

**✦ Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost ✦**  
**August 26, 2018 10:00 A.M.**

**GATHERING IN WORSHIP**

*Please use the time during the prelude for quiet meditation to prepare yourself for worship.*

**◆Prelude**

**◆Call to Worship (Responsively)**

Pastor: “O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven or on earth below—You who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in Your way.”

People: **“But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain You. How much less this temple we have built!”**

Pastor: “Yet give attention to your servant’s prayer and his plea for mercy, O Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, ‘My Name shall be there,’ so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place.”

All: **“Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.”**

**◆Hymn of Praise** (BH #412) *Be Thou My Vision*

**◆Invocation**

**The Lord’s Prayer (forgive us our sins...)**

**WORD**

**Scripture Readings**

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18  
Ephesians 6:10-20

**◆Gloria Patri** (BH #109)

**Pastoral Prayer**

**◆Hymn of Preparation** (BH #451) *It is Well With My Soul* (vs. 1,2,4)

**Message** **“Stand Your Ground, In Christ Alone”**  
**Rev. Mark Westlind**

**RESPONSE**

**◆Hymn of Response** *In Christ Alone*

**Prayer of Confession (In Unison)**

**God of Israel and God of Jesus Christ, we would not be here if you had not chosen to touch our lives with your love. Yet we confess that we sometimes have trouble in our decision-making when faced with questions of whether we wholeheartedly serve you or not. We are tempted, often daily, with choices which affect how we live as your faithful people.**

**Forgive us when the choices we make reflect not your glory but our own selfishness. Forgive us when the choices we make contribute to our own prosperity and wellbeing while ignoring the needs of others. Forgive us when the choices we make diminish our awareness of you, O God, in the midst of those who suffer. Gracious and loving God, strengthen us where we are weak with the renewing power of your Spirit so that the choices we make clearly reveal our identity as your faithful people, and as sincere and devoted followers of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord - in whose name we pray. Amen.**

(Silent Reflection)

**Assurance of Pardon (Responsively):**

Pastor: As God listens to our voices and hearts, our brokenness is gathered up and we are made whole, as mercy and hope fill our lives.

**All: We are forgiven. We are transformed into new people. We are clothed with grace and peace, so we may go and serve as God’s people. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Life Together**

**Offering**

Offertory *Freely, Freely*

◆ *Doxology*

◆ Prayer of Dedication

**SENDING**

◆ **Hymn of Dismissal** (BH #424) *We Are Singing*

◆ **Benediction**

**Postlude**

◆ **Indicates those who are able should stand.**

**NOTES OF INTEREST**

Childcare is offered for infants and younger children in the church nursery. If you need directions feel free to ask an usher for assistance.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Marjorie Cassady, Char Dunk-Sladek, Elsie Koler, Barbara Mateer, Grace Persson, Lorraine Sorensen.



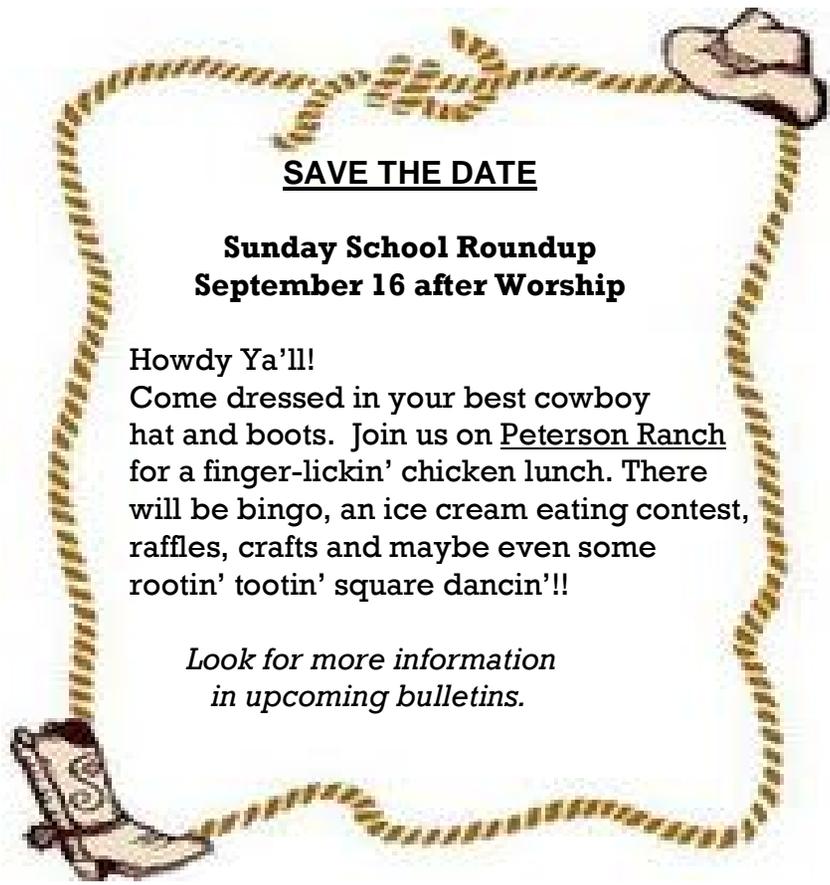
---

Rev. Mark Westlind.....Interim Pastor  
Stuart Seale.....Director of Music and Worship  
Betty Aardema and Nate Van Der Male.....Organists  
Christina Palazzolo.....Director, Noah's Ark Preschool  
Karen Christakos.....Church Secretary  
Joe Michalowicz.....Custodian

---

Trinity Evangelical Covenant Church  
9230 South Pulaski Road - Oak Lawn, IL 60453  
Phone: (708) 422-5111 Fax: (708) 422-1598

Website: [www.trinitycovoaklawn.org](http://www.trinitycovoaklawn.org) Email: [office@trinitycovoaklawn.org](mailto:office@trinitycovoaklawn.org)



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Sunday School Roundup  
September 16 after Worship**

Howdy Ya'll!  
Come dressed in your best cowboy hat and boots. Join us on Peterson Ranch for a finger-lickin' chicken lunch. There will be bingo, an ice cream eating contest, raffles, crafts and maybe even some rootin' tootin' square dancin'!!

*Look for more information  
in upcoming bulletins.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**WELCOME TO TRINITY**

So that we can get to know you better and you can better know us, please complete the tear-off below and place in the offering plate. Thank you!

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Calendar for the Week:**

**Today:**

- 10 A.M.      Worship
- 10 A.M.      Summer Sunday School ages 3 years – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
- 11 A.M.      Coffee and... We are celebrating all August birthdays.

**Next Sunday: Communion**

- 10 A.M.      Worship
- 10 A.M.      Summer Sunday School ages 3 years – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
- Together We Cope retiring offering

**September 2 – Nursery Helpers:** Lorraine Weszely, Shannon Lee  
**Greeters:** Dorothy Karner, Brian Crotty

**Announcements:**

**A Note from the Treasurer**

**Financial Summary thru JULY 2018:**

**EXPENSES VS. BUDGET**

Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$ 155,654
Actual Expenses YTD	<u>\$ 139,288</u>
Cost Savings/(Overrun)	\$ 16,366

**GIVING VS. BUDGET**

Giving YTD	\$ 128,473
Budgeted Giving YTD	<u>\$ 110,350</u>
Giving Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 18,123

**INCOME VS. EXPENSES**

Income YTD	\$ 128,473
Expenses YTD	<u>\$ 139,288</u>
Actual Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (10,815)

**October Adult Sunday School**

In October join us in the Fireside Room after worship with Dr. Paul Bishoff leading the class on "Dietrich Bonhoeffer: A 20<sup>th</sup> Century Martyr".

## Today's Scripture:

### Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.

<sup>2</sup>Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods.

<sup>14</sup>"Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup>But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! <sup>17</sup>It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. <sup>18</sup>And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God."

### Ephesians 6:10-20

<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of

this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup>Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup>Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,<sup>15</sup>and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.<sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.