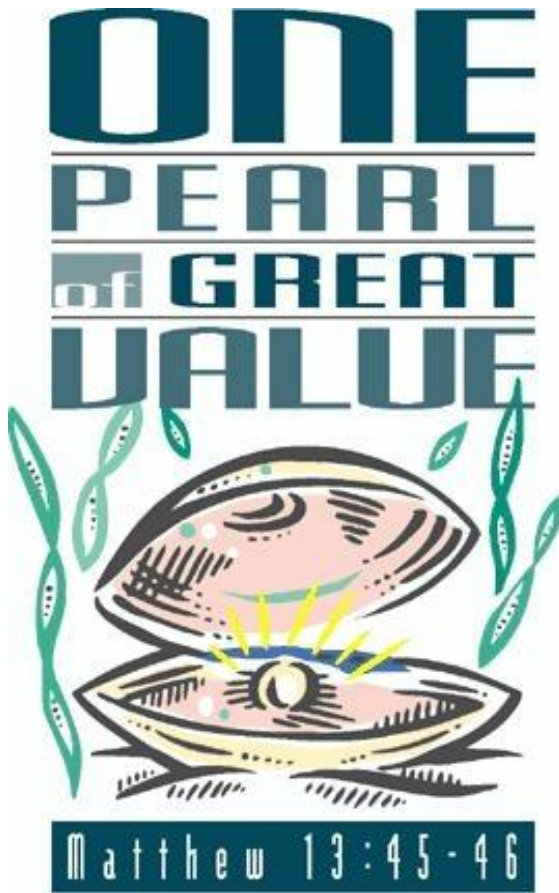


July 26, 2020 ~ 9:30 a.m.
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost



Trinity Lutheran Church & School

*Our Mission:
To Make More and Better Disciples of Jesus Christ.*



Trinity Lutheran Church

***146 Reserve Road, West Seneca, NY 14224
(716) 674-9188***

E-Mail: trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net

Website: www.trinitywestseneca.com

Pastor: Rev. Dennis Krueger - 997-5666

Trinity Christian School

(716) 674-5353

E-Mail: jbabcock@thinktrinitychristian.com

Website: www.thinktrinitychristian.com

Principal: Mrs. Kathleen Fretthold

Current Services

Sunday at 9:30am (Outdoor Drive-In Style Only)

On-line at "www.trinitywestseneca.com"

Welcome Visitors and Guests! Thank you for coming to worship God with us today! We believe that the Spirit of God had a hand in your coming. We trust that God's Word and this special time in worship will be a continuing blessing to you. Come again!

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Jesus does not explain the parables in today's Gospel. Although most commentators identify the hidden treasure and pearl of great price as the Kingdom of God, what if we are those treasures? Moses told the people before they entered the Promised Land, "The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession." Then we see Jesus as the one finding us and giving up all that He has for us, as indeed our Lord gave His very life so that we might be with Him forever. These are comforting words for everyone baptized into Christ. We can be sure that nothing "will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

PRESERVICE MUSIC (Drive-In Service Only)

RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP (Drive-In Service Only)

"This is Amazing Grace"

[Jeremy Riddle / Josh Farro / Phil Wickham © 2012 Phil Wickham Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.), Seems Like Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.), Sing My Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.), WB Music Corp. (Admin. by Word Entertainment, LLC), Bethel Music Publishing. For use solely with the SongSelect. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 254312]

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings

CHORUS:

**This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for
All that You've done for me**

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory the King of Glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings

CHORUS:

**This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for
All that You've done for me**

Bridge:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy

[Repeat Chorus]

All that You've done for me

WELCOME

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from Christ Jesus our Lord.

People: **Amid trouble, distress, and persecution,**

Pastor: Christ Jesus is interceding for us.

People: **Amid hunger, loneliness, and danger,**

Pastor: Christ Jesus is interceding for us.

People: **Amid violence, powers, heights, and depths,**

Pastor: Christ Jesus is interceding for us.

People: **Amid life and death,**

Pastor: Christ Jesus is interceding for us.

All: *Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from Christ Jesus our Lord.*

HYMN

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

(v 1 ,2, 4)

[Martin Luther. Public Domain]

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.

The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God himself elected.

Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of sab-a-oth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With his good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Creator of life and light,

People: **we confess that we have not reflected Your great love to us. You sent Your beloved Son to sacrifice everything, including life itself, so that You may own us as Your beloved people. We have not loved the people around us as ourselves.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, our Redeemer,

People: we confess that we have not carried Your name to the world. We have not loved You with all our heart, mind, and strength.

Pastor: O Holy Spirit, the Comforter,

People: we confess that we have not shown Your love to the people near and dear to us, nor to those with whom we learn, work, and play.

Pastor: O Holy Trinity,

People: forgive us and comfort us; surround us with Your love so that we may be the treasured possessions You desire us to be. Forgive us for Your name's sake. Amen.

Pastor: Rejoice and be glad! Our Lord Jesus Christ visited this dark world and gave His perfect life in payment for your sins. He has restored You to be fit for the Kingdom of God. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Deuteronomy 7:6–9*

⁶ For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.

⁷ The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. ⁸ But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹ Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: *Romans 8:28–39*

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: *Matthew 13:44–52*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴ “God’s kingdom is like a treasure hidden in a field for years and then accidentally found by a trespasser. The finder is ecstatic—what a find!—and proceeds to sell everything he owns to raise money and buy that field.

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁶ “Or, God’s kingdom is like a jewel merchant on the hunt for excellent pearls. Finding one that is flawless, he immediately sells everything and buys it.

⁴⁷⁻⁵⁰ “Or, God’s kingdom is like a fishnet cast into the sea, catching all kinds of fish. When it is full, it is hauled onto the beach. The good fish are picked out and put in a tub; those unfit to eat are thrown away.

That's how it will be when the curtain comes down on history. The angels will come and cull the bad fish and throw them in the garbage. There will be a lot of desperate complaining, but it won't do any good."

⁵¹ Jesus asked, "Are you starting to get a handle on all this?"

They answered, "Yes."

⁵² He said, "Then you see how every student well-trained in God's kingdom is like the owner of a general store who can put his hands on anything you need, old or new, exactly when you need it."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Amazing Grace"

[Song & Lyrics by John Newton and W. Walker; CCLI# 254312]

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found.
Was blind, but now I see.

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

The Lord has promised good to me
His Word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long a life endures

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come.
Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun.
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

SERMON: "The Kingdom of Heaven is Like ... " *Matthew 13:44-52*

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: As the Lord's treasured possession, a people loved and redeemed through our Savior Jesus Christ, let us bring acclamations of praise, cries for justice, pleas for mercy, and requests for peace for all those in need in our lonely and broken world and for ourselves.

Pastor: Your unwavering love sustains the Church throughout the world. Strengthen the Church, guide the Church into all truth, and empower our proclamation of the Gospel, so that the whole world may know the joy of Your kingdom. Bless the work of missionaries and church leaders. Enable all congregations to be sources of God's love and redemption to the people in their communities. God of love,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: You promise that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Guide the rulers of our nation and of all the nations of the world toward justice, wisdom, mercy, and peace. Watch over our military personnel, and make Your comforting presence known to their families. Protect innocent people in war-torn nations. Preserve us from acts of terrorism. Reconcile us with our enemies. God of love,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: You work all things together for good for those who love You. Let Your love sustain and encourage those who are facing health troubles, Bless those who are in danger, those who are feeling lonely or depressed, and those who feel separated from You. Help them to see that even in the midst of suffering, You are there, and that nothing in all creation can separate them from Your love for us in Christ Jesus. God of love,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: You provide for the needs of our bodies and souls. Bless the labor of all who work. Calm the hearts of the unemployed and underemployed. Grant that our land will produce an abundant harvest of goods and services that will bless many. Guide our stewardship of the gifts You entrust to us. God of love,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: You redeemed us from slavery to sin through our Lord Jesus. Guide us to recognize Your kingdom at work in this world, and help us to love You and serve our neighbors selflessly. God of love,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: (Special Petitions) God of love,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Christ Jesus, the one who died and rose, is interceding for us. We boldly entrust our prayers to You, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

PREFACE (Drive-In Service Only)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE (Drive-In Service Only)

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who loved us and gave Himself for us and rose victorious so that we might be His treasure forever.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Drive-In Service Only)

Pastor: In Your great love, O Father, You sent Your only Son, our Savior, into this world of sin. He was born as one of us to die for us, He rose victorious, and He has comforted us with an eternal comfort, inviting us to the heavenly banquet which has no end.

Pastor: We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD (Drive-In Service Only)

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My α body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My α blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS (Drive-In Service Only)



"Above All"

[Lenny LeBlanc / Paul Baloche © 1999 Integrity's Hosanna! Music & LenSongs Publishing. CCLI# 254312]

Verse 1:

Above all powers

Above all kings

Above all nature and all created things

Above all wisdom and all the ways of man

You were here before the world began

Verse 2:

Above all kingdoms
Above all thrones
Above all wonders the world has ever known
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
There's no way to measure what you're worth

CHORUS:

**Crucified
Laid behind the stone
You lived to die
Rejected and alone
Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall
And thought of me
Above all**

[Repeat V1, V2, Chorus]

Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall
And thought of me
Above all



“Mighty to Save”

[Reuben Morgan / Ben Fielding © 2006 Hillsong Publishig (Admin. by Integrity's Hosanna! Music). All Rights Reseved. CCLI# 254312]

Ev'ryone needs compassion,
A love that's never failing.
Let mercy fall on me.
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness,
The kindness of a Savior.
The hope of nations.

CHORUS:

**Savior, He can move the mountains,
My God is mighty to save.
He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of Salvation.
He rose and conquered the grave.
Jesus conquered the grave.**

So take me as You find me,
All my fears and failures.
Fill my life again.

I give my life to follow,
Everything I believe in.
And now I surrender.

CHORUS:

**Savior, He can move the mountains,
My God is mighty to save.
He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of Salvation.
He rose and conquered the grave.
Jesus conquered the grave.**

Shine your light, and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.
Jesus, shine your light, and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

(Chorus 2x)

THANKSGIVING (Drive-In Service Only)

Pastor: O Lord, Your presence sustains us through the many situations in this life that we cannot handle. We thank You for being present with us in the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Help us who experience the presence of Your steadfast love in this Holy Communion to be present for those who need our care;.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: You are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession. Nothing in all creation will be able to separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN

“Be Thou My Vision”

[Mary E. Byrne. Public Domain]

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

[Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.]



Serving Us

Pastor ... Rev. Dennis Krueger

Organist ... Katherine Herman

Keyboard ... Trevor Jelowski

Singers ... Mark Ganschow, Ellen Makey

Anderson Family (Drive-In)