

Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

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Everything you need for worship is in this bulletin.

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All who trust that Christ is present in Holy Communion are invited to receive Him with us today.

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Please silence your cell phone.

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Children are always welcome in our worship! Classroom 4 in the Annex has space for nursing, changing, or a sensory break, if necessary.

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Our AED is mounted on the wall in the stairway next to the baptismal font.





At Trinity, we welcome all LGBTQ+ people as full participants in our common life. We're proud to proclaim this publicly in our city and wider church as a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Congregational words are in bold print.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Let Us Talents and Tongues

Setting by John A. Behnke

Please stand in body or spirit and face the rear of the nave.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.** Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,

let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider, help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen. Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.

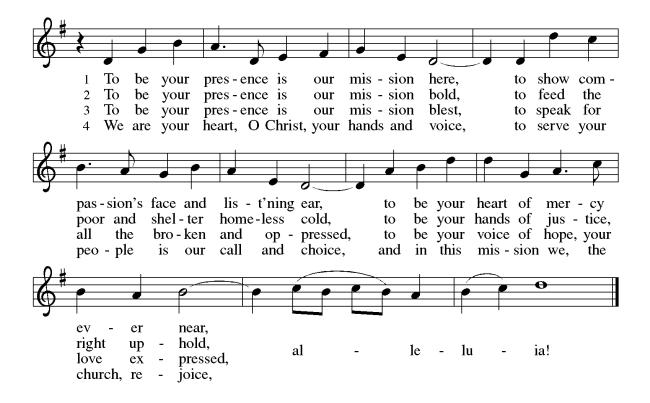
By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN - ELW 546 - To Be Your Presence



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE - ELW 513 - Listen, God Is Calling

Amy Stewart-Himes, leader David Himes, djembe



Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922 Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, b. 1919 Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Arr. © 1968 Austin C. Lovelace, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Holy One, you stretch wide your tent that all may be welcomed in, and in Jesus you stretched out your hands in expansive love for a weary and wounded world. Help us to reach out with your own wounded hands of love, that through us your life may be known in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Be seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

After the reading:

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 146

Common English Bible

The psalm is read responsively.

Praise the LORD! Let my whole being praise the LORD!

I will praise the LORD with all my life; I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.

Don't trust leaders; don't trust any human beings- there's no saving help with them!

Their breath leaves them, then they go back to the ground.

On that very same day, their plans die too.

The person whose help is the God of Jacob the person whose hope rests on the LORD their God—is truly happy! God: the maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, God: who is faithful forever, The LORD: who frees prisoners, who gives justice to people who are oppressed, who gives bread to people who are starving! **The LORD: who makes the blind see. The LORD: who straightens up those who are bent low. The LORD: who loves the righteous.** The LORD: who protects immigrants, who helps orphans and widows, but who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn! **The LORD will rule forever!**

Zion, your God will rule from one generation to the next! Praise the LORD!

SECOND READING: James 2:1-10, 14-17

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

After the reading:

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

TEACHING TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN/ CELEBRATION OF VOCATION AND BLESSING OF HANDS FOR MINISTRY

We are called to proclaim the good news: God is at work!

This good news is not left in some history long ago or a place far away:

God is at work in the world still today!

In us and through us, God is glorified in our work. When we offer a helping hand, God is praised. When we share our abundance, God is known in the world. **God is at work in us!**

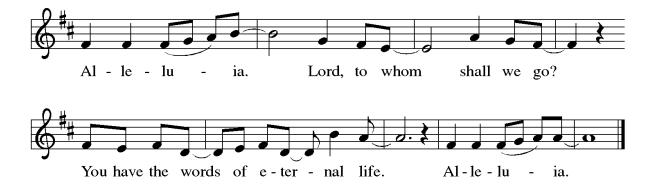
*Individuals may come forward and receive a blessing on the backs and palms of their hands. Signing a cross on the backs of the hands: "*God bless your hands and your work*"; Signing a cross on the palms of the hands:* "That through you God's love may be known. Amen."



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music © 2008 Re:Create Music, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources

In our service today, and in our daily lives, let us live out what God has called us to in baptism. **God is at work through our hands!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophoenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

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

Be seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - God's Work, Our Hands



Text: Wayne L. Wold

Music: GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS, Wayne L. Wold

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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

Let us pray for the church, the world, and for all of God's creation.

After a brief silence each petition concludes:

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

After the final petition:

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

OFFERTORY

Thou Art God

Megan Opalinski, soloist

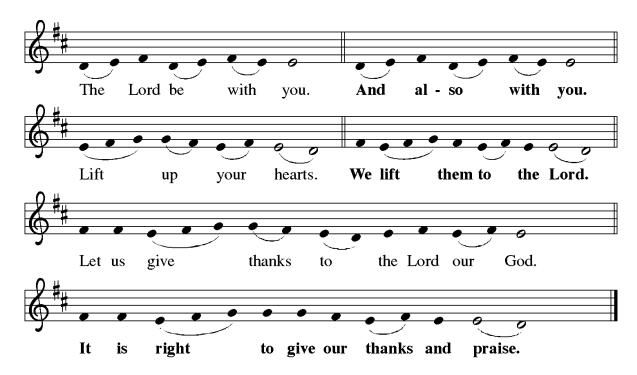
Please stand in body or spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God, giver of all good things, receive the gifts we bring, fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, that they may be used to your purposes for life and love in the world

Amen.

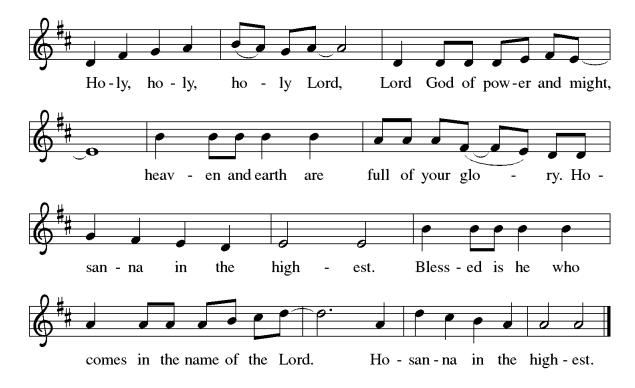
DIALOG



PROPER PREFACE

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

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Honor, praise, glory and thanksgiving to you, God, our loving Creator. In the beginning you reached your hands into the earth...

Trusting in his promise to be among us whenever we gather in his name, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Gathered as your people, meeting in Jesus' name, and preparing ourselves to feast upon Jesus' very body and blood, we plead with all creation:

Come, Lord Jesus.

Send your Spirit upon this meal, the body and blood of Jesus, that we overflow with your selfless love. Turn us to face our neighbors, that by us and through us your love may be known in the world. Again, we beg:

Come, Holy Spirit.

All honor and praise and glory to you, God of creative, dirty hands, God of holy, wounded hands, God who strengthens and guides our hands, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

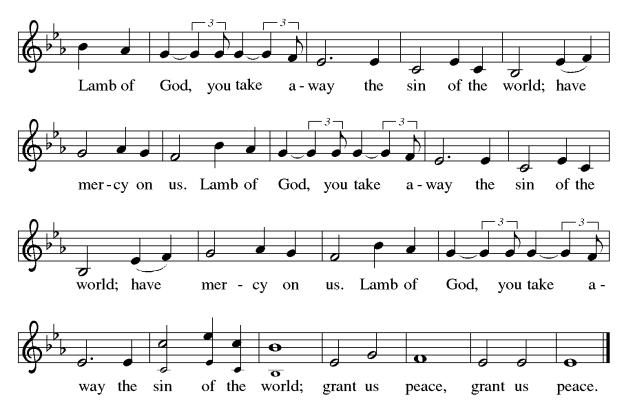
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Be seated.

LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION

All who trust that Jesus Christ is present in this holy meal are invited to receive communion.

Please follow the direction of the usher; if your pew is located on one of the side aisles, walk to the rear of the sanctuary. Two lines will form in the center aisle. The left line will commune at the left side of the altar rail; the right line will commune on the right side.

When you reach the front of the sanctuary, there are serving trays located on the tables. Please choose either an empty glass to receive wine, or, if you prefer, a prefilled glass in the center ring containing grape juice. After taking your cup, proceed to the rail. Fill in around the rail from the center to the ends. You may stand or kneel as is your preference. The pastor will give you a piece of bread; eat it when you receive it. If you prefer a gluten free alternative, please inform the pastor.

Then, an assistant will come to offer wine from a pouring chalice. Please extend your glass to be filled with wine or indicate that you have grape juice. After drinking the wine or juice, you are welcome to remain in place for a moment of meditation.

After you finish your time of reflection, please return to your pew, depositing your empty glass in the trays located on the tables at the head of the side aisles. Please stand in body or spirit.

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. Holy Jesus, in this meal you have fed and nourished us to work in your beloved world. Send us now, filled with yourself and strengthened by your Spirit to live your love for others. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God who sets forth the law of love, Jesus who fulfills the law for you, and the Spirit through whom you are called to love, + bless you this day, that you may be God's hands and heart and voice at work in the world.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN - ELW 538 - The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

En via - do de Dios, тi lis - ta_es - tá _ soy ma - no The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give, él mun - do fra - ter cons-truir con un nal. pa ra -_ bet - ter place to to make of all the earth a live. Los án - ge - les en - via - dos no son cam - biar a The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain mun - do de do - lor por mun - do jor; un un тe _ were meant what we do to do to in Je - sus' name; . ha to - ca - do a тí ha cer - lo rea - li dad. те you and who are made that falls to me and all free. c yú - da - me, Se vo - lun - tad. ñor, a ha - cer Α tu _ Help us, O Lord, we to do your will to day. pray,

David Himes & Amy Stewart-Himes, percussion

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world! **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Let Us Talents and Tongues

Setting by John Carter

Please join us for coffee and conversation in the Hintz Room immediately following worship.

+ + +

We welcome and thank Megan Opalinski, today's guest musician

Megan has been performing professionally for over 20 years, all over the country and the world. This summer she had the honor of being in the national regional premiere of COME FROM AWAY, along with productions of KINKY BOOTS and THE MUSIC MAN. Next up: HAIRSPRAY and WHITE CHRISTMAS at the Dutch Apple in Lancaster.

National Back to Church Sunday is September 15th

Know someone who has been away from the church for a while, or who is interested in faith but doesn't know where to begin? Believe it or not, they may be waiting for your invitation! As their friend, spouse, parent, or relative, your invitation could be the key to unlocking new meaning in their life through participation in our amazing community. Invite them to join us in worship on Sunday, September 15th as we join with thousands of other congregations from every denomination and invite our whole community to church on National Back to Church Sunday. After worship, we'll celebrate the beginning of our fall programming with an ice cream social. Cards are available in the Narthex and the Bard House to help you invite your friends and family!

Wednesday Midday Worship Resumes on September 18th at 12:05 PM

Looking for another opportunity to worship? Starting on Wednesday, September 18th, join us in the Chapel at 12:05 PM for a 25-minute Holy Eucharist service. Except on festivals or during Lent and Advent, Pastor Hans and Dcs. Deborah will be sharing reflections on the greatest works of Christian Art in an open-ended series. Know someone who works downtown or who would prefer worshiping at this time? Please invite them! Midweek worship outside of Advent and Lent has been requested by many members and friends of Trinity, *but will only continue into 2025 if it is able to attract a stable and sizable group of attendees on a weekly basis.*

Sunday, September 8, 2024 - God's Work Our Hands Sunday

Leaders in Today's Liturgy

Presiding: Pr. Hans Becklin Preaching & Assisting Minister: Dcs. Deborah Graf Minister of Music: Karen S. Eddinger Lector: Martha Good Communion Assistant: Jeff Wasmuth Acolyte: Declan Rosenbaum Greeter: Sue & Dave Shellong Ushers: Steve & Erica Hofmann Media Team: Danielle Smith, Amy Bornhofen, Grace Norton-Ritz and Jennifer Smith Altar Guild: Michael Faust, Linda Grim, Erica Hofmann, Amy Litvinov and Doris Strobel Today's altar flowers are sponsored by Bobbie Lykens in memory of all her loved ones Today's broadcast is sponsored by Virginia Biniek to the glory of God

Immediate Prayer Requests

Walter Maier, Peg Coleman, Darryl Jeffries, Dick Horst, Christine Wells (friend of Jan Opalinski), Rev. Judy McKee (friend of the Opalinskis). and Linda Messner, (sister of Vickie Unruh)

Ongoing Prayer Requests

Linda Motley, Chris Drayer, George Phelps, Harry Feinauer, Jerry Holleran, Walter Schur, Ronald Diesinger (brother of Russell Diesinger), Christopher Brooks (friend of Nancy Everson), Deborah Lawton (aunt of Jessica Manning), Celia Cosentino (friend of Jane Zobian), Tina Koch (friend of Jenn Smith), the Sawyer family, David Unruh (brother of Ralph Unruh), and Craig Poole

Trinity Households and Ministry Partners

Jeanette & Angela DeAngelo; Miles & Betty Dechant; Virginia Deem; Melissa, Erik, Katherine & Robert DeMotta; and Ronald Derr; Christ Episcopal Church and Fr. Bryce Wandrey; the Common Ground Recovery Community, Pr. Tom Scornavacchi and Pr. Jayme Babczak; and the Evangelical Church in Argentina and Uruguay

Attendance September 1: 60

Prepare for Worship September 15

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12;



Broadcast Schedule for this week on Comcast Channel 190

Sundays

6:00 PM World Views:
Contemporary Quaker Tradition
6:30 PM Music From Trinity:
2024 RMF Scholarship Recital
(Part 2)
7:00 PM Trinity Worship Service

Wednesdays

4:00 PM Trinity Worship Service
5:00 PM Music From Trinity:
2024 RMF Scholarship Recital (Part 2)
5:30 PM World Views:
Contemporary Quaker Tradition 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.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, September 8

God's Work Our Hands Sunday

10:00 AM: Worship (Nave)
11:15 AM: Coffee & Conversation (Hintz Room)
11:15 AM: FFA Ticket Presales (Hintz Room)
11:30 AM: God's Work Our Hands Projects
2:00 PM: Common Ground Worship and Meal

Monday, September 9 1:00 PM: Program Staff Meeting

Tuesday, September 10

9:30 AM: Full Staff Meeting 2:00 PM: Women of TLC Bible Study (The Highlands of Wyomissing, Parlor) 5:45 PM: Property Work Night

Friday, February 13

6:00 PM: FFA Art Show Gallery Opening and Reception (Hintz Room)

Sunday, September 15

10:00 AM: Worship (Nave)
11:00 AM: FFA Art Exhibit (Hintz Room)
11:15 AM: Coffee, Conversation & Ice Cream Social (Hintz Room)
11:15 AM: FFA Ticket Presales (Hintz Room)
12:00 PM: New Members' Luncheon
2:00 PM: Common Ground Worship and Meal

Sunday Mornings At Trinity!

A place for everyone starting Sunday, September 22 at 9:00 AM

Sunday morning can be considered a life 'reset button.' After a week of school/work/struggles and joys, coming together in Christian Community helps put the week in perspective and re-charge you for the week to come. On Sunday, September 22 we begin a new year of Faith Formation for all ages.

This September and October come join us for:

Sunday Forum with Pastor Hans at 9:00 AM in the All Saints Room to discuss the ELCA's draft social statement on Civic Life and Faith (scan the QR code). As we prepare for an election–and continue to experience the bitter fruit of partisanship and division–we will gather together to learn about Lutheran teachings about the role and purpose of Government. Each week, we'll also discuss how we as Christians can and should participate in the political process.

Sunday Time with Deaconess Deborah at 9:00 AM in Room #4

BIBLE 101 for Kids Pre-K - Grade 6; for Youth Grades 7 & up; and for all those who love to sing, play, and learn with all generations. We will begin each Sunday with opening songs and prayers in Kinder Room #4 and then have active learning stations for various age groups. (And there will be donuts, as requested!) Volunteers to help with our younger kids are welcome. Please contact Deaconess Deborah for more information.



Fall Festival of the Arts: In-person Ticket Presales at Trinity September 8, 15 and 22 after worship in the Hintz Room

This year the Fall Festival of the Arts is pleased to offer in-person presales opportunities at both of our partner congregations! At Trinity, tickets for "Life in Step" and "Broadway Goes to Church" will be available for sale after worship in the Hintz Room on September 8, 15, and 22. Cash, check, and credit card will be accepted.

Fall Festival of the Arts 2024

Nancy Wissinger Art Show Gallery Opening Sept. 13, 2024 | 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Nancy Wissinger speaks of her work as a spiritual journey. Her paintings vibrate and pulse with energy. Some explode like shattered glass; others reflect the peaceful beauty of the Tulpehocken Farm, where she and her husband Paul have raised sheep, cows and goats since the early 1980s. Her goal is to share that energy with others.

St. George and the Dragon Puppet Show

Sunday, September 22, 2024 | 12:00 PM at Christ Episcopal Church

Puppetry, live music and dragons! The tale of St. George and the Dragon is brought to life by the Tuckers' Tales Puppet Theater. Based on early mummers' plays this tale of darkness versus light is presented with live music and historically costumed puppeteers. Join us for an afternoon of merriment, frivolity and mirth for the whole family! 30-minute show followed by ice cream party.

Life in Step with Danny Gardner

Sunday, September 29 | 3:00 PM at WCR CENTER FOR THE ARTS

TICKETED EVENT | \$30 ADULTS; \$10 STUDENTS Soon after he began tap classes at the Marie Shaw School of Dance, Danny Gardner delivered his first lines onstage in the Reading High School production of "Mame." From that time on, it seemed he was destined for Broadway, and sure enough, three decades later he is living in New York City, with three Broadway shows, five off-Broadway shows and a host of regional theater performances under his belt.

Women of TLC Bible Study

Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, 2:00 PM in the parlor at the Highlands at Wyomissing

Explore the upcoming texts for Sunday worship with Deaconess Deborah. All women of Trinity are invited to join us, even if you have never participated in a Bible Study before. You can bring your own Bible or use the large print scripture readings provided. Speak to Peggy Bobb or Deaconess Deborah for more details.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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

Church office hours are 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Monday-Thursday

Staff of Trinity Lutheran Church

The Rev. Hans E. Becklin	Senior Pastor
Deaconess Deborah Graf	Deacon for Formation & Service
Karen S. Eddinger	Minister of Music
Matthew Mellen	Media Director
Rachel Gambone	Parish Secretary
Pam Wasmuth	Bookkeeper
Peter Graf	Financial Administrator
Dave Troche	Sexton

The Rev. Fred S. Opalinski

Pastor Emeritus

Vestry of Trinity Lutheran Church

Amy Litvinov +	President
Steve Welz +	Vice President
Donna Osborne +	Secretary
Erica Hofmann +	Treasurer
Martha Good +	
Albert Pohl	
Eric Rosenbaum	
Maggie Shelly	
Jennifer Smith	
Kate Speece	
Pr. Hans E. Becklin +	

+ indicates members of the Executive Committee Email the Vestry: **vestry@trinityreading.org** Email Pastor Hans: **hbecklin@trinityreading.org**