

Nurturing a Living Faith with Open Hearts and Serving Hands

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Introduction to the Day

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

14th Week after Pentecost Wednesday September 17, 2025 6 p.m.



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

"Living Waters" CCLI #7063743 On screen

WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God,

overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL: LUKE 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

The holy gospel according to Luke, chapter 15, beginning with verse 1. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Welcome to Worship at Trinity Lutheran

Whether this is your first time worshipping with us, or if you regularly attend, we are very glad that you are with us! Today, we gather to worship God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The church is not a building—it is you, the people. If you look around what you will see are imperfect people. Some with smiles, some with broken hearts, some with secrets they are ashamed to share... and yet all of us together are the "church."

We are thankful you are here. Through God's Holy Spirit we pray you hear a word of grace and hope today.

HYMN OF THE DAY/OFFERING

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"

ELW #608

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

"Hear Our Prayer"

OCP Publications

Please pray for Dick, Wendy, Amy, Dennis, Rod, Jim, Hal, Melissa, Donna, Cathy, Sharon, Mary, Lester & Cortney.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING SONG

"I Saw the Light"

CCLI #45064

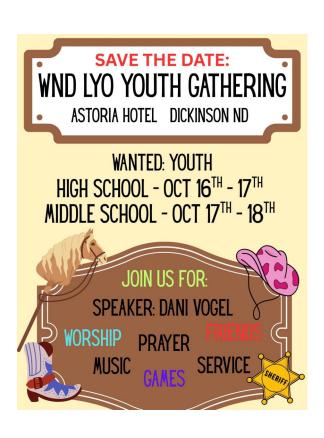
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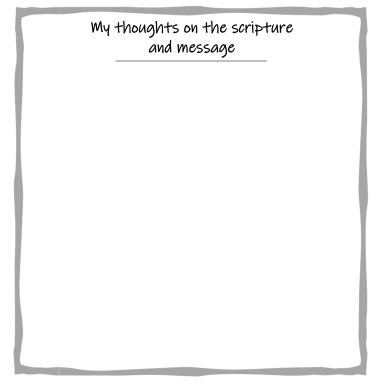
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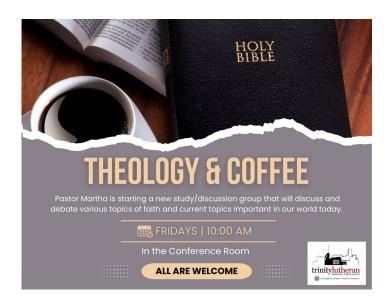
Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

WE EXTEND OUR CONGREGATION'S SYMPATHY to the families of: Elizabeth Miskella, mother of Jane Clayburgh. Please keep her family in your prayers.

RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM is in honor of Kenneth & Loralee Heiser on their 45th wedding anniversary (9-13-25). Given by their family.

MEDIA CENTER HELPERS - You Are Needed! We are looking for several more people to help with our media center. Please let one of the pastors know if you are interested.

HANDICAP PARKING DISCUSSION - Next Sunday, Sept 21st @ 9:30 a.m., we would like your input on the handicap parking around the building. If you would like to be a part of the discussion we will meet in the conference room, or contact John ahead of time with your input. Please grab a cup of coffee and join us for a discussion.

LOAVES & FISHES - We will fill bags again for this ministry in the Quilters' Room after worship. Thank you for your continued support!

MEN'S GROUP - This group will start back up on Saturday, September 20th @ 8 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP - We have started a Coffee Fellowship centered around coffee and conversation. If you are free around 10 am, we invite you to join us for about 20 minutes. Feel free to come a little early or relax and stay a bit longer. We are meeting Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday mornings during September. Please stop by and have a cup of coffee and a conversation.

RUMMAGE SALE - Our Fall Rummage Sale will be held November 7th-8th. We'll start accepting items on October 30th.

ONLINE GIVING - Giving has never been easier! Open your camera on your phone and scan the QR code. It will take you right to Trinity's online giving site. You can choose to give via credit card or bank account. Try it out today!



United Way Backpack Event

Wednesday, October 1st At Trinity

Trinity is once again sponsoring a week of the 'United Way Backpack Program' this school year. The United Way Backpack Program sends a backpack of meals home with the kids who need it over the weekend. To pull this off we need your help!

- 1-2 drivers with bigger vehicles to bring empty tubs from United Way to Trinity. This needs to be done by 5 p.m.
- 4 drivers with pick-ups or bigger SUV's or a trailer to pick-up food at North Walmart around 4 p.m. and bring it to the church.
- 5-10 people willing to meet at Trinity at 4:20 p.m. to unload the food from the vehicles and bring it downstairs on carts
- All are welcome to join our confirmation youth as we pack up the bags of food down in Fellowship Hall at 6:40 p.m. on Wednesday and get them organized into tubs.
- Drivers to deliver the tubs of food bags to the schools on Thursday morning. Food is delivered to most public schools in the Bismarck-Mandan area.

Please contact Gracia if you are able to help! Thanks.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Wednesday 9-17

10 AM - Coffee Fellowship in Community Center

5:15 PM - Meal served in Fellowship Hall

6 PM - Worship in Sanctuary

6:40 PM - Church School, Youth Group, Confirmation

Thursday 9-18

10 AM - Coffee Fellowship in Community Center

5 PM - Mental Health Task Force in Conf. Room

6:30 PM - Council in Conference Room

Friday 9-19

10 AM - Theology & Coffee in Conf. Room

Saturday 9-20

8 AM - Men's Group in Conference Room

Sunday 9-21

8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary

9:35 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall

10:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary

Tuesday 9-23

9 AM - Quilters in Quilters' Room

10 AM - Coffee Fellowship in Community Center

Wednesday 9-24

10 AM - Coffee Fellowship in Community Center

2:30 PM - Upstairs Bible Study in Room 212

5:15 PM - Meal served in Fellowship Hall

6 PM - Worship in Sanctuary

6:40 PM - Church School, Youth Group, Confirmation