteering for an hour, two, or more and support their efforts to raise funds for playground equipment. A sign-up sheet is posted in the narthex. For questions or more information contact Sharon Renninger.

The Craft Show is Saturday, October 18th – 9AM-1PM. We will have several new crafters: Stained Glass, Jewelry, Seashell Crafts, Scented Candles & Wood Magnets). Returning crafters: Crochet Items, Wreaths & Fall Crafts). We are collecting used books for the Book Sale, books can be dropped off in the Nursery. Thank You for your donation. Yard signs are now available for you to display in your front yard or place of business. Flyers are on the table in the Narthex for you to distribute.

Free Will Offerings will be received the 3rd Sunday of every month. The next Free Will Offering will be Sunday, October 19th for the Eastern Berks Fire Dept. Thank you for your support.

The Christmas Cantata this year will be Sunday, December 14th at the 10:30AM Worship Service. Snow Date and Encore Presentation is Sunday, January 4th at 3:00PM.

Coffee Hour—Volunteers are needed to host Coffee Hour for October. Please sign up for this time of fellowship. The sign up sheet for is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

HOSPITAL INPATIENT STAY: Please contact Pastor Gene if you are admitted to the hospital and would like a visit, due to privacy laws, the hospital no longer contacts the church.

Bibles are available in the rack in the Narthex for you to reference during worship. You may also take home to reference, please return when you are finished.

Social Ministry provides meals for shut-ins/members who are in need of meals. If a meal is needed, please contact Kathy Kuser at 610-754-6293.

Need a ride? We have volunteers in the congregation who are willing to provide transportation to medical appointments, etc., for those who can't find a ride. Please contact Pastor Gene 610-322-0901 if you need a ride or would like to volunteer as a driver.

You may sponsor Altar Flowers, the cost is \$32.00 for one vase and \$64.00 for 2 vases, please contact Mary Snyder. If you wish to sponsor flowers and that date is not available, you can always sponsor an extra bouquet of flowers for \$40.00. When sponsoring flowers, please use a flower envelope found in the rack in the narthex or clearly mark the envelope "Flowers". If you sponsored flowers in the past but no longer wish to, please let Mary Snyder 610-473-8885 or the church office know. You may also sponsor the bulletins for \$15.00 per week, this helps offset the cost of printing them.

Trinity Gift Card Program —Orders will be taken before and after the church service the first Sunday of the month and will be distributed at church the second Sunday of the month. Order forms for Redners, Giant, and Scrip will be available at church and the Scrip order form is also found on Trinity's website. Please note: Weis Markets cards (\$25, \$100) can be ordered through Scrip for those who physically shop at the store. Weis cards cannot be used for online orders. KOHL'S GIFT CARDS CANNOT BE USED TO PAY YOUR KOHL'S CHARGE. We apologize for any inconvenience. Payment must be submitted with your order; checks should be made out to Trinity Lutheran Church. Be sure to include your phone number on your order form.

WAWA Hoagie Coupons Available 1st Sunday of the month at the Scrip Table. Coupons are also available in the church office Monday—Thursday, 9:00AM-2:00PM. Tickets are \$5.00. This project benefits the Social Ministry.

Scout Troop 511 Hoagie Sales: Orders are due by Tuesday, September 30th and pick up will be Wednesday, October 8th. 8” hoagies are made from Dan’s Deli, **Cost is \$7.00.** There are ham w/onion, ham no onion, turkey w/onion, turkey no onion, Italian w/onion, Italian no onion, cheese hoagie w/onion, cheese hoagie no onion, mayo, Italian dressing, no tomatoes, no lettuce, no cheese. There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

EPSON Desk Top Printer and Ink is available, if anyone is in need of a printer, no cost. For more information, please see Dennis Schaeffer.

Monthly Free-will Offerings 2025

A free-will offering is scheduled for the third Sunday of each month. They are as follows:

October 19 – Eastern Berks Fire Dept.

November 16 – Elf Bags (Multi-Service)

December – No free-will offering. Thank you for supporting the various Christmas giving opportunities.

Thank you for your contributions to these special causes!

Trinity's events for the upcoming week:

Sunday, September 21st-**Harvest Home**

8:00 Cont. Worship Serv.

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Worship Service
w/Communion

6:30 Finance Comm. Mtg.

Monday, September 22nd- 6:30 Scouts

Tuesday, September 23rd- 6:30 Worship & Music Mtg.
Scouts

Wednesday, September 24th-6:30 TLC Stitches

Thursday, September 25th- 6:30 Sr. Choir Practice
7:30 Cantata Practice

Saturday, September 27th- 9:00 Basket Party

Sunday, September 28th- 9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Worship Service

Next Week's Worship Assistants:

Sunday, September 28th:

Ushers: Sharon Renninger* & Mardell Blanford

Lector: Laura Moser

Acolyte: Uta Hahn

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS: 09/14/2025

Attendance
Worship/S.S.
59/17

Offerings
General Hunger
\$3,023.00 \$60.00

Benevolence Bldg. Maint.
\$5.00 \$55.00

**Boyertown Area Multi-Service
Non-Perishable Items Needed:**

1. Paper Towels
2. Tissues
3. Laundry Detergent
4. Shampoo and Conditioner
5. Syrup
6. Pancake Mix
7. Instant Mashed Potatoes
8. Stuffing Mix
9. Hamburger Helper
10. Chef Boyardee Meals
11. Cake/Brownie Mix
12. Jelly
13. Peanut Butter
14. Canned Chicken
15. Canned Mixed Vegetables

Sodium free, sugar free, gluten free and low-fat items are also appreciated for clients with dietary restrictions.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING THOSE IN NEED.

THE
CREATIVE
PATH
TO
\$\$\$\$ RAISERIGHT (SCRIP)
FOR
YOUR
CHURCH
FAMILY



PLAN! WHEN? END OF PREVIOUS MONTH. **WHAT?** EVERYDAY ESSENTIALS (CVS, Staples, Walmart, WAWA, cards) GROCERIES (Giant, Redners, Walmart, Target, Visa cards) BIRTHDAYS (Amazon, Starbucks, Gap, Old Navy, Macy's cards) HOME IMPROVEMENTS (Home Depot, Lowes, Ace Hardware cards) VACATIONS (Hotels, Airlines, Cruises, Fuel cards) ANNIVERSARY'S (Long Horn Steakhouse, Macy's, AMC theater cards)

IMPLEMENT! FILL OUT THE FORM! WRITE A CHECK OR BRING CASH! TURN IN AT THE SCRIP TABLE ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH! COLLECT YOUR CARDS THE SECOND SUNDAY!

GET CREATIVE! THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX! ADD'L GIFT CARDS ON THE WEBSITE
raiseright.com

The Community Clothing Rack Schedule

1st Wednesday
Donations Accepted

2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesdays
Shoppers Welcome

2nd Thursday
Shoppers Welcome
6:00PM-8:00PM

5th Wednesday
CLOSED

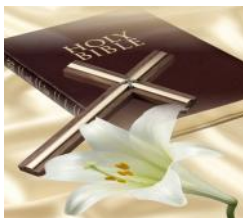
Hours
1:00PM-4:00PM

Summer Hours Only
June-August
9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed on all major holidays.
In the case of inclement weather,
Refer to Boyertown Area School district closure.
CCR is a ministry of St. Luke Lutheran Church
Our mission is to serve Jesus Christ by providing
necessary clothing to the underserved.

Thank you for your contributions to these special causes!

Readings for Personal Devotion



M Proverbs 14:12-31
T Proverbs 17:1-5
W Luke 20:45--21:4
Th Exodus 23:1-9
F 2 Corinthians 8:1-9
Sa Psalm 12

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Eugene C. Zaiser, DMin.,
Pastor

Ms. LaRue Sheetz, Director of Music

Mrs. Karen J. Smith, Parish Secretary

Mrs. Catherine M. Yoder, Sexton

The Members of this Congregation are
its Ministers

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
(Or by Appointment)

1749 South Main Street, Bechtelsville, PA
19505
610-369-1281

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Pastor Zaiser's E-Mail:
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Website: www.trinitybech.com

