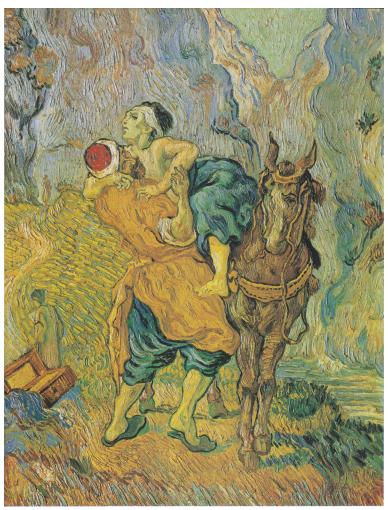


TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH READING, PENNSYLVANIA

Lectionary 15 July 13, 2025



The Good Samaritan (after Delacroix) (1890) Vincent van Gogh(1853–1890)

Van Gogh depicts the incredible and active love of the Good Samaritan–taking the sick man onto his own donkey in order to care for him. Notice how the bandage on the sick man's head mirrors the turban on the foreign Samaritan's head–pointing to the deeper truth that we are all children of God.

WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDED IN 1751

The Rev. Hans E.

Becklin
Senior Pastor

Deaconess Deborah

Matern Graf

Deacon for

Formation

AND Service

Dr. Cameron Lee Wentz Cantor

Matthew Mellen
DIRECTOR OF
TECHNOLOGY AND
COMMUNICATION

Rachel Gambone
Congregational Life
Coordinator

Peter Graf Financial Administrator

Pam Wasmuth

John McKeon Property Manager

> Dave Troche Sexton

+ + +

The Rev. Fred S.

Opalinski
PASTOR EMERITUS

Karen S. Eddinger Minister of Music Emerita



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY as we worship God through word and sacrament in this landmark building, home to our congregation since 1791. Our liturgy is rooted in tradition; all are welcome to participate as they feel comfortable.

TRINITY IS A VIBRANT CONGREGATION with members from around Berks County and beyond. If you are interested in learning more about membership, speak with a member of our staff.



DURING WORSHIP, we pray, sing, listen, chant, read, and move our bodies. Please silence your cell phone so as not to disturb this rich experience for yourself or others.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR WORSHIP is receiving the Eucharist, the true Body and Blood of Christ. All who trust that Jesus is present in this holy meal are invited to receive Him with us today. Detailed instructions for communion can be found on page 19 of the bulletin.



CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME in our worship! A changing table can be found in the all-gender restroom on the first floor. Our Meditation Room has space for nursing or a sensory break. Restrooms can be found on the first floor and are accessible by elevator. Our AED is mounted on the wall in the stairway next to the baptismal font.



WE WELCOME ALL LGBTQ+ people as full participants in our common life. We're proud to proclaim this publicly in our city and wider church as a Reconciling in Christ congregation.



Our worship is an act of offering. By being here, we present ourselves and our time to God.

WE ALSO PRESENT our tithes and monetary offerings to God. During the offertory procession, they are brought forward along with the bread and wine used for the Eucharist.

WE NO LONGER pass an offering plate in the pew. However, an offering plate for cash or checks is available in the narthex. You can also share your offering electronically using this QR code.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 A.M.

Congregational words are in bold print.

After the prelude, please stand in body or spirit and face the processional cross.

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

> Silence is kept for reflection.

PRELUDE

Prelude from Suite No. 2

Benjamin Small, saxophone

J.S. Bach

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

KYRIE

We praise God throughout this service using Setting Ten from Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

Continue to follow the processional cross, turning as it passes you.



3 Have mer-cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex alt ed thus!"
- 3 Je sus is wor thy to re-ceive hon or and pow'r di vine;
- 4 Let all cre a tion join in one to bless the sa cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one. "Wor-thy the Lamb," our lips re-ply, "for he was slain for us!" and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine. of God who sits up-on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

This prayer relates
to the readings
appointed for the day
and asks for God's
help in applying them
to our lives.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our

hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING

The Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

"Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven,

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

The psalm is read responsively.

The regular text is read by the lector and the north (font) side.

The **bold text** is read by the south (floor piano) side.

PSALM

Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O Lord,

I 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 compassion 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 lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

TEACHING TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand in body or spirit to welcome the Gospel.



Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



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. GOSPEL Luke 10:25-37

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Pastor Fred Opalinski

HYMN OF THE DAY

Spirit, Open My Heart

ACS 1043



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME Irish Melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

> Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press

Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak Together, we confess the faith of the Church.

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.

After a brief silence each petition concludes:

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God, Your mercy is great.

After the final petition:

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Please greet one another and then be seated.

PEACE

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

The offering, bread, and wine are brought forward and the altar is set.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

For the Beauty of the Earth

Kocher & Brackett arr. Rebecca Belliston

Jacinda Motley, soprano Joshua Motley, tenor

Please stand in body or spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In Immediate Need

- Peg Coleman
- David Unruh
- Raymond Donald Diesinger (Donnie)
- Nancy Nagle
- ymond Donald Nancy I

Ongoing Needs

- Harry Feinauer
- Linda Motley
- Darryl Jeffries
- Nancy Souders-
- Negri & Fred Negri
 - Walter Schur
- the Sawyer family
- Yadar (friend of Pat McMahon)
- Cathy Kirckoff (sister of Pat McMahon)

- Hildegard Pohl (sister of Amy
 - Barrett)
- Susan Templin (cousing of Robin
 - Oberholtzer)
 Nancy Zweig
 - Dar Unger
- Noah Kaufmann (friend of Pr. Hans)
- David Strobel

TRINITY HOUSEHOLDS

- Daniel & Ellen Huvett
- Irwin

 Marian Jameson
- Bruce & Bernadette Ilgen
- Darryl Jeffries

Kirsten & Guy

The presider greets the assembly and invites all to give thanks.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

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, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

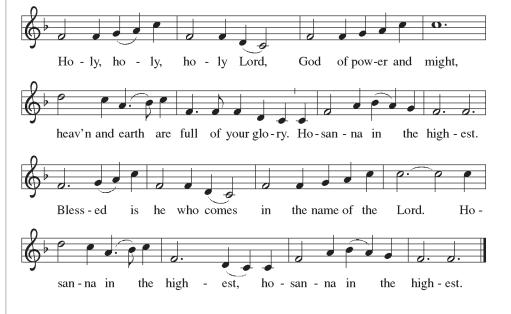
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father...

During the Words of Institution, the bread and wine are elevated for the congregation to revere and adore Christ's presence in our midst.

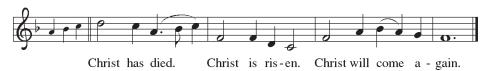
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup... to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit... and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants... all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Silence is kept as the bread is broken.

Please be seated.

Detailed instructions for communion can be found on page 19.

Invitation to Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Lamb of God





you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray. e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Music during Distribution

O Bread of Heaven

César Franck arr. Susan Palo Cherwien

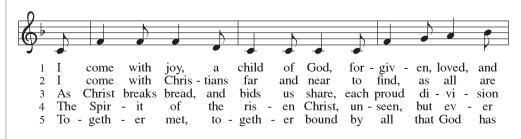
Jacinda Motley, soprano

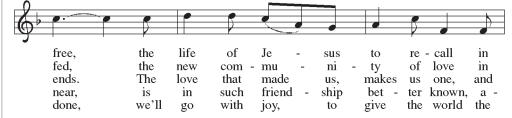
I Come With Joy

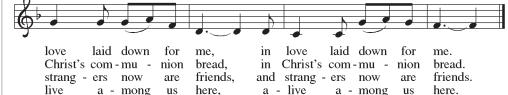
love

that makes

ELW 482







the love

that makes

one.

one,

Text:Brian Wren, b. 1936

Music:DOVE OF PEACE W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company Please stand in body or spirit.

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

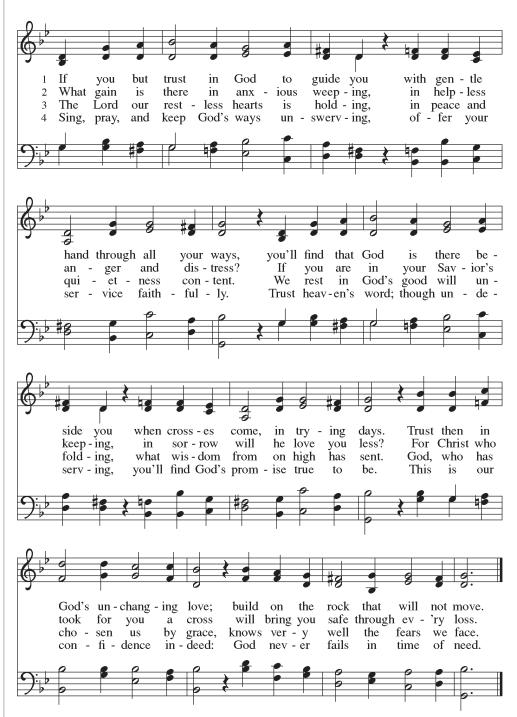
Amen.

As a sign of God's blessing, you may make the sign of the cross.

BLESSING

Amen.

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. If You But Trust in God to Guide You



Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite

> Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT Georg Neumark

> > Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Mvt. II from Saxophone Sonata

Paul Creston

Benjamin Small, saxophone

Communion Instructions



All who trust that Jesus Christ is present in this holy meal are invited to receive communion.

Please follow the direction of the usher; if your pew is located on one of the side aisles, walk to the rear of the sanctuary. Two lines will form in the center aisle. The left line will commune at the left side of the altar rail; the right line will commune on the right side.



When you reach the front of the sanctuary, there are serving trays located on the tables. Please choose either an empty glass to receive wine, or, if you prefer, a prefilled glass in the center ring containing grape juice. After taking your cup, proceed to the rail. Fill in around the rail from the center to the ends. You may stand or kneel as is your preference.

The pastor will give you a piece of bread; eat it when you receive it. If you prefer a gluten free alternative, please inform the pastor.



Then, an assistant will come to offer wine from a pouring chalice. Please extend your glass to be filled with wine or indicate that you have grape juice. After drinking the wine or juice, you are welcome to remain in place for a moment of meditation.

After you finish your time of reflection, please return to your pew, depositing your empty glass in the trays located on the tables at the head of the side aisles.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Cantor
Lector
Communion Assistant
ACOLYTE
Greeter

Pr. Fred Opalinski Donna Osborne Dr. Cameron Lee Wentz Virginia Biniek Stephen Welz Abbie Smith Erica Hofmann USHERS Allison Kallbach
MEDIA TEAM Jacinda Motley, Amy Bornhofen,
Anna Litvinov, Jennifer Smith
Altar Guild Jacinda, Josh, & Linda Motley, Charlie

Norton, Robin Oberholtzer, Berni Ilgen, Beth Welz Worship Planners Fred Opalinski

Worship Sponsors

These offerings help to defray the cost of altar flowers and the television broadcast.

NANCY REHR
In loving memory of her husband, Bruce

SUNDAY, JULY 13

10:00 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP - Nave

11:15 AM

Coffee & Conversation - Hintz Room Fellowship Committee - Welcome Center

2:00 PM

COMMON GROUND WORSHIP AND MEAL

3:00 рм

YOUTH SUMMER SPLASH - The Rosenbaums

Monday, July 14

1:00 рм

PROGRAM STAFF MEETING

Tuesday, July 15

9:30 AM

STAFE MEETING

Thursday, July 17

1:00 PM

LEARNING MINISTRIES COMMITTEE Bard House

4:00 рм

PROPERTY COMMITTEE - Bard House

GUEST MUSICIAN

This Week's special music is provided by Ben Small, and Jacinda & Josh Motley. Next week's special music will feature David Himes.

Benjamin Small, a Reading native, is a rising junior at the Eastman School of Music where he majors in Classical Saxophone Performance & Music Theory.

Jacinda Motley is a sophomore at Exeter Sr. High School and enjoys running, theatre, and singing with her sister and father at church. Joshua Motley does NOT enjoy running, but does enjoy theatre and singing with both his daughters at church.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

10:00 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP - Nave

11:15 AM

COFFEE & CONVERSATION - Hintz Room BERKS PRIDE FEST - Jim Dietrich Park

2:00 рм

COMMON GROUND WORSHIP AND MEAL

STEEPLE NOTES

Steeple Notes is our bi-monthly news publication which includes news about our church community, updates on ministries and outreach programs, and articles that foster spiritual growth and connection.

Print editions are usually available in the Narthex. You may also read our digital edition by scanning this QR code.

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WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, July 6: 72

Donate to Lutheran Disaster Response

With your help, Lutheran Disaster Response will support people affected by the catastrophic flooding in Texas and any other disasters that may strike this season.