



Sunday, September 13, 2020

15th Sunday after Pentecost
Shipwreck Sunday

Worship focus: *The Church lives under the cross.*

OPENING HYMN

584 – “O Blessed, Holy Trinity” (verses 1, 2, & 4)
(The “Amen” is sung after the last hymn only.)

1. **O blessed, holy Trinity,
Divine, eternal Unity –
God Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Be all this day my guide and host.**
2. **My soul and body keep from harm;
O'er all I have extend your arm.
Let Satan cause me no distress
Nor bring me shame or wretchedness.**
4. **My Maker, hold me in your hand;
Redeemer, be my dearest friend;
Blest Comforter, stay at my side,
That faith and love in me abide.**

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: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

HYMN 391 – “God Loved the World So That He Gave” (verses 1-3)

**1. God loved the world so that he gave
His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in him believe
Should everlasting life receive.**

**2. Christ is the solid rock of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death.
All who confide in him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.**

**3. God would not have the sinner die
His Son with saving grace is nigh.
His Spirit in the Word does teach
How we the blessed goal may reach.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. (spoken)

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON – Judges 16:22-31

Samson entrusted his soul to God as he brought defeat on Israel's enemy.

²² But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved. ²³ Now the rulers of the Philistines assembled to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to celebrate, saying, "Our god has delivered Samson, our enemy, into our hands." ²⁴ When the people saw him, they praised their god, saying, "Our god has delivered our enemy into our hands, the one who laid waste our land and multiplied our slain." ²⁵ While they were in high spirits, they shouted, "Bring out Samson to entertain us." So they called Samson out of the prison, and he performed for them. When they stood him among the pillars, ²⁶ Samson said to the servant who held his hand, "Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them."²⁷ Now the temple was crowded with men and women; all the rulers of the Philistines were there, and on the roof were about three thousand men and women watching Samson perform. ²⁸ Then Samson prayed to the Lord, "O Sovereign Lord, remember me. O God, please strengthen me just once more, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes." ²⁹ Then Samson reached toward the two central pillars on which the temple stood. Bracing himself against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other, ³⁰ Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines!" Then he pushed with all his might, and down came the temple on the rulers and all the people in it. Thus he killed many more when he died than while he lived. ³¹ Then his brothers and his father's whole family went down to get him. They brought him back and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had led Israel twenty years.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 121

Spoken responsively.

P: I lift up my eyes to the hills.

C: Where does my help come from?

P: My help comes from the Lord,

C: the maker of heaven and earth.

P: He will not let your foot slip,

C: he watches over you will not slumber;

P: Indeed, he who watches over Israel

C: will neither slumber nor sleep.

P: The Lord watches over you,

C: the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

P: The Lord will keep you from all harm,

C: he will watch over your life;

P: the Lord will watch over your coming and going

C: both now and forevermore.

**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 – Galatians 6:12-16

The Apostle Paul points out that the only 'boast' a believer has is in Christ's cross.

¹² Those who want to make a good impression outwardly are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ Not even those who are circumcised obey the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴ May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. ¹⁶ Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart. Alleluia.
(Jeremiah 15:16)

Please stand.

GOSPEL – Matthew 16:21-26

Those who want to follow Jesus will take up a cross to do so.

²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. ²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?”

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

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S LESSON (*Children, please remain in your seats, with your families.*)

HYMN OF THE DAY 391 – “God Loved the World So That He Gave” (verses 4-6)

**4. Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives the sins that you have done.
You're justified by Jesus' blood;
Baptized, you are a child of God.**

**5. When you are sick, when death draws near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death
This is the anchor of my faith!**

**6. Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!**

SERMON Text: Matthew 16:21-26

Theme: Anchor to the Cross of Christ

- 1) Steer clear of Satan’s traps.
- 2) Act decisively in temptation.
- 3) Follow Jesus faithfully.

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please remain standing

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

Please be seated.

HYMN

434 – “Lord, You I Love with All My Heart” (verses 1 & 2)

**1. Lord, you I love with all my heart;
I pray you ne'er from me depart;
With tender mercies cheer me.
Earth has no pleasure I would share;
Heaven itself were void and bare
If you, Lord, were not near me.
And should my heart for sorrow break,
My trust in you no one could shake.
You are the treasure I have sought;
Your precious blood my soul has bought.
Lord Jesus Christ,
My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust your Word.**

**2. Lord God, 'twas your rich bounty gave
My body, soul, and all I have
In this poor life of labor.
Lord, grant that I in ev'ry place
May glorify your lavish grace
And serve and help my neighbor.
Let no false doctrine me beguile;
Let Satan not my soul defile.
Give strength and patience unto me
To bear my crosses willingly.
Lord Jesus Christ,
My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust your Word.**

Please stand.

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, 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)

CLOSING HYMN

439 – “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me” (all verses)

1. Lord, take my hand and lead me

Upon life's way;

Direct, protect, and feed me

From day to day.

Without your grace and favor

I go astray;

So take my hand, O Savior,

And lead the way.

2. Lord, when the tempest rages,

I need not fear;

For you, the Rock of Ages,

Are always near.

Close by your side abiding,

I fear no foe,

For when your hand is guiding,

In peace I go.

3. Lord, when the shadows lengthen
 And night has come,
I know that you will strengthen
 My steps toward home,
And nothing can impede me,
 O blessed Friend!
So take my hand and lead me
 Unto the end.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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GREETERS today are:

Dwight & Norma Rader – Early Service
Richard & Ruth Johnson – Late Service

Next Sunday:

Richard & Cheryl Kretz – Early Service
John & Esther Spaeth – Late Service

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of September 6, 2020)

Total Worship Attendance: 188; Early: 72; Late: 90; Midweek: 26; Adult Bible Study: 20.
On-line worship service views for August 30 were 42.

MONEY COUNTERS for this morning through September 26th are the members of Steve Bormuth's Undershepherd group. Beginning Sunday, September 27th will be the members of Gary Mitchell's Undershepherd group.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (September 13 – September 19)

TODAY **Worship 8:00 AM & 10:30;** Children’s Lesson; Adult Bible Study 9:20; Teen Bible Study 9:20; Elders meeting 3:00.

MON Circuit meeting in Kenton 9:00; School Board meeting 7:00; Ladies Aid 7:30.

TUE Midweek Worship 7:30.

WED Public school student catechism class, meeting on-line at 6:30.

SAT Shoemaker-Ritter Wedding; Outreach sponsored Bonfire and movie 7:00 in the church’s stone parking lot.

SUN **Worship 8:00 AM & 10:30;** Communion; Adult Bible Study, Teen Bible Study 9:20.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

MON Soccer Practice, 6:00-8:00pm. BRING YOUR OWN WATER!

TUE Faculty meeting 3:30.

WED Chapel 8:20; Soccer Game (HOME) vs. Cory-Rawson 5:30.

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

CHILDREN’S LESSON: Children are asked to remain in their seats during the lesson.

PRESERVICE MUSIC for both services and today and next Sunday, as well as the midweek services, will be performed by Ky Koepsell.

TEEN BIBLE CLASS will begin again TODAY, between services. We will be meeting in the Bible Study room in the church basement at 9:20.

ELDERS MEETING: The Elders will on Sunday at 3 pm in the church basement. Our Elders are Bob Inniger, Ray Curth, Jamey Rausch, Bill Hull, Dan Webb, and Gordon Nessler. Along with Pastor Matt Nowak, these men are the Elders' Committee in our church. If you have any questions or concerns about church, please contact these men before Sunday afternoon, so that we can discuss this at our next meeting.

PUBLIC SCHOOL CATECHISM will meet starting Wednesday, September 16th at 6:30 to 8:00 pm. It will meet online. If your child is in 7th and 8th grade and does not attend Trinity Lutheran School call Pastor Nowak at 419-302-5271. He can help set you up with the program that we will use to teach online and materials for the 1st unit of Catechism.

COME ONE, COME ALL! The Outreach Committee will be sponsoring a bonfire THIS 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.

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS will meet, starting on Thursday September 24th at 6:30 to 7:30 pm. This class is for those who are interested in learning what God's Word has to offer and walking together with Trinity Lutheran Church, as we learn more about God through his Word. If you are a member, you can also show up. This is a good course to help you learn or relearn the wonderful truths of Scripture. If you are interested, let Pastor Nowak know by calling 419-302-5271 or emailing him at pastormattn@gmail.com.

ON THE MOVE: Marvin and Jean Ritter have entered Mennonite Home. Please remember them and all of our members who are hospitalized and in nursing homes in your prayers.

GOING HOME! Betty Burkholder is leaving Birchaven and is returning home. Jerry and Mark will be hosting a drive-by welcome home party on Friday, September 18th from 1:00 to 5:00pm. The address is 18225 County Road 15, Bluffton. Please drive by and say hello - make a sign, blow your horns!

CHURCH DIRECTORIES are here. If you had your portrait taken last fall, or submitted a photo, you are entitled to a free copy of the new directory. If you did not, you will need to wait until everyone has received their copies. They may be found at the back of church.

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.*

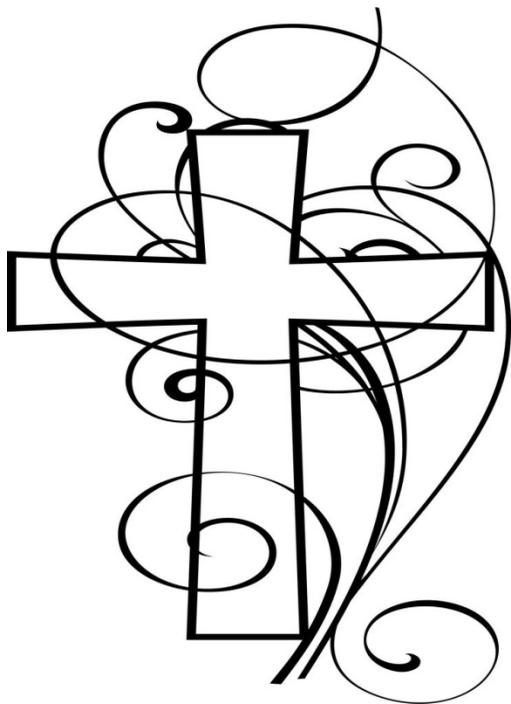
LADIES AID begins meeting again on tomorrow, September 14th at 7:30. All ladies of the church are invited to come. We will be continuing our study on prayer. The meetings will take place in the sanctuary. Please wear your masks as required, out of concern for the health and well-being of your neighbor.

AT THE FARM: Are your little ones ready for some learning and fun? Sign up for our first sessions of Mornings with Mommy on Monday and Tuesday, September 21 & 22 at 9:30 in the church basement. We will have a modified set up this year. Families will be asked stay on their own rug to maintain social distancing during circle time. Separate stations will be set up for each family with crafts, sensory bins, and educational toys and activities. Snacks will be distributed at 10:30. Our first session's theme is "At the Farm." Play with soy beans in our sensory bins, make a muddy pig, gallop on a horse, drive some tractors, and much more. **After snack, children can go outside to visit some live farm animals.** Space is limited! Register soon online at tlcjenera.org or call 262-391-7994.

MORNINGS WITH MOMMY DONATIONS: Can you help us prepare for another year of Mornings with Mommy by donating money or supplies? Items needed include: 100% juice boxes, play-dough, washable ink pads, glue sticks, glue bottles, glitter glue bottles, glitter glue pens, masking tape, baby wipes, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, tablecloths, preschool rugs, plastic crates, under-bed storage bins, dry-erase markers and erasers, and snacks—animal crackers, teddy grahams, goldfish crackers, cheez-its, ritz crackers, graham crackers, raisins. You may find a list of 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!

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.

ATTENTION PARENTS: In light of current challenges related to classroom gathering, our church is introducing a new approach to Sunday School. Beginning TODAY, lessons taught by experienced WELS teachers are available free via YouTube. The engaging and age appropriate Lesson Videos tie to printed Student Lessons that our church provides to you. This new approach presents an easy yet meaningful way for you to encourage your child/children's faith in Christ. Today's lesson is #1, "God Creates Man and Woman." 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.-



SHIPWRECK REMEMBRANCE 2020

Members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, observe the annual Shipwreck Remembrance today.

Today, members and guests of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jenera, Ohio, gather to give thanks to God for protecting their ancestors 188 years ago when their ship was wrecked off the east coast of the United States. This year the celebration will be held on September 15, the Sunday closest to the original day.

A group of over 150 people had banded together to leave Germany in July of 1831. The German economy was very poor. A pair of high-top boots cost as much as an acre of farm land. They also wanted to get away from the forced military service, high taxes and an unfair government.

They sailed on Aug. 1 on a ship called the “James Beacham” which later became known as the “Famous Dove.” On Sept. 16, 1831, a strong gale struck and the ship hit a sand bar which tore a large hole in the bottom of the ship and it quickly filled with water. It appeared that it would sink before morning. Everyone was filled with fear but Margaretha Arras, a 13 year old girl, reminded the people that Jesus quieted the waters on the Sea of Galilee and saved His disciples and “maybe He will save us too!” She started to sing a hymn (some say it was Martin Luther’s “A Mighty Fortress”) and soon all of the immigrants joined in the singing. They vowed “If we are saved, the 17th of each September shall be kept as a holy day by us and our descendants, even unto the third and fourth generation.”

By the next morning, the storm had stopped and they discovered that they were near the coast of Virginia, just south of Cape Henry. With help from people on the shore, they made it safely to land, thanking God for saving them from the storm and they repeated their vow.

Some families worked in the eastern states to earn money for their trip to Ohio. Two families arrived in Hancock County in 1834 and the next year 11 more families came. The first recorded Shipwreck Service was held on Sept. 17, 1836 with the text being Psalm 50:15 “Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you and you will honor me.” This same text was used for the fiftieth anniversary in 1881. Some of the Shipwreck survivors founded Jenera and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The earliest services consisted of reading a sermon and singing hymns in various homes. In the late 1830’s and 1840’s, a number of pastors ministered to the settlers. In 1852, the first frame church was built.

As Jenera was incorporated in 1883 one mile north of the church, it was decided to move into the village. On the Sunday before Christmas in 1889, a beautiful brick church on Main Street was dedicated to the glory of God. Three solid brass bells, donated by members of the original church, still ring to begin each service. Two additions have been made to the building that has served for over one hundred years and a school was started in 1948.

Many descendants of the Shipwreck passengers are members of Trinity today who gather together to give thanks and praise to God for rescuing their forefathers from death in the storm and, more important, from eternal death, through His Son!

