



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 27, 2026 + 11:00 a.m.

TRINITY LOWER EAST SIDE LUTHERAN PARISH
in the City of New York

Welcome to worship!

We are so pleased to have you with us this morning for worship and we believe that your presence among us more fully completes our community.

Trinity Lower East Side Lutheran Parish is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a denomination of 2.7 million members in 8,400 congregations who welcome people of all genders and sexual orientations into membership and ministry and are enthusiastically ecumenical. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation that fully welcomes and affirms LGBTQIA+ people and works to erase all discrimination against them. We grieve over the systemic racism of our society and are committed to the work of dismantling it.

We welcome everyone into membership regardless of race, economic means, married/single status, sexual orientation, or gender expression and/or identity. Whoever you are, whatever your identities, whoever you love, and wherever you are on your journey of life and faith, you are welcome here!

Please silence all mobile devices. Two single-stall, all-gender restrooms are located in the Community Room on the first floor. A changing table for infants is available.

If you're visiting us this morning and would like to keep in touch,

- Add your name and contact information to the guest book on the Welcome Table at the sanctuary entrance.
- Follow us on social media:
 - Facebook: @TrinityLES
 - Youtube: @trinitylowereastsideluther2220 (including livestreams of worship)
 - Instagram: @TrinityLES.NYC
 - Follow our feeding ministry @TrinitySAFH on all platforms

Our Schedule:

Mon – Fri: 11:00am, Soup Kitchen; 12:30pm, Food Pantry
Mon: 7:00pm, “Valley of the Dolls” NA Group
Wed: 7:30pm, STP Creative Foundation
Thurs: 7:30pm, “Clean and Dry” AA Group
Sun: 11:00am, Worship Service
6:00pm “Unity” NA Group

Those Who Serve:

Pastor: The Rev. William Kroeze
(pastor@trinitylowereastside.org)
Pastoral Intern: Vicar Wayne Olsen
(vicar@trinitylowereastside.org)
Pianist: Paul Staroba
Choir Director: Alex Lawrence
Administrator: Gillian Fox Orwoll
(office@trinitylowereastside.org)

Our Outreach:

To carry out our ministry of deed, Trinity LES has a separately incorporated non-profit program, **Trinity's Services And Food for the Homeless** (also known as SAFH, pronounced “safe”) which operates a soup kitchen, food pantry, and offers connections to other services. Between 150-250 meals are served each day, and around 30-40 families are given groceries from our pantry Monday through Friday. Volunteers are always needed. Visit safhnyc.org for more information

Trinity Lower East Side Lutheran Parish is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Mohican and Munsee Lenape peoples and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

+ Gathering +

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Please stand at the ringing of the bell.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
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.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ | *La gracia de nuestro Señor Jesucristo*,
the Love of God | *el amor de Dios*,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit | *y la comunión del Espíritu Santo*
be with you all. | *sean con ustedes*.

And also with you. | *Y también contigo*.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

Refrain, sung by Assembly



Verses sung by soloist

1. Oh God, heavenly ruler, source of life for all
We worship you, we give you thanks,
We praise you for your glory... *Refrain*

2. The one Jesus Christ, the only child of God,
Takes away our sins, the sovereign lamb of God,
Have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of our Father,
Receive our prayer... *Refrain*

3. For you're the holy one.
You alone the heir.
You alone are the most high Jesus,
With the Holy Spirit.
In the glory of God, our Mother, our Father. Amen. Amen.... *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of love, giver of life,
you know our frailties and failings.
Give us your grace to overcome them,
keep us from those things that harm us,
and guide us in the way of salvation,
through Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+ Word +

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have

committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

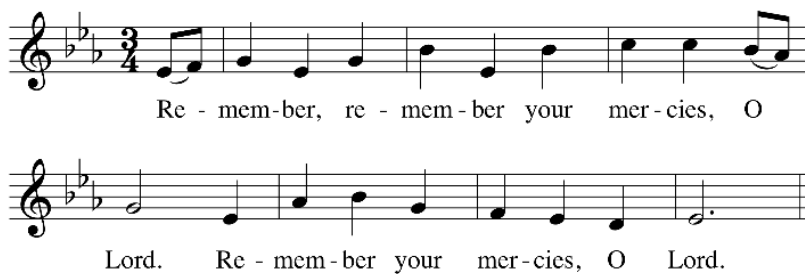
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 25

The refrain is sung by all. The verses are sung by the cantor.



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O Lord, make me know your ways
Teach me your paths
Guide me in your truth, and teach me;
For you are the God of my salvation
You are the God of my salvation **Refrain**

Remember your compassion, O Lord
And your merciful love, for they are from of old
Do not remember the sins of my youth
Nor my transgressions
In your merciful love remember me
Because of your goodness, your goodness, O Lord **Refrain**

Good and upright is the Lord
He shows the way, he show the way to sinners
He guides the humble in right judgment
To the humble, he teaches his way **Refrain**

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-13

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

The acclamation is sung before and after the reading of the Gospel.



The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’” ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967

Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way.

Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling.

Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need, especially those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. Grant us your salvation.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your steadfast love holds all the saints who have finished their work and are at rest.

As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ Meal +

OFFERING

An offering is collected to support the work of the church in our community and the world. Gifts may also be made online at www.trinitylowereastside.org/give as one-time or recurring contributions or on Venmo using the QR code.



venmo

AT THE PRESENTATION

As the people's gifts of bread, wine, and money are brought forward we stand to sing:



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;

3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



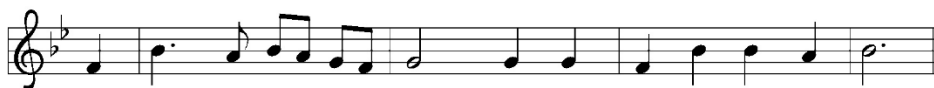
with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;

the gold-en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;

Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.

and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN, Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of creation,

you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.

All blessings are from you;

make us generous with what we have.

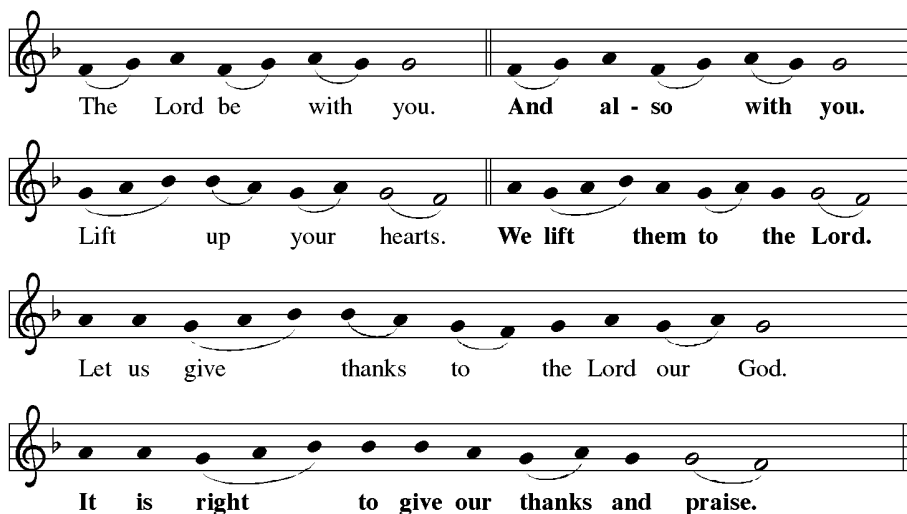
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

in service to you and in love to our neighbors,

today and always.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



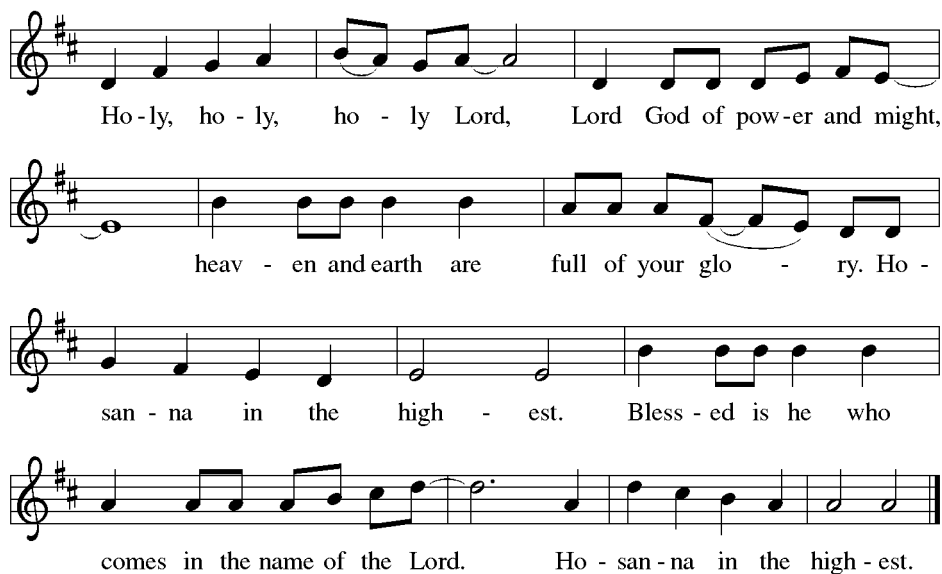
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... *here the presiding minister continues the Proper Preface, concluding ... we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ... *Here the Presiding Minister continues with the Eucharistic Prayer including the Words of Institution, concluding with ... with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.*

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

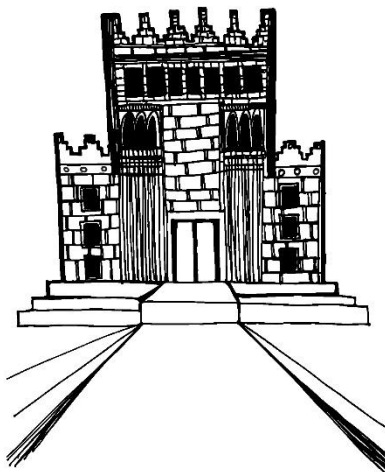
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu reino.
Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra
como en el cielo.**

**Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas
como también nosotros
perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación
y líbranos del mal.**

**Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder y tuya es la gloria, ahora
y siempre. Amén.**



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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table to receive communion. Wafers are low gluten. The silver chalice contains wine and the ceramic chalice contains grape juice.

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm goin' - a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: WELCOME TABLE, African American spiritual; arr. Mark Hayes, b. 1953

Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

+ Sending +

BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

What God Ordains is Good Indeed

ELW 776

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

40TH ANNIVERSARY GALA FOR TRINITY'S SERVICES, OCT 2

You are invited to celebrate with Trinity's Services And Food for the Homeless on 40 years of continuous service to the East Village community and beyond. At this gala, we will recognize four incredible decades of food made with love and served with dignity to our neighbors in need. Buy tickets at safhnyc.org.

SAVE THE DATE: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS OCT 4

Inspired by St. Francis of Assisi and his love of all of God's creatures, we celebrate the annual Blessing of the Animals on Oct 4. All pets are welcome to join us for worship that morning, and a brief outdoor blessing will be offered in the garden at 1:00pm for those who might struggle being present for a full service.

"SUNDAY TOGETHER" - A NEW CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We are thrilled to announce a new children's ministry called Sunday Together, a special time for young children (ages 0-4) and those who care for them led by Mari. Continuing the second Sunday of each month, Sunday Together will include storytelling, movement, play, and new friends. We begin worship together as a community, with children and their adults going downstairs for 30 minutes at the sermon, and joining worship again for communion.

JAZZ WORSHIP THROUGH OCTOBER

Our beloved annual Jazz Worship series lifts our hearts, bodies, and souls every Sunday this fall, through the end of October. The best musicians of Broadway join us each week in inspire us with their improvisation and joyful sounds!

THANK YOU FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE!

Because of your generosity, we have met our goal of collecting school supplies to create fifty fully packed bookbags for the children of our community! Packed bookbags will be distributed to guests of Trinity's Services and to the residents of the Women's Prison Association shelter on 10th St.

INTRODUCING TRINITY'S NEW INTERN

On September 1, we rejoiced to welcome Vicar Wayne Olsen, Trinity's new Pastoral Intern for 2026-2027! A lifelong resident of Northern New Jersey, Vicar Wayne is a student at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa where he has been completing his studies following a career in the music retail industry.

YOU'RE INVITED!

You are invited
to celebrate
**Trinity's Services
and Food
for the Homeless'**
40 years
of continuous
service to the East
Village community
and beyond.

Your presence at this gala helps ensure that we continue to provide nutritious meals and groceries to all who come through our doors. Prepare for a festive night with a cocktail reception with plenty of food, conversation, and words of encouragement from local leaders.

Attire is Festive Cocktail / Business Casual.

**Friday, October 2nd
6:30PM-10:00PM**

RSVP now to secure
your spot

www.safhnyc.org



