



*Go and work
in the
vineyard
today*

MATTHEW 21:28

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

331 Weldon Street

Latrobe, PA 15650

724-537-4450 www.trinitylatrobe.com

Pastor Jess Felici & Pastor Jason Felici

Pastor Emeritus Jeffrey Schock

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 26 & 27, 2026

Welcome to Worship!

Pastors:

Rev. Jess Felici
Rev. Jason Felici

Phone: 724-537-4450
E-mail: office@trinitylatrobe.com

The *worship bulletin* is intended to help guide us through our worship. Sections in **bold** print are for congregation response. Throughout the bulletin you will note two symbols that denote when the congregation is invited to stand (▲) or be seated (▼) as your body allows. *Large print copies* of our worship service and *wireless sound enhancers* are available.

We believe our risen Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of *Holy Communion* and we extend our Lord's invitation to all who are baptized to share in this meal.

Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Please contact an usher if you need *communed in the pew*.



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 26 & 27, 2026

Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 8:15am (Broadcast, 98.7FM, 107.5FM, 1480AM, 910AM;
Livestream @www.trinitylatrobe.com), Sunday 10:45am

Service of Holy Communion

(ELW Setting 4)

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

*The prelude is a signal to end our conversation and
prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

Prelude and Silent Prayer

Youth Choir (10:45)

“Sing to the Lord”

Jothan

Welcome and Announcements

(at the end of the bell peal, please stand as your body allows)

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

▲ Confession and Forgiveness

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.
(please kneel or sit as your body allows, silence is kept for reflection)

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.

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.**

▲ Gathering Hymn

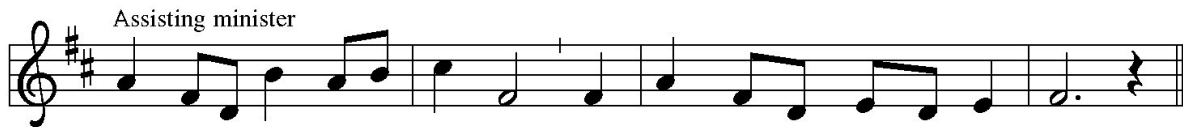
“God Is Here!”

ELW #526

▲ Greeting

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.

▲ Glory to God



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

▲ Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

▼ Children's Message

▼ First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

After Babylon sacked Jerusalem, destroyed the temple, and took the king and the leaders of Israel into exile, they also put Zedekiah, a puppet, on the throne. Having promised to be a faithful tool of Babylon, and doubting God's promise through Jeremiah and Ezekiel to return the exiles, Zedekiah secretly conspired with Egypt to rebel against Babylon. Ezekiel condemned this betrayal, and promised that God would not stand in the way of retribution. But he also promised that the betrayal would not delay the next generation's miraculous return from exile – they would not have to pay for their parents' treachery.

¹ The word of the Lord came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³ As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die. ²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-9 (Leader/Assembly: Saturday, spoken; Sunday, sung)

This psalm is the urgent, yet confident, prayer of people who, like Ezekiel, know that they are in need of God's reliable faithfulness.

¹ To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of
your good- | ness, O LORD.

⁸ **You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹ You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

▼ Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

We continue to read through Paul's letter to the Philippians. Paul is writing from prison to a community he loves, but which is under some form of persecution. Both his suffering and theirs might seem to deny that they are beloved by God. However, Paul has already argued that his imprisonment has borne fruit for the gospel, and that they are honored by being able to imitate Christ in willing, humble suffering.

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

▲ Gospel Acclamation



▲ Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

For the last several weeks we have heard Jesus' teaching about forgiveness as he wends his way to Jerusalem for the last time. Chapter 21 begins with the Triumphal Entry and the cleansing of the temple (which we hear about at other times of the year). The chief priests and elders are troubled by both by the crowd's acclamation of Jesus as the "Son of David" – that is, a new king of Israel – and by Jesus' own direct action against the money-changers.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?'" ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

(continued)

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

▼ **Sermon**

Pastor Marsha Adams

▲ **Hymn of the Day**

“O God, My Faithful God”

ELW #806

▲ **Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 People (*please kneel or sit as your body allows*)

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

▲ **The Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(*share God’s peace with each other as you feel comfortable and then be seated*)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

▼ Gathering of Gifts

As we move to the time in our worship where we offer our gifts to God's church, a portion of your offering supports the Greater Latrobe Food Pantry and its monthly distribution. We partner with the ministerium by housing the Food Bank and Assistance office in the parish house, along with storage for food and toiletries collected throughout the month.



If you prefer, scan the QR code to give online. You may then place a giving card from the pew in the offering plate as it passes by.

▼ Anthem

“At the Name of Jesus”

Berry

▲ Offertory

“Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring”

ELW #691

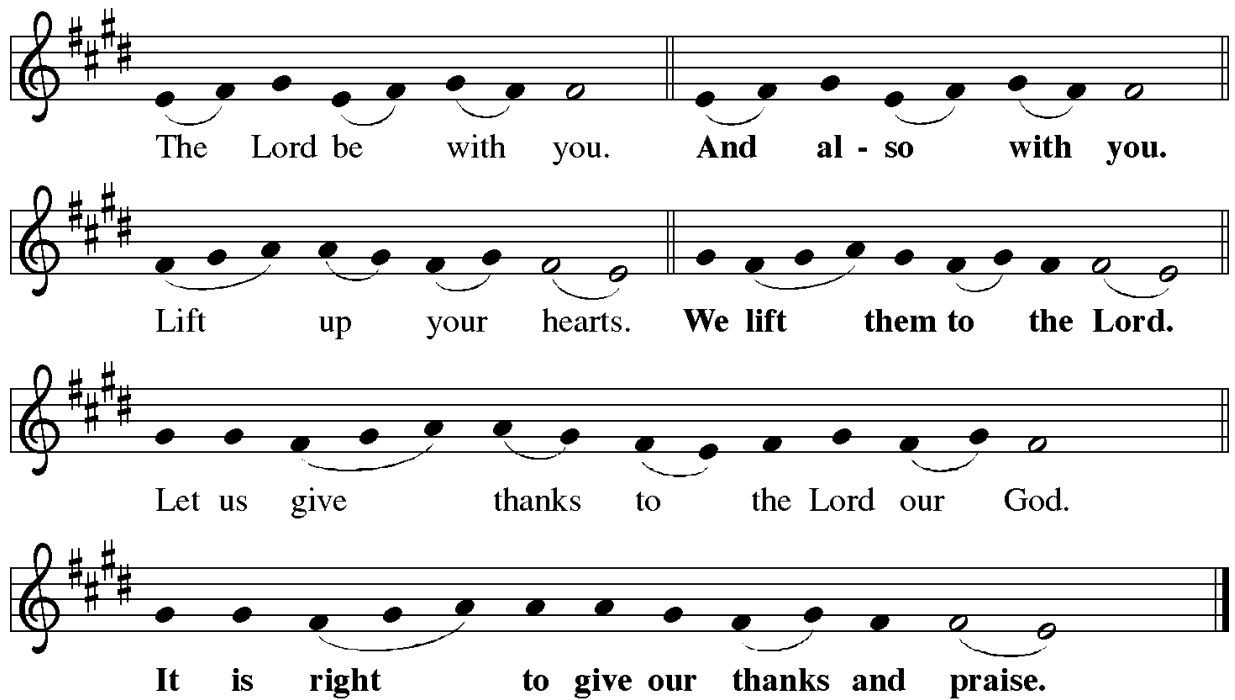
1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.

We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

▲ Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

▲ Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

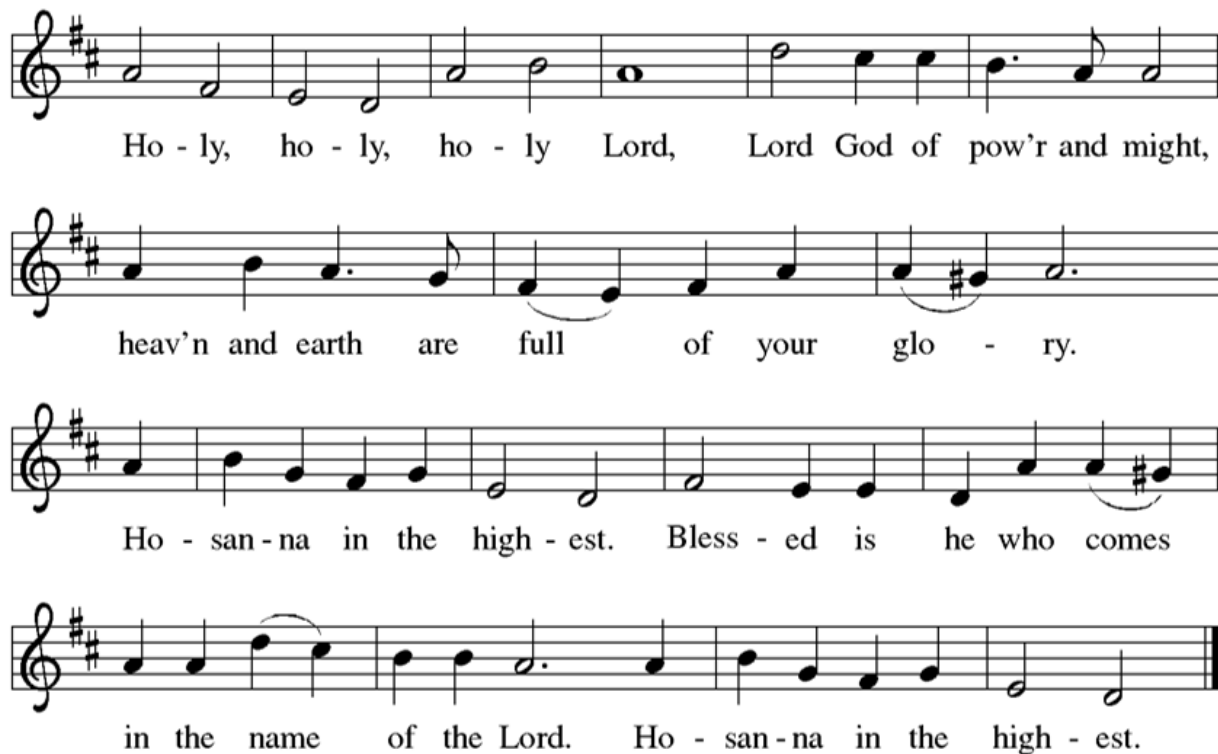
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

▲ Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

▲ Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God,
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
his life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

▲ Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

▲ Invitation to Communion

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty and hungry, come.

▲ Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

▼ Distribution of Communion

*To receive communion, please come down the center aisle, take a cup from the tray and gather at the altar rail. Receive the bread into your hand. Wine will be poured into your cup. **The communion wine is gluten free. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.** For those unable to receive wine, communion cups with water are available. Leave the altar rail, place your cup on the tray and return to your pew via the side aisles. If you desire to receive communion in the pew, please alert an usher. Non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

▲ Table Blessing

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

▲ Prayer after Communion

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.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

▲ Blessing

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

▲ Sending Hymn

“Strengthen for Service, Lord”

ELW #497

▲ Dismissal

Go out in joy! Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEKEND are dedicated to the Glory of God in in honor of the men and women who face deployment in their military service to our nation, given by Dean and Linda Reed.

THE BROADCAST THIS WEEKEND is dedicated to the Glory of God in memory of all deceased members of Trinity.

Serving this Weekend

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Marsha Adams

Director of Music: Debbie Morley

Lectors: **Saturday 5:30pm:** Margaret Conrad

Sunday 8:15am: Mary Ann Coulston

Sunday 10:45am: Dixie Vargovich

Liturgical Deacons: **Saturday 5:30pm:** Curt Colaianne

Sunday 8:15am: Evan Stemler, Kaden Shannon

Sunday 10:45am: Karen Clair, Nathan Clair

Ushers: **Saturday 5:30pm:** Tom & Beth Dlugos, Jay & John Elder

Sunday 8:15am: Sandy Kisick, Herb Harris, Keith Bronson, Jr.
Keith Bronson, Sr.

Sunday 10:45am: BJ & Amber Hebenthal, Tim Potter,
Becky Tomlinson

Acolytes: **Saturday 5:30pm:** Kelly Stanko

Sunday 8:15am:

Sunday 10:45am:

Tellers: **Sunday 8:15am:** Jason Sheppard, John Hugo, Kathy & Mark Jones

Sunday 10:45am: Eleanor Fagan, Susan Vargo, Anna Hudec,
Will & Linda Brigaman

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