



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

www.trinitylutheran.ca

November 2, 2025
21th 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.
- **Bakers sought!** Trinity invites bakers to offer their wares for the bake sale table at the Advent Crafters' Market and Cafe on November 29. If you can provide something for the table (whatever your specialty), please contact the church office and we'll provide you with information and packaging for the items. The event is the final major fundraiser of 2025 and the funds we raise will help support Trinity and its ministries into the new year.

Coming Up

November 30 – we will begin our journey through the Advent Season with an Agape Meal Service. An agape feast is a term used for various communal meals shared among Christians. The service takes place in the Fellowship Hall and will incorporate a light breakfast into the day's liturgy. Plan to attend as we journey toward the manger.

Also Happening

November 8 – Clothing Giveaway, 10 a.m – 2 p.m. **Donations still needed!**

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

In holy baptism God makes saints out of sinners. In holy communion God forgives the sins of all the saints. In worship today we give thanks for all the saints “who from their labors rest.” In the same breath we petition our God for the strength to hear and to heed the admonitions of Jesus in today’s gospel. Sealed by the Spirit and sustained by the Saviour’s body and blood, we live with joy as God gives us breath, to the praise of God’s glory.

Hymns

WOV #788 Glory to God

ELW # 556 Morning has broken

ELW # 504 Mighty Fortress

ELW #583 – Take my life, that I may be

ELW # 815 I want to walk as a child of
the light

Prayer of the day

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

First reading: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

¹ In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: ² I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, ³ and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.

¹⁵ As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of



my head terrified me. ¹⁶ I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: ¹⁷ “As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. ¹⁸ But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever.”

Psalm: 149

¹ Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord ¹ a new song,

God’s praise in the assembly ¹ of the faithful.

² **Let Israel rejoice ¹ in their maker;
let the children of Zion be joyful ¹ in their ruler.**

³ Let them praise their maker’s ¹ name with dancing;

let them sing praise with tambou- ¹ rine and harp.

⁴ **For the Lord takes pleasure ¹ in the people**

**and adorns the | poor with
victory.**

⁵ Let the faithful re- | jice in triumph;
let them sing for joy | on their beds.

**⁶ Let the praises of God be | in their
throat**

**and a two-edged sword | in their
hand,**

⁷ to wreak vengeance | on the nations
and punishment | on the peoples,

**⁸ to bind their | kings in chains
and their nobles with | links of
iron,**

⁹ to inflict on them the judg- | ment
decreed;

this is glory for all God's faithful
ones. | Hallelujah!

Second reading: Ephesians 1:11-23

¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I

remember you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.



Gospel: Luke 6: 20-31

²⁰ Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry
now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate
you and when they exclude you, revile
you, and defame you on account of the
Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and
leap for joy, for surely your reward is
great in heaven, for that is how their
ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your
consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of
you, for that is how their ancestors
treated the false prophets.

²⁷ “But I say to you who are listening:
Love your enemies; do good to those
who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse
you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹
If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer
the other also, and from anyone who
takes away your coat do not withhold
even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who
asks of you, and if anyone takes away
what is yours, do not ask for it back

again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have
them do to you.”

Sermon

“Saintly living”

May God’s grace and peace beyond
all understanding continue to mark your
lives as saints today and always.

Max Kolbe was born near the start
of the 20th century in a city in central
Poland. When he was nine years old,
Kolbe had a vision of the Virgin Mary
that set him on the path to priesthood.

His recollection of the event was
shared in a book about the Franciscan
tradition that was published about 15
years ago. In the recollection Kolbe said:

“That night I asked the Mother of
God what was to become of me. Then
she came to me holding two crowns,
one white, the other red. She asked me
if I was willing to accept either of these
crowns. The white one meant that I
should persevere in purity and the red
that I should become a martyr.

“I said that I would accept them
both.”

Kolbe joined the Franciscan Order
few years after his vision. He was
ordained as a priest shortly after the end

of the First World War. Kolbe started a Catholic publishing house, he served as a missionary in Asia and he helped establish monasteries in a number of countries. Kolbe even began a radio station in Poland.

Kolbe transformed a monastery into a makeshift hospital after Poland was invaded at the beginning of the Second World War. He and the other friars provided shelter to refugees from Greater Poland, including 2,000 Jews whom he hid in the friary.

He was arrested and the monastery was closed by the Gestapo in the winter of 1941. By the end of Spring, Kolbe had been transferred to Auschwitz. He was assigned a cell in Block 11 and became prisoner 16670.

At Auschwitz, Kolbe was harassed, beaten and lashed by the guards for ministering to the other prisoners. On one occasion, sympathetic inmates smuggled the wounded Kolbe to a prisoner hospital.

A prisoner escaped from the death camp that August.

In reprisal, the deputy camp commander ordered the guards to select 10 inmates for punishment. The 10 would be starved to death in an underground bunker.

One of the selected inmates pleaded for mercy ... the man, a Polish

Catholic, cried out, "My wife! My children!" Kolbe stepped forward and volunteered to take the man's place and was marched off to the cell.

An assistant janitor later testified that Kolbe led the prisoners in prayer from his prison cell. Each time the guards checked on him, he was standing or kneeling in the middle of the cell and looking calmly at those who entered.

After the group had been starved and deprived of water for two weeks, only Kolbe and three others remained alive. The guards became impatient to empty the bunker.

So, they gave the four prisoners lethal injections of carbolic acid. Kolbe is said to have raised his left arm and calmly waited for it. He died on August 14th and was cremated on 15th, which happened to be the feast day of the Assumption of Mary.

Pope John Paul II canonized Kolbe in 1982 ... ending a 30-year process. Kolbe is venerated as the patron saint of amateur radio operators, drug addicts, political prisoners, families, and journalists.

The man whose place Kolbe took in the camp?

He survived the camp and often shared the story of the saint in his life and even attended the ceremony when Kolbe was officially made a saint by the pope.

This is the day we set aside to remember the saints who touched our lives.

These are not the canonized people ... such as Kolbe or Mother Teresa ... people who made a profound difference in the lives of thousands. The saints we remember today are those who shared their love with us ... those who cared for us ... those who taught us compassion and empathy.

They are the saints who sat with us here in the sanctuary over the years ... who participated in the life of the church and whose presence was felt elsewhere in our lives.

Paul addresses his letter this morning to the “saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus.” (verse 1)

Paul commends the congregation for their faith and offers his thanks and prayers for their love toward others in the congregation.

For the early followers of Christ, being named a saint wasn't a decades-long process that began after death. That particular process came centuries later.

For Paul, being a saint was the result of a certain way of living ... of following Christ's counter-cultural call. To live a life in Christ, one was to be considered a saint by Paul's definition.

To Paul, being a saint is an ongoing, living reality. It is a reality that followers of Jesus are each called to live.

Paul tells the Ephesians that “we were chosen or appointed” through the cross into a covenant that redeems us

even when we had no right to expect this promise to be kept. It is the promise made known as we embrace our life in the body of Christ.

Paul calls this an inheritance we receive through our faith in Jesus.

Luke's gospel this morning offers us a view of living the life of a saint.

Jesus is on a plain in Galilee. He is surrounded by a massive crowd.

Jesus has selected the 12 apostles, and he has healed the multitude that pressed in on him, hoping that his touch would cure them of their ailments.

Jesus has felt the power flow out from him and into the people.

Now, he is on the ground when he looks up and offers the crowd a vision of what the kingdom of God will look like and who will know its blessings when they enter. Jesus gives those seeking to be disciples a vision of the reversal of fortunes that mark the kingdom.

Luke's version of the Beatitudes is bare-bones compared to the longer more elaborate and spiritual version that Matthew's gospel offers us. Luke places Jesus' focus squarely on the needs of the world. Jesus' blessings and woes give voice to the oppressed and marginalized of the world.

If you are poor here, then you will inherit the kingdom;

If you are hungry here, then you will be filled;

If you weep here, then you will know joy;

If you are hated, excluded from community or defamed because you follow Jesus, don't worry you're in good

company ... this is what the world did to the prophets.

And those who are blessed by the world and those who have inflicted hunger and suffering? Jesus calls on those in the gathering to be mindful of the other side of blessedness.

Well, they will experience deep, unconsolable misery ... unless they recognize the emptiness of their lives and their responsibility to serve others ... to better lives of those around them.

In a world of suffering and pain, living such a life would give hope to the oppressed and to the marginalized. It would offer an example for others.

Jesus' word creates the hope-filled reality for those who do not feel blessed. Healing, welcome, forgiveness and the end of oppression come through following Jesus' word ... because it's a call to live life differently from the way the forces of the world says it must be lived.

Jesus' proclamation is a call away from a self-absorbed, self-interested life toward a life of love ... of what has been called "holy simplicity" ... of meekness and charity. It calls listeners into a life that holds God at its centre and focuses on the lot of others.

The saints we remember ... those whose lives we mark this morning ... are those who understood the spirit of Jesus that is offered in the words he shares on the plain this morning. Our saints lived such lives ... they understood love and community ... they knew the power in acts of compassion and mercy ... the strength in acts that heal and comfort,

... the promise and hope carried by a Spirit-filled heart.

They offered us hope and examples of love that we are called to mirror ... to reject the values of the world and live as a blessing to others. They offered us a view of the world that comes with love at its heart.

So, this day and always, may we remember and honour those saints who blessed us during their journeys ... and who call us to live a life by a different standard and ... by doing so ... be blessings as well.

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



More Announcements

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.

Blessing

Almighty God,
Father, + Son,
and Holy Spirit,
bless ye now and forever.

AMEN

• **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.



Advent Crafter's Market & Cafe

Saturday, November 29 **10 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Check out the more than a dozen artists and artisans offering Christmas gifts and items!
Enjoy lunch at the Trinity Café
Peruse the Trinity Bake sale offering the specialties of the Trinity folks

Rent a table, volunteer, bake something for the sale or just take in the event!
See Dagmar or Pastor Chris for details