



**August 19, 2018**



The Tree of Life

In the Bible, trees are given to man for food and medicine as well as beauty and shade. Trees are an emblem of God's glory in the world and so are fitting symbols of God's people. We can flourish "like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither" (Psalm 1:3). The growth of the kingdom is likened to a rising, spreading tree (Ezek. 17; Matt. 13:31-32). Adam's fall severed us from access to the Tree of Life, but united to Christ we again have access to its life-giving fruit (Rev. 22:2). The Tree of Life is a symbol of Jesus. The time between Pentecost and Advent is called Trinity Season. The color green is used to symbolize life, growth, and the maturation of Jesus' kingdom.

## Lord's Day Service – August 19, 2018

Preparation for Worship: *Romans 12:1, 2*

*Prayer:* Almighty God, You have given Your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of His redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of His most holy life; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen!**

Welcome & Announcements

\* *Chant of the Month*

Psalter, #127B

### Entrance – God Call Us; we gather together and praise Him

\* *Call to Worship*

Psalms 90

Pastor: Grace to you and peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen!**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Pastor: Our help is in the Name of Yahweh,

**Congregation: Who made heaven and earth.**

\* *Hymn of Praise*

Psalter, #90C

*LORD, Thou Has Been Our Dwelling Place*

### Purification - God Cleanses Us; we confess our sins to Him and are forgiven in Christ

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.**

Let us kneel before the Lord our God. *(Those unable to kneel may be seated.)*

**Almighty God, my heavenly Father, You are rich in mercy to all those who call upon You; hear me as I come to You humbly confessing my sins, and imploring Your mercy and forgiveness. I have broken Your holy laws by my deeds and by my words, and by the sinful affections of my heart. I confess before You my disobedience and ingratitude, my pride and willfulness, and all my failures and shortcomings toward You and toward my family and friends. Have mercy upon me, most merciful Father; and of Your great goodness grant that I may hereafter serve and please You in newness of life; grant me this, I pray, through the mediation of Jesus Christ my Savior and Lord. Amen!**

*(Silent, personal confession of sin)*

Now lift up your heads, arise, and hear the good news....!

**Thanks be to God! Our sins are forgiven in Jesus' name. AMEN!**

**Ascension – God Consecrates Us; we listen to Him and offer our works and lives to Him**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them up to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**It is proper and right to do so!**

Truly it is proper, right, and our greatest joy, that we should at all times, and in all places, give praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, and with the church on earth, we praise and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and singing....

*\*The Sanctus* (inside hymnal & psalter cover)

*\*Hymn of Preparation* Psalter, #39B  
*And Now, O Lord*

*Old Testament Lesson* Joshua 24:13-33  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

*New Testament Lesson* Romans 11:28 – 12:3  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

*\* Gospel Lesson* Luke 14:25-33  
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus.  
**Praise to You, O Christ!**

*Sermon* "Covenant Renewal at Shechem"  
(Part 2, choose for yourselves whom you will serve)

*\* Hymn of Consecration* Trinity Hymnal, #597  
*There Is a Land of Pure Delight*

*\* Dedication of Tithes & Offerings*

*Prayers of the Church* Requests & Lord's Prayer

**Peace - God Communes with Us; we eat at His table**

*Sacrament of the Lord's Supper* 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

*We Confess Our Faith in the Triune, Incarnate God* Creed (inside hymnal cover)

*\* Hymn of Thanksgiving* Trinity Hymnal, #604  
*Jerusalem the Golden*

**Benediction - God Commissions & Blesses Us; we march out to serve Him**

*\* The Lord's Commission of Us* Joshua 24:14

*\* We Receive God's Blessing, His Good Word to Us* Numbers 6:24-26

*\* We Bless the Lord, Lifting Our Hands and Voices to Him* Doxology

*\* Threefold Amen*

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**LORD'S SUPPER**

We observe Communion, or the Lord's Supper, weekly in our midst.

We believe it is worthily received by those who:

1. Have been baptized in the name of the Triune God (Matt 28:18-20);
2. Do profess faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel (Ro 10:9-10);
3. Do live in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit and endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Jesus Christ (Gal 5:16-26); and
4. Are communing members in good standing in an evangelical church (1 Cor 10:1-6)

If these things are all true, we rejoice with you and invite you to commune with us at the Lord's Supper. If any of these are not true of you, we ask that you refrain. We invite you to speak to one of the Elders if you have doubts or questions regarding any of these beliefs, or if you are interested in learning more about Trinity.

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*Though collections are not ordinarily taken during a service, giving is a vital element of worship. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the basket at the rear of the church. (2 Corinthians 9:6-11)*

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