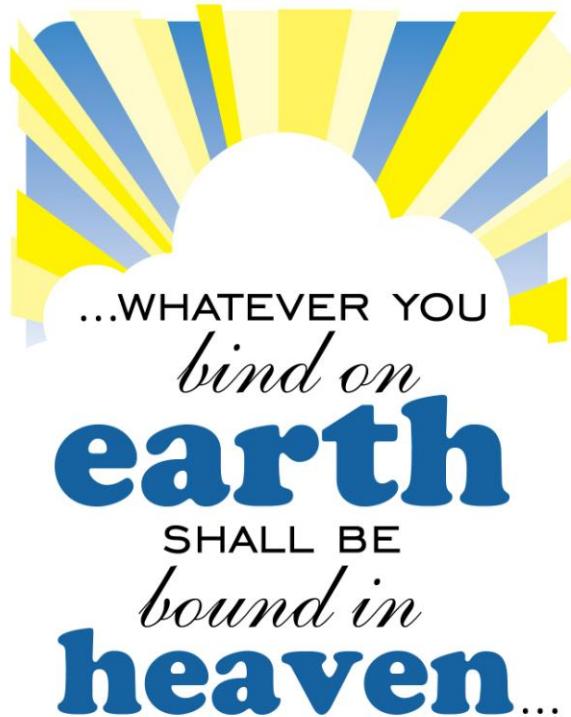


*September 6, 2020 ~ 9:30 a.m.
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost*



MATTHEW 18:18, ESV

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*

Worship Services (Effective 9/12/20)
Saturday at 5:00pm (in the church)
Sunday at 9:30am (in the church)
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!

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 6, 2020

AS WE GATHER

"Becoming like children is not on most people's list of priorities, yet Jesus holds children up as those who will both enter and become the great ones in the reign of God. Among the duties of those in civil authority, leaders are charged to protect children from wrongdoers. Children are the ones for whom the Shepherd searches and finds and harming them incurs severe consequences. Humbling ourselves like children equips Jesus' followers to work together to resolve conflicts in congregations and homes.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

"Here Is Love"

[Matt Redman / Robert Lowry / William Rees © 2004 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing).
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Here is love vast as the ocean
Loving-kindness as the flood
When the Prince of Life our Ransom
Shed for us His precious blood

Who His love will not remember
Who can cease to sing His praise
He can never be forgotten
Throughout Heav'n's eternal days

On the mount of crucifixion
Fountains opened deep and wide
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
Flowed a vast and gracious tide

Grace and love like mighty rivers
Poured incessant from above
Heav'n's peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love

WELCOME

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 92:1–2*

Pastor: It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
People: to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;
Pastor: to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,
People: and Your faithfulness by night.

Pastor: The Most High God gathers us to praise His name and declare His love together!

OPENING HYMN

“Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

(v 1, 3, 4)

[Charles Wesley / Roland Prichard. Public Domain]

Love divine, all love excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Come, almighty, to deliver;
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 32:1*

Pastor: Lord God, You promise grace and every blessing to all who come before You and repent of their sins. Hear us now as we, Your humble children, bring our prayers before You.

(In silent prayer, we confess our sins to the Lord, seeking His cleansing forgiveness.)

Pastor: Most merciful Father,

People: **we come before You and admit our sinfulness. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have failed to do what Your Word demands. We have not honored You fully with our lives, nor have we loved one another as You have first loved us. In the name of our loving Savior Jesus Christ, we ask for Your forgiveness. Because our Savior humbled Himself for our sake upon the cross, enable us in true humility to receive the remission You promise to Your repentant children. Amen.**

Pastor: "Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." God the Father has taken your sins and laid them upon our humble Savior Jesus Christ. Because of Christ's sacrifice, God does not count your sins against you. He has taken them away! He remembers them no more! He preserves and delivers you as His child forever! As a called and ordained 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.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, You have made us Your children by our Baptism into Christ and given us the hope of eternal life in the forgiveness of our sins. Help us to share that life and forgiveness with all people, for all with us are in need of Your mercy and deliverance; 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: *Ezekiel 33:7-9*

⁷ "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸ When I say to the wicked, 'You wicked person, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood.

⁹ But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: *Romans 13:1–10*

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. ² Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³ For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. ⁴ For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

⁶ This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷ Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

⁸ Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: *Matthew 18:1–20*

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

² He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. ³ And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

⁶ “If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. ⁷ Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come! ⁸ If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.

¹⁰ “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. ^[11]

¹² “What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? ¹³ And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. ¹⁴ In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸ “Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be ^[18] loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Refiner's Fire"

[Brian Doerksen © 1990 Mercy Publishing; admin. by Music Services; CCLI# 254312]

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver,
Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.

REFRAIN:

**Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy,
Set apart for You Lord, Make me to be holy,
Set apart for You my master, ready to do your will.**

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy,
Purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

(Refrain)

SERMON: "Conflict Resolution - Conflict Reconciliation," Matthew 18:15-20

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Pastor: For all the children of God, the Holy Christian Church, that we proclaim the salvation of Christ wherever we are and to whomever we meet, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For the living out of our vocations, that no matter our station in life or what calling we have been given, that we faithfully represent our Savior with lives of humility and faith, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For all children, that they grow daily in the wisdom of the Lord, and for all parents and those who work to care for children, that they be guided in their important service of love, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all public servants who selflessly serve others, both those who serve locally and those in positions throughout the world, that they would entrust their lives into the protecting care of their Maker, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all who suffer in heart, mind, and body, that they with patience and faith receive the healing care You offer, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: (Special petitions) Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For these concerns and for every unspoken prayer that is on our hearts and minds, that our gracious God would hear and answer us, let us pray to the Lord,

People: Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION *Psalm 92:1–2*

Pastor: It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

People: to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

Pastor: to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,

People: and Your faithfulness by night.

Pastor: The Most High God now sends us out to praise His name and declare His love wherever we go!

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

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

[Jaroslav Vajda / Ralph Vaughan Williams. Public Domain]

Go, My children, with My blessing,
Never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
You are my own.

In My love's baptismal river
I have made you Mine forever.

Go, My children, with My blessing -
You are My own.

Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you,
What I can cure.

Here you heard My dear Son's story;
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.

Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.

Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Closer to Me;

Grow in love and love by serving,
Joyful and free.

Here My Spirit's power filled you;
Here His tender comfort stilled you.

Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you
And give you peace;

I the Lord will smile upon you
And give you peace;

I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.

Go, My children; I will keep you
And give you peace.



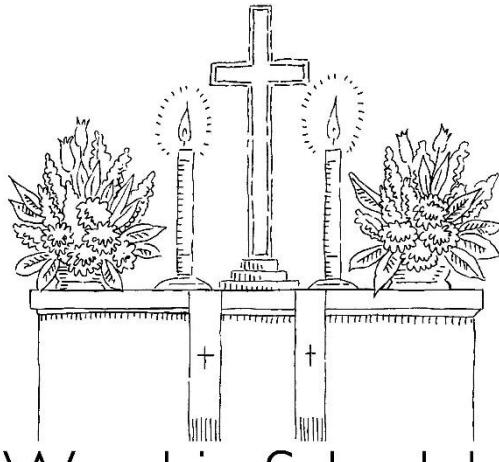
Serving Us

Pastor ... Rev. Dennis Krueger

Organist ... Katherine Herman

Keyboard ... Trevor Jelowski

Singers ... Ellen Makey, Ken Mann



Worship Schedule

Effective September 12, 2020:

Saturdays at 5:00pm

Sundays at 9:30am

Both services will be held in the church.

You can also view the services each week on our website:
www.trinitywestseneca.com