

***Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
of South Newstead
September 14th, 2025
Holy Cross Day***



This festival, which originated in the fourth century, celebrates the triumph of the cross. Paul reminds us that Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. As Moses put a serpent on a pole to be a source of healing for the Israelites, we lift high the cross as the sign of our health and salvation. Each time we make the sign of the cross we remember our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

**PRELUDE – WELCOME –
ANNOUNCEMENTS - PRAYER REQUESTS**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

ALL: Amen.

L: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

L: Merciful and loving God,

ALL: we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.**

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

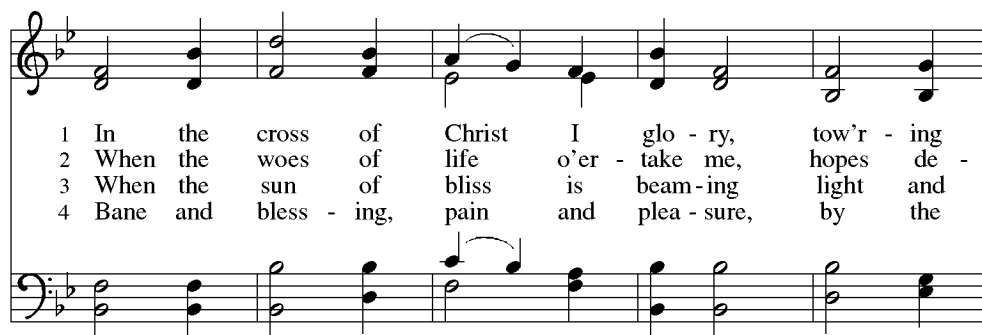
You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

ALL: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN: In the Cross of Christ I Glory
Green Book: 104**

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam-ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - dianc stream-ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872
 Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815-1867

*GREETING:

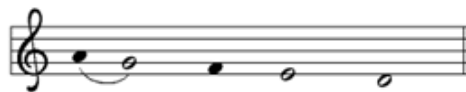
L: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

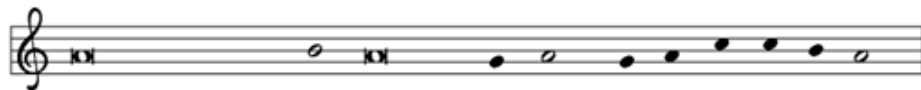
*KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



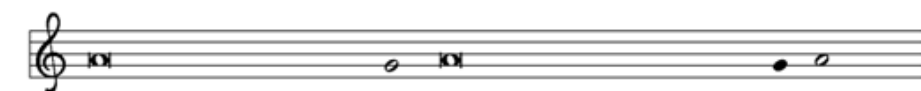
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



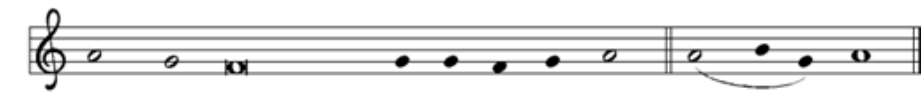
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you,
ALL: And also with you.

L: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**

FIRST READING: Numbers 21: 4b-9

[From Mount Hor the Israelites set out,] ^{4b} but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵ The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

L: The word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 98:1-4

L:¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

**ALL:² O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

L:³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**ALL:⁴ Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

L: ¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

L: The word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 3:13-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

L: [Jesus said:] ¹³ “No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON: Pastor Rick Mollenkopf-Grill

***HYMN OF THE DAY: Lift High the Cross**
Green Book: 377

* APOSTLES CREED

L: We are God's people. Joining together, let us confess our faith:

ALL: 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 power of 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**

L: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

L: Sustaining God, guide your church on the way. Give us patience in our journey, and protect us from division and doubt. May we look to the cross and live. Guide churches in transition, especially Zion Lutheran Church of Gasport. God of grace,

ALL: receive our prayer.

L: Creator God, renew the earth. Heal our planet from the venom of greed and exploitation, and direct us to respect all life as a gift from you. May we look to the cross and live. God of grace,

ALL: receive our prayer.

L: God of wisdom, grant discernment to those in authority. Thwart the plans of the proud, bring low the mighty, and uphold those who work for peace. May they seek the way of the cross and live. God of grace,

ALL: receive our prayer.

L: God of grace, alleviate suffering. Comfort the sick and the grieving (*especially*). Come to the aid of those who are hungry or needing shelter. May they find hope in the cross and live. God of grace,

ALL: receive our prayer.

L: Good Shepherd, guide your flock. Protect us from the world's lies and lead us in the way of truth. Strengthen us in our faith and inspire us to serve others. May we follow you to the cross and live. God of grace,

ALL: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Merciful God, you receive into your loving embrace those who have died. Giving thanks for them, may we find comfort in the cross and live in the hope of resurrection. God of grace,

ALL: receive our prayer.

L: And knowing that you hear our needs that are too deep for words to express, we share those needs with you now in this time of silent prayer.

A moment for silent prayer...

L: God of grace, **ALL: receive our prayer.**

L: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

ALL: Amen.

*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

ALL: And also with you.

You are invited to greet your neighbors with a sign of Christ's peace.



SCAN ME

OFFERING

Any financial gifts you wish to give towards the ministry of Trinity may be placed in the offering plate as it is passed around or at the rear of the sanctuary. You may also give your offering online using the QR code provided or go to trinitysouthnewstead.org/give. We give thanks for your sharing of your offerings this and every day.

*OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

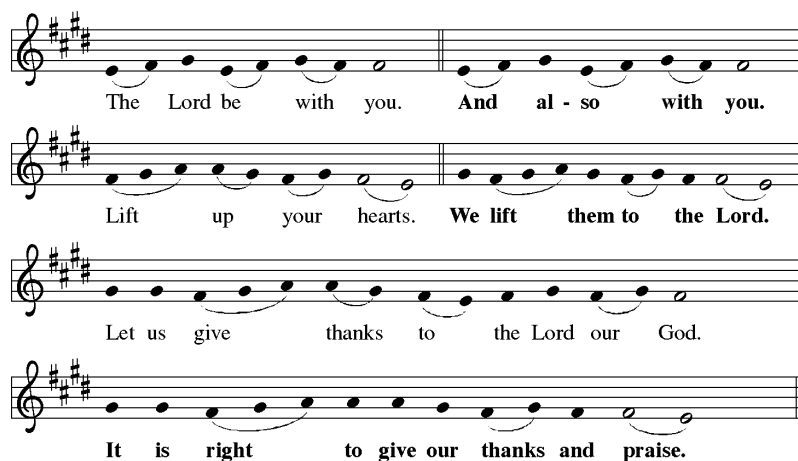
*OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray together. Lord of the harvest,

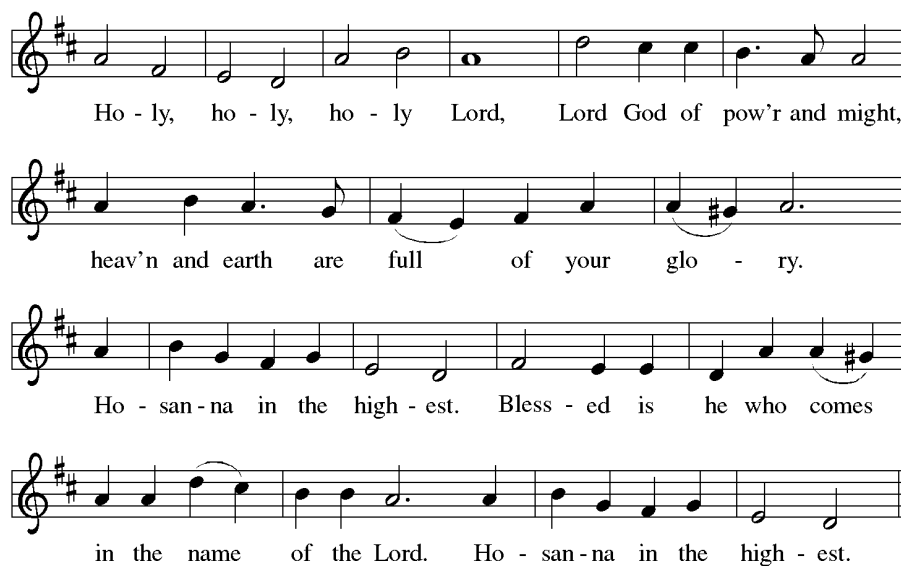
ALL: we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us.

Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the
choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



L: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the
remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is
the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do
this for the remembrance of me.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray: **ALL: 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.**

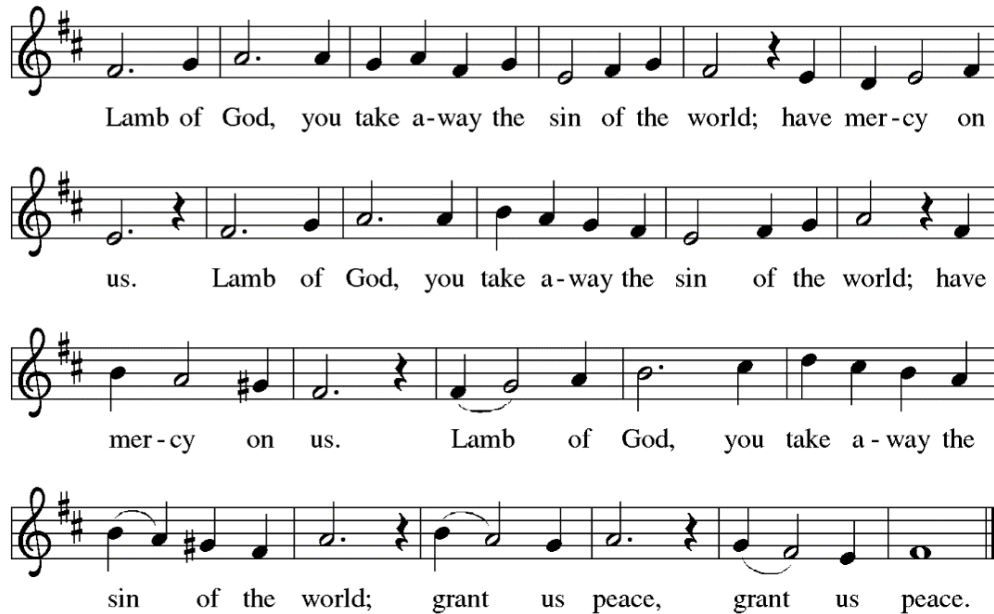
*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

The minister will give instruction on the distribution of communion.

COMMUNION HYMN: Lamb Of God



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

COMMUNION HYMN:

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

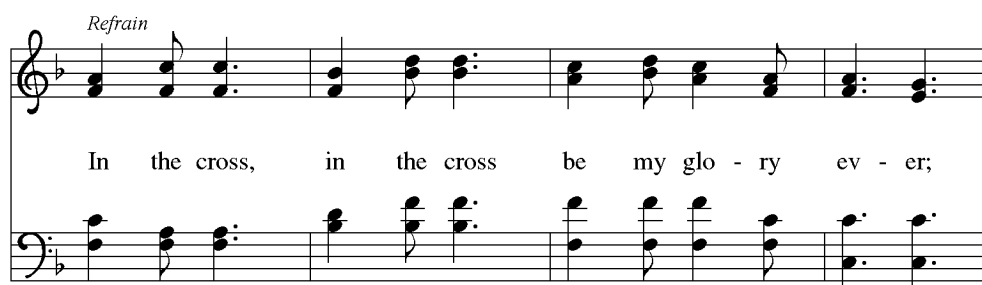


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

COMMUNION HYMN: by request, if needed

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in God's grace, now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

L: Let us pray together: O God,

**ALL: through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.**

**Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

***BLESSING**

L: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, bless you now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross – Green Book: 482**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, adapt. Edward Miller, 1731–1807

*DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

About Today's Readings:

Numbers 21:4b-9

When the people spoke against God and Moses, the Lord sent poisonous snakes against them. Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord ordered him to erect a serpent of bronze on a pole. All who looked at it after having been bitten by a serpent would live.

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

At the heart of the Christian message is the word of the cross. This proclamation seems foolish to many because it reveals true divine power in the absolute weakness of Christ's crucifixion. True wisdom understands how ours is a God who suffers for and with humankind in the cross.

John 3:13-17

After explaining to Nicodemus that one must be born of water and Spirit, Jesus speaks of being lifted up on the cross, with reference to the bronze serpent lifted up by Moses in the desert. Here the Son of God is revealed as the source of healing.

Worship liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Hold in Prayer:

To add someone to the prayer list in the bulletin/beacon, add them to the list in the back of the Sanctuary or contact the church office. If you would like your prayer concern to be shared through our One Call system, please call Sue Kidder at 716-542-2095.

We pray for healing, strength and patience for those we love going through difficult times:

Dale Kruschke

Ray Francis

David Kennedy

Bill Kittel Sr.

April Keefe

John Lindner

Jonathon Kropelin

Kathy Baty

Chris Anderson

Kate Powell

Wes

We pray for patience, strength and support for the families and friends of:

Mary Jo Schumacher

Lisa Black

Joan Wiesacki

Daryl Mazza

Weekly:

Sunday worship at 9:30

Sunday School at 10:45

Thursdays at 10am Bible Study (see Bible Study list for location)

Food Pantry:

First Monday of the Month: Food Pantry setup @ 8am

First Tuesday of the month: Food Pantry distribution @ 8am

Counters: September: Jennifer, October: Glenn

Council: October 14th at 7:00

Office Info: Pastor Rick: Tuesdays 10:00-1:00 p.m. and by appointment

Tracy: Call, text or email any time. Tuesdays: 9:30-2:30, Thursdays: remote

Upcoming

TBD: Corn Shucking!

Today: Prayer Pal Reveal at noon at Sue's

October 11th: Chowder Sale

Bible Study

Trinity's Bible Study has merged in with the NOEL (Niagara Orleans Ev. Lutherans) cluster of churches' Bible Study! Consider this your invitation to join, make new friends, and gain new insights into the Word and faith.

Pastor Rick, Pastor Craig, and Pastor Sohail lead this Bible Study, which is at 10 am Thursdays. The location rotates among the NOEL churches:

-**September 18th:** Zion Lutheran, 4447 Central Ave, Gasport

-**September 25th:** St. Johns, St. John's Lutheran Church, 10213 Rosevelt Hwy, Lyndonville

-**October 2nd** – here at Trinity!

-**October 9th** – St Peter – 1355 West Ave. Medina

Sunday School Photos

We would like to get a photo of every student to post on our Sunday School board. We will plan to take photos today – please head downstairs!

SECRET PRAYER PALS REVEAL GET-TOGETHER!

Today! NoonPLACE: Sue Kidder's Home, 13115 Dorsch Road, Akron 716 542-2095

WI-FI: To access our community wifi, go to 'Trinity Guest' on your device, and then when prompted, enter the password:
BeABeacon

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