Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



November 9, 2025 22nd 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, Elaine Dotterer, Jeff Reitnauer, Ralph Rothenberger, Anna Spencer, RuthAnn Goode, Pete Schmoyer, John Logan, Carole Mest, Bob McElwee, Eileen Heffner, Tammy Strunk, Mary Snyder, Wendy Bowers, Linda Bewley, Sherri Schaeffer, Tammy Kemp and Mike Wyda.

Friends & Family:

Michelle Hiriak, Donald Hays, Linda Stark, Martha Van Parys, Joyce Kemp, Anna Bechtel, David Lord, Pastor Burl Latshaw and David Glauser.

Families of:

Henry Morlock, Carmel Mauger and Coke Spence.

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-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!

November 9, 2025 - 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Today's Worship Assistants:

Ushers: Mardell Blanford* & Sharon Renninger

Lector: Maddy Wyda Acolyte: Mark Sheetz

The Altar Flowers are presented to the glory of God, by The Mutter Family, in Memory of their Brother Randy and in Honor of All Veterans and also by Donald & Patti Miller, in Honor of their Granddaughter Savannah's 7th Birthday.

The Extra Bouquet of Flowers are presented to the glory of God, in Honor of Our Country's Veterans.

The Bulletins are presented to the glory of God, in Memory of Jerry & Carolyn Bryce.

The Eternal Flame Candle is presented to the glory of God by Howard & Waynette Shafer, in Memory of Family.

(those who are able may stand)

Prelude

"Amazing Grace"

D. Hustad

Announcements and Concerns

• Confession and Forgiveness

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

C Amen

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** LBW# 327 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

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



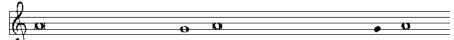


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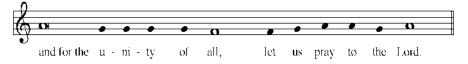
A For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



■ Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

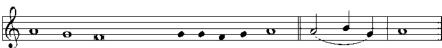






A For this holy house, and for all who offer there their wor - ship and praise,





• Hymn of Praise



• Prayer of the Day



- P Let us Pray . . .
- C O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Job 19:23-27a

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives; and that one day he himself will see God.

²³ "O that my words were written down!

O that they were inscribed in a book!

O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever!

²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;

²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God,

^{27a} whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another."

PSALM: Psalm 17:1-9

¹ Hear a just cause, O LORD; give heed | to my cry; listen to my prayer, which does not come from | lying lips.

² Let my vindication come forth | from your presence; let your eyes be | fixed on justice.

³ Examine my heart, visit me by night,

melt me down; you will find no impuri- ty in me.

⁴I have not regarded what | others do;

at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.

⁵ My footsteps hold fast to your well-worn path; and my feet do not slip.

⁶ I call upon you, O God, for you will | answer me; incline your ear to me and | hear my words.

⁷ Show me your marvelous lovingkindness,

O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who rise against them.

⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye;

hide me under the shadow of your wings,

⁹ from the wicked who assault me, from my deadly enemies who surround me.

SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

This portion of the letter provides encouragement for the church at Thessalonica during a time of confusion and opposition, as some allowed their concern over Jesus' imminent return to divert them from the central teachings of the gospel.

¹ As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. ⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵ Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

¹³ But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

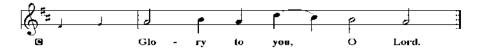
¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

GOSPEL: Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus. They formulate the convoluted case of a serial widow who marries a succession of seven brothers. Jesus responds by teaching about God to whom all are alive and in whom all relationships are fulfilled.



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



Presentation of the Gospel by Heart

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸ and asked him a question: "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

³⁴ Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush,

where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive."

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Senior Choir Anthem

"Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing"

Lorenz

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

LBW# 352

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives!" (vv.1-5)

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:

P 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

• The Lord's Prayer

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.

- 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 WOV# 699 "Blessed Assurance"

Postlude

"Jubilate Deo"

J. Rasley

October 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 \$1,817 - this significant improvement from Negative \$7,420 at end of August was largely due to Memorial Contributions being elected by Ritter and Sheetz families to go to the General fund and the successful Basket Party allocating 50% of profits to the General Fund. Thank you to all responsible for these allocations and support.

Our congregation is, however, still not meeting the income needs of the budget for 2025, which was approved by the congregation last December. This means some Bills are being paid by borrowing "internally" from other accounts with positive balances.

Also to note: This year is not the start of this issue as the General Fund is Negative by \$25,100 since the start of 2023.

Our request for your consideration:

The committee has met 4 times this year 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.

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 continues to monitor our Financial situation closely and will communicate further as needed.

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

Pastor Gene will be on vacation Monday, November 10th thru Monday, November 17th, in case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Greg Frey at 484-432-4809.

The 2026 General Fund Envelopes are on the table in the Parish Hall, please pick up your envelopes.

The annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be Tuesday, November 25th, at 7 PM, at Most Blessed Sacrament Church, Bally. Please note the change of day – due to scheduling conflicts this year, we'll have to hold the service on Tuesday evening. This service is a beautiful expression of the community we share with other churches in our area, so please come on out and celebrate our unity in Christ! Our monetary offering that evening will benefit Boyertown Area Mult-Service. We will also be collecting non-perishable food items for Multi-Service's community food bank.

The Boyertown Alumni Marching Unit 21st Holiday Concert will be Saturday, December 6th at 7PM, at Morning Star Church, Bechtelsville. Free Admission. Light refreshments before the concert. A Free Will Offering will be taken for the Boyertown Area Multi-Service.

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

The TLC Stitchers has a table set up in the Parish Hall with many items that are available for free or a donation would be greatly appreciated. The items will be available until December 7th.

Shoefly Pies & Pumpkin Roll orders will be taken on Sunday, November 9th & 16th. Delivery on Sunday, November 23rd. Price is \$8.00 per item. Any questions, please see Linda Brunner.

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 will once again 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.

Trinity is also participating with the Lutheran Home at Topton to help spread the Christmas Cheer with their residents. A list of items needed is in the November Newsletter and a listing is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. New, unwrapped items can only be accepted. Donations will be accepted until Sunday, November 23rd.

Christmas Cookies: It is that time of year again where cooler weather and holidays are approaching. The Annual Cookie Baking will occur Saturday, December 6, 2025, beginning at 9:00am. Pick up will be on Sunday, December 7, 2025 after worship. We will be baking peanut butter, chocolate chip, sugar, oatmeal raisin, and snickerdoodles. If you want gluten free, please note GF on signup sheet in the respective column(s). Cost will be \$8.00 per dozen or \$14 for 2 dozen. There will be a signup sheet in the narthex. Thank you for your support! Looking forward to your orders!

The Deadline for the December Newsletter is Sunday, November 16th, please submit your information to Karen in the Church Office.

Prayer Listing—Any changes to the prayer listing, please see Linda Ritter, Pastor Gene or contact the church office, in order for the change to be made in the December Newsletter.

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 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, November 12th. 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:

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:

| 9th- | 9:15 | Sunday School |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---|
| | 10:30 | Worship Service |
| 10th- | 6:30 | Scouts |
| 11th- | 6:30 | Scouts |
| | 7:00 | Church Council Mtg. |
| er 12th | -6:30 | TLC Stitchers |
| r 13th- | 6:30 | Sr. Choir Practice |
| | 7:30 | Cantata Practice |
| 16th- | 8:00 | Cont. Worship Serv. |
| | 9:15 | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 | Worship Service |
| | 10th- 11th- er 12th c 13th- | 10:30 10th- 6:30 11th- 6:30 7:00 er 12th-6:30 7:30 16th- 8:00 9:15 |

Next Week's Worship Assistants: Sunday, November 16th:

Ushers: Kay McGowan* & Linda Brunner

Lector: Laura Moser
Acolyte: Diane McElwee

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS: 11/02/2025

<u>Attendance</u> <u>Offerings</u>

<u>Worship/S.S.</u> <u>General</u> <u>Hunger</u> <u>Scrip</u>

57/17 \$2,726.50 \$60.00 \$12,500.00

Benevolence \$55.00
Bldg. Maint.
\$15.00

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE

Atten<u>dance</u>

Offerings

Worship General Benevolence \$1,645.00 0

Build. Maint. \$75.00

Total Attendance 74 Total Offering \$4,371.00

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 Deuteronomy 25:5-10

T Genesis 38:1-26

W Luke 20:1-8

Th Exodus 3:13-20

F Acts 24:10-23

Sa Psalm 122

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