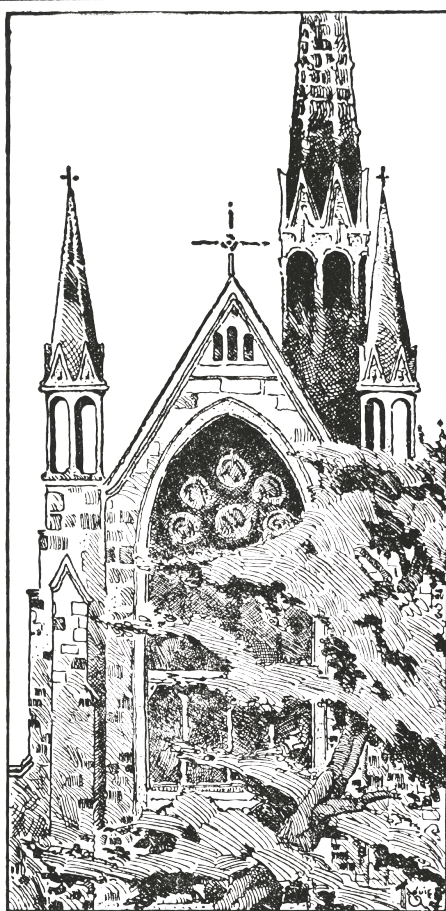


**The Evangelical
Lutheran Church Of The
Holy Trinity**
Central Park West, at 65th St., New York



The 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 27, 2026

Welcome to Holy Trinity

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the largest progressive Lutheran body in the United States. As Lutherans, we go about Christianity in a Lutheran way, emphasizing that we are reconciled with God (justified) not by anything we do, but through and because of God's love, freely given (grace). We love questions more than quick fixes (paradox), and we read the Bible in a way that honors it as the source and norm of faith, but not as a literal handbook. As Lutherans, we also lift up the gifts and capacity for ministry (vocation) that every person unquestionably holds.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation (and the first in the Metropolitan New York Synod), Holy Trinity welcomes all persons, including all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. Holy Trinity is also committed to practicing racial equity, learning anti-racism, and modeling radical hospitality and inclusion across age, class, national origin, physical and mental health and ability, family configuration, and language.

With a heart for the city, a passion for justice, and a commitment to the arts, we seek to be a place where all God's people will know they are loved. Welcome. We've been waiting for you. There is a place for you here.

Give Online

If you contribute to the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity through online giving, please pick up an "I give online" card from an usher to participate in the offering as the offering plates are passed.

Live streaming at Holy Trinity

Please be aware that worship is being live streamed on our YouTube channel. Your likeness may be captured and shared. Please alert an usher at the entrance if you have any concerns. Selections from this live stream may be used on our website and in our public relations materials.

Please note

Weapons, including firearms, knives, scissors; aerosols such as pepper spray and mace; and any hazardous materials are strictly prohibited on church property. All bags are subject to inspection upon entry into the sanctuary.

Special thanks to:

DAMON GRAY, *Worship Assistant*

JENN NELSON & SAM FAIRBROTHER, *Altar Guild*

SAM FAIRBROTHER, *Lector*

ROBIN SAMUEL & DOUGLASS SEATON, *Ushers*

TOM BARRITT, *Digital Sacristan*

JOE & CATHERINE MAGNANO, *Coffee Hour*

AUSTIN PHILEMON, *Director of Music*

THE REV'D TIMOTHY WEISMAN, *Pastor*



Gathering

Prelude—Sonata in g minor, K. 30

DOMENICO SCARLATTI

Hymn 416—"At the name of Jesus"

KING'S WESTON

Greeting

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

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



And al - so with you.

Hymn of Praise



Glo - ry to God in the high —



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son — of the



Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the



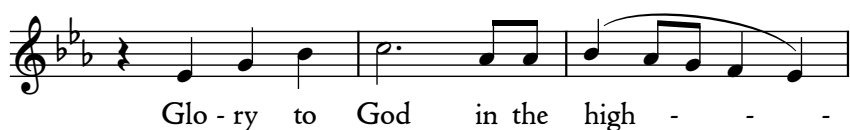
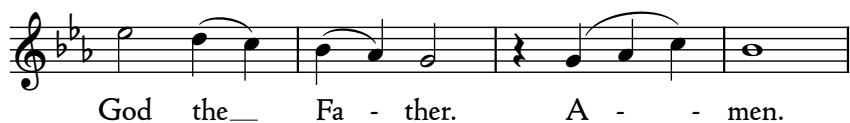
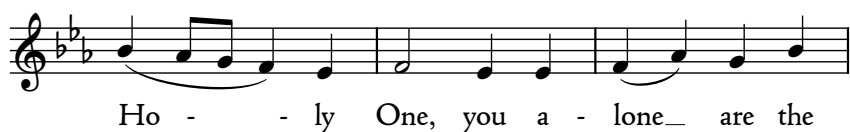
sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are



seat - ed at the right — hand of the Fa - ther, re -

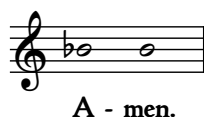


- ceive our our prayer. For you a - lone are the



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. *Silence is kept.* God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.



Word

From the Hebrew Scriptures

EZEKIEL 18:1-4, 25-32

¹ The word of the Lord came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³ As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Silence is kept.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25 *A cantor intones the first verse, then the assembly joins to sing.*



- | To you, O Lord,

I do | lift up my soul.

My God, I put my trust in you; let me | not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies | triumph over me.

Let none who look to | you be put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

Show me | your ways, O Lord,

and teach | me your paths.

Lead me in your | truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I | trusted
all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your com- | passion and love,

for they are from | everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;

remember me according to your steadfast love and for the
sake of your | goodness, O Lord.

You are gracious and | upright, O Lord;

therefore you teach | sinners in your way.

You lead the low- | ly in justice

and teach the | lowly your way.

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy,
² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Silence is kept.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.*



The choir sings: "My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them and they follow me." (JOHN 10:27)

From the Holy Gospels

MATTHEW 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

You are invited to make a small cross over your forehead, lips, and chest, inviting Jesus the Word into your heart, mind, and speech.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do

not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

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

Sermon—The Rev'd Timothy Weisman

Hymn 772—“Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways” EVAN

Apostles' Creed

4TH CENTURY

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.

Prayers of the People *The assembly remains standing to pray.*

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The assembly responds to each petition.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Prayer for racial justice

IN SPIRIT OF JAMES BALDWIN

God who sends rain on the just and the unjust, deliver us from these rhetorical games of question and answer. Deliver us from speeches, lectures, and interviews. Deliver us from the politics of this world, with its money and power, its conservatives, liberals, and independents. Instead, Lord, show us the way of commitment, and give us the courage to walk along that way. Rid us of all the things that stand in the way of your heavenly treasure. Send your Spirit to move our feet, so that when you say, "Come, follow me," that is exactly what we do, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Peace *The assembly may bow, mirroring the presider.*

JOHN 20:19

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The assembly is invited to pass the peace in whatever way is most comfortable to them. If you, for any reason, wish to avoid physical contact during the peace, please feel free to cross your arms over your chest to indicate your desire for a verbal greeting. Following the peace, the assembly sits.

Meal

In addition to giving toward the ministry of Holy Trinity as the offering plates are being passed, you can:

- Scan the QR code to the right;
- Venmo @holytrinitynyc;
- Send a Zelle to office@holytrinitynyc.org;
- Give to Holy Trinity through a Donor-advised Fund by searching for our EIN: 13-1685538.



Offertory—Schaffe in mir, Gott

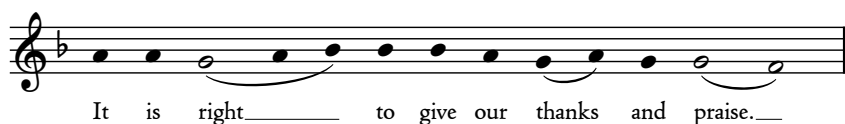
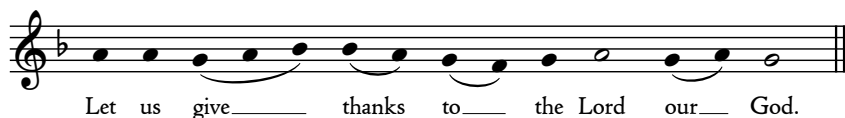
JOHANNES BRAHMS

Create a pure heart within me, O God, and grant me a new and sure spirit. Do not drive me away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me. Comfort me once again with your assistance, and sustain me with your joyful spirit.

Offertory prayer

Let us pray. *Silence is kept.* Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to render to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you, not with our lips only, but with our whole lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

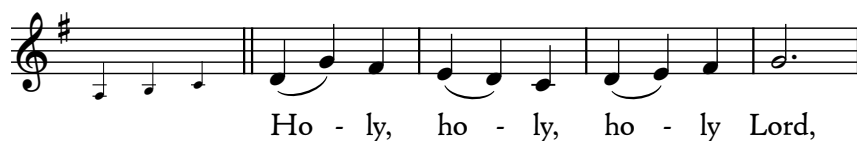
Great Thanksgiving *The assembly may bow, mirroring the presider.*

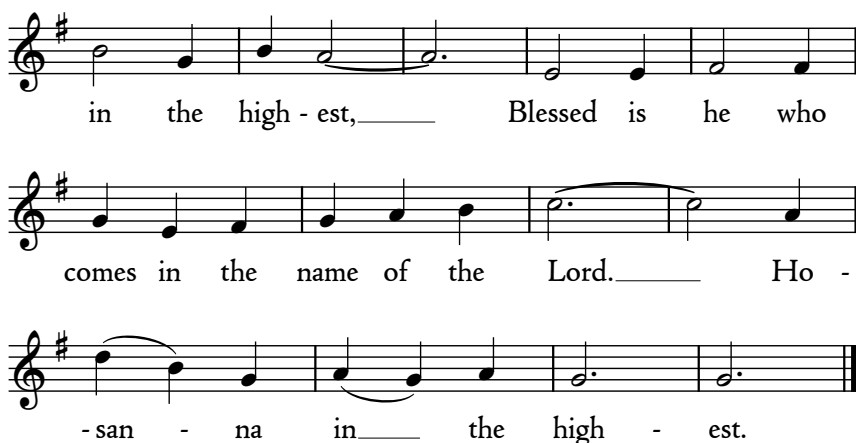


Proper Preface *The presider continues:*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you. . . and so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn. . .

Sanctus





Eucharistic prayer

We praise you, merciful God, not as we ought, but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son, in order that the world might be saved through him. He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed, and reaching out to the lost.

Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it forever. In his offering of himself, he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

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. *The assembly may bow.*

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me. *The assembly may bow.*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen! Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this cup we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in our hearts by faith. May we be filled with love and strengthened in our will to serve others, as you knit us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. And let the church say, **Amen!**

Lord's prayer



Our_ Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be_ your name,

your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as_ in heav-en.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we

for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al

and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,

and the glo - ry are yours, now and_ for - ev - er. A - men._

Invitation

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Thanks be to God!**

The assembly sits until invited forward by an usher.

All are welcome at this table. This is not a Lutheran, Episcopal, or a Roman Catholic table; it is God's table and all are invited to receive. The small cups contain either white wine or red grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are also available, just ask. After receiving, you may leave your empty cup on the small table near the side aisle. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward for a blessing, and you may indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest. You may also remain in your seat during distribution, knowing that this table is open when you are ready.

Communion music—I Himmelen, Op. 74 no. 4 EDVARD GRIEG

In Heaven, in Heaven, where God our Lord dwells, how blissful to come there, how great is that Joy. Forever and ever we will go there to see God in the Light, as he is, see the Lord of hosts.

And the wounded body, the body which when put away in the ground, shall become shimmering like pure gold. And we shall know pain no more when we see face to face the Lord God of hosts.

And the soul gets its adornment: the crown, which is called the Bridal Wreath of Justice, and the clothes of pure white. Oh God, what a desire to be close to you, to see you in the Light as you are; you, Lord of hosts.

Hymn 447—"O blessed spring"

BERGLUND

The assembly stands.

Prayer after communion

Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Sending

Final Blessing

1 THESSALONIANS 5

Go out into the world in peace. Have courage. Hold onto what is good. Return no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted. Support the weak. Help the suffering. Honor everyone. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. And may the blessing of almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn 551—"The spirit sends us forth to serve" CHESTERFIELD

Dismissal

The Mass is ended.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly sits for the postlude.

Postlude—Sonata in B-flat Major, K. 42 DOMENICO SCARLATTI

TRINITY TIDINGS

Prayers

Please remember in your prayers:

DOROTHY BARRITT
STEPHEN SHEA
BONNIE MINGER
JOHN AND JOE K.
DICK BAUMANN
RAPHAEL RUIZ
DEAN WEISMAN
THORVALD SLATER
MIKE RODRIGUEZ
BARBARA TAYLOR
CAROL HARNETT
KATHY VANBLARCUM
PAUL SCHMIDT
RUTH FARRELL
LOUISE PRINTZ
MARILYN JOHNSON
JEREMY LEE
NICK COSMILLO
AMY CLARE WHITAKER
ALICE SANGERMANO
MARTA OKLAND
REV. JUANITA HILLSENBECK
THE REV. PAUL SCHMIEGE
HOWARD NELSON
JOE CHAPPEL
JEFFREY RICHARDS
MAICAH DELCID
ANN BRENNAN

*If you would like to give altar flowers in memory
or celebration of a loved one, email
robby@holytrinitynyc.org*

Welcome

If you are new to Holy Trinity, we are glad you're here. Whether you've worshiped at Holy Trinity a thousand times or are here today for the first time, there will always be a place for you here.

Restrooms are located on the lower level.

Please follow safe church practices while visiting Holy Trinity. Parents and guardians, please do not allow children to go anywhere in the building unattended. Thank you for your help in keeping Holy Trinity a safe place for all people.

After Mass, please join us for Coffee Hour in the Community Room located on the lower level.

Find news and announcements in our e-newsletter here 



Reach out to Pastor Tim to let him know you're here today:
pastortim@holytrinitynyc.org.