



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
www.trinitylutheran.ca

July 20, 2025
6th 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.

Once again, we are considering ordering Trinity T-Shirts that will have the Pride flag on the back. The shirts are available in Yellow, Orange and Green. The cost is \$20 for S, M, L and XL; \$22 for XXL. We have to place any order by Wednesday, July 23. So, please email your order to the church office by 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 22.

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

August 8 – 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

Perhaps the church, at its best, is “all ears.” God urges the faithful, again and again, to “listen up!”—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

Hymns

ACS # 993 God is here today

ELW # 793 Be thou my vision

ELW # 658 O Jesus, joy of loving hearts

ELW # 416 At the name of Jesus

Prayer of the day

Eternal God,
you draw near to us in Christ, and you
make yourself our guest. Amid the cares
of our lives, make us attentive to your
presence, that we may treasure your
word above all else, through Jesus
Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

AMEN

First reading Genesis 18:1-10a

¹ The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah



and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a} Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

Psalm: 15

¹ Lord, who may dwell in
your ^l tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your ^l holy
hill?

² **Those who lead a blameless life
and do ^l what is right,
who speak the truth ^l from their
heart; R**

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil ¹ to their friends; they do not cast discredit up- ¹ on a neighbor.

⁴ In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who ¹ fear the Lord.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take ¹ back their word.

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- ¹ gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be ¹ overthrown.

Second reading: Colossians 1:15-28

¹⁵ [Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly

body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, ²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Gospel: Luke 10: 38-42

³⁸ Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by



her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me.”⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things,⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

Sermon

Do or Be

A couple of weeks ago, we heard Jesus send 70 pairs of followers out into the countryside to prepare for his arrival.

They were to find homes where hospitality was shown. If a home or a community was not welcoming ... if they were not open to Jesus’ arrival ... then they were to wipe the dirt from their feet

as a protest against any lack of hospitality.

Last week, we heard the story of the Samaritan who showed compassion and abundant love and care for the man who had been beaten and robbed on the road between Jerusalem and Jericho.

It was a story where the Samaritan’s attentive care for another modeled how Jesus calls others to love their neighbours.

Jesus instructed listeners to go and do likewise.

This week, Jesus and the disciples are in a home that shows the full measure of hospitality ... of openness ... to receiving guests ... and loving neighbours.

Martha welcomes Jesus and the disciples into the home and shows abundant care while they are there.

As hostess, she has an obligation to the guests. Martha has to see to their comfort ... to make sure the meals are prepared and served ... that their needs are addressed. Duties that keep her hopping and feeling a bit overwhelmed.

Martha looks at Jesus and the disciples, but all she can see is her sister ... Mary ... sitting at his feet ... hanging on his every word.

“I’m doing everything,” you can imagine Martha grumbling to herself. “She just sits there like a lump.”

Martha asks Jesus to tell Mary to help with the care of the guests in the house.

Jesus ... instead ... tells Martha that she is distracted ... and concerned with the wrong things.

Only one thing is needed, Jesus tells her.

The story ends with Jesus telling Martha that Mary has chosen the better part.

Martha is the one who does, while Mary is the one who just wants “to be” ... to be in the moment and experience the divine nature that has appeared on their doorstep.

Even though both sisters are mentioned, this is really Martha’s story.

It is a story about her acts of hospitality ... Luke lifts up Martha’s welcoming actions for listeners to appreciate and follow.

Mary doesn’t say a word ... she doesn’t move to help. This pulls Martha and her pleas to the heart of this story.

Martha represents an active faith, while Mary represents a contemplative faith.

Neither is a wrong approach and it would be wrong to place one sister above the other as they practice their faith in different ways.

When Martha asks Jesus to why he doesn’t care that Mary isn’t pitching in with the kitchen work and serving the guests in the house, Jesus answers that Martha needs to stop being distracted.

Some hear this story and place Martha in the wrong light ... that she is too busy to recognize and appreciate the divine in her presence. That Mary is

following Jesus the right way ... sitting at his feet ... taking in all the teachings that he offers ... because that is where attention needs to be placed.

Some see Mary in the wrong ... letting her sister do all the work while she just sits there and says nothing ... asks nothing ... does nothing to serve others.

Mary does break cultural expectations by not helping and sitting at Jesus’ feet. It is something Jesus would encourage since he sets people free to love others and love God ... free to bring the kingdom near.

Both women are doing good things ... there are ... as one pastor puts it ... “no villain in this story.”¹

Martha and Mary are ... like congregations ... two sides of the discipleship coin. One side a “be-er” and the other side a “do-er.”

If we look at congregations as a household ... there are Martha’s and Mary’s everywhere.

Where would we be without the Martha’s among us?

We would have no liturgy ... no voices leading us in song ... no bread for the eucharist ... no place in which to worship ... if it wasn’t for the Marthas around us who show their love in service to us and ... through us ... to the Lord.

There are some people whose focus is on outreach and ministering to others ... stocking and working food pantries ...

¹ Jennifer S. Wyant, Working Preacher, Commentary on Luke 10: 38-42

taking food and supplies to local shelters ... staffing warming centres in the cold of winter.

There are some who welcome all through the doors ... ensuring that they have what they need to participate ... to feel loved ... and embraced by the household. Allowing them to be ... so that ... perhaps ... they become moved "to do."

There those who desire to simply "be" in the moment.

Those who study the Bible until the pages are dog-eared ... marked with notes and highlights ... with tabs marking pages that hold importance to them ... who seek to deepen their sense of the divine ... who worship with both joy and reverence. They seek to better experience the love that comes to each of us through faith.

To just be in the love.

We can hear Jesus' words to Martha ... that she is distracted by many things ... and take it to mean the tasks she has undertaken in her desire to be hospitable are keeping her from joining Mary at his feet ... embracing the word ... embracing the divine in their presence.

They argue that the busy-ness of congregational life ... or of life, in general, ... keeps a person from seeing the divine in the world. It keeps them from experiencing God's love fully and deeply.

Jesus never says what Martha is doing is wrong ... Jesus never tells Mary to get off her butt and get into the kitchen and pitch in.

To Luke, welcoming is the true act of a disciple and Martha is doing the right thing.

I think the distraction that Martha experiences are the feelings of resentment toward her sister for not helping in the acts of hospitality that are the obligation of the home's host.

Martha is focused on Mary's actions ... or lack thereof ... on her shortcomings instead of on experiencing Jesus ... a relationship that Martha marks with her welcoming acts.

The sense of resentment ... the sense of carrying the load alone ... infects her relationship with her sister and with Jesus.

This distraction keeps her from recognizing or experiencing the joy of the moment ... the joy that come from experiencing the love that is in midst of the gathering.

It is this misorientation of her heart that distracts her and earns Jesus' gentle rebuke.

The do-ers among us can also feel overwhelmed and under-appreciated from time to time ... so much so that they could miss witnessing the love that marks life ... that is realized through their service to others.

There are both Marthas and Marys in every congregation ... both are needed if a congregation is to have life and live into the promise of the gospel. If grace is to be felt and shared ... both those who "do" and those who "be" have roles to fulfill.

Both Martha and Mary acknowledge their sense of discipleship in ways that

are most natural to each of them ... for Mary it's to sit and receive and for Martha it's to give of herself.

And that is of the way of grace ... you cannot receive grace if you cannot give it and you can never fully give it, unless it first dwells within you.

So, allow it to dwell ... allow it to move through you in service.

Because, whether you are a Mary or a Martha ... the instructions are the same ... go in peace, first to be, and then do likewise.

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

The God of all,
who raised + Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

AMEN

More Announcements

PrideFest takes place August 8-10 and Trinity will be there. Trinity members will be walking in the August 10 parade and manning a table welcoming people and showing them all Trinity that has to offer as an affirming community. We're looking for walkers and people to represent the congregation at the table. If you can spare a couple of hours or more, see Pastor Chris or Dagmar to volunteer. Sign-up in the Narthex or contact the church office and we'll add you to the list of volunteers.

Back to Church Sunday. Summer has barely started and we're already thinking about the fall. Our Back-to-Church Service is scheduled for September 7. Last year, we offered a Dr. Suess-themed service. This time? Come and see. Invite family and friends to the service and connect or re-connect them to life at Trinity.

In response to requests from members, Trinity accepts offerings via eTransfer. You must set up the eTransfer information in your bank account. The email address to be used is trinitywlutheran@gmail.com. In the "comment" section, please indicate: "Trinity - General Offering" And remember to put your name and address so we can provide a tax receipt.

**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.