

SUMMER STORIES

LESSONS YOU
LEARNED AS A KID



Daniel and the Lion's Den:
Living Faith, No Matter the Cost

Saturday, August 31, 2024

Sunday, September 1 2024



Trinity Lutheran Church

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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 31, 2024

5:00 p.m.

September 1, 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.

Daniel and the Lion's Den: Living Faith, No Matter the Cost

What is the cost of discipleship? Supply and demand curves won't be helpful here. Daniel continues to practice his faith, even when he faces the lion's den. Hopefully we won't face a pit of hungry lions, but God does call us to say no to some things, in order to say yes to others. What sacrifices might we be called to make as we follow Jesus?

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 Gerrietts
Rev. Daniel Hanson
Rev. Beverly Butler

Organist Kim Reisinger

Cantor Cliff Rossler (5:00 p.m.)
Melissa Shallberg (10:30 a.m.)

Greeters Jane and Dan Billings

Coffee Fellowship
Kevin and Susan Hendrikson

Scripture Reader
5:00 p.m. Nina Pals
10:30 a.m. Colleen Frein

Communion Servers
5:00 p.m. Don and Nina Pals
Earl Keifer
10:30 a.m. Chuck and Marilyn Strandberg

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

Ushers
5:00 p.m. Bill Oertel, Su Oertel
10:30 a.m. Tom Birdsall, Bob VerBrugge

Custodian
Dave Smith

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,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.**

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

P God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven.

C Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

ELW 818

***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 O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures.
Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside,
and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

Reading: Daniel 6:1-23

- L ⁶ It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred twenty satraps, stationed throughout the whole kingdom, ² and over them three administrators, one of whom was Daniel; to these the satraps gave account, so that the king might suffer no loss. ³ Soon Daniel distinguished himself above the other administrators and satraps because an excellent spirit was in him, and the king planned to appoint him over the whole kingdom. ⁴ So the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for complaint against Daniel in connection with the kingdom. But they could find no grounds for complaint or any corruption, because he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption could be found in him. ⁵ The men said, “We shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God.”
⁶ So the administrators and satraps conspired and came to the king and said to him, “O King Darius, live forever! ⁷ All the administrators of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to any god or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the den of lions. ⁸ Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked.” ⁹ Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict.
¹⁰ Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously. ¹¹ Then those men watched and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. ¹² Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, “O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to any god or human, within thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the den of lions?”
The king answered, “The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.” ¹³ Then they responded to the king, “Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.”

¹⁴ When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. ¹⁵ Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.” ¹⁶ Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” ¹⁷ A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signet ring of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. ¹⁸ Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no entertainment was brought to him, and sleep fled from him. ¹⁹ Then at dawn, the king got up and at first light hurried to the den of lions. ²⁰ When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” ²¹ Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! ²² My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” ²³ Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him because he had trusted in his God.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

ELW pg 124

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first phrase: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,". The second staff contains the melody for the second phrase: "al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The lyrics are written below the notes.

- P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the sixteenth chapter.
- C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

***Gospel: Matthew 16:24-26**

P ²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon - *Living Faith, No Matter the Cost*

Pastor Daniel Hanson

Hymn of the Day

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

ELW 772

***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

MEAL

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

***Offertory**

For the Fruit of All Creation

ELW 679

*For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe keeping, thanks be to God.*

*Offering Prayer

P Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving

ELW pg. 129

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

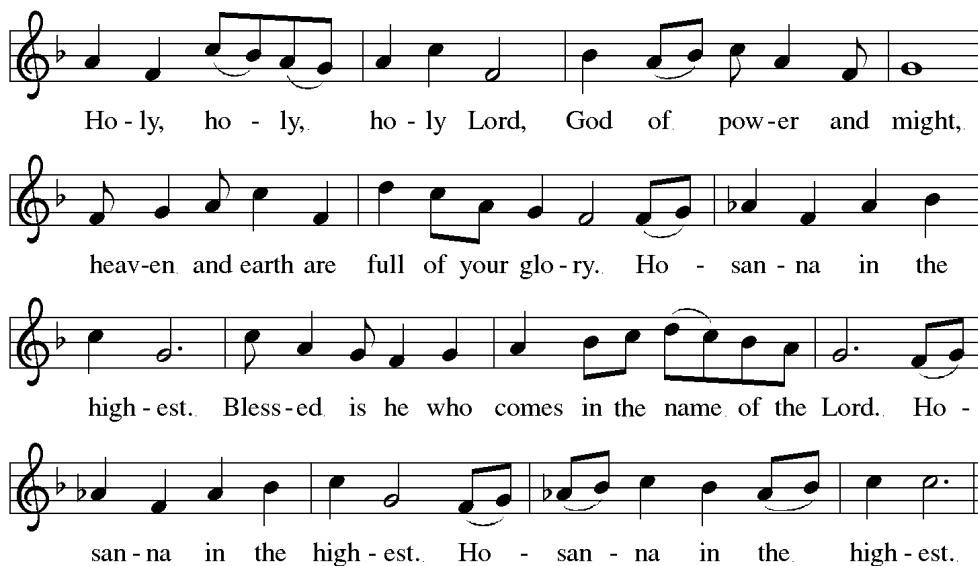
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ELW pg.130



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en 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.

*Words of Institution



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Songs

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <i>Come, Let Us Eat</i> | ELW 491 |
| <i>For the Bread Which You Have Broken</i> | ELW 494 |

***Prayer after Communion**

P Holy God,
 you have welcomed us to this meal
 and fed us with dignity at your table.
 Send us now to welcome others
 and to be at peace with one another,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 C **Amen.**

SENDING

*** Blessing**

P God all mighty,
 God most merciful
 † bless you, keep you,
 and give you peace.
 C **Amen.**

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| *Sending Hymn | <i>Take My Life, That I May Be</i> | ELW 583 |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|---------|

***Sending**

P Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
 C **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in given in *honor of Jim and Jane Ollenburg* who are celebrating their 67th Wedding Anniversary on August 31.

The **bulletin cover art** is given in *honor of Gary and Vicki Wattnem* who are celebrating their 57th Wedding Anniversary on September 2.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Carrots & Celery—Beyond the Relish Tray

Tuesday, September 10 | 1:30 PM / Kitchen - Come and learn creative uses for carrots and celery. This workshop offers hands-on participation with every step of the process- washing, preparing, and eating. Supply free is \$5.00. Space is limited so sign up today on the clipboard by the office or call the office.

Book Discussion—September 9 | 1:00 PM / Gathering Space - Join us to discuss *Grandma Gatewood's Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved The Appalachian Trail* by Ben Montgomery. Emma Gatewood as a 67 year old grand-mother became the first person to walk all 2,050 miles of the Appalachian Trail three times.

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).

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

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.

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.

Making Lefse

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, or newbies that would like to learn the process. Join the fellowship!

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.

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, September 2

Labor Day—Office and Building Closed

Tuesday, September 3

8:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (*Gathering Space*)

Noon Staff Meeting

Wednesday, September 4

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

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

9:30 a.m. Explore Mason City on Foot
Sculpture walk (Meet at Trinity East Ent.)

Thursday, September 5

8:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (*Gathering Space*)

Saturday, September 7

5:00 p.m. **Worship Service**

Sunday, September 8

8:00 a.m. Health Cabinet Mtg. (*Rm. 300*)

8:30 -11:00 a.m.

Ministry Fair (Gathering Space)

9:00 a.m. **Traditional Worship Service**

9:15-10:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. **Contemporary Worship Service**

Wednesday Night **ALIVE**

BEGINS—Wed., September 11th

Meal / 6:00 PM - Walking Tacos and dessert

Programming / 6:30 PM

- **LIFETREE CAFÉ** Lifetree Café is an hour-long, interactive video experience featuring real people's real stories, biblical insights, and plenty of time for meaningful spiritual conversations. Each week explores a different topic from everyday life. Led by Pastor Dan Gerriets and Pastor Steve Hansen.
- **TRINITY CHOIR** | Trinity's choir is open to all vocalists, high school age & older. Choir practice is held in the Choir Room.
- **KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 6** | Students will come to the 2nd floor and learn new things from talented Trinity adults with new activities each week.
- **CONFIRMATION GRADES 7-8** | Confirmation students will gather 6:30–7:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall and experience small group and large group learning as they study for their Confirmation.
- **FLAME GRADES 9-12** | High School Youth Group meets 6:30-7:45 PM in the Youth Room.
- **NURSERY** The Nursery is **UNSTAFFED** but open to preschoolers and their parents.