

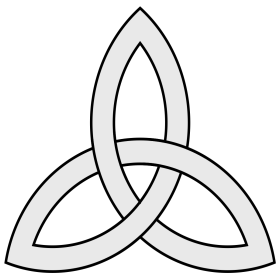


Liturgy of the Word

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 2024

10:30 a.m.



Trinity Episcopal Church
West Branch, Michigan

Welcome!

Whoever you are and wherever you may be on your spiritual journey, we are so glad you have joined us for worship today. May you know the presence of the living God who welcomes you here. Almost everything you need to participate in today's service is included in this worship bulletin. The only additional item you will need is a hymnal for the hymns that are listed. The main hymnal we use is located in the back of the pew ahead of you (blue book). We typically only use one other hymnal (LEVAS—Lift Every Voice and Sing) and this hymnal is located in the corner of your pew seat. The greeters are available to answer any questions or direct you as needed. Restrooms are located on the lower level. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete and return a welcome card so that we can be in touch. May God bless you now and always.

About today's Service

In today's third reading Jesus again predicts his death and resurrection. The disciples fail to understand and dispute among themselves which of them is the most important. Jesus tells them that the highest status in his Kingdom is reserved for those who serve. This is a call to pattern our lives on his life in self-giving love.

Again our first reading is from the Wisdom writings. Most biblical descriptions of righteous living describe a righteous man. Today's passage describes righteousness in the life of a woman. Like all of God's righteous people, she is noted for her faithfulness to God and for her good works for the poor.

Again we read from the Epistle of James. After describing the characteristics of those who are at peace with God, the author states that strife, jealousy, and estrangement are the products of allying ourselves with the world rather than with God.

When the Church gathers to worship, it acts out its allegiance to God and its service to the world. In the action of the liturgy we express our service to each other. That liturgical action is the pattern for our daily living as God's friends and as fellow servants with Christ to all people. The liturgy, then, is extended beyond the doors of the church building into all of life.

Liturgy of the Word

In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayers,
please observe silence upon entering the church.
"Be still and know that I am God." -Psalm 46:10

The Greeting

Opening Hymn: Praise to the Lord

Hymnal 390

Worship Leader Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

The Worship Leader says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The following is sung, all standing as able

Gloria in excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.***

Collect of the Day

Worship Leader The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Worship Leader Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

Please be seated for the readings

First Reading

Proverbs 31:10-31

A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

A capable wife who can find?

She is far more precious than jewels.

The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.

She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.

She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.

She is like the ships of the merchant,
she brings her food from far away.

She rises while it is still night
and provides food for her household
and tasks for her servant-girls.

She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

She girds herself with strength,
and makes her arms strong.

She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.

She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.

She opens her hand to the poor,
and reaches out her hands to the needy.

She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.

She makes herself coverings;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.

Her husband is known in the city gates,
taking his seat among the elders of the land.

She makes linen garments and sells them;
she supplies the merchant with sashes.

Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.

She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

She looks well to the ways of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband too, and he praises her:

“Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.”

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Please remain seated

Psalm 1

Beatus vir qui non abiit

1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

Second Reading

James 3:13-4:3,7-8

A reading from the letter of James.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Third Reading

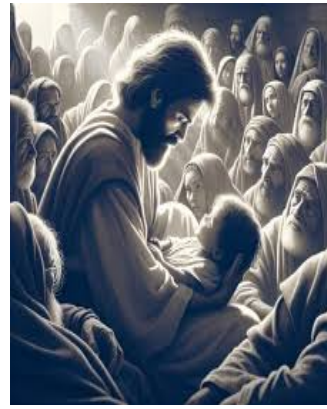
Mark 9:30-37

Please remain seated

A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”



Reader The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Reflection

Martha Bamfield

Nicene Creed

Please stand as able and together say

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Skip, our Bishop; and
for all bishops and other ministers. We pray especially for our supply priest, Brian; and
all our lay leaders and volunteers here at Trinity.
For all who serve God in his Church.

We pray especially for all of those whose lives are impacted by war. We pray for those
individuals and families who are impacted by gun violence. We pray for individuals
and communities impacted by weather events across the world. We also pray for the
special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially all who are listed in our
worship bulletin that have commended themselves to our prayers.

The people may add their petitions either aloud or silently

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Worship Leader concludes

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Confession of Sin

All kneel as able.

The Worship Leader then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A period of silence is observed.

Worship Leader and People together say

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

**and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Worship Leader stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

Peace

All stand as able.

Worship Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements - Sharing of God's Blessings.

Announcements may be made at this point in the service.

Birthday and Anniversary Prayers

The Worship Leader says

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn: O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

Hymnal 660

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings/ gifts to the altar

Doxology

Singing together

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The General Thanksgiving

Worship leader and people

***Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love***

*in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis

Worship leader and people

*Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where
there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we
are born to eternal life. Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

Worship leader and people

*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,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

Dismissal

Worship Leader Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Please keep in your prayers this week...

Jim Harriott	Bobby Dack	Corbin Ride
Victor Schreffler	Barb McCabe	Carter Riddle
Lindsey Nothnagel	Andy & Diana Oberdick	Cassandra
Gene Hutchins	Bob Smith	Rick Webber
Bill & Marlene Sawyer	Nadine & Gary Morse	Dylan Miles
Bonnie Orgovan	The Singh Family	Colette
Jim Brewer	Steve & OK Pun Poling	David
Tom Olson	Pam Levere	Alex
Donna Voss	Sylvia	Keith
Mary Claire	Ryan	Rod
Shawn Willis	Nora	
Fred & Karen Harvey	Tracy	



We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused, well-heeled or down-at-heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers. We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're just browsing, just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas 10 or 20+ years ago. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit moms, football dads, starving artists, tree huggers, latte sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like organized religion. We're not that keen on it either. We offer welcome to those who think the Earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because Granny is visiting and wanted to come to church. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throats as kids or got lost looking for the Historical Society museum and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters and you.

From a sign posted at Coventry Cathedral in England,
context edited slightly for
Trinity Episcopal Church, West Branch, Michigan

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Worship Leader: Martha Bamfield

Lector: Rebecca Schreffler

Intercessor: Jane Allstetter

Altar Preparation: Chris Anderson

Acolyte: x

Greeters: Chuck & Carol Scheich

Organist: Carol Shaw

Live Stream: Tom Olson

Coffee Hour: Martha Bamfield & Luke Stefanovsky.

There are opportunities to host coffee hour. See sign-up sheet in Cooper Hall

Bulletin: Deborah Drys

Our mission is to support all on their journey toward a deeper relationship with God, one another and all creation through worship, pastoral care, fellowship and outreach.

100 E. Houghton Ave., P.O. Box 83, West Branch, MI | 989.345.0493

September 2024	<u>1st</u> The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost <i>*w/Healing Service</i>	<u>8th</u> The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost	<u>15th</u> The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost	<u>22th</u> The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	<u>29th</u> The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Service	Holy Eucharist	Liturgy of the Word	Holy Eucharist	Liturgy of the Word	Holy Eucharist
Clergy Worship Leader	Priest: The Rev. Brian Chace	Worship Leader: Gene Turkelson	Priest: The Rev. Brian Chace	Worship Leader: Martha Bamfield	Priest: The Rev. Brian Chace
Lector	Jane Hutchins	Luke Stefanovsky	Chuck Scheich	Rebecca Shreffler	Deborah Drys
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Jane Hutchins	X	Martha Bamfield	X	Deborah Drys
Intercessor	Rebecca Schreffler	Martha Bamfield	Luke Stefanovsky	Jane Allstetter	Victor Schreffler
Altar Guild	Martha Bamfield	Signe Turkelson	Carol Scheich	Chris Anderson	Martha Bamfield
Greeters	Gene Hutchins	Victor & Rebecca Schreffler	Chris Anderson	Chuck & Carol Scheich	Luke Stefanovsky & Martha Bamfield
Livestream	Tom Olson	Tom Olson	Tom Olson	Tom Olson	Tom Olson
Organist	Carol Shaw	Carol Shaw	Carol Shaw	Carol Shaw	Carol Shaw
Acolyte	Victor Schreffler	x	Martha Bamfield	x	Victor Schreffler
Bulletin	Martha Bamfield	Debra Heisler	Carol Scheich	Deborah Drys	Rebecca Schreffler

