

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021



**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
EAST BERLIN, PENNSYLVANIA**

Trinity's Prayer Concerns

Louise Boyer	Pixie Henry	Barb Mummert	Logan Siekerman
Sandy Boyer	Jack Hinkle	Wayne Mummert	Kim Smith
Skip Boyer	Pr. Terry McCarthy	Noah Rinehart	Phyllis Snyder
Louise Haugh	Theresa McGee	Luther Rinehart	Christopher Teal

Trinity's Homebound Members

Esther Baker	Nancy Brodbeck	Louise Eisenhart	Dottie Mae Eisenhart
Doris Edris	Itoe Hoak	Flo Jones	Phyllis Spahr

Other Family & Friends:

Heather Artz (Bonnie Boyer)
Stephanie Barliev (Kim Smith)
Steve Boyer (Bonnie Boyer)
Mike Brady (Mac McMaster)
Seville Brown (Livingston)
Vittoria Brown (Bonnie Boyer)
Valerie Bushey (Bob King)
Susan Caler (Noelle Kline)
Joan Cave (Pr. Terry McCarthy)
Gail Campbell (Pam Eisenhart)
Roger Cunningham (Joyce Wolf)
Alan DeGroft (Karen Sheaffer)
Leah Dillon & Family (Kay Hinkle)
John and Susan Dutton (Lerew)
Jim Greear (Jen Guiher)
Clifford Hafer (Shelly Livingston)
Joann Hinkle (Judy Burgard)
Dau Hoang (Shelly Livingston)
David Holtzinger (Kathy Kuhn)
Larry Holtzinger (Crackett)
Brittany Horst (Manzullo)
Elena Grace Hull (Janae Hull)
Tom Hyers (Noelle Kline)



Chris & Susie Klass (Bonnie Boyer)
Dolores Kmetz (Judy Burgard)
Kristine Kosack (Leah Dillon)
Lynn Kotula (Susan Smith)
Nancy Lewis (Bonnie Boyer)
Donna & Joe Linn (Bonnie Boyer)
Ruth Lusk (Bonnie Shue)
Betty Markle (Bonnie Boyer)
Jay Mummert (Judy Burgard)
Sandra Quier (Ali Long)
Larry Reily (Eva Boyer)
Chuck Ross & Spouse (Manzullo)
Mike & Aiden Schrek (Kay Hinkle)
Niles Shearer (Sandy Emig)
Brian Slater (Livingston)
Family of Allan Snyder (former member)
Everly Grace Williams (Hoffman)
Family of Dale Wolf (Judy Burgard)
Donna & George Wolf (Janet McMaster)
Paula Wolf (Dona Lerew)
Edward Yale (Herman)
Pastor Zach (Red Run Church)
First Responders and those serving in the military and healthcare

Friends & Family Prayer List: The prayer list for family & friends has been updated. Any names submitted will be kept for 4 weeks unless a longer period is requested. Please let Bonnie Boyer bonnie0879@verizon.net or the secretary@trinitylutheraneb.org know if you need to have someone added to the list.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Blessed Assurance”

J. Bert Carlson

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children who are present for in-person worship are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary for a time of faithful learning. The Children’s Time takes place early in the service to accommodate those who are energetic and squirmy while worshipping online via the livestream.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways when they make us uncomfortable. Turn us again to you. For, where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.

Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Blessed Assurance”

ELW 638



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

***GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. . .

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal.

Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means “agreement” or “alliance.” It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 34:15-22

The psalm will be read responsively by whole verse and accompanied by handbells.

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are up- | on the righteous,
and God's ears are open | to their cry.

¹⁶**The face of the LORD is against those | who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them | from the earth.**

¹⁷The righteous cry, and | the LORD hears them
and delivers them from | all their troubles.

¹⁸**The LORD is near to the | brokenhearted
and saves those whose spir- | its are crushed.**

¹⁹Many are the troubles | of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers them from | every one.

²⁰**God will keep safe | all their bones;
not one of them | shall be broken.**

²¹Evil will bring death | to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous | will be punished.

²²O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished.

Here ends the Psalm

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 6:10-20

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of

righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

***HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:56-69**

P The Holy Gospel according to St John, the 6th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: “To whom shall we go?”

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Susan McCarthy



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

***APOSTLES' CREED**

Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world,
and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of courage, lead everyone who shares your gospel. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of creation, bless fields, orchards, and all agriculture. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of compassion, bless all who are in any need. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of change, bless our transitions. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. Lord, in
your mercy,
hear our prayer.

As we offer these prayers, O God, strengthen our ability to leave these, and all
other concerns we have, in your hands. Teach us how to back up and give you
room to work. Thank you for listening to us, for loving us, and for always
being in our corner, no matter the circumstance; through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us take a few moments to share a sign of Christ's Peace with one another.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

A Let us pray.

C **Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**



***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

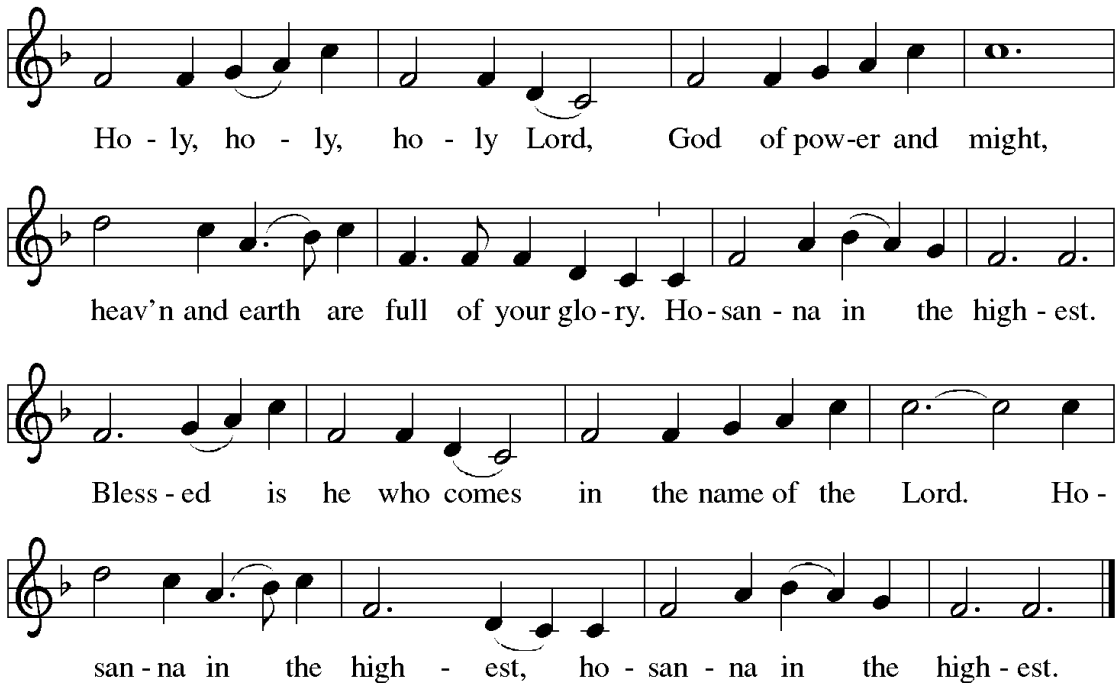
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death and, as he had promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples. At this the whole earth exults in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

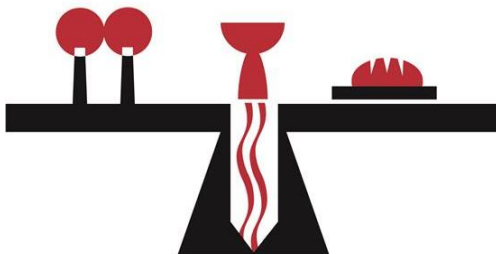


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat: this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.



***LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Feast and be satisfied!

Thanks be to God!

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Worshippers are invited to come forward in the center aisle to receive the sacrament in continuous flow from the pastor; you may return to your seat or stand at the chancel rail while consuming the Meal. Please return to your seats via the side aisles. Anyone worshipping on-line or at home and wishing to receive the sacrament should call the church office to make arrangements with Pastor Susan or another eucharistic minister.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

A Let us pray.

C **Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

P The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝ be upon you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“O Jesus I Have Promised”

Jan Bender



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Assisting in the Service Today: Assisting Minister: Jake Sharrer; Lector: Ruthann Bowen; Ushers: Bob & Deb King, Rick Madsen; Hymn Leader: Chris Long.

Everyone is welcome to gather with us! All activities are held both in-person and online; any electronic links needed will be provided by the church office. Please be in touch if you need any assistance connecting with any gathering, including worship!

Our pandemic approach is always evolving. As we keep an eye on the increasing infection rates, please know the COVID-19 task force has been in conversation and at this time is not recommending to council any changes to our official policy. (If you'd like an official copy, please contact the office.) Trinity's leadership encourages everyone to become vaccinated for your safety and the safety of others and to wear a mask if you have not been vaccinated or have any health concerns that would put you and others at risk. Let's continue to pray together for the health of God's children. Thank you.

Sunday Morning Adult Confirmation Class continues this morning at 10:30am in the Chapel. We'll be talking about the Ten Commandments.

Bible Study continues Monday, August 23 at 6:00pm with special attention on how the weekly Word of God feeds our spirits. Everyone is welcome to join in either in person or via Zoom. Call Pastor Susan with questions.

Join the Midweek Prayer Service Wednesdays at 10am in the Chapel. The service will also be live-streamed to our private Facebook Group, "Trinity Lutheran EB Fellowship Group." This is a semi-private broadcast to only those who are members of our group, Trinity's closed gathering on Facebook. While electronically available, to protect private prayer concerns, it's not a publicly shared worship service. If you need help joining in electronically, please call the church office. 717-259-9125

SHARE THE HARVEST: Trinity continues a “Share the Harvest” program. Anyone wishing to offer produce, flowers, etc. is encouraged to place them in baskets in the Narthex, available to anyone worshipping for a donation. Donations will then supply food for the Sharing Shelf. Any goods left after worship will be placed on the Sharing Shelf for those in need of food.

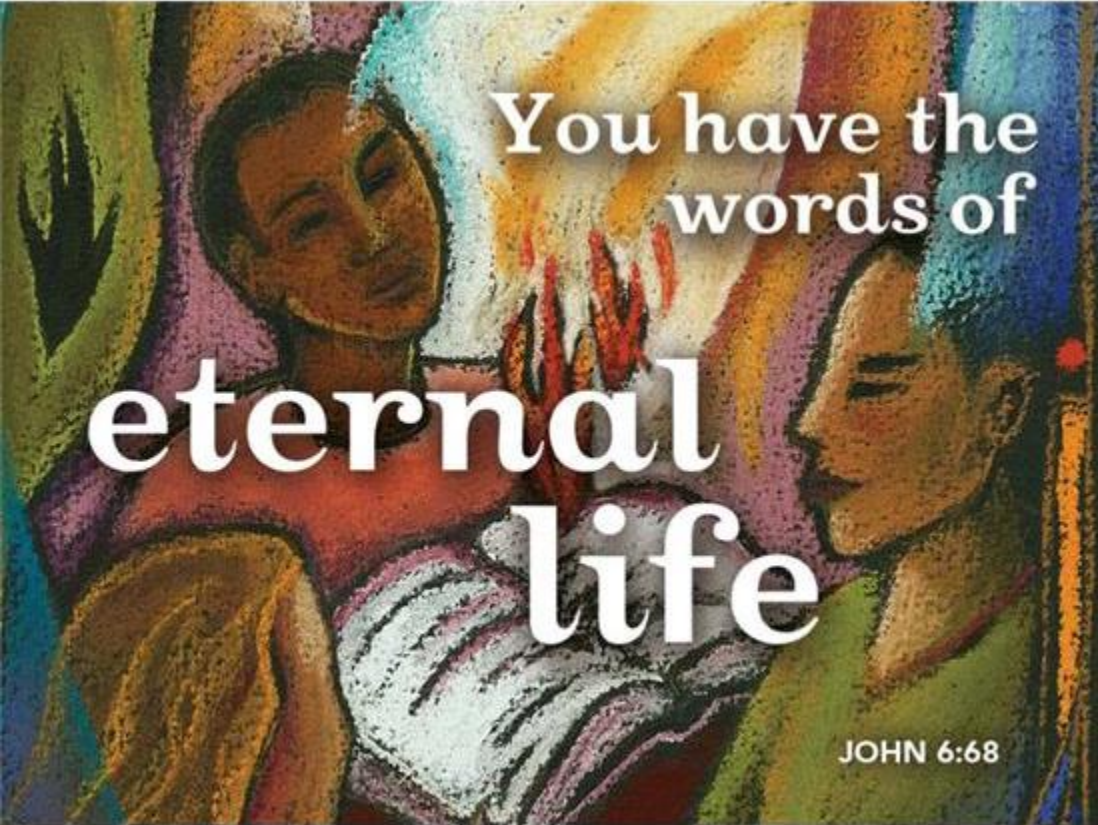
The Annual Church Picnic will be held TODAY at Mark Boyer’s home. The worship service will be held at the church at 9:00am as usual followed by Adult Confirmation Class at 10:30am. We will meet at Mark Boyer's Plum Run Acres at 12:00noon for lunch, fellowship, and games for all ages. Please bring a dish to share, lawn chairs, and place settings for your family (drinks and meat will be provided). If your family would like to bring your own food instead of a covered dish to share food, please feel free to do so. We will be playing Bible bingo again this year so we will need inexpensive wrapped gifts for children and adults. Hope to see everyone there!

Birthday Card Shower for Shirley Heltibridle. Shirley's birthday is August 30 and she will be 90! Let us shower her with love! Shirley's address is:

Shirley Heltibridle
327 Beaver Street
East Berlin, PA 17316

The Wellness Group will meet next on Tuesday, August 31, at 7:00pm. The topic will be prepping for significant days of remembrance - holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. when grief is involved. We will meet in-person and via Zoom. Please join in!

The WEEKLY CALL LIST and other Pastoral Care: If you know someone who could use a phone call (or a card) from Pastor Susan for any reason, please let her know. Each week she’ll add your submitted names to the list she already keeps. In addition, if you or anyone you know are in need of immediate pastoral care, please don’t hesitate to reach out to her at 717-7789-5548 (She also texts at this number.) or pastor@trinitylutheraneb.org. Thank you!



You have the
words of

eternal
life

JOHN 6:68

*Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
East Berlin, Pennsylvania*

Our Mission: We are a family of Christian disciples committed to making Christ known while loving and serving God and neighbors.

Our Vision: To fulfill our mission, we will:

Worship through liturgy, music, prayer & Sacraments;

Teach God's Word and nurture spiritual growth;

Serve and provide for those in need;

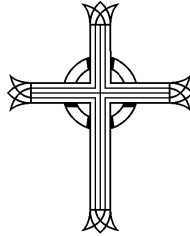
Witness to others by sharing the Gospel;

Celebrate with fellowship;

Return with joy what God has given;

Be active in our community and the Church.

Worship, Serve, Celebrate!



Worship: Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Ministers: The People of Trinity

Office Phone: 717-259-9125

www.trinitylutheraneb.org

secretary@trinitylutheraneb.org

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:45am – 11:45am, Friday 9am-1pm

Staff

Rev. Susan McCarthy, Pastor.....717-778-5548

Bob King, Council President 717-877-0616

Jennifer Guiher, Church Secretary 717-259-9125

Karen Wire, Church Organist 717-259-0778

Sue Clauser, Church Treasurer 717-259-0724

Bonnie Boyer, Prayer Chain Contact 717-259-0879