

## Notice of Special Meeting

At its July 8 meeting, the Call Committee brought forward the recommendation that Pastor Rachel S. Larson be considered as the next pastor of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. The council unanimously voted in favor of this recommendation.

The Church Council has called a congregational meeting *today!* This meeting will take place at the conclusion of today's worship service. Two votes will be taken at this meeting. The first will be to call Pastor Rachel S. Larson to serve as pastor of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. The second vote will be to approve the compensation package for Pastor Rachel. All members are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting. A quorum of 52 is necessary to hold this meeting.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Miriam Galbraith, (July 28); Gregg Chytka, (July 31); Eric Nye, (July 31); Ashley Bock, (Aug. 1); Ana Maria McCormick, (Aug. 1) and Jo Chytka, (Aug. 2). Happy Birthday!

THE FLOWERS TODAY are given to the glory of God by the Lyford family in honor of Mark & Jennifer's 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

TODAY'S HYMNS were chosen by Edward & Lois Hiller.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE urges the congregation to keep up its giving during the summer months because as the January-May report indicates we have little buffer in the general fund at this time and expenses are slightly exceeding revenues.

QUARTERLY REPORTS for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2014 are now available on the table in the north lobby area. Please pick yours up.

SUMMER HYMNS: Would you like to choose hymns during the summer months? The congregation is invited to pick their favorite hymns. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board on the east wall in the Gruver Room. This year we are asking for only 2 hymns each Sunday and if you would like to provide special music or not. Also listed on the sign-up sheet is the list of Gospel readings for each of the Sundays during summer to help with choosing appropriate hymns.

OUR COFFEE HOUR HAS CHANGED! For the summer months coffee hour will start at 8 a.m. and go until the 9 a.m. service. Please join us for coffee and light breakfast style food before service. This allows those who wish to enjoy the outdoors to get an early start after service is over. Please sign up if you wish to provide goodies. See you bright and early!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SHARING A CUP OF COFFEE with your fellow worshipers? We need people to be willing to sign up to bring goodies and prepare the coffee as well between the morning worship services. See the pole in the Gruver room. Thank You!

INTERFAITH is *really* in need of food, especially protein (canned tuna, salmon, etc.) and canned fruit. Of course any donation is always appreciated. People can leave the food in the box at the church, or take their donations directly to Interfaith. Thank you for your thoughtfulness!

MEALS ON WHEELS is seeking volunteer drivers to deliver meals a couple of days a week. If this is something you feel you are able to assist with, please contact the Eppson Center @ 745-1510.

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PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: The 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost:  
Isaiah 55:1-5; Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21.

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## Serving the Church

	<u>TODAY (7/27)</u>	<u>NEXT SUNDAY (8/3)</u>
<i>Lector:</i>	9:00 a.m. Eric Nye	9:00 a.m. Debbe Conyers
<i>Acolyte:</i>	9:00 a.m. Eric Van Wig	9:00 a.m. Kate Jablin
<i>Ushers:</i>	9:00 a.m. Keith & Martha Ensley	9:00 a.m. Mike Smith Mike Nutter
<i>Greeters:</i>	9:00 a.m. Ed Hiller Roland Kidwell	9:00 a.m. Mark Rehwaldt Jennie Lawrence
<i>Nursery:</i>	9:00 a.m. Tracy Kidwell	9:00 a.m. Lexi Dockter

*Stewards:* L. Conyers / J. Lawrence

*Altar Guild:* Margot Birkholz

### Coffee Fellowship

#### This Week at Trinity

Sunday, July 27	8:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 9:00 a.m. Worship (HC)
Tuesday, July 29	9:00 a.m. Quilters
Wednesday, July 30	10:00 a.m. Women's Study
Saturday, Aug. 2	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast – east <i>McDonald's</i>



**THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN  
IS LIKE A TREASURE BURIED  
IN A FIELD** MT. 13:44

WE ARE HAPPY to have you with us today. We hope that our worship service has meaning for you and that you will come back and worship with us again soon. Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion. If you are unable to approach the communion rail and would like to receive communion, please let one of the ushers know and we will come to you. Grape juice (yellow) is available in the center of each tray. For those who wish, a nursery is provided during the worship service just off the South Lobby area, for children ages 5 and younger.

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS are found in the back of the pew in front of you. If you wish, please fill them out and hand them to the usher during the hymn after the sermon. PEW PADS are found at the inside end of each pew. Please fill them out, pass them down to the end, and then return them to the center.

PLEASE RECYCLE THE BULLETINS: You are encouraged to take home any part of the bulletin that you would like. **Please** recycle the pieces that you do not choose to keep by putting them at either end of the pews at the back of the church. Help us save some trees! Thanks.

RIDE MINISTRY: Since there are now several people at church who need rides to worship, we are forming a Ride Ministry. If you are interested in helping out please call the church office @ 745-4222 or talk with Lois Hiller, 742-6455.

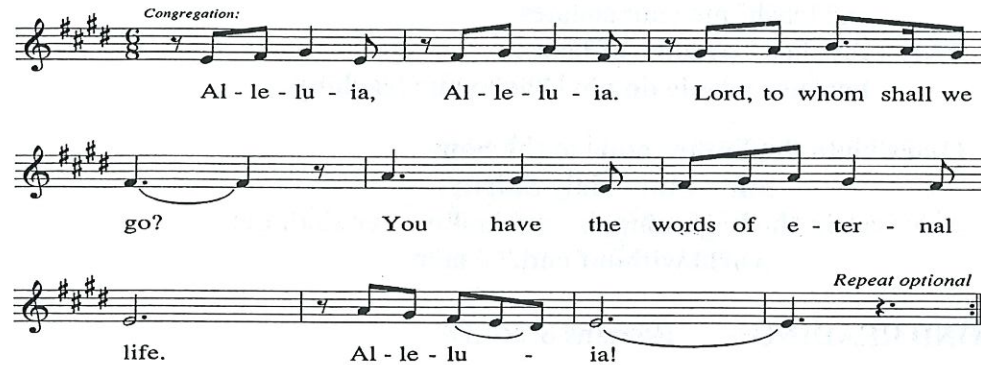


"For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

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

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat optional*

### \*GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.*

<sup>31</sup>He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

<sup>33</sup>He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

<sup>44</sup>The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>Have you understood all this? They answered, "Yes." <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### CHILDREN'S TIME:

Pastor Gene Zeller

### SERMON:

Pastor Gene Zeller

\*HYMN: "God of Grace and God of Glory"

#705

### \*APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled by the Spirit, let us join the whole people of God in Christ Jesus in praying for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*



Gracious Lord, the unfolding of your words gives light to those who love your name throughout the world. Fill the hearts of all preachers and teachers with your wisdom. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your earth is filled with abundant life: fish, animals, and plants of all shapes and sizes, from the smallest shrub to the greatest tree. Teach us to conserve these gifts for the benefit of all. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Righteous God, people of all nations clamor for justice. Give their leaders understanding minds to discern between good and evil, govern wisely, and listen to their suffering people. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Faithful One, we trust that all things work together for good. Bring hope to those who have no job, who have no place to call home, or who are in any need. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Search our hearts and minds and open the doors of this congregation to those who seek refuge or need a place to belong, that all who come to us find shelter in our life together. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Your face shines upon those faithful servants who now rest with you in your heavenly kingdom. Remind us that neither death nor life can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

#### **\*PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always,  
**And also with you.**

#### **OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY**

because I long for<sup>1</sup> your commandments.  
<sup>132</sup>**Turn to me and be gra-<sup>1</sup>acious to me,  
as you always do to those who<sup>1</sup> love your name.**  
<sup>133</sup>Order my footsteps<sup>1</sup> in your word;  
let no iniquity have dominion<sup>1</sup> over me.  
<sup>134</sup>**Rescue me from those<sup>1</sup> who oppress me,  
and I will keep<sup>1</sup> your commandments.**  
<sup>135</sup>Let your face shine up-<sup>1</sup> on your servant  
and teach<sup>1</sup> me your statutes.  
<sup>136</sup>**My eyes shed<sup>1</sup> streams of tears,  
because people do not<sup>1</sup> keep your teaching.**

**Glory be to the Father and<sup>1</sup> to the Son:  
and to the<sup>1</sup> Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and e-<sup>1</sup>ver shall be:  
world without end.<sup>1</sup> Amen.**

#### **SECOND READING: Romans 8:26–39**

*These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.*

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.  
<sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

<sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,



**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY:** (In unison)

Let us pray.

**Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** "Morning Prayer" Tchaikovsky  
Jennifer, Rebecca, and Derk Lyford, Amy Wright

**FIRST READING:** 1 Kings 3:5-12

*Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well. In verse 13 God gives him additional honor and riches beyond compare.*

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the LORD that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

**PSALM:** Psalm 119:129-136

<sup>129</sup>Your de- | crees are wonderful;  
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

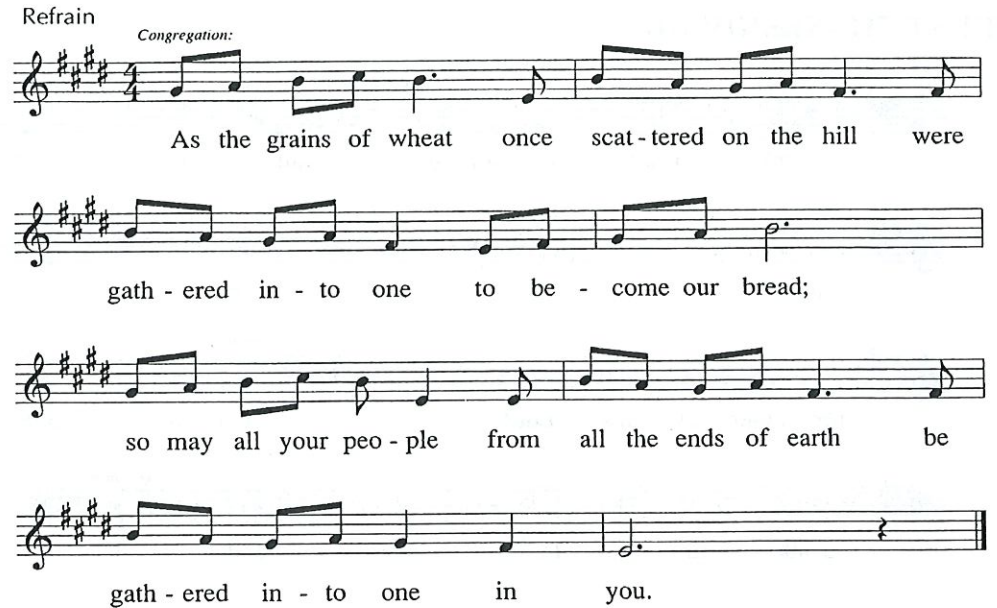
<sup>130</sup>**When your word is opened | it gives light;**  
**it gives understanding | to the simple.**

<sup>131</sup>I open my | mouth and pant

**\*CONGREGATIONAL OFFERTORY**

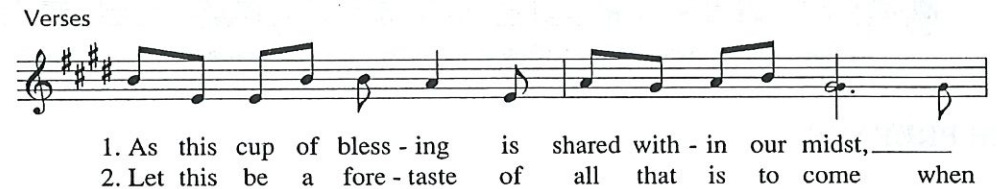
Refrain

Congregation:



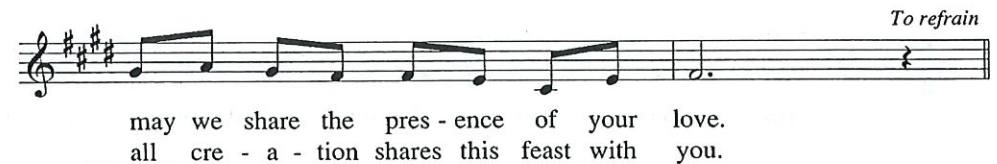
As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo - ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,  
2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

To refrain



may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

**\*PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**



## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

### \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Presider:* The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al - so with  
you. *Presider:* Lift up your hearts. *Congregation:* We  
lift them to the Lord. *Presider:* Let us give  
thanks to the Lord our God. *Congregation:* It is  
right to give God thanks and praise.

### \*PROPER PREFACE

### \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*Congregation:* Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the  
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

### \*NOW THE FEAST

*Refrain*  
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion  
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;  
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!  
1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has  
freed and u - nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of God. *Refrain*

2 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo - ple of  
God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

**\*KYRIE**

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

3rd time to Coda

Lord, have mer - cy,  
For the reign of God, and for  
For your peo - ple here who have

Christ, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u - ni-ty of all, let us pray to the  
come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the

Coda

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.  
cy. A - men.

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\*THE 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;**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

**\*LAMB OF GOD**


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,  
grant us peace, grant us peace.



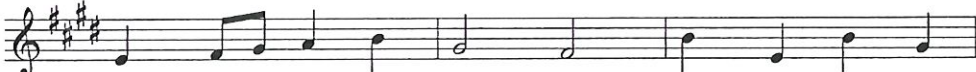
## DISTRIBUTION

### \*POST COMMUNION HYMN


*Congregation:*




1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:




Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice




weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!




Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -




mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.



3. Praise to you O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

### \*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

In the presence of God,  
who sees our hearts and our minds.  
let us confess our sin.

*(Silence for reflection)*

God our strength,  
**We confess that we are captive to the power of sin  
that dwells within us.**  
**We put ourselves first and others last.**  
**What we think will make us happy  
leaves us longing for more.**  
Even when we want to do what is good,  
**We find ourselves doing the opposite.**  
**Rescue us from death's grip on our lives,  
and raise us up day by day,  
that we may be alive to God in Christ Jesus.**  
**Amen.**

Sisters and brothers,  
all have fallen short of the glory of God;  
therefore we are justified by God's grace as a gift.  
Nothing can separate us  
from the love of God in + Christ Jesus,  
in whom we have forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation.  
**Amen.**

### \*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**



# TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

107 South 7th Street — Laramie, Wyoming 82070  
(307) 745-4222 e-mail: telc@qwestoffice.net  
web-site: telclaramie.com



God's Work . . .  
. . . Our Hands

Interim Pastor..... Gene Zeller  
Congregation President..... Terri Rittenburg  
Office Secretary..... Colleen Miner  
Organist/Pianist ..... Xu Meng  
Choir Director..... Larry Hazlett

Sunday, July 27, 2014 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
*Holy Communion*

\*Standing

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

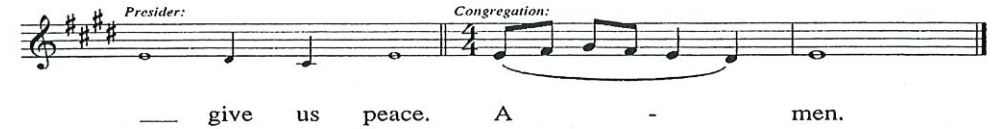
\*HYMN: “Oh, Worship the King” #842

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

## \*BLESSING

Presider: May God bless us and keep us.  
May God's face shine on us and be gracious.  
May God look on us with favor and + give us peace.



## PARISH SHARING TIME

\*HYMN: “O Living Bread from Heaven” #542

## \*SENDING

## \*POSTLUDE

### God's Hidden Power

What is the power of God like? What comes to mind are usually images that are big, dramatic, and forceful: great storms of wind or water; loud, triumphant music; castles or armies of a "kingdom." Something you couldn't possibly ignore or overlook. Surely the power of God would announce its presence unmistakably and cut everything else down to size.

Yet when Jesus tries to describe the power of God—the "kingdom of heaven"—in parables, he chooses very different images: a bit of yeast in a woman's hands being mixed into dough; a tiny seed growing in the dark of the ground. These are images of power that is hidden and easily overlooked. The power of God does not look powerful at all at first glance. It is hidden in small and negligible forms. This hidden power does amazing things, though—raising a huge amount of dough, enough to feed a whole village; growing into a plant so large it can shelter many. The power of God is not a power to force or compel that acts on others from the outside; it is power to grow that acts from within.

We have seen God's power act in this way in our day to transform societies, in the nonviolent action movements of India, of the American civil rights movement, of the women's peace movement in Liberia (which was started by a woman in a Lutheran church!). The people in these movements did not look powerful to the outside world, and yet they acted as a leavening agent which brought about momentous change for good. On a more intimate scale, God's hidden power also transforms individual lives through the kind of compassion that understands another's world from the inside and helps open it up to hope and growth. These are the sorts of transformations we are praying for whenever we pray "Your kingdom come."



## COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday, July 28, 2014**

**Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672;  
George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians**

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, *Messiah*, is a setting of scriptural texts.

**Tuesday, July 29 - Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany**

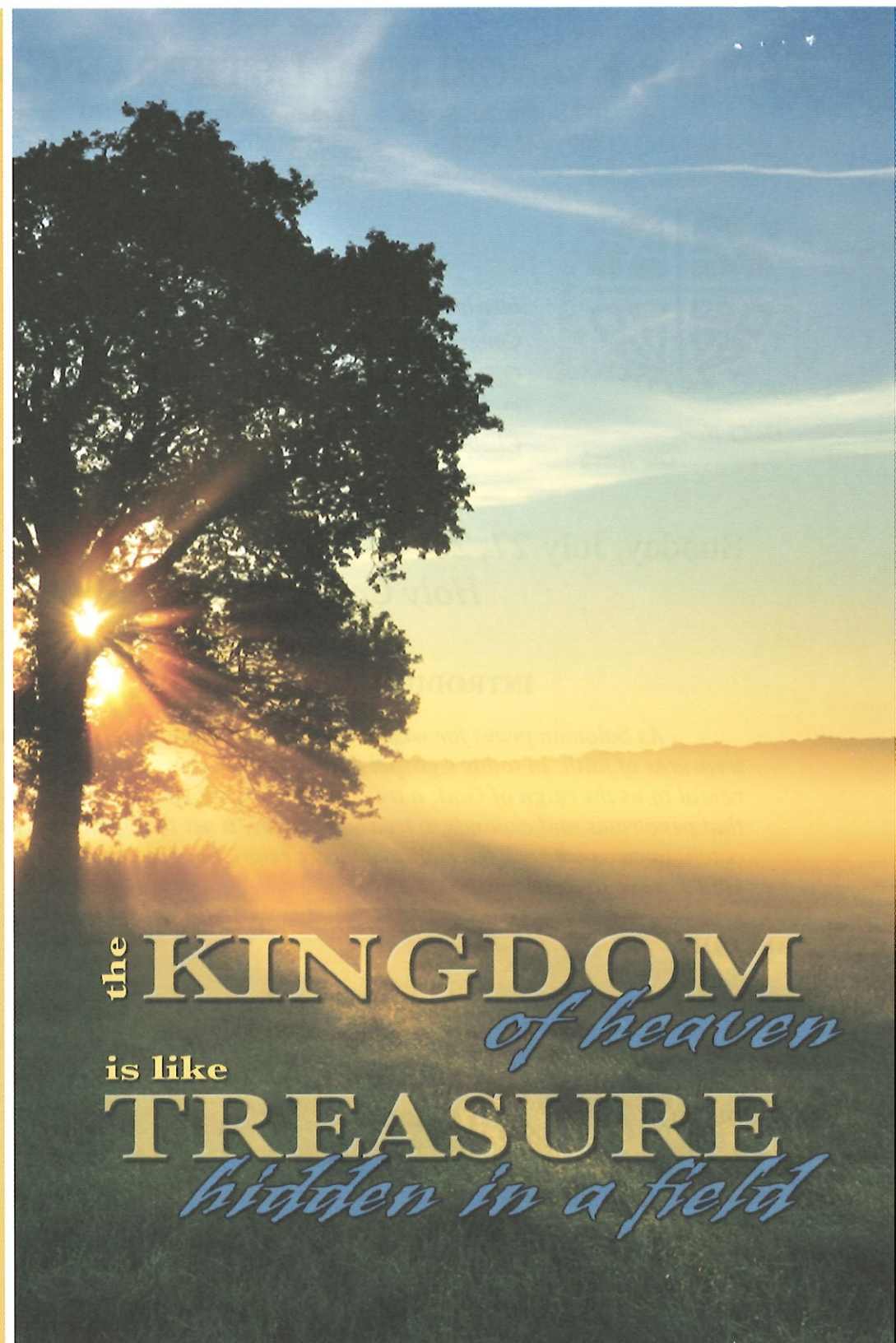
Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.

**Tuesday, July 29 - Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030**

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.

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the **KINGDOM**  
*of heaven*  
is like  
**TREASURE**  
*hidden in a field*