Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



October 5, 2025 17th Sunday after Pentecost

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, Oscar & 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, Carole Mest, Bob McElwee, Eileen Heffner, Tammy Strunk, Terry Kemp, Mary Snyder, Wendy Bowers and Linda Bewley.

Friends & Family:

Michelle Hiriak, Donald Hays, Linda Stark, Martha Van Parys, Joyce Kemp, Karen Smith and Dennis Weller.

Families of:

Nancy Umstead, Justine Rick and Ben Delp.

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, Marienkirche in Borna, Germany. (Website: Kirche-bornaer-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 normally 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!

Today we share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite everyone to the Lord's table who recognizes Christ's presence in His holy sacrament. We will be communing using the continuous method this morning. When the time comes, the usher will direct you forward-simply receive the bread from the Pastor and move to the side to the communion server to receive the wine (or grape juice). When you have received both elements, please return to your seat by the side aisle.

October 5, 2025 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost

The Altar Flowers are presented to the glory of God, by Martha Beekman, in Honor of My Children, Calvin, Rhonda, Valerie and Grandchildren and also in Memory of Gerhard Hahn by the Hahn and Zaiser Family.

The Bulletins are presented to the glory of God, by Bill & Sheila Eddinger, in Support of Suicide Awareness and Prevention.

The Eternal Flame Candle is presented to the glory of God by Mary Kiersey, in Memory of Brother Michael McGowan.

Today's Worship Assistants:

Assisting Minister: Diane McElwee

Server: Sheila Eddinger

Ushers: Bill Eddinger* & Kay McGowan

Lector: Diane McElwee Acolyte: Vicki Mest

• (those who are able may stand)

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"Jubilato Deo"
A. J. Silver

Announcements and Concerns

• Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Prelude

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

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

- P Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen
- P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

- **Processional Hymn** WOV# 771 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
- 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.

• Kyrie



• Hymn of Praise



• Prayer of the Day



P Let us Pray ...

C Our Lord Jesus, you have endured the doubts and foolish questions of every generation. Forgive us for trying to be judge over you, and grant us the confident faith to acknowledge you as Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

The injustices of the Judean king and the violence of the Chaldeans (Babylonians) move this prophet to write during the years leading up to the Babylonian exile of Judah. The central issue for the prophet is: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent?

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

²O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen?

Or cry to you "Violence!"

and you will not save?

³Why do you make me see wrong-doing and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;

strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law becomes slack

and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

2:1 I will stand at my watchpost,

and station myself on the rampart;

I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

²Then the Lord answered me and said:

Write the vision:

make it plain on tablets,

so that a runner may read it.

³For there is still a vision for the appointed time;

it speaks of the end, and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. ⁴Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-10

Do not fret yourself because of | evildoers; do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

²For they shall soon wither | like the grass, and like the green grass | fade away.

³Put your trust in the LORD | and do good; dwell in the land and feed | on its riches.

⁴Take delight | in the LORD, and he shall give you your | heart's desire.

⁵Commit your way to the LORD and put your | trust in him, and he will bring | it to pass.

⁶He will make your righteousness as clear | as the light and your just dealing | as the noonday.

⁷Be still be- | fore the LORD and wait patient- | ly for him.

⁸Do not fret yourself over the | one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

⁹Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone; do not fret yourself; it leads on- | ly to evil.

¹⁰For evildoers shall | be cut off, but those who wait upon the LORD shall pos- | sess the land.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

These words preserve a personal message to a prominent leader in the early Christian church. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I am grateful to God–whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did–when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and

day. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

GOSPEL: Luke 17:5-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers concerning the duties of discipleship. He wants his disciples to exhibit mutual support and forgiveness, to realize the power of faith, and to adopt the attitude of servants who do what is right without thought of reward.



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter



Presentation of the Gospel by Heart

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Senior Choir Anthem

"Make Me A Channel of Your Peace"
S. Temple

Sermon

- **Hymn of the Day**"How Firm a Foundation"

 LBW# 507
- 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

• The Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God, in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

After each portion of prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy.

C hear our prayer

The prayers conclude:

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

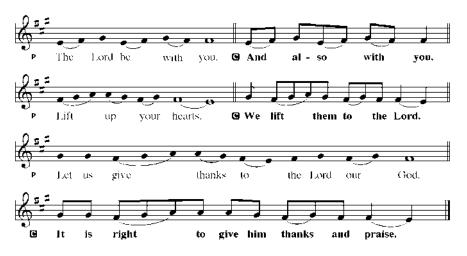
C Amen

• Sharing of the Peace

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

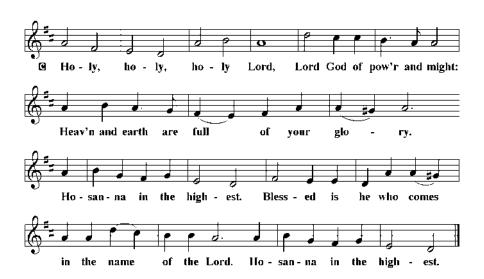
C: And also with you.

• The Great Thanksgiving



• The Proper Preface

P It is indeed right and salutary... (Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



• Eucharistic Prayer

P 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.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P 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.

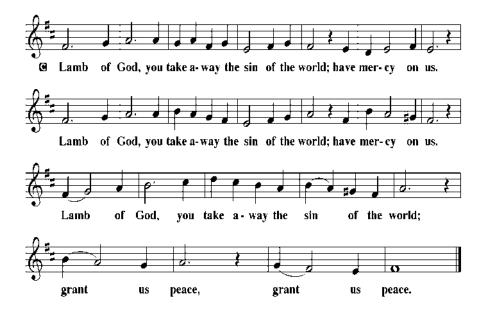
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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 (Sung by Choir & Congregation, See Insert)



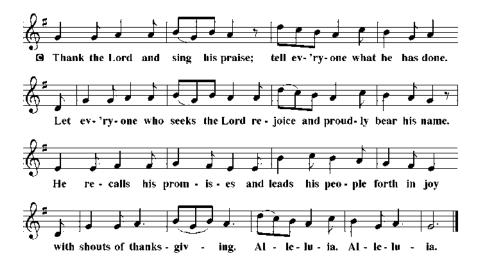
Communion

• Post-communion Blessing

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

C Amen

Post-communion Canticle



Post-communion Prayer

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

- Our Mission Statement
- 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.

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.

 The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen, Amen, Amen.
- Recessional Hymn LBW# 500 "Faith of Our Fathers"
- Dismissal
- P Go in peace, serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Forth In Your Name"
L. Smith

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 Finance Committee meeting will be Tonight, Sunday October 5 at 6:30PM, in the Parish Hall. If you are on this committee, please make plans to attend,

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.

Attention bakers! We need your lovingly homemade baked goods for the bake sale at our craft show on October 18. So that we have a variety of items, please list what you will be donating on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Ideas include cookies, cupcakes, brownies, muffins, breakfast buns or cakes, pies, etc. Items may be dropped off Thursday evening, 6:30-8:30, Friday (contact Sharon Renninger, 484-374-5928, for a time), or Saturday by 9 a.m. Thank you for your support!

The November Newsletter Deadline is Sunday, October 19th, please submit your information to Karen in the church office.

Prayer Listing: Any changes to the Prayer List, please see Linda Ritter, Pastor Gene or contact the church office in order for the change to be made in the November Newsletter.

Youth Happenings: All young persons and those young at heart are invited to the annual Pumpkins and Pizza event on Sunday, October 26, 2025 from 4:30-7:00pm. There will be pizza, drinks and snacks, a costume parade, singing of the "Monster Mash," creative pumpkins, fun treats, and fellowship. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please let Jenn know by Thursday October 23rd by calling 267.664.3394 so we can make sure we have enough for everyone. See you on the 26th for a spooktacular time together!

Operation Christmas Child: Once again, we are collecting "filled shoe boxes" for children, as a Christmas Project. Gift suggestions: School supplies, small toys, hygiene items, other items (t-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, etc.) Please include the "How to Pack A Shoebox" Insert along with a check or cash for \$10.00, filled boxes must be returned to church by **Sunday, November 9th.** Thank you for your support! Any questions, please see Kathy Kuser.

PJ Project: In conjunction with the Boyertown Area Multi-Service, Trinity would like to create "Elf Bags" for needy families for Christmas Eve and are looking for our help to fill these bags. The items needed besides new Children's Larger size pajamas (10/12 & 14/16), Adult Size pajamas for older children (Small-XL), Children's Christmas Books, Family games for older children (Card Games, Sorry, Monopoly, etc.), Monetary donations to purchase items needed, hot chocolate packets and microwave popcorn packets. **Please bring your donation to the box in the Narthex by November 16th.** Any questions, please see Kathy Kuser. Thank you for your support of this ministry.

The Christmas Cantata, "Favorite Christmas Selections, Through the Years", 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.

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.

Coffee Hour—Volunteers are needed to host Coffee Hour for October, November & December. Please sign up for this time of fellowship. The sign up sheet 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.

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's Gift Card Program - Gift card orders are accepted before and after the church service the first Sunday of each month and distributed the second Sunday. Order forms for Redners, Giant and Raise Right (for other retail gift cards) are available in the narthex. The Raise Right order form is also available for download on Trinity's website. Payment must be submitted with your order. Please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church and include your phone number on your order form. If you have any questions regarding this fund raising program please see Sharon Kemp, Kathy Kuser or Kurt Yescavage.

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: 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.

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, October 5th- 8:00 Cont. Worship Serv. w/Communion 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service w/Communion Worship & Music Mtg. 6:30 Finance Comm. Mtg. Monday, October 6th- 6:30 Scouts Tuesday, October 7th- 2:00 Discipleship Comm. Mtq. 6:30 Scouts Wednesday, October 8th- 6:30 TLC Stitchers Thursday, October 9th- 6:30 Sr. Choir Practice 7:30 Cantata Practice Sunday, October 12th- 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service

Next Week's Worship Assistants: Sunday, October 12th:

Ushers: Janice Sheetz* & Heidi Yescavage

Lector: Uta Hahn Acolyte: Mark Sheetz

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS: 09/28/2025

Attendance	<u>Offerings</u>		
Worship/S.S.	General	Hunger	
70/13	\$2,200.00	0	
	Benevolence	Bldg. Maint.	
	\$10.00	\$120.00	

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.

www.StLukeGilbertsville.org

Readings for Personal Devotion



M 2 Kings 18:1-8, 28-36

T 2 Kings 19:8-20, 35-37

W Matthew 20:29-34

Th Isaiah 7:1-9

F Revelation 2:12-29

Sa Psalm 3

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

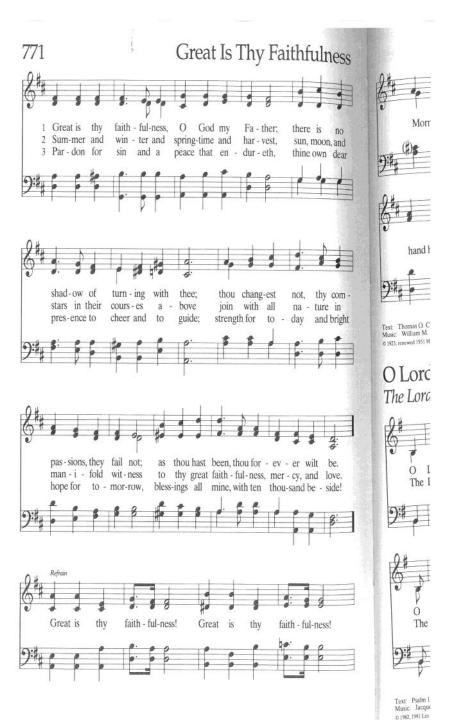
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Or by Appointment)

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

Church Office E-Mail: trinitybech@outlook.com

Pastor Zaiser's E-Mail: pastorzaiser@outlook.com

Website: www.trinitybech.com



PRAYER





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O Lord, Hear My Prayer

The Lord Is My Song

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.

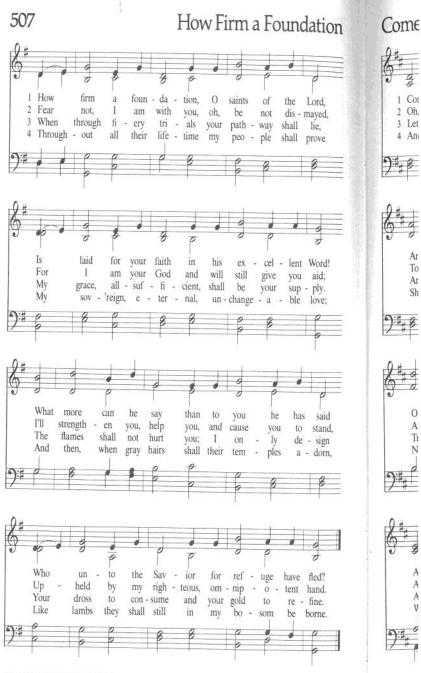


O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer, come and lis - ten to me. The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.



Text: Psalm 102:1–2; adapt. Taizé Community, 1982 Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

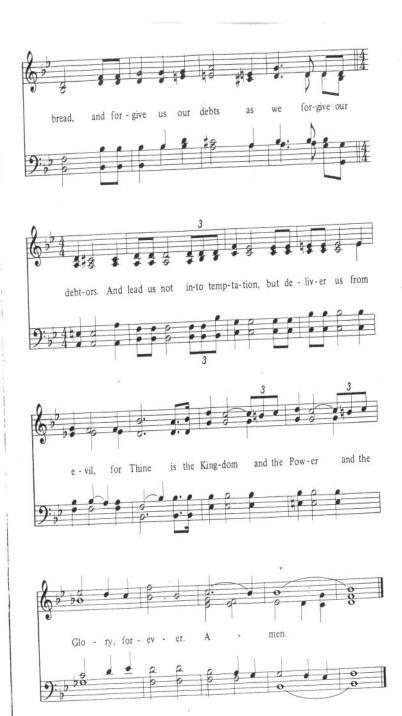
^{© 1962, 1991} Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GLA Publications, Inc.



And when thou hast shut thy door, pray to the Father . . . — Matthew 6:6

MALOTTE Albert Hay Malotte Arranged by Fred Bock Matthew 6:9-13 Unison hal - low - ed which art in heav - en, Our Fa - ther, Thy name. Thy king-dom come, in Thy will be done on earth it 0 Give us this day our en. heav

@ Converiohr 1935 by G. Schirmer, Inc. This arrangement @ Copyright 1976 by G. Schirmer, Inc. All rights reserved.



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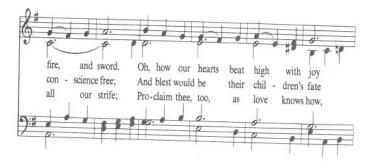
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Faith of Our Fathers

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Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt. Time: Henri F. Hemy, 1818–1888; James G. Walton, 1821–1905, refrain

ST. CATHERINE 88.88.88

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