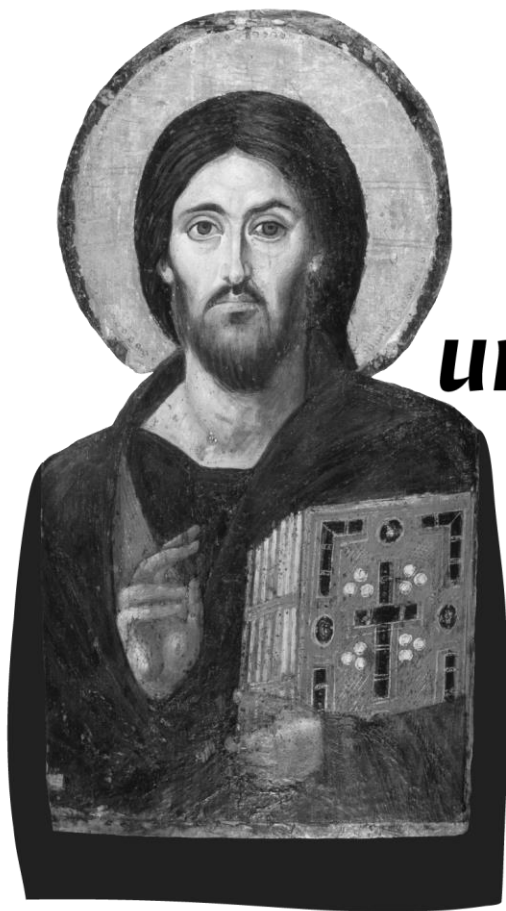




unexpected **TRUTHS**

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  **SEPTEMBER 13, 2026**

Office 507-232-3938  Pastor David Carlovsky 815-814-6647  www.trinitynicollet.org

UNEXPECTED TRUTHS: **FORGIVENESS IS FOR ME**

Some Forgiveness does not come naturally to human beings. It is expected that humans will defend themselves, lash out when attacked, hold grudges, and bite back. So, when human beings hear that they are forgiven, they may even be suspicious or skeptical. Jesus tells a parable that contrasts the forgiveness of God with our own unforgiving sinful nature. God forgives our huge debt. Who can comprehend such unexpected mercy? Certainly not unmerciful servants, who refuse to forgive small debts. Have mercy on us, Lord, and teach us to forgive like you!

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 David Carlovksy & Pastor Daniel Balge

BULLETIN SPONSOR: In Honor of Sharon & Bob Freitag's Wedding Anniversary

Last week's sponsor: In Honor of Paul & Holly Gronholz Wedding Anniversary

Alter Flowers: In Memory of Caleb Finken

ACCOMPANIST: Lori Enter

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

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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Opening Hymn

623 O Bless the Lord, My Soul

Stand

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

Confession

CW 172

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

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

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you graciously forgive us all our sins and abundantly provide for all our needs of body and soul. Give us confidence in your mercy, and teach us also to be merciful to our neighbor, that we willingly forgive all people, and judging only ourselves, lead blessed lives to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God?
²⁰You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

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

See p.6

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:29–5:2

²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³²Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

¹Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children ²and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

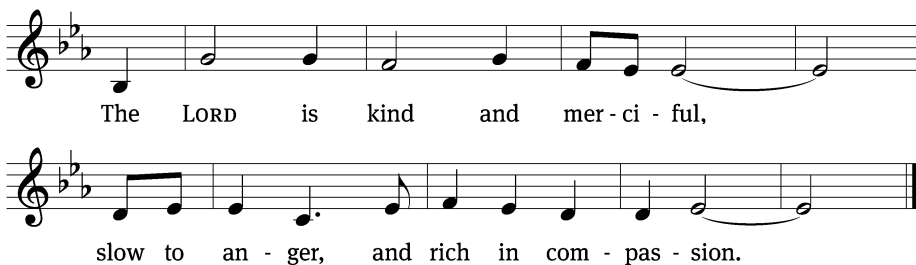
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 103A

Refrain



Tone



Praise the LORD, / my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his / holy name—
who forgives / all your sins
and heals all your dis- / eases,
who redeems your life / from the pit
and crowns you with love and com- / passion,
who satisfies your desires / with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the / eagle's. *Refrain*

The LORD is compassionate and / gracious,
slow to anger, abound- / ing in love.
He does not treat us as our / sins deserve
or repay us according to our in- / iquities.
For as high as the heavens are a- / bove the earth,
so great is his love for those who / fear him;
as far as the east is / from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions / from us.

**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***

Text: Lectionary for Mass

Tune: Paul Tate, alt.

Setting: Paul Tate, alt.

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(Service continues on page 5)

Gospel Acclamation

Colossians 3:13



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Sung by all: Refrain

Spoken by all: Bear with each other and forgive one another.

Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Sung by all: *Refrain*

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Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

²²Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶“At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ ²⁷The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

²⁹“His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

³⁰“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³²“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.

³³Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

587 Come Down, O Love Divine

Sermon

Matthew 18:21-35

FORGIVENESS DOESN'T KEEP SCORE

1. Not when we are forgiven
2. Not when we forgive

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!*

Hymn

579 His Mercy Is More

*Verses sung by Mandi Russow & Nancy Finch
Congregation may join in for the refrains.
The refrain for stanza 3 is sung three times*

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



OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE BIBLE STUDY

Sunday	123	Sunday 10:45 am	NA
Streaming	9	Kids In Christ	NA
Monday	NA	Monday 7:00 pm	NA
		Monday Virtual	NA

SUNDAY GIVING

General Fund	5343.00
Vanco	1243.60
Capital	10.00

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Sun (9/13)	9:00 am	Worship
	10:15 am	Fellowship
	10:45 am	Kids in Christ & Bible Study Kick Off
Mon (9/14)	6:00 pm	Worship
	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed (9/15)	8:05 am	TLS Chapel
Thurs (9/17)	4:30-7:00	Pine & 99
Sun (9/20)	9:00 am	Worship
	10:15 am	Fellowship
	10:45am	Kids in Christ & Bible Study

TRINITY NEWS

CALL INFO: CALL INFO: On August 30th we extended a call to Pastor Noah Herrmann of St. John's Lutheran Platteville CO. He can be contacted at 920-254-7614 or herrmann43@gmail.com. Please keep him and his family in your prayers while he deliberates.

PINE & 99-TRINITY PORK CHOP STAND: We will host the LAST Pork Chop Stand on September 17rd. 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!

OPEN INVITE TO CHAPEL: Chapel will resume on Wednesdays at 8am. All are welcome and encouraged to join us for chapel!

KIDS IN CHRIST: will start back up on September 13th after fellowship. Ages Pre-K to 6th grade are encouraged to join us! Please join us for registration and kick off Sunday Morning Bible Study will also resume.

KIDS IN CHRIST: is in need of one more Sunday school teacher. You would not be needed every Sunday. Please talk to a current Lin Gronholz or Peter Finken. Thanks!

BAND TRANSPORT NEEDED: Trinity Lutheran School Band is looking for an individual that would be able to willing and able to transport a few students to St. Peter on Wednesday's for band ensemble. Leaving Nicollet around 2:10pm. If you are interested, talk to Amber Finken (507-766-9899)

HIGHWAY CLEAN UP: Danny Sheeks is organizing highway clean up on Sept 12 at 9:30am. We are looking for a crew of no less than 14 people. If we have enough help, it will take less than 2 hours to clean up. There will be pizza and drinks for lunch after. If you are planning on coming call/text Danny at 608-566-9500. Thanks!

OWLS MEETING: Our local MN Valley Chapter 13 OWLS (Organization of Wels Lutheran Seniors) will be meeting on Monday, September 14, at St. John's Lutheran Church, New Ulm. Fellowship begins at 11:30 AM, subway meal at Noon, devotion at 12:45 PM, followed with a presentation by Heather Huebner on "Chair Exercises." If you have not already signed up to attend, contact Myron Fluegge at [507-359-2424](tel:507-359-2424) or flueggemtj@hotmail.com by Wednesday noon, September 9, for a meal count. Hope you can make it.



September 2026

TRINITY EV.
LUTHERAN
NICOLLET, MN
Pastor David Carlovsky

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
30 9 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 12:00 Call Meeting	31 6pm Monday Night Worship 7pm Bible Study	1	2 8:00 am TLS Chapel 7:00 pm Unified Meeting	3 4:30-7 Pine & 99	4 NOTLS	5
6 9:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am Fellowship	7 LABOR DAY NO TLS NO MONDAY NIGHT WORSHIP/ BIBLE STUDY	8	9 8:00 am TLS Chapel 6:30pm CEA MEETING	10 7:00 pm Mens Bible Study - Ch 11	11	12 9:30 Highway Clean Up 7 pm Women, Wine & The Word
13 9 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:45 Kids in Christ Kick Off	14 6pm Monday Night Worship 7pm Bible Study	15	16 8:00 am TLS Chapel	17 4:30-7:00 Pine & 99	18	19
20 9 m Worship w/ communion 10:15 am Fellowship 10:45 Kids in Christ & Bible Study	21 6pm Monday Night Worship 7pm Bible Study	22	23 8:00 am TLS Chapel	24 4:30-7 Pine & 99	25 CEA Garage Sale	26 CEA Garage Sale
27 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Fellowship 10:45 Kids in Christ & Bible Study	28 6 m Monday Night Worship 7pm Bible Study	29	30 8:00 am TLS Chapel 7:00 pm Council	1	2	3