



Sunday, September 6, 2020

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship focus: *God's church will stand forever.*

HYMN 382 – “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” (verses 1-3)
(The “Amen” is sung after the last hymn only.)

**1. My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare to make no other claim,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**2. When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**3. His oath, his covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

Please stand.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord have mercy. (spoken)

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ have mercy (spoken)

P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord have mercy. (spoken)

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.

C: Amen. (spoken)

P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. (spoken)

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON – Joshua 4:1-9

Joshua had the Israelites set up a monument of 12 stones to memorialize God's stopping the Jordan River for them to cross into Canaan.

When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua, ² “Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, ³ and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan from right where the priests stood and to carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight.” ⁴ So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, ⁵ and said to them, “Go over before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, ⁶ to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ ⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.” ⁸ So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the Lord had told Joshua; and they carried them over with them to their camp, where they put them down. ⁹ Joshua set up the twelve stones that had been in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant had stood. And they are there to this day.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 34

Spoken responsively.

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good;

C: blessed are they who take refuge in him.

P: The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous

C: and his ears are attentive to their cry.

P: The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him,

C: and he delivers them.

P: The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;

C: he delivers them from all their troubles.

P: The Lord is close to the brokenhearted
C: and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

P: The Lord redeems his servants;
C: no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

SECOND LESSON – Revelation 7:1-8

The Church, pictured by the number of 144,000, is rescued and sealed by God for His eternal kingdom.

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. ² Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: ³ “Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.” ⁴ Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

⁵ From the tribe of Judah 12,000 were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben 12,000, from the tribe of Gad 12,000, ⁶ from the tribe of Asher 12,000, from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000, from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000, ⁷ from the tribe of Simeon 12,000, from the tribe of Levi 12,000, from the tribe of Issachar 12,000, ⁸ from the tribe of Zebulun 12,000, from the tribe of Joseph 12,000, from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia. (1 Timothy 1:10b)

Please stand.

GOSPEL – Matthew 16:13-20

Jesus proclaims that the Church is founded on the rock-solid foundation of Him and His saving work.

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he warned his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ! (spoken)

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY 536 – “Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s Head” (verses 1, 3, &4)

**1. Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's head,
You are her one foundation.
In you she trusts, before you bows,
And waits for your salvation.
Built on this rock secure,
Your Church shall endure
Though all the world decay
And all things pass away.
Oh, hear, oh, hear us, Jesus!**

**3. Help us to serve you evermore
With hearts both pure and lowly.
And may your Word, that light divine,
Shine on in splendor holy
That we repentance show,
In faith ever grow.
The pow'r of sin destroy
And evils that annoy.**

**4. And for your gospel let us dare
To sacrifice all treasure;
Teach us to bear your blessed cross,
To find in you all pleasure.
Oh, grant us steadfastness
In joy and distress.
Lord, for your mercy's sake,
Let us by grace partake
Of endless joy and glory.**

SERMON Text: Matthew 16:13-20

Theme: Tell it like it is: Jesus is the Christ!

1. A confession of the living God.
2. A confession revealed by the Holy Spirit.
3. A victorious confession.

Please stand.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please remain standing.

OFFERING

Offering plates are near the exits in which you may place your thank-offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another.

Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

P: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

P: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you. (spoken)

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord. (spoken)

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks. (spoken)

P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

Refrain: **Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus
Going on before.**

**1. Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus
Going on before.
Christ, the royal master,
Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle
See his banners go!**

REFRAIN

**2. Like a mighty army
Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading
Where the saints have trod.
We are not divided,
All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity.**

REFRAIN

**3. Crowns and thrones may perish,
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus
Constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never
'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail.**

REFRAIN

**4. Onward, then, ye faithful;
Join the happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song:
Glory, laud, and honor
Unto Christ the King;
This through countless ages
Saints and angels sing.**

REFRAIN

THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. (spoken)

BLESSING

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen. (spoken)

HYMN

538 – “The Church’s One Foundation” (verses 3-5)

3. The Church shall never perish.

Her dear Lord, to defend,

To guide, sustain, and cherish,

Is with her to the end.

Though there be those that hate her

And strive to see her fail,

Against both foe and traitor

She ever shall prevail.

4. Though with a scornful wonder

The world sees her oppressed,

By schisms rent asunder,

By heresies distressed,

Yet saints their watch are keeping;

Their cry goes up, "How long?"

And soon the night of weeping

Shall be the morn of song.

5. Mid toil and tribulation

And tumult of her war

She waits the consummation

Of peace forevermore

Till with the vision glorious

Her longing eyes are blest

And the great Church victorious

Shall be the Church at rest. Amen.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Matt Nowak

Office: 419-326-4402

Cell: 419-302-5271

Email: pastormattn@gmail.com

Church/School Secretary

School Office: 419-326-4685

Email: tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org

Website: tlcjenera.org

GREETERS today are: Tom & Becky Smith – Early Service
Gary & Becky Mitchell – Late Service

Next Sunday: Dwight & Norma Rader – Early Service
Richard & Ruth Johnson – Late Service

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of August 23, 2020)

Total Worship Attendance: 180; Early: 60; Late: 78; Midweek: 42; Adult Bible Study: 23.
On-line worship service views for August 23 were 51.

MONEY COUNTERS for this morning through September 12th are the members of James Heldman's Undershepherd group. Beginning Sunday, September 13th will be the members of Dennis Marquart's Undershepherd group.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (September 6 – September 12)

TODAY Worship 8:00 AM & 10:30; Communion; Adult Bible Study 9:20;

TUE Midweek Worship 7:30.

THU Good Samaritan Bible Study 10:00.

SAT LWMS Planning at Mansfield 9:00.

SUN Worship 8:00 AM & 10:30; Children's Lesson; Adult Bible Study, Teen Bible Study 9:20; Elders meeting 3:00.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

TUE First Day of School service at 9:00.

WED Chapel 8:20; Soccer Practice, 6:00-8:00pm. BRING YOUR OWN WATER!

SAT Soccer game (HOME) 9:00, vs. Monroe; 10:30 vs. Adrian; 12:00 vs. Adrian.

HOLY COMMUNION: The Bible teaches us that Holy Communion is a public demonstration of participants' united confession of the Bible's teachings (1 Cor. 10:17). Since we strive to follow all that the Bible teaches, we believe that members of this congregation or the WELS or ELS synod are united in the true teaching and may commune together. All guests should speak with a pastor before Communion, to first determine if unity of faith exists. We're eager to establish a unity of faith and to declare this oneness at Communion with you. Members of the congregation are to indicate their intention to commune in the friendship registration booklet. Prayers for before and after Communion and worship are on pages 10-11 in the hymnal.

TRAFFIC DIRECTOR: TLS is looking for someone to help out with student drop off and pick up during the *first week of school*, beginning Tuesday. We have a new traffic pattern that may be confusing to some. Hours would be from 7:55am to 8:20 and 3:10pm to 3:30pm, for 4 days only.

COME ONE, COME ALL! The Outreach Committee will be sponsoring a bonfire on Saturday, September 19th, at 7:00pm, in the church stone parking lot. There will be food (S'mores, hotdogs and chips), fun and a movie! Bring your own drinks. And a chair- don't forget a chair! And don't forget to bring a guest! Sign up in the back of church or call church office at 419-326-4402. Join us for some much needed fellowship.

TEEN BIBLE CLASS will begin again on September 13th, between services. We will be meeting in the Bible Study room in the church basement.

MIDWEEK SUMMER WORSHIP continues on Tuesdays, at 7:30 PM. These midweek services are an abbreviated version of the Sunday before. Please make use of this worship opportunity if you are not able to join us on Sunday morning. Council has voted to extend these services through the month of September.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Mornings with Mommy is looking for volunteers to help with the program. We try to have two volunteers at each session. Volunteers will check temperatures at the door, help with registration, and clean and sanitize toys, tables, and supplies. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. We will work out a schedule among the volunteers, and let you know when you are needed. ***Volunteers usually help once a month.***

MORNINGS WITH MOMMY: Mornings with Mommy is starting again soon! Our 2020-2021 sessions begin on September 21 & 22. The program is held from 9:30-10:30 on the first and third Mondays of the month with encore sessions on the following Tuesdays. Visit the church's website and click on the Mornings with Mommy tab to read more. You can also pick up a brochure and theme schedule in the church narthex for more information. Registration is required. Register online at tlcjenera.org Space is very limited this year, so please sign up soon! Questions?—Contact Jenny Boehm (262) 391-7994 or mwmtrinity@tlcjenera.org.

MORNINGS WITH MOMMY DONATIONS: Can you help us prepare for another year of Mornings with Mommy by donating money or supplies? You can find a list needed items at the back of church. If you wish to give monetary donations, the money will be used to buy supplies and educational toys to match the themes of the program. Please put all donations in the box in the back of church. Thank you all for your support of this program!

TIME WITH JESUS: This is our last week of Summer Sunday School. Thank you, parents, for guiding your child/children in continuing to learn God's Word over the summer. For the week of September 6, the Bible lesson is 13B, The Joy and Glory of Heaven, based on Revelation 1, 4, 5, 7, 21 and 22. The Bible truth is: Heaven is a perfect place where believers will live with God, praising and serving Him forever. The application is: We look forward to living in Heaven and we live our lives of gratitude now in anticipation of Heaven. Please continue with our School-year Sunday School by using the information below.

ATTENTION PARENTS! In light of current challenges related to classroom gathering, our church is introducing a new approach to Sunday School. Beginning Sunday, September 13, lessons taught by experienced WELS teachers will be available free via YouTube. The engaging and age appropriate Lesson Videos will tie to printed Student Lessons that our church will provide to you. This new approach presents an easy yet meaningful way for you to encourage your child/children's faith in Christ. To access Lesson Videos, visit nph.net/ss-at-home. The videos for Pre-K through Grade 4 are about 12 minutes long. The videos for Grades 5-8 are about 25 minutes long. **Printed Student Lessons for your child/children are available for pick-up in the narthex.** Choose the lesson packet that matches your child/children's grade level. **There are also lesson packets available for three-year old preschoolers in the narthex. There are no online videos that match these lessons; however, you are encouraged to read the lessons together with your three year old and do the suggested activities.** May God bless your child/children as we together continue to share His love.

SCHOOL STARTS TUESDAY! Parents-if you are dropping your child/children off, please remember the new traffic pattern. Pre-school kids get dropped off at the north door, the bus will drop off at the gym door. All others will be entering the south door by the office. Temperatures will be taken. Maps were previously emailed out. If you have questions, please contact the school office at 419.326.4865 or email tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL SERVICE: In the past, we have had our opening service on the 1st day of school. Parents and grandparents would usually attend that service. Because of COVID restrictions this year, however, we are unable to invite parents or grandparents into our opening service. It will still take place on Tuesday morning. On Tuesday morning, if you want to take time and thank God for another year of Christian education that he has given us through our school, you could do that instead. We look forward to the day, when COVID restrictions are lifted and we can once again invite you to worship the Lord with us. May God bless our school this year.

HOSPITALIZED: Please remember in your prayers Jean Ritter – Findlay, and all of our members who are homebound or in nursing homes.

WELCOME BACK! Ladies Aid will begin meeting again on Monday, September 14th at 7:30. All ladies of the church are invited to come. We will be continuing our study on prayer. The meetings will take place in the sanctuary. Please wear your masks as required, out of concern for the health and well-being of your neighbor.

THE LWMS 2021 Convention committee is having a meeting on Sat. Sept. 12 at 10:00 AM at Risen Savior Lutheran church in Mansfield, OH. You are strongly encouraged to attend. There is plenty of room in their basement for proper social distancing or we may use the parking lot if it is a nice day. Bring your lawn chair. We will meet at the church parking lot at 8:30 AM.

CALL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sister of Trinity Lutheran Church in Jenera, OH,

¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with complete joy and peace as you continue to believe, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

On Sunday, August 30 I received a phone call from Pastor Nowak explaining that the Lord led your voters to send me the call to be co-pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church. What a truly humbling thing it is to have God's people call you to serve them as a shepherd of his flock. Please keep my family, myself, and the congregations that I serve in your prayers as I deliberate and wrestle with where the Lord would have me serve him. Please feel free to contact me with any information that you think would be beneficial to me. I look forward to hearing how the Lord is blessing your ministry there in Jenera.

In the Grace of our Savior,
Pastor Bryant Laude
budlaude@gmail.com