



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
www.trinitylutheran.ca

July 6, 2025
4th Sunday after Pentecost

Announcements

Juice boxes are still needed at Street Help Shelter. The Welcome Centre Shelter for Women needs granola bars, fruit rollup-type items and another snack item for snack packs for children at the centre. Please leave donated items on the table in the Narthex.

New socks are being collected for the Downtown Mission on an on-going basis. Bring them to a Sunday service or call the office to arrange a drop-off.

Coming Up

Wednesday Café continues on Wednesday. Come have coffee with the pastor and anyone else who happens by. Coffee, tea and juice will be available during these times of fellowship and conversation. The Café takes place from 10-11:30 a.m. in front of the main entrance (or in the Narthex if it's raining). The café is planned to run for the summer, but if successful it could be offered year-round. Come, have a chat and a nosh.

Also Happening

July 12 – Clothing Giveaway, 10 a.m – 2 p.m.

We Remember in our Prayers

In Residence: Cordelle

Members: Bunny, Donna, Ed, Joan, Susan, Connie, Brenda

Friends & Family: Anna, Asdis, Dot, Jean, Ken, Randy, Roger, Rose, Jeff

Introduction to the day

God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.

Hymns

ACS #993 God is here today

ELW # 663 Spread, oh, spread almighty
word

ELW #379 Lord, you give the great
commission

ELW # 547 Sent forth by God's blessing

Prayer of the day

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus,
you are the city that shelters us, the
mother who comforts us. With your Spirit
accompany us on our life's journey, that
we may spread your peace in all the
world, through your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Lord.

AMEN

First reading Isaiah 66:10-14

¹⁰ Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad
for her,

all you who love her;
rejoice with her in joy,
all you who mourn over her—

¹¹ that you may nurse and be satisfied
from her consoling breast,
that you may drink deeply with delight
from her glorious bosom.

¹² For thus says the Lord:
I will extend prosperity to her like a
river
and the wealth of the nations like an



overflowing stream,
and you shall nurse and be carried on
her arm

and bounced on her knees.

¹³ As a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in
Jerusalem.

¹⁴ You shall see, and your heart shall
rejoice;

your bodies shall flourish like the
grass,

and it shall be known that the power
of the Lord is with his servants,

and his indignation is against his
enemies.

Psalm: 66:1-9

¹ Be joyful in God, ¹ all you lands;
be joyful, ¹ all the earth.

² **Sing the glory ¹ of God's name;
sing the glory ¹ of God's praise.**

³ Say to God, "How awesome ¹ are

your deeds!

Because of your great strength your enemies ^l cringe before you.

⁴ **All the earth bows ^l down before you,**
sings to you, sings ^l out your name.”

⁵ Come now and see the ^l works of God,

how awesome are God’s deeds ^l toward all people.

⁶ **God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the wa- ^l ter on foot,**

and there we re- ^l joiced in God.

⁷ Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch o- ^l ver the nations;

let no rebels ex- ^l alt themselves.

⁸ **Bless our ^l God, you peoples; let the sound of ^l praise be heard.**

⁹ Our God has kept us a- ^l mong the living

and has not allowed our ^l feet to slip.

Second reading: Galatians 6: 7-16

⁷ Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸ If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.



¹¹ See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴ May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶ As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Gospel: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask

the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶ And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

¹⁶ "Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" ¹⁸ He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹ Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Sermon

Hospitable interruption

Two women arrived in the church a couple of minutes apart.

They stood in the narthex in front of the doors to the sanctuary. One was nearing 70 and the other woman was in her late 30s or early 40s.

The older of the two was dressed in her Sunday best ... because that was how it was when she was a child and a teenager ... the last time she had been to a Sunday service.

The younger woman wore a long, black duster-style jacket over her jeans and white shirt. Her style and demeanour made some question her sexual orientation.

As they stood there, a greeter approached the older of the two ... then an usher came over.

There were introductions made ... a bulletin offered ... then the usher brought the older woman to a pew where members of the usher's family were seated and invited the woman to join them.

During the service, the usher sat on the other side of the woman.

You see ... the majority of the congregation were seniors and this woman seemed a better ... a comfortable fit ... for the members.

The younger woman?

She remained at the entrance to the sanctuary ... seemingly ignored by the

greeter and usher. People moved around her, but no one spoke to her ... no one offered a bulletin or introduction ... until someone looked back from the pews ... saw the stranger ... got up and came over.

Carla ... it turns out ... was the niece of a long-time member and was visiting when they decided to come to the service. She was waiting for her aunt ... who always seemed to be running late.

Ironically, the aunt told Carla what a welcoming and affirming congregation it was. The person kept her company ... heard some of her story about life in Ottawa ... while they waited for her aunt to arrive.

When she did, they all sat together. The older woman never came back to the church, Carla ... though ... was good for a visit whenever she was in town.

This is a true story ... just in case you're wondering.

Such incidents occur at churches more frequently than we'd like to admit. It's known as self-selection ... when people decide who to interact with based on who appears to be like-minded or falls into the same social group.

Luke shares a story of hospitality this morning.

We hear how Jesus sends 72 of his followers out across the countryside.

They are to pair off ... and journey to towns and villages along the way. The disciples are instructed not to carry anything with them ... no purse ... no

bag ... no sandals. They are to ignore anyone they meet along the road.

They are not to self-select ... deciding ahead of time who is most likely offer them welcome.

They are to offer a greeting of peace in whatever homes they enter. If it's accepted, then the host will know peace ... if not, then the peace returns to the disciples.

The disciples are to accept the hospitality of their hosts and not hop from house to house looking for the best deal ... better food and accommodations.

Even when they protest rejections from towns and villages, the disciples are still to proclaim that "the Kingdom of God has come near."

Luke's lesson is for both for hosts and for those seeking to share the peace that comes through God's love ... through the gift of grace we seek to share with all we encounter.

Through the persons of the homeowners ... the story encourages people to be open ... and hospitable to strangers who arrive in their lives ... to be open to hearing their stories ... to be open to new relationships ... because through such openness peace becomes known.

The peace that marks the Kingdom of God.

This isn't just a simple sense of calmness ... this peace is anchored in our confidence in God's abiding presence in our lives ... a presence that we are to bear witness to ... sharing it

through our words and our actions ... sharing with those we invite into our lives.

It is a peace that heals.

Jesus doesn't give the 72 time to prepare ... there are no needs assessments ... no community roundtables to find out if the towns ... villages ... or homes are open to hearing or experiencing God's promise.

The disciples only have each other while they are on the road ... and the pairs must rely on the hospitality of those whose homes they visit.

By instructing the disciples to leave everything behind and travelling with no possessions ... even food ... Jesus places the disciples in a vulnerable position.

They are totally dependent on others welcoming them into their homes and lives. A welcoming event that brings peace to both host and disciples who are likely a little worried about food, water and shelter as they travel through the region.

Jesus makes it clear to the disciples that God remains close even to those who are unwilling to welcome them or embrace the message of peace that they carry with them.

The disciples can protest against inhospitable acts by wiping off the dust from their feet, but Jesus' message of love won't crack open hardened uninviting hearts.

Wiping away the dust means the disciples won't carry the sense of rejection ... or become hesitant as they

try to figure out what they could have done differently to get better results.

Instead, Jesus encourages them to move on and make the same proclamations ... "Peace to this house" ... and ... "the Kingdom of God has come near."

When I read Luke's story about Jesus' sending out of the disciples, I wonder how close Carla came to shaking off the dust and wiping her feet as she was being ignored by the greeter ... the ushers ... and most of the congregation that Sunday morning a few years ago.

But the one person's act of welcome changed things.

When the pairs return to Jesus, they joyous proclaim their success stories of healing people of their demons. Peace came into those lives.

Jesus tells the disciples' that they are rejoicing the wrong thing ... they should be rejoicing that God knows their names ... reminding them that what is important is what God has done and continues to do in the world ... in and through them ... in and through each of us here this morning.

Many congregations across Canada, ... fearfully look at their present and a future through the lens of scarcity ... a future they are sure includes closed doors.

Fear ... then ... is the wolf that circles modern-day disciples.

Fear keeps the stranger outside ... or chills the reception inside. Fear makes people cautious or self-absorbed.

Fear keeps ministry from happening.
Fear makes proclaiming God's unconditional love ... God's grace ... sound inauthentic.

Fear ... suspicion ... uncertainty ... even shame ... are that baggage that disciples cannot carry with them. It makes peace impossible.

If we are fearful, let us wipe that from our feet and cleanse it from our hearts so that we can realize and share the abundance that God offers each of us.

As we go forth from this place, we are invited to consider if we are peace-bearers to all we meet. Do we allow grace to bring peace into our lives ... allowing us to bring peace to the lives of others?

Do we allow this peace to inform and shape our sense of hospitality ... of welcoming and inclusion ... of seeing ... hearing ... embracing ... those whose stories differ from our own? Are we radically hospitable to all we meet?

This radical welcoming ... the sense of peace through God's love ... carries outward ... it recalibrates the lives of others and of the church. The message originally carried out by the 72, then gets carried out by all whom showed hospitality.

Like the disciples ... we should interrupt the flow of ordinary life and its expectations ... to heal ... to love ... to advocate for justice ... to offer heart-felt peace ... anchored in the knowledge that the Kingdom of God has come near.

May peace fill our hearts ... may peace mark our lives ... because God welcomes all ... and so should we.

AMEN

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

Blessing

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favour and give you + peace.

AMEN

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCE PROGRAM**

AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize *Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*, 1215 Parent Avenue, Windsor, ON N8X 4J1, to cause a cheque to be drawn on my account, each month as a contribution by me to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, as follows:

Total *monthly* contributions to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of:

(\$ _____ .00) per month

Distributed as follows:

Current Giving/Benevolence	\$ _____	per month
Global Hunger and Development Agency (GHDA)	\$ _____	per month
Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)	\$ _____	per month
ELCIC World Missions/Volunteers in Mission	\$ _____	per month
Specify _____	\$ _____	per month
Specify _____	\$ _____	per month
Specify _____	\$ _____	per month
Total Monthly Giving:	\$ _____	per month

Contributor's name _____ Envelope # _____

Bank/Trust/Credit Union Name _____

Branch Address: _____

Account Number _____ Type of Account _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

This authority may be changed or cancelled by the contributor at any time.

To ensure accuracy, a sample cheque marked "VOID" must accompany this form.

The transfer of contributions to the ministry of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church will begin in the month *following* receipt of this authorization.