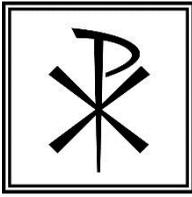


**Trinity Evangelical
Lutheran Church
of Abita Springs, Louisiana**

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
August 6, 2017 — Which Child Are You?



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Abita Springs, Louisiana

The mission of Trinity Lutheran Church is to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and to go and share the good news of Jesus Christ until he returns to take us home.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome! We consider it a privilege to worship the Lord with you this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word. If you are looking for a church home, we are happy to share ours with you. Please come again and worship with us very soon!

- ❖ **Bring the kids.** Children are always welcome at our worship services. If your child is having a difficult morning, there is a speaker in the Fellowship Hall that will allow you to hear the service.
- ❖ **Restrooms** are located in the Fellowship Hall next door.
- ❖ **Hearing assistance** is available. Ask an usher if you would like a hearing loop.
- ❖ **Don't feel obligated.** Our members give offerings to the Lord as an expression of thanks for his love. When the offering plate is passed, you're not expected to give an offering; it's your choice. While the offering is gathered, we'll ask you to sign our Friendship Register. Leave any information you're comfortable giving us—we use it simply to thank you for coming and to invite you back.
- ❖ **Make yourself at home.** After our services, we normally join together in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, snacks, and conversation. We'd be honored if you could join us!

BEFORE WORSHIP

As you prepare to worship your Lord today, spend a few quiet moments in prayer before the service. Helpful prayers, including the one below, may be found in the front section of the hymnal, pages 10-11 and 134-139.

O Lord—our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter—we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy Word. We pray that you open our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of your Word we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus, and grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

TODAY'S WORSHIP THEME

God has set you apart for great things, but who exactly is God? What is he like? What are his values?

Today he shows us what pleases him through a story about two siblings. The question is, which sibling are you?

SERVING OUR LORD TODAY

Service Leader: Lester Palliser

Sermon Reader: Bill Blake

Ushers: Grant Closson and Chip Rusich

Greeter: John Filipowicz

Music: Jan Blake and Karen Palliser

Fellowship Refreshments: Karen Palliser

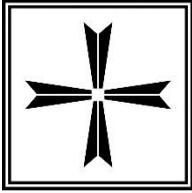
Church Cleaning: Regina Benton

Church Office: (985) 892-4880

Pastor's Cell: (985) 502-4021

Pastor's Email: freesepts@gmail.com

Trinity's Website: www.trinityabita.org



SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

382

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

STAND

L: 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

L: 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.**

L: 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.**

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



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -



ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever



BE SEATED



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 18:1-4; 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²"What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel:

"³The fathers eat sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on edge'?"

³"As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. ⁴For every living soul belongs to me, the father as well as the son-- both alike belong to me. The soul who sins is the one who will die.

²⁵"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear, O house of Israel: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? ²⁶If a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits sin, he will die for it; because of the sin he has committed he will die. ²⁷But if a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he will save his life. ²⁸Because he considers all the offenses he has committed and turns away from them, he will surely live; he will not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Are my ways unjust, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?"

³⁰"Therefore, O house of Israel, I will judge you, each one according to his ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. ³¹Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

L: This is the Word of our Lord

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 25

Read Responsively

L: Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love,

C: for they are from of old.

L: Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;
according to your love remember me,

C: for you are good, O LORD.

L: Turn to me and be gracious to me,

C: for I am lonely and afflicted.

L: Look upon my affliction and my distress

C: and take away all my sins.

L: Guard my life and rescue me,

C: for I take refuge in you.

**C: 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

2 Corinthians 13:5-8

⁵Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you-- unless, of course, you fail the test? ⁶And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test. ⁷Now we pray to God that you will not do anything wrong. Not that people will see that we have stood the test but that you will do what is right even though we may seem to have failed. ⁸For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth.

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Alleluia. (Philippians 2:10,11)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 21:28-32

²⁸What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.'

²⁹"I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰"Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go.

³¹"Which of the two did what his father wanted?"

"The first," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY

385

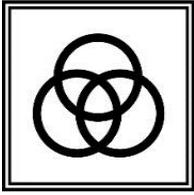
Chief of Sinners Though I Be

SERMON

Matthew 21:28-32

Which Child Are You?

STAND



THE 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.

BE SEATED

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

BE SEATED

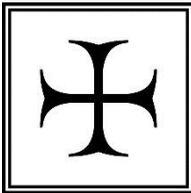
PRAYER HYMN

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

STAND

389

L: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



WE DEPART WITH THE LORD'S BLESSING

L: 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.



BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN

Beautiful Savior

369

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

TODAY (August 6, 2017)

10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Fellowship

NEXT SUNDAY (August 13, 2017)

10:00 am Worship with Communion
11:00 am Bible Class/Fellowship

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE LAST WEEK (July 30, 2017)

Sunday Worship	28
Sunday Offering	\$1,207.00
2017 Weekly Goal	\$1,770.00

"Praise the Lord, and forget not all his benefits" Psalm 103:2

SERVING OUR LORD NEXT WEEK (August 13, 2017)

Service Leader: Pastor Patrick Freese
Communion Assistant: Bill Blake
Ushers: Indy Nebeker and Greg Wood
Greeter: John Filipowicz
Music: Jan Blake and Karen Palliser
Fellowship Refreshments: Libby Breazeale
Church Cleaning: Regina Benton

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **Welcome to guests and visitors!** We are glad that you are here and hope that you will join us again soon. If you have any questions about anything Trinity related, feel free to contact Pastor Freese at freese@gmail.com or (985) 502-4021.
- ❖ **2017 at Trinity:** As we look forward to this new year, we also take a look back at our roots. This year marks the 500th anniversary of the nailing of the 95 Theses by Martin Luther. This year we will explore our Lutheran identity while we also look forward to the future.
- ❖ **WELS Locator:** You don't need to take a vacation from God's Word if you're traveling out of town. Check out <http://wels.locatorsearch.com> to find a WELS church near you.
- ❖ **August Communion Schedule:** In the month of August we will celebrate communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. We will resume our regular communion schedule in September.
- ❖ **Wednesday Night Bible Class:** Bible Class will resume on **August 16**, at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will dig into the book of Romans
- ❖ **Choir:** Trinity's choir will also resume on **August 16** immediately following Bible Class.
- ❖ **Sunday School:** Sunday School will resume on **August 13**. Then, beginning in September, we will begin meeting on the first and second Sundays of each month through the month of May 2018. Sunday School is open to children ages 3-11.
- ❖ **Catechism:** Our Catechism class trains our youth for Confirmation. Catechism is open to those ages 12 through high school. Classes resume on Monday, **August 28**, at 5:30 pm. If you are interested in Catechism, please talk to Pastor Freese.
- ❖ **Save the Date:** You are invited to a screening of the PBS Edition of the new Martin Luther film: *Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World*. We'll join together with Crown of Life, New Orleans members to watch a screening of the film on **September 14, 2017** at The Grand 16 Theatre in Slidell. See our online Weekly Update for ticket information.

- ❖ **Church Cleaning:** Are you looking for an opportunity for service at Trinity? If so, you can help Trinity by volunteering to clean the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. A suggested list of cleaning instructions is posted in the Sacristy. Cleaning supplies are provided in the Fellowship Hall pantry. If you would like to help clean, there is a sign-up sheet located at the entrance of the church.
- ❖ **Stain Glass Window Update:** The Lord has moved us to raise the funds needed to repair the remaining stain glass windows. Trinity received quotes from three companies regarding coverings for the windows to prevent future breakage. Massmann Studios will cover our stain glass. The covers are funded through special gifts and budgeted funds for building maintenance and repair. This work is envisioned to begin sometime this month.
- ❖ **Fellowship Refreshments:** If you'd like to bring refreshments to share after service, please sign up on the Refreshments List located in the kitchen of the Fellowship Hall.



Post Office Box 278 ✚ 22139 Level Street ✚ Abita Springs, Louisiana 70420 ✚ (985) 892-4880
Reverend Patrick Freese ✚ (985) 502-4021 (cell) ✚ freesepts@gmail.com (email)