

Blessed Trinity

Week 2: The Father's Heart

18th Sunday After Pentecost
September 27, 2026 – 11:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

As we journey through The Trinity, we will begin to see that heavens and earth are woven more closely together than we have ever dreamed. Within The Trinity there is the Father. The Father is not distant, cold, or indifferent. He lovingly creates, provides, adopts, disciplines, and invites His children (His creation) into a deep relationship with Himself...because His vision for mankind is relationship. And while the first two people reject His vision, it is not changed.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE SING

"God So Loved"

WORDS OF CONFESSION

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

C: Dear Heavenly Father, I confess that I am all too familiar with sin in my life. I too often fail to see Your ways and rely on my own thoughts for my guidance.

P: The emptiness of sin can be so evident in my life. I long to be filled, but tend to turn to places other than You for fulfillment. As a result, what so often flows from my life is that which comes from a world that does not follow You. I fail in my love for You; I fail in my love for others.

C: Forgive me, dear Father, for the sake of Jesus. Let Your Spirit come. By Your Holy Spirit, restore me to life. Fill me with Your Living Water and open up my heart so that Your life may flow from me. We pray through Jesus. Amen

(a time of quiet before the Lord)

THE LORD RESTORES HOPE – HE FORGIVES OUR SINS!

WE SING

"Good, Good Father"

WE PRAY

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 1:1-2 & 26-31

¹In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ²Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters....

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." ²⁹Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

EPISTLE READING

1 John 3:1-3

¹See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

GOSPEL READING

John 1: 1-5

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

PRESENTATION OF 3RD GRADE BIBLES

KIDS' TIME

DCE Liz Peters

MESSAGE

"The Father's Love"

Pastor Doug Slavens

WE PROFESS OUR FAITH -- APOSTLES' CREED

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF PREPARATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

DISTRIBUTION OF OUR LORD'S BODY AND BLOOD

WE SING **"He Knows My Name"**

"God Really Loves Us"

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Lord Jesus Christ,

C: Thank You for feeding us and strengthening us with Your own Body and Blood. Continue to give us Your daily blessing that we may grow in trusting and sharing Your Good News with all people. We pray in Your name. Amen.

WE SING

"Good God Almighty"

CLOSING BLESSING

OUR OFFERINGS

All that we have and all that we are, belong to the Lord. He fills us with what is good!
We pray: "Fill us, Lord, to overflowing, that others may receive blessed through the blessings we ourselves have received from You."

You can give online **memoriallutheran.net** or drop in the offering boxes located throughout the worship center.