

SUMMER STORIES



LESSONS YOU
LEARNED AS A KID



Samson and Delilah:
True Strength is Found in God

Saturday, August 24, 2024

Sunday, August 25, 2024



Trinity Lutheran Church

213 North Pennsylvania Ave. | Mason City, Iowa 50401 | 641-423-0536 | www.trinity-mc.org

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 24, 2024

5:00 p.m.

August 25, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Livestream Worship Service/KCMR 97.9

SUMMER STORIES

LESSONS YOU LEARNED AS A KID

Even if we don't remember it, most of us recognize that we saw the world and people differently when we were young. We learned lessons that continue to shape us as adults. This eight-week series looks at familiar Sunday School stories and the truths that persist – or have changed – as we've grown older.

*This weekend we revisit the story of **Samson and Delilah** and the idea that **True Strength is Found in God.***

Welcome to Trinity! We are glad you're here. If you are new to Trinity Lutheran, please complete an informational card which can be found in the pews.

We love having small children in worship! Those needing a space to change or feed little ones are welcome to use the **Child Care Room** located next to the nursery. An **unstaffed nursery** is also available, located on the 2nd floor just outside the north sanctuary door (door under the stained glass window door).

Handicapped Seating is reserved in the pew located in front of the Technical booth.

Large print bulletins and listening devices are available from the ushers.

Activity Bags are available for children during worship. They are located in the narthex and at the front of the church. Please return them at the end of services.

Serving in Worship This Weekend

Pastor Rev. Dan Gerriettes
Rev. Beverly Butler

Organist Teresa Jacobson

Cantor Grace Swisher

Greeters Ray and Betty Gogel

Coffee Fellowship
Mark LeDuc
Mindy and Tracy Farland

Scripture Reader
5:00 p.m. Sally Becker
10:30 a.m. Matt Hansen

Technical Support
10:30 a.m. Lucas and Colleen Frein
Henry Hansen

Ushers
5:00 p.m. Su Oertel, Derek Schlitter
10:30 a.m. Krystal and Daryl Erickson

Building Host
Randy Elsbernd

Our Mission *We are called to share God's healing love through Christ's forgiveness and our personal servanthood.*

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

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

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

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God, our provider,

C 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.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

Share with us the words of eternal life

and feed us for life in the world.

Amen.

P 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.

C Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

Lead on O King Eternal

ELW 805

***Greeting**

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

C **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day**

P 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 find our strength in you,
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

Children's Sermon (10:30am)

Reading: Judges 16:4-30

L After this [Samson] fell in love with a woman in the valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah. ⁵The lords of the Philistines came to her and said to her, "Coax him, and find out what makes his strength so great and how we may overpower him, so that we may bind him in order to subdue him, and we will each give you eleven hundred pieces of silver." ⁶ So Delilah said to Samson, "Please tell me what makes your strength so great and how you could be bound, so that one could subdue you." ⁷ Samson said to her, "If they bind me with seven fresh bowstrings that are not dried out, then I shall become weak and be like anyone else." ⁸ Then the lords of the Philistines brought her seven fresh bowstrings that had not dried out, and she bound him with them. ⁹ While men were lying in wait in an inner chamber, she said to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" But he snapped the bowstrings as a strand of fiber snaps when it touches the fire. So the secret of his strength was not known.

¹⁰ Then Delilah said to Samson, "You have mocked me and told me lies; please tell me how you could be bound." ¹¹ He said to her, "If they bind me with new ropes that have not been used, then I shall become weak and be like anyone else." ¹² So Delilah took new ropes and bound him with them and said to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" (The men lying in wait were in an inner chamber.) But he snapped the ropes off his arms like a thread.

¹³ Then Delilah said to Samson, "Until now you have mocked me and told me lies; tell me how you could be bound." He said to her, "If you weave the seven locks of my head with the web and make it tight with the pin, then I shall become weak and be like anyone else." ¹⁴ So while he slept, Delilah took the seven locks of his head and wove them into the web and made them tight with the pin. Then she said to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" But he awoke from his sleep and pulled away the pin, the loom, and the web.

¹⁵ Then she said to him, “How can you say, ‘I love you,’ when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me three times now and have not told me what makes your strength so great.” ¹⁶ Finally, after she had nagged him with her words day after day and pestered him, he was tired to death. ¹⁷ So he told her his whole secret and said to her, “A razor has never come upon my head, for I have been a nazirite to God from my mother’s womb. If my head were shaved, then my strength would leave me; I would become weak and be like anyone else.”

¹⁸ When Delilah realized that he had told her his whole secret, she sent and called the lords of the Philistines, saying, “This time come up, for he has told his whole secret to me.” Then the lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought the money in their hands. ¹⁹ She let him fall asleep on her lap, and she called a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head. He began to weaken, and his strength left him. ²⁰ Then she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” When he awoke from his sleep, he thought, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the LORD had left him. ²¹ So the Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes. They brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze shackles, and he ground at the mill in the prison. ²² But the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

²³ Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to their god Dagon and to rejoice, for they said, “Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand.” ²⁴ When the people saw him, they praised their god, for they said, “Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us.” ²⁵ And when their hearts were merry, they said, “Call Samson, and let him entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he performed for them. They made him stand between the pillars, ²⁶ and Samson said to the attendant who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, so that I may lean against them.” ²⁷ Now the house was full of men and women; all the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about three thousand men and women who looked on while Samson performed.

²⁸ Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “Lord GOD, remember me and strengthen me only this once, O God, so that with this one act of revenge I may pay back the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹ And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. ³⁰ Then Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” He strained with all his might, and the house fell on the lords and all the people who were in it. So those he killed at his death were more than those he had killed during his life.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW pg 124

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the fifteenth chapter.

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

*Gospel: John 15:4-5

P [Jesus said:] Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon - *True Strength is Found in God*

Pastor Dan Gerrietts

Hymn of the Day

Blessed Assurance

ELW 638

*Apostles' Creed

C 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 Intercession**

P Merciful God,
C receive our prayer.

***Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you.

Announcements

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Text to Give is available at Trinity!
Simply text the amount you wish to give to 833-412-0093.
Or scan the QR code with your smartphone.
Please note where your gifts should be directed towards.



Offertory

“Spinning Song”
Aden Swisher, Piano Solo

Albert Elmenreich

***Offertory**

Praise and Thanksgiving
Praise and thanksgiving, God we would offer
for all things living, you have made good;
harvest of sown field, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood

ELW 689

***Offering Prayer**

P God of abundance: you have blessed us in so many ways.
As we live in your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field,
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.
C Amen.

***Lord's Prayer**

C 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.

SENDING

*** Blessing**

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

C Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Soon and Very Soon

ELW 439

***Sending**

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

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in given in *honor of Harold and Carol Cary* who are celebrating their 61st Wedding Anniversary which was on August 23rd.

The **bulletin cover art** is given in *honor of Rich and Joan Murray* who are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on August 31st.

The family of **Kent Craun** would like to thank Trinity and it's members for the love and support shown to their Dad over the years. Thank you to the Funeral Serving group, for the memorial gifts received and a special thank you to Pastor Dan.

Pastor David Anderson passed away on Thursday, August 15th. Cards may be sent to:
Louise Anderson, 23991 Beard Ave., Lakeville, MN 55044

Delmar Jacobson, former Pastor at Trinity, his son **Pastor Karl Jacobson** died on Sunday, August 18th. Cards may be sent to: Luther Seminary, 2481 Como Ave., St. Paul, MN

Pop Tab Collection

Remember we are collecting pop tabs in support of purchasing children's' wheelchairs through Shriners Hospital. The tabs are picked up weekly and your support is greatly appreciated.

Lutheran World Relief—School Supply Kits

We are collecting items for LWR School Supply Kits. Each kit contains:

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| 4 - 70 Sheet Notebooks | 5 - Standard #2 Pencil (unsharpened) | 1 - Blunt Child Scissor |
| 1 - Ruler with metric and standard guides | 1 - Rectangular eraser (about 2 inches long) | |
| 1 - Box (24 count) Crayons | 1 - Pencil Sharpener (hand held/with collection receptacle) | |
| 5 - BIC pens (black or blue ink) | | |

Monetary donations can be made to Trinity Lutheran Church with/School Care Kits in the memo line or drop off your donations to the church office. Thank you for your help with this special ministry.

T150 MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

Thanks to another Matching Gift Challenge by two generous Trinity families, we can now double all new gifts made to the T150 Capital Appeal through the end of September 2024!

That's right - if we receive \$50,000 in new cash gifts before Sept. 30, 2024 - that amount will be matched dollar for dollar! If you haven't yet donated or if you are considering an additional gift, now is the perfect time to double your contribution and help us pay down the remaining \$300,000 on the T150 loan.

Every gift helps! To make a gift, go to trinity-mc.org/T150-Matching-Gift-Challenge or simply write "**T150 Matching Gift**" on your check or envelope.

Summer Sermon Series

Even if we don't remember it, most of us recognize that we saw the world and people differently when we were young. We learned lessons that continue to shape us as adults.

Aug. 31-Sept. 1

Daniel and the Lion's Den

Living Faith, No Matter the Cost

All students and school staff are welcome to join us on September 8th for a **Backpack Blessing** during the Sunday worship services. Please bring whatever bag you take to school, a backpack, lunchbox, etc. See you then!

Confirmation for 7th and 8th graders is beginning soon!

Our first Confirmation class of the year will be Wednesday August 28 at 6:30pm for 7th graders, any new students, and their parents. This is an orientation meeting in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity. Regular weekly classes will begin for all 7th and 8th graders on Wednesday, September 11 from 6:30pm-7:45pm with the WNA meal and activities also beginning that night. At the August 28 meeting, we will go over the details and expectations of the confirmation program.

To help with planning please confirm your intention that your child begin or continue in Confirmation at Trinity. Please email Pastor Daniel at daniel.hanson@trinity-mc.org or call the church office at 641-423-0536 to confirm your child's participation and that you can attend the orientation meeting.

Bike ride on the Cedar River Greenbelt Trail

Sunday, August 25th | 2:00 PM | Trinity Parking Lot Meet Up

Join us for an afternoon bike ride on the Cedar River Greenbelt Trail near Osage, Iowa. The Cedar River Greenbelt Trail is an expansive 8-plus-mile trail that meanders alongside the beautiful Cedar River. The trail is crushed limestone/blacktop. It is a down and back trail so riders can do as many miles as they wish. Meet in the Trinity parking lot at 2:00 PM for carpooling. If you need a ride for you and/or your bike, let Becky know in advance. ***Weather permitting.***

BASES Returns *(Balance-Agility-Strength-Endurance-Socialization)*

Exercise Class returns **September 3**. This free exercise class for adults age 55 or older is coordinated by RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) and led by RSVP volunteers. BASES will meet every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8:00 - 9:00 AM. in the Gathering Space.

Global Health Ministries

The gift of a GHM Newborn Kit is a blessing for the woman who receives it, providing basic items to help her clothe and care for her child, and celebrate new life! We are asking for donations of regular-size bath towel, lightweight, approx. 50' x 26" and washcloth (no microfiber).

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, August 26

9:00 a.m. Quilt Workshop (*Fellowship Hall*)

Tuesday, August 27

9:30 a.m. Caregiver Support Group (*Rm. 300*)

Noon Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. Council Meeting (*Rm. 300*)

Wednesday, August 28

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (*Fellowship Hall*)

8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study (*Library*)

4:00 p.m. Trinity Serving at Community Kitchen

6:30 p.m. Confirmation Orientation—7th Grade (*Fellowship Hall*)

6:30 p.m. Youth Group Orientation (9-12th Grades) (*Youth Rm.*)

Thursday, August 29

6:30 p.m. Walk-A-Way Get Together

Saturday, August 31

5:00 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday, September 1

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship Service (*Courtyard*)

10:30 a.m. Indoor Worship Service

Monday, September 2

Labor Day—Office and Building Closed

Ministry Fair is Sunday, September 8th | 8:30-11:00 a.m. | Gathering Space

A morning of inspiration, connection, and fun you won't want to miss.

The Ministry Fair helps showcase and educate Trinity and community members who attend about the various ministries while giving them the opportunity to become involved by sharing their time and talents.

Celebrate the Spirit of Summer - Sunday September 1

Celebrate the spirit of summer by wearing your best, brightest or gaudiest
Hawaiian attire to outdoor worship!!

Help us fill the courtyard with color as we worship at our final outdoor service of the summer!
na ke Akua e ho'opōmaika'i aku!! (Translation—God bless you!)

Fall Worship Schedule Resumes—September 7-8, 2024

- **Saturday—5pm** Traditional Worship Service
- **Sunday—9am** Traditional Worship Service *Livestreamed and broadcasted on KCMR *Worship Transportation Offered
Sunday School from 9:15-10:15am (On Sept. 8th Sunday School will go till 10—so families can enjoy the Ministry Fair)
- **Sunday—10:30am** Contemporary Worship Service

Trinity's Pastoral Care Staff makes regular visits to Mercy One North Iowa hospital. But not everyone who is hospitalized appears on the clergy list. If you are hospitalized and wish to be visited, please contact the church office.

FLAME (9th-12th Grade Youth)

Join us on **August 28th at 6 pm** for our youth group orientation night! Parents and youth 9th-12th grade are welcome to stop in to meet the new Youth Director, pick up registration forms, calendars, and receive information about our youth trip for Summer 2025!

Trinity Trippers - Amana Colonies - Thursday, September 12

Trinity Trippers are planning a day trip to the Amana Colonies to explore shops and have a great meal at one of their restaurants! We will leave the church at 7:30 AM, but **please be to the church no later than 7:15 AM.** We'll return to Mason City by 5:00 PM. Price of attendance includes bus transportation and lunch. Attendance is limited so reserve your spot today! (Your payment reserves your spot.) Join us!

Deadline to register is September 6 Cost to attend is \$50.00 - (Please Note: this trip is non-refundable.)

Explore Mason City on Foot

Explore Mason City on Foot Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in September. Each week will be a new adventure! If you need a ride to the location from Trinity, please call the church office in advance. Walks are weather permitting.

September 4 – Sculpture Walk- Meet at Trinity East Entrance (213 North Pennsylvania Ave.)

September 11 – Highline Trail- Meet at Trinity East Entrance (213 North Pennsylvania Ave.)

September 18 – Scrip Trail/Riverhawk Trail- Meet at trailhead parking lot off of North Illinois Ave.

September 25 –Zerbles Trail- Meet at the Trailhead by the Dog Park (14th St NE)

IT IS LEFSE TIME!

Mark your calendars... it's time to make lefse for the Bazaar! **September 9 is the first lefse-making session.** Potato peeling begins at 6:00 AM, with rolling beginning at 8:30 AM and packaging at 11:30 AM. We will meet every Monday through October 28. We are looking for volunteers for lefse-making!

Join the fellowship!

Bible Study Opportunities

Each Wednesday morning Trinity offers a Bible Study based on that weekend's readings led by the preaching pastor. Men's Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall from 7-8am and Women's Bible Study meets in the Library from 8:30-9:30am.

Lydia Bible Study meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and will meet on **Wednesday, September 11 at 9:30 a.m. in Rm. 208.** We meet for treats, conversation and then continue with the Bible Study. Lydia uses the Gather Magazine for their Bible Study. All are welcome to join us.

WELCA Bible Study meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month and will meet on **Thursday, September 12 at 9:30 a.m. in Rm. 208.**

Rev. Dr. Norma Cook Everist will lead the study. This year we will study the Biblical book of Luke. We hear sermons from the Gospels every week, but rarely do we study one book all the way through continuously. Luke includes women as full participants in the gospel story. We use interactive discussion. Bring other women with you.

It's Time to Sing!

Trinity's choir is open to all vocalists, high school age and older. Choir practice will be held in the Choir Room each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. If you've ever thought of singing in the choir, now is the time to come and check us out. Bring a friend and raise your voice in song this fall! Choir will begin September 4th.

It's Time to Ring!

Have you ever wanted to play handbells? We offer two groups:

Trinity Bronze- meets Monday nights at 6:00 p.m., rings intermediate/advanced music, play at various worship services through the year. Bronze Bell Choir will begin September 9th.

Clappers & Coffee- meets Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m. (coffee first!), rings beginning music and play at various worship services through the year. Clappers will begin on September 5th.

Whatever your level of music skill, Trinity has a place for you. Send me an email for more info: kim.reisinger1@gmail.com

Wednesday Night **ALIVE**

BEGINS—Wed., September 11th

Meal is at 6:00 PM

Programming begins 6:30 PM

Book Nook at Trinity's Bazaar

The Bazaar will be here sooner than you think. It's not too early to donate any new or gently used novels, children's books and/or puzzles. Donations can be brought to the church office.