23rd Sunday after Trinity

November 8, 2026

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Welcome to All Souls Reformed Church. We are glad you are here! If you are a visitor this morning, please take a moment to look through the Order of Worship below. Where you see a cross symbol (✢) the congregation will stand, and where you see **BOLD TEXT** the congregation will speak aloud in response to the minister.*

Please prepare your hearts to worship Father, Son, and Holy Spirit by reflecting on the Call to Worship below.

Welcome & Announcements

Votum & Salutation

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

Processional

CALL TO WORSHIP

God comes near and calls His people out of the world to gather in His presence. He graciously takes hold of us and brings us near to Himself.

✢**Call To Worship** | Psalm 135:13-19

Pastor: Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages.

People: For the LORD will vindicate his people and have compassion on his servants.

Pastor: The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of human hands.

People: They have mouths, but do not speak; they have eyes, but do not see;

Pastor: they have ears, but do not hear, nor is there any breath in their mouths.

People: Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

Pastor: O house of Israel, bless the LORD! O house of Aaron, bless the LORD!

ALL: AMEN!

✢**Response of God's People**

Trinity Hymnal 735 | Gloria Patri

✢Prayer of Adoration

✢Response of God's People
Trinity Hymnal 11 | Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

While the Law exposes our sin God reminds us what He has done for us in Christ and declares His interest in restoring us again to His favor in Christ. Therefore, we confess our sins and our faith and God absolves us of guilt graciously reminding us that we bear the name Christian and are members of His family. In this way God tears us from our old sinful ways and renews His love for us in Christ.

Summary of the Law
Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'
The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'
There is no other commandment greater than these.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

People: The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

Minister: Let us confess our sins before the Lord, looking to Christ Jesus our Savior.
All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

✢Absolution
Minister: Rise up O, Brothers and Sisters,
Therefore, upon this the promise of God's Word and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, receive the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and by His grace go on to walk in the faith you here confess.
People: Thanks be to God!
All: Amen!

✢**Hymn of Praise**
Trinity Hymnal 302|Come, Christians, Join to Sing

CONSECRATION

We rejoice in God's gracious forgiveness knowing that through the preached Word God speaks to us, reordering our lives, and equipping us for Christian service. As His people we respond not only with the sacrifice of praise but also by giving of ourselves and of our gifts as fitting offerings.

Liturgical Homily

23rd Sunday After Trinity

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dear Saints of God in Christ Jesus,

On this the 23rd Sunday after Trinity, our lectionary readings from God's Word will teach us the importance of rendering to God the things that are His.

When confronted with the civic duty of paying taxes, our Lord Jesus, Wisdom incarnate, walked "in the way of righteousness, in the paths of justice" and discerned that wisdom "is better than jewels" and "better than gold, even fine gold" (Proverbs 8).

When we set our minds on earthly things, such as wealth and passing glory, our "end is destruction" (Philippians 3:19). However, our humble and prudent Lord has rendered "to God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21), namely, perfect fear, love, and trust, as well as the complete sacrifice for our sin. In so doing, He also rendered to Caesar the things of honor and justice, submitting to the law of the land that put Him on the cross. The true "riches and honor are with Him," because "enduring wealth and righteousness" (Proverbs 8:18) are found in our heavenly citizenship from which "we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ." He "will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself" (Philippians 3).

Old Testament Reading|Proverbs 8:11-22

"for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her. "I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion. The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate. I have counsel and sound wisdom; I have insight; I have strength. By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just; by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly. I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me. Riches and honor are with me, enduring wealth and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold, and my yield than choice silver. I walk in the way of

righteousness, in the paths of justice, granting an inheritance to those who love me, and filling their treasuries. "The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of old."

☩Congregational Singing
Trinity Hymnal 642 | Be Thou My Vision

☩Confession of Faith | The Apostles' Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.
**that is, the true Christian church of all times and all places*

Epistle Reading | Philippians 3:17-21
"Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself." (Philippians 3:17-21, ESV)

Pastoral Prayer
Pastor: Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

✢Gospel Reading | Matthew 22:15-22

"Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away."

✢Hymn of Preparation

Trinity Hymnal 101 | Come, Thou Almighty King (verses 1&2)

Sermon

Prayer of Consecration

✢Response of God's People

Trinity Hymnal 731 | Doxology

COMMUNION

God invites us to commune with Him at His covenant meal, and we respond by memorializing His covenant and enjoying His faithful provisions at the Table of the Lord.

Service of the Sacrament

{All Souls Reformed Church invites all baptized Christians whose lives are in keeping with Christ's commands to come forward to the Lord's Table and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus, who is truly present among us in the sacrament of Holy Communion. We ask that you retain the cup until all are served that we might partake of it together. ***Wine is in the outer 2 rings. Grape juice in the center & inner ring****.}*

✢Responsive Prayer of Thanksgiving & Sanctus

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And with your spirit.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts!
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is proper and right to do so.
Pastor: Let us pray

It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, who in the multitude of your saints did surround us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, rejoicing in their fellowship, may run with patience the race that is set before us and, together with them, may receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and declaring:

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts! Heaven and earth are full of Your glory!

Communion Invitation

Let the Church hear these words of comfort and welcome from her Lord who instituted the sacrament of Holy Communion on the night when He was betrayed:

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Likewise our Lord's Apostles declare by divine authority:

"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...." 1 Timothy 1:15

"...if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins..." 1 John 2:1-2

Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

We do not presume to come to this your Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but trusting only in your numerous and great mercies towards us. Though we are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your Table, we know you to be the same Lord who has only ever shown to us and our children kindness, mercy, and covenant love. We look therefore by faith to the promise of our baptisms and to the truth of the gospel as we now heed with glad and grateful hearts the welcoming voice of Christ who calls us to His table.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Responsive Salutation | Psalm 121:1-2; Psalm 124:8

Pastor: I lift up my eyes to the hills.

People: From where does my help come?

All: My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth

Pastor: Blessed are those who are invited to the Supper of the Lamb. Let us therefore pray the words our Lord taught us when He said:

The Lord's Prayer
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, for ever and ever. Amen.

☩Communion Hymn
Trinity Hymnal 469 | How Sweet & Awesome Is the Place

☩Words of Institution | 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
"For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

☩Administration of the Sacrament

☩Nunc Dimittis - Song of Simeon
Lord, let your servant depart in peace according to your word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.

☩Closing Prayer
Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise you for feeding us with the life-giving body and blood of your beloved son Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with our mouths received the holy Sacrament, we may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION & COMMISSIONING

God blesses us and charges us to extend His kingdom into the future and into the world, making disciples of all nations. We are dismissed from God's special presence, renewed and equipped for this task.

☩Benediction & Recessional

Minister: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: Amen!