



## Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

527 Washington Street  
Reading, PA 19601  
(610) 374-4861  
www.trinityreading.org

✝ ✝ ✝

Masks are welcomed,  
but no longer required.  
Vaccinations are highly  
recommended.  
Please maintain  
appropriate distancing  
between households and  
use hand sanitizer.

✝ ✝ ✝

All are invited to join us at  
the Lord's table for Holy  
Communion.

✝ ✝ ✝

Our AED machine is  
mounted on the wall in  
the stairway near the  
baptismal font.

✝ ✝ ✝

Please silence your  
cell phone.



Trinity Lutheran Church  
is recognized by  
Reconciling Works as a  
"Reconciling in Christ"  
Congregation which  
welcomes all LGBTQ+  
persons into all facets of  
congregational life.

# LECTIONARY 17/PENTECOST 7 THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM JULY 24, 2022

*Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."*

**Congregational words are in bold print.**

## WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*Adoro te devote*

Timothy Flynn

*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
whose steadfast love endures forever.

**Amen**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen  
our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves,  
we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those  
in need, we have too often passed by on the other side.  
Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves  
and free us to love our neighbors. Amen**

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our  
sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

**Amen**

## GATHERING HYMN - Golden Breaks the Dawn



*Qing zao qi - lai kan, hong ri chu tong - fang,*  
1 Gold - en breaks the dawn, comes the east - ern sun;  
2 Ho - ly, liv - ing God, keep me safe to - day;  
3 Give me dai - ly bread, while I do my part;



*xiong - zhuang xiang yong - shi, mei - hao xiang xin - lang;*  
like a rid - er strong, set the course to run.  
though I wea - ry plod, make me kind, I pray.  
bright skies o - ver - head, glad - ness in my heart.



*tian gao fei - niao guo, di kuo ye - hua xiang,*  
Birds a - bove me fly, flow - ers bloom be - low;  
Let me guide our youth, hon - or weak and old;  
Sim - ple wants pro - vide, e - vil let me shun;



*zhao wo qin gong - zuo, Tian - fu you en - guang.*  
through the earth and sky God's great mer - cies flow.  
let me serve with truth, and God's love un - fold.  
Je - sus at my side, till the day is done.

Text: Tzu-chen Chao; para. Frank W. Price, 1885–1974

Music: LE P'ING, Te-ngai Hu

Text and music © 1977 Chinese Christian Literature Council Ltd., Hong Kong, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

*Be seated.*

## FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32

*In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.*

*After the reading:*

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 138 (from *The Hebrew Bible*)

Lectern Side    **Piano Side**

I acclaim You with all my heart, before gods I hymn to You.

**I bow toward Your holy temple, and I acclaim your name for Your kindness and Your steadfast truth, for You have made Your word great across all Your heavens.**

On the day I called You answered me, You made strength well up within me.

**All kings of the earth will acclaim You, Lord, for they have heard the words of Your mouth.**

And they will sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the Lord's glory.

**For high is the Lord yet the lowly He sees, and the lofty, from a distance, He knows.**

Though I walk in the midst of straits, You give me life in spite of my enemies' wrath.

**You stretch out Your hand, and Your right hand rescues me.**

The Lord will requite me.

**O Lord, Your kindness is forever. Do not let go of Your handiwork.**

## SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-19

*The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about “the empty lure” of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.*

*After the reading:*

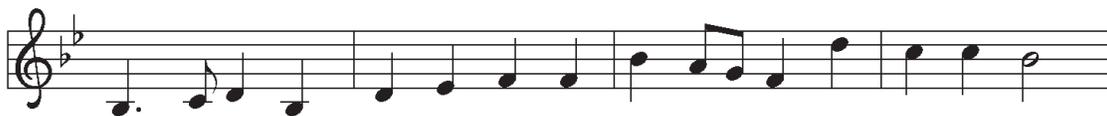
The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## TEACHING TIME FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God’s coming reign, God’s mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading:*

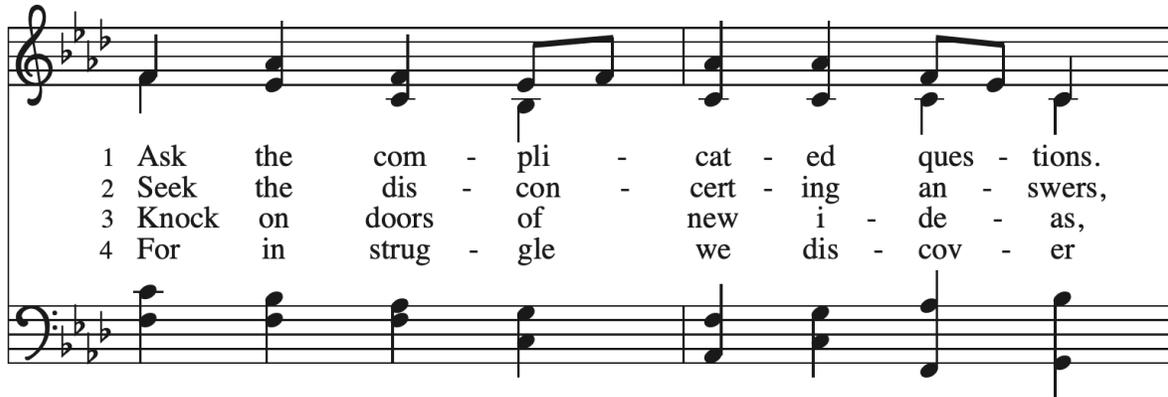
The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

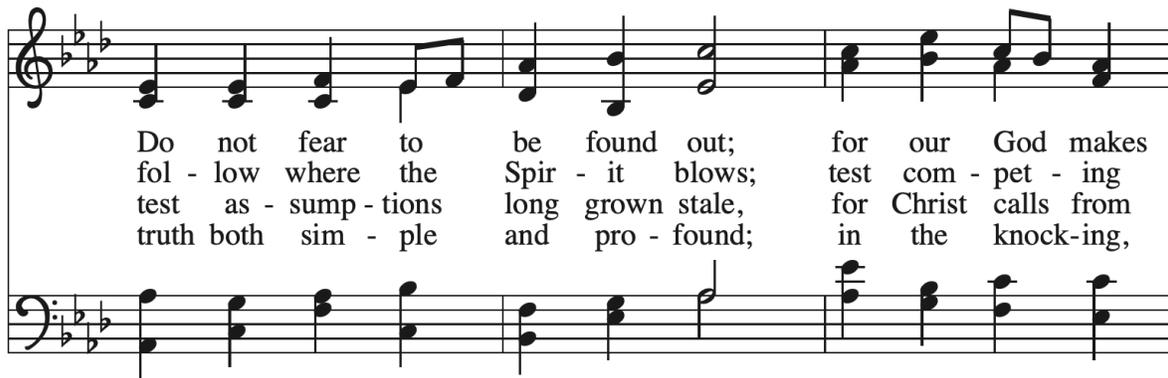
# SERMON

*Please stand as you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY - Ask the Complicated Questions



1 Ask the com - pli - cat - ed ques - tions.  
2 Seek the dis - con - cert - ing an - swers,  
3 Knock on doors of new i - de - as,  
4 For in strug - gle we dis - cov - er



Do not fear to be found out; for our God makes  
fol - low where the Spir - it blows; test com - pet - ing  
test as - sump - tions long grown stale, for Christ calls from  
truth both sim - ple and pro - found; in the knock - ing,



strong our weak - ness, forg - ing faith in fires of doubt.  
truths for wis - dom, for in ten - sion new life grows.  
shores of won - der, dar - ing us to try and fail.  
ask - ing, seek - ing, we are o - pened, an - swered, found.

## **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 INTERCESSION**

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

*After a brief silence each petition concludes:*

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*After the final petition:*

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

**Amen**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*Please greet one another from a distance and then remain standing.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of abundance:

**you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus, Amen**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

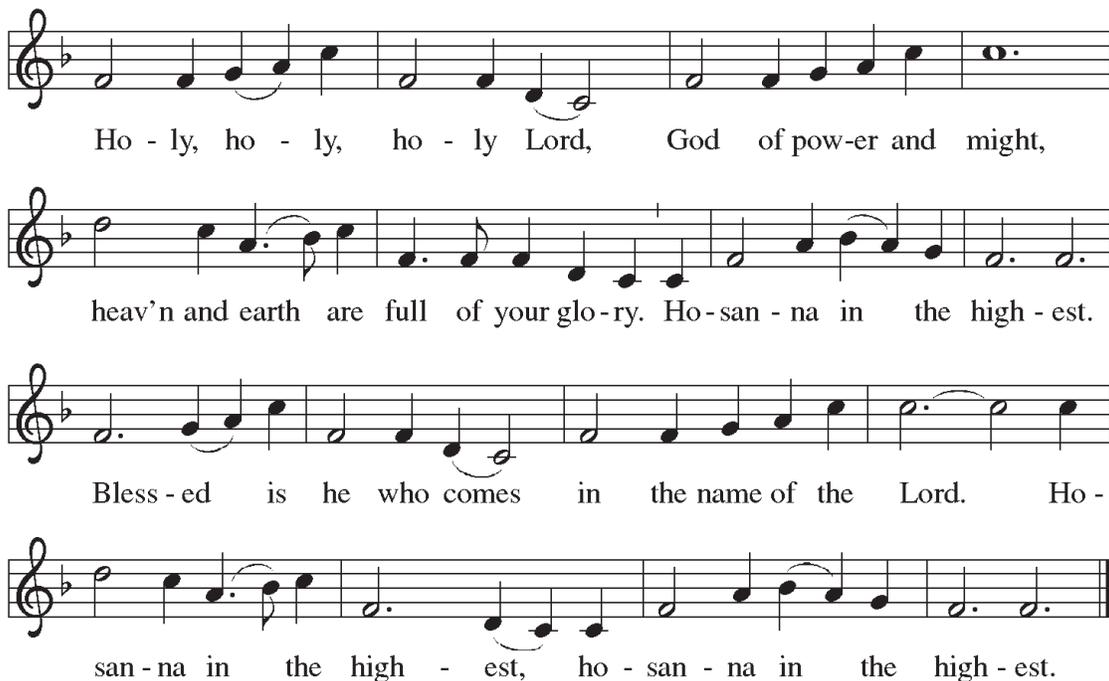
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God triune, how majestic...we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:

The earth is full of your glory.

**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh...we mortals sing our song:

The earth is full of your glory.

**The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus,...we your children unite in this song:

The earth is full of your glory.

**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds,...to praise you again:

The earth is full of your glory.

**The earth is full of your glory.**

Amen, and amen.

**Amen, and amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

*Be seated.*

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*Following the direction of the usher, approach the altar, maintaining a safe distance between households. Please ask your server if you need a gluten-free wafer or prefer grape juice. As you return to your seat, place your empty glass in the corner basket. Those not partaking of communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to approach the altar for communion, inform the usher and the sacrament will be brought to you.*

*After all have received Communion, please stand as you are able.*

## **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. Life-giving God,  
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy.  
Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger,  
that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

**Amen**

## **BLESSING**

The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life  
this day and always.

**Amen**

**SENDING HYMN** - Now to the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray - see page 10

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*All Glory Be to God on High*

Johann Sebastian Bach

## SENDING HYMN - Now to the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray



1 Now to the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray  
2 O sweet - est Love, your grace on us be - stow;  
3 Tran - scen - dent com - fort in our ev - 'ry need,  
4 Shine in our hearts, O Spir - it, pre - cious light,



for true faith, most need - ed on our way:  
set our hearts with sa - cred fire a - glow,  
help us nei - ther scorn nor death to heed,  
that we Je - sus Christ may know a - right,



Guide us and de - fend us when life is end - ing  
that with hearts u - nit - ed we love each oth - er,  
that we may not fal - ter, nor cour - age fail us  
cling - ing to our Sav - ior, whose blood has bought us,



and our jour - ney home - ward is tend - ing. Lord, have mer - cy!  
ev - 'ry strang - er, sis - ter, and broth - er. Lord, have mer - cy!  
when the foe shall taunt and as - sail us. Lord, have mer - cy!  
who to our true home - land has brought us. Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: Medieval German *Leise*, st. 1; Martin Luther, 1483–1546, sts. 2–4; tr. composite  
Music: NUN BITTEN WIR, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524  
Text sts. 1, 4 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Text sts. 2, 3 © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

## Leaders in Today's Liturgy: July 24, 2022 -Lectionary 17/Pentecost 7

**Preaching and Presiding:** Pr. Mark Christy

**Assisting Minister:** Dcs. Deborah Graf

**Organist:** Sandra Sittler

**Lector:** Steve Hofmann

**Greeter:** Annie Harlin

**Ushers:** David & Sue Shellong

**Communion Assistant:** Steve Hofmann

**Altar Guild:** Bernadette Ilgen, Jacinda Motley, Joshua Motley, Linda Motley, Robin Oberholtzer and Beth Welz

**Today's altar flowers and broadcast** are dedicated to the glory of God and in loving memory of her parents, Carolyn W. and H. Grant Eisenberg, M.D., by Carol

**We thank** Sandra Sittler for planning today's worship



**Immediate prayer requests:** Hannah Shelly, John Kirby, and Norah Wolfe-Blatt

**Ongoing prayer requests:** Kelley Crozier, Rick Chavaes, JT Motley, David Strobel, Ruth Adam (friend of Graf family), Celia Cosentino (friend of Jane Zobian), Doris (friend of Pat McMahan), Dick Evans, Ed Harlin, Nathan Hudson (son-in-law of Anita Dolak), Darryl Jeffries, Tina Koch (friend of Jenn Smith), Nancy Nagle, Betty Rickenbach (Karen Nein's mother), Luther Routt , the Sawyer family, Walter Schur, Dar Unger, and David Unruh (brother of Ralph Unruh)

**Trinity households:** Carol Batdorf; Al Beadencup; Sarah, David & Evelyn Bierly; Virginia Biniek; and Peggy Bobb

**Prepare for Worship July 31:** Eccles 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23; Ps 49:1-12; Col 3:1-11; and Luke 12:13-21

## This Week's Calendar

### Sunday, July 24: Lectionary 17/Pentecost 7

10:00 AM: Worship (Nave)

1:00PM: Growing Stronger Together Youth Group (Allegheny Lutheran Church)

2:00 PM: Common Ground Worship and Meal Takeaway

### Monday, July 25

9:45 AM: Program Staff Meeting

7:00 PM: Vestry Meeting (Trinity)

### Tuesday, July 26

9:30 AM: Full Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, July 27

1:00 PM: Covenant Prayer Shawl

### Sunday, July 31: Lectionary 18/Pentecost 8

10:00 AM: Worship (Nave)

2:00 PM: Common Ground Worship and Meal Takeaway

## Broadcast Schedule for July

All of our programs listed below can be watched on Comcast Channel 190, Reading Hospital Channel 80, online at [www.trinityreading.org](http://www.trinityreading.org), on our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/trinitylutheranchurch](http://www.youtube.com/trinitylutheranchurch). Trinity's Sunday morning worship is also live streamed via Facebook and YouTube. You may log on to either platform on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM and worship at the same time as the in-person congregation.

### Sundays

6:00 PM First Friday: Hinduism

6:30 PM Music From Trinity:

Duo Terlano

7:00 PM Trinity Worship Service

### Wednesdays

4:00 PM Trinity Worship Service

5:00 PM Music From Trinity:

Duo Terlano

5:30 PM First Friday: Hinduism

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