



What Makes Christians *Different*

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  AUGUST 9, 2026

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WHAT MAKES CHRISTIANS DIFFERENT: CHRISTIANS ANSWER DOUBT WITH FAITH

The Bible says Christians are different. Christians are people who believe in Jesus as their Savior. But they often look the same as those who do not believe in Jesus. How are Christians different? The answer is often something internal, attitudes or perspectives that come only from the work of the Holy Spirit in Word and sacrament. Ultimately, Christians are people who run to Christ for forgiveness because they have failed to live perfect lives. As we receive the mercy of Christ, it moves us to strive with all our being to do all the things that Jesus says.

Wherever faith clings to the promises of God, doubt is always lingering. Doubt asks the serpent's garden question, "Did God really say?" People doubt God's care, God's promises, or God's providence. The answer to doubt is not found in loud, dramatic demonstrations. The true answer to doubt is found in the still small voice of our Savior God whispering to us in his Word. Through Word and sacrament, Christ reaches out to us with nail-scarred hands, proof of his great love. Jesus gently says, "Why did you doubt?" Our faith is restored. Christians answer doubt with faith.

THE MISSION OF TRINITY

*The members of Trinity are joined together in Jesus' love to **worship** our Lord, **grow** in his Word, and **share** it with others.*

WELCOME TO TRINITY! We're happy you're here! Thank you for joining us this morning to worship our gracious God. We love to see **families worshipping together**. However, if you would like a place to quiet your little ones' "joyful noises," there is a **nursery** down the hall on the south side of the building. The **restrooms** are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. If you need anything before, during, or after the service, our **ushers** will be happy to assist you. God bless your worship with us today!

MINISTER: Pastor Daniel Balge

BULLETIN SPONSOR: John and Jeanette Sieberg's 50th Wedding Anniversary

ACCOMPANIST: Joyce Lendt

SPECIAL THANKS to all others who served in worship today, including our video and screen coordinators, ushers, greeters, and soloists

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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HOLY BAPTISM

Opening Hymn

844 *What God Ordains Is Always Good*

Remain seated

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

**Baptism means that the sinful nature in us
should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance,
and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death.
It also means that a new person should daily arise
to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

The Rite of Baptism continues at the font.

Sacrament of Baptism (CW p.152)

Daisy Rae Dahlen

Let us pray.

We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received [*name(s)*] as your own *child* and made *him* a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to *him* and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what you want done; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁰He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

¹¹The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.”

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹²After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

¹⁴He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

¹⁵The LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. ¹⁶Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. ¹⁸Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

The children are invited to come forward for a message designed specially for them.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 73A

Refrain



God is the strength of my heart and my por-tion for-ev - er.

As for me, my feet had / almost slipped;
I had nearly lost my / foothold.
For I envied the / arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the / wicked.
It troubled me deeply till I entered the sanctuary / of God;
then I understood their final / destiny. *Refrain*

You guide me with your / counsel,
and afterward you will take me into / glory.
Whom have I in / heav'n but you?
And earth has nothing I desire be- / sides you.
My flesh and my / heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion for- / ever.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Tune: Henry V. Gerike

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Second Reading

Romans 8:28-39

²⁸And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 11:1



Refrain



Sung by All: Refrain

Spoken by All: Now faith is confidence in what we hope for
and assurance about what we do not see.

Sung by All: Refrain

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Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

²²Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁵Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.

²⁷But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

²⁸“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

²⁹“Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

³¹Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

³²And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

847 Be Still, My Soul

Sermon

Romans 8:28-30

YOU KNOW THAT GOD WORKS ALL FOR THE GOOD.

1. You know his love for you (28).
2. You know his plan for you (29-30).

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

*Each petition will end with “Lord, in your mercy...” The congregation is invited to respond, “**Hear our prayer.**”*

Offering

*The members of Trinity Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and throughout the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry. At this time, we ask both members and guests to fill out the **friendship register** found at the end of each pew. When you've written your information, please pass it to the next person until everyone has had a chance to sign it. Thank you for helping us serve you with the gospel!*

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

849 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

+++

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday 134
Streaming 15
Monday 14

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday 10:45 am NA
Kids In Christ NA
Monday 7:00 pm 12
Monday Virtual 1

SUNDAY GIVING

General Fund 4234.00
Vanco 573.70
Capital 55.00

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sun (8/9)	9:00 am	Worship
	10:15 am	Fellowship
	10:45 am	Special Voters Meeting
Mon (8/10)	6:00 pm	Worship
	7:00pm	Bible Study
Thurs (8/13)	7:00pm	Men’s Bible Study
Sun (8/16)	9:00 am	Worship w/ Communion
	10:15 am	Fellowship

TRINITY NEWS

CALL INFO: We have extended a Call to Pastor Cody Hauch of St. Luke's Lutheran Church of Grand Rapids MN. Feel free to connect with him via email (haucha55@gamil) or call/text (715-889-4570). Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he deliberates this call.

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING: will be held on August 9th to discuss the mailbox and a tuition discount for our called workers.

PINE & 99-TRINITY PORK CHOP STAND: We will host the next Pork Chop Stand on August 20th. If you can help with grilling, set-up, serving food, or taking payments, please sign up for dates that work for you. Direct questions to Larry Bruegger at 507-420-9195. Thanks!

FOOD SHELF UPDATE: Food Shelf Update: Our last donation to the St. Peter Area Food Shelf totaled 55 pounds. Thank you to everyone that donated items. Please consider donating to the church Food Shelf boxes and helping those in need

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP: We are planning one event to see the interest in continuing this group. The event will be a tour of Hewitt Manufacturing on September 3rd at 10 am. We will have pizza in the fireside room after. There is a sing up sheet in the narthex. You also may call or text 507-317-7560 to RSVP.

AFTERCARE HELP NEEDED: We are in search of an individual that would be interested in helping with our after-school care program 4-5 days a month from 3:00-5:30. This is a paid position. Please contact Julie Schmudlach at 630-202-5637 for more information. Thank you!

AREA NEWS

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Nicollet Legion will be hosting a blood drive Thursday August 13th from 11 am -5pm. Call 1-800-Red Cross or visit RedCrossBlood.org to schedule and appointment time. Thanks!

NEW2YOU JOB OPENING: New 2 You is looking for a part-time associate. This flexibles position is for 10-15 hours a week and 1-2 weekends a month. If you are interested in this position, pick up an application in person at New 2 You Family Thrift.If you have questions, please call New 2 You at 507-385-1455 to speak with Amanda or Melissa.



AUGUST 2026

TRINITY EV.
LUTHERAN
NICOLLET, MN

Pastor David Carlovsky

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2 9:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Fellowship	3 6 pm Worship 7 pm Bible Study	4 National Night Out 5:30pm 7:00 pm Unified Meeting	5	6 4:30-7 Pine & 99 5pm Grounds Keeping	7	8 7 pm Women, Wine & The Word
9 9 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship	10	11	12	13 7 pm Men' s Bible Study - Ch 10	14	15
16 9 m Worship w/ communion 10:15 am Fellowship	17 6pm Monday Night Worship 7pm Bible Study	18	19 Back to School Night 6:00-7:00 pm	20 4:30-7 Pine & 99	21	22
23 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship	24 6 m Monday Night Worship 7pm Bible Study First Day of TLS	25	26 8:00 am TLS Chapel 7:00 pm Council	27	28	29
30 9 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship	31 6pm Monday Night Worship 7 pm Bible Study	1	2	3 4:30-7 Pine & 99	4	5