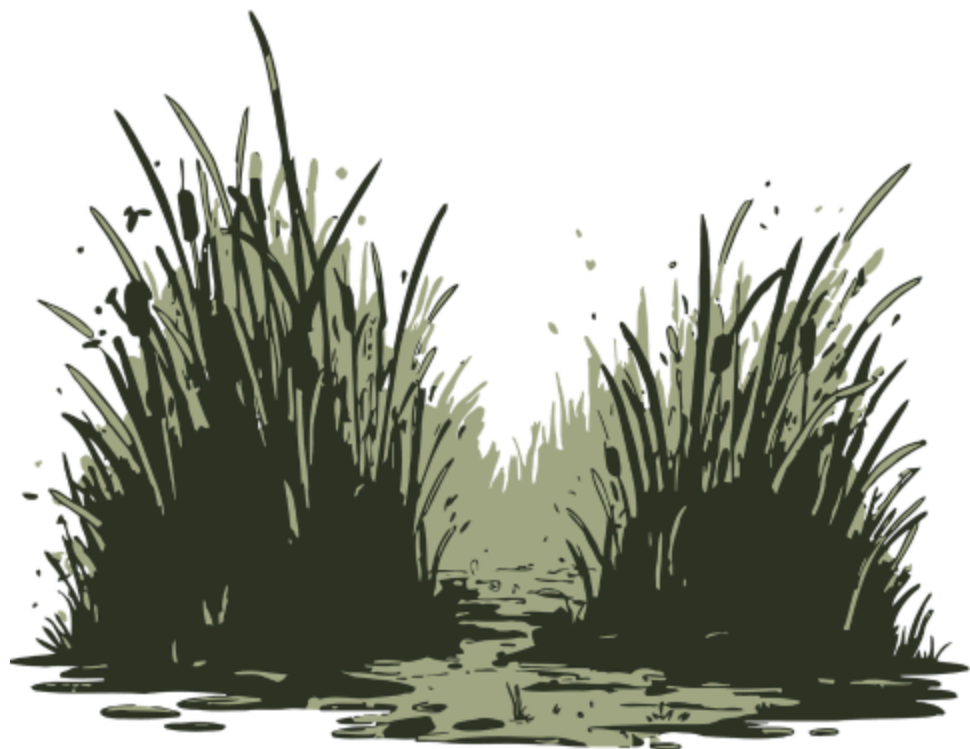


Trinity Lutheran Church



The Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea.

September 13, 2026
Season of Creation 2



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN:

I Come with Joy (ELW 482)



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

LITANY

Based on Exodus 15:2 and Matthew 18:35.

Give praise to God!

Praise the Lord, for it is God who saves.

It is God who forgives.

It is God who delivers.

Give thanks and praise to the Lord!

Serving in Worship

THIS SUNDAY — Sep 13, 2026

Altar: **Cara Keith**

Livestream: **OPEN**

Reader: **Martha Leonard**

Assistant: **OPEN**

Fellowship: **Martha Leonard**

NEXT SUNDAY — Sep 20, 2026

Altar: **Cara Keith**

Livestream: **OPEN**

Reader: **OPEN**

Assistant: **OPEN**

Fellowship: **OPEN**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of deliverance, you led your people through the waters and made a way where there seemed to be no way. Yet when we stand before uncertain waters, we confess that fear often speaks louder than faith.

We confess that we struggle to trust you when we cannot see the road ahead. We cling to what is familiar, even when you are calling us forward. We allow fear to hold us captive, doubt to overwhelm us, and the burdens of the past to follow us into the future.

Forgive us when we forget that you go before us. Forgive us when we believe the obstacles before us are greater than your grace.

Free us from all that keeps us bound, and give us courage to step forward in faith.

When the waters rise, remind us that you are near. When the way seems closed, help us trust that you are still at work. Lead us from fear into faith, from bondage into freedom, and from death into new life.

People of God, the God who brought Israel through the sea is the God who meets us in the waters of baptism. In Jesus Christ, God has made a way through sin and death and leads us into new life. By the grace of ✙ Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free. The way before you is open. May you go forward in faith. **Amen.**

CONFESSIONAL HYMN:

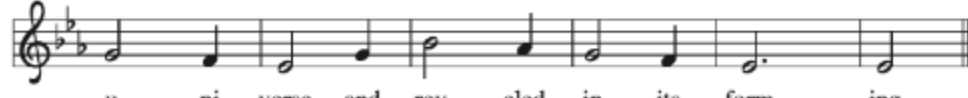
Before the Waters Nourished Earth (ACS 1049)



1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -
2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of
3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows
4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness



ag - ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the
E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in
par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's
still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -



u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.
mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.
faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.
gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Based on Matthew 18:35.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God, our source and our salvation,

in love you made us and by love you have redeemed us.

Make your love for us bear fruit in our forgiveness of others,

that we may know your all-embracing compassion,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Exodus 14:19–31

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the LORD, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 114

¹ Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

² **Judah became God's sanctuary
and Israel God's dominion.**

³ The sea beheld it and fled;
Jordan turned and went back.

⁴ **The mountains skipped like rams,
and the little hills like young sheep.**

⁵ What ailed you, O sea, that you fled,
O Jordan, that you turned back,

⁶ **you mountains, that you skipped like rams,
you little hills like young sheep?**

⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

⁸ **who turned the hard rock into a pool of water
and flintstone into a flowing spring.**

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1–12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung responsively, based on John Michael Talbot's Psalm 104.

How many and wonderful, are all your works, O LORD!

How many and wonderful, are all your works, O LORD!

You form the clouds in the heavens, you walk on the wings of the wind.

You send forth the rivers into the valleys.

You water creation from your throne.

How many and wonderful, are all your works, O LORD!

How many and wonderful, are all your works, O LORD!

Created in wisdom, the heavens and earth are full of your glory.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21–35

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?”

²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’

²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’

²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’

³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

Our Father, We Have Wandered (ELW 606)

1 Our Fa-ther, we have wan-dered and hid-den from your face;
2 And now at length dis-cern-ing the e-vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv-ing, both ban-ish-ed and re-stored,
in fool-ish-ness have squan-dered your leg-a-cy of grace.
be-hold us, Lord, re-turn-ing with hope and trust to you,
com-pas-sion-ate, for-giv-ing, and ev-er-car-ing Lord,
But now, in ex-ile dwell-ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re-joic-ing bring,
grant now that our trans-gress-ing, our faith-less-ness may cease.
as, dis-tant but com-pel-ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless-ing, in par-don, and in peace.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Based on Exodus 15:1–12 and Matthew 18:27.

O God, your unfailing love has been
the source of our strength.
It has led us through troubled waters
and away from our enemies.

In your infinite love,
you have had pity on us and heard our cries.
Because of your faithful love and mercy,
we bring our concerns to you, O God.

As the reader closes each petition:

God in your mercy.

The people respond:

hear our prayer.

We stand in your circle of favor, embraced by you,
healed by you, blessed by you,
remembered by you, secured by you,
grateful for your loving care.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and
may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

*Please place offering in one of the Bulletin Stand offering plates at the
end of worship as you leave the church.*

OFFERTORY: *Polonaise de concert, Op. 4* (H. Wieniawski)

*We welcome our Accompanist Soyeon Kang's student Kaylee Li!
Kaylee is a sophomore at Laramie High School. She has been playing
the violin for eight years and was selected as concertmaster of last
year's Wyoming All-State Orchestra. She is the 2026 high school
division Turner Young Artist, and will perform at the end of this month as
a soloist with the Wyoming Symphony Orchestra.*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**Almighty God,
receive these gifts that we offer with grateful hearts
and use our lives for the ministry of your Son, Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

All are welcome to join in the gift of Holy Communion.

White grape juice is available and all altar bread is gluten-free.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.



POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our lord and savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

**God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

Based on Exodus 15:1–13 and Matthew 18:33.

Now walk in the strength and confidence that God guides your feet.
Therefore live for God—show mercy and love one another.

And may the God who protects and defends
keep you in safety, mercy, and love.

In the name of the Father, the ✙ Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN:



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Praise, My Soul, the god of Heaven (ELW 864)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Flourish with creation. **Thanks be to God!**

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Contact Cards available in your pew!



Trinity Happenings:

Sun, Sep 13:	9:00am	Worship Service
	10:15am	Fellowship in Gruver Rm
	10:30am	"Things Hidden" Book Study
Mon, Sep 14:	9:00am	Becoming in Gruver Room



Now at Altitude's!



5:30-7:00pm 1st & 3rd Tue
NOW AT ALTITUDE'S
5:30pm Fellowship
6:00pm Faith Conversation

Tue, Sep 15:	11:00am	Cabinet/Closet Hours til 1:00pm
	5:30pm	TheologyPUB @ Front Street Tavern
Wed, Sep 16:	11:30am	Women's Study in Gruver Rm
Thu, Sep 17:	11:30am	Campus Ministry Lunch
Sun, Sep 20:	9:00am	Worship Service w/ the Band
	10:15am	Fellowship in Gruver Rm