

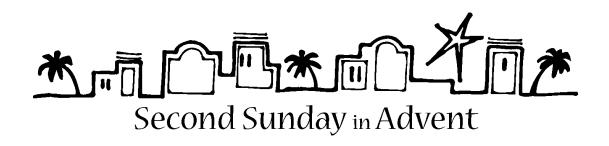
**December 5, 2021** 

# **An Explanation of Our Communion Practice**

Today we are celebrating the Lord's Supper, which is a wonderful gift from our gracious God. In his Word, God teaches that Christians need a proper understanding of the Lord's Supper before receiving it (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). He also tells us that Christians should be completely united before communing together (1 Corinthians 10:17). Therefore, we ask that only members of our fellowship (The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and, worldwide, The Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference) commune at Trinity.

We do want everyone to commune with us. So that everything may be done decently and in good order (1 Corinthians 14:40), we ask for the opportunity to verify that we are united in our beliefs based on God's Word, and then to celebrate that unity publicly in the Sacrament. If you would like to learn more, please speak to Pastor. Thank you for your understanding of our belief and practice.





# December 5, 2021

**Welcome!** Thank you for joining us for worship! In our service we receive God's grace through his Word and sacraments. As he works to strengthen our faith in Jesus, we respond to his goodness with our prayers, praise, and offerings. We are glad to be here and glad that you have joined us today!

- Restrooms are located in the main hallway, narthex, and back classrooms.
- If you wish to step out of the service to calm your child, please feel welcome to use the Fellowship Hall or the Toddler Sunday School Room (located in the back-corner classroom of the building, connected to the Fellowship Hall). Both of these rooms have televisions showing the worship service. Also, please do not hesitate to ask an usher or any member if you need help locating anything. We want to make you feel welcome.

# **Serving the Lord and Serving Us:**

Pastor: Paul Jenkins Usher: Scott Mund

Asst Ushers: Sam Kovaciny

Mathew Mund

**Today's Focus:** Christian hearts rejoice at Jesus' coming, because he brings forgiveness for sinners, peace for hearts, and life forever. Our worship follows *The Common Service*.

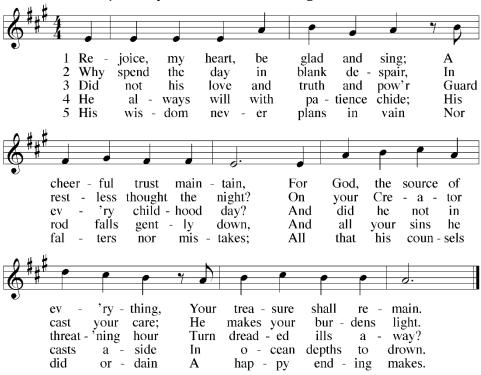
# We Come into the Presence of God

# PASTOR'S GREETING AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

## **MUSICAL INTRODUCTION**

This is an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart and prepare for the joy of worshipping your God.

**OPENING HYMN:** 443, Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing



6 Upon your lips, then, lay your hand, And trust his guiding love; Then like a rock your peace shall stand Here and in heav'n above.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76, abr.; tr. John Kelly, 1833-90, alt.

Tune: ICH SINGE DIR (CM) Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, Frankfurt, 1738, alt.

### INVOCATION

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

#### CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

# C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray. Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C: Amen.

BE SEATED

### THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

### Nehemiah 8:9-18

Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites, who helped the people understand, said to all the people, "Today is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or cry!" because all the people were crying as they heard the words of the Law. <sup>10</sup> Nehemiah said to them, "Go, eat rich food and drink sweet drinks and send portions to those who have nothing prepared, because today is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, because the joy of the LORD is your strength." <sup>11</sup> Then the Levites silenced all the people, saying, "Hush! Today is holy. Do not grieve."

<sup>12</sup> All the people went to eat and drink and to send portions to others and to celebrate with great joy, because they understood the words that had been made known to them.

<sup>13</sup> Now on the second day, the heads of the families of all the people, the priests, and the Levites were gathered around Ezra the scribe to study the words of the Law. <sup>14</sup> They found written in the Law, which the Lord had commanded by the hand of Moses, that the Israelites should dwell in temporary shelters during the festival of the seventh month, <sup>15</sup> and that they should proclaim this and make this announcement in all their cities and in Jerusalem: "Go out to the mountains and bring branches from olive trees, wild olive trees, myrtle bushes, date palms, and leafy trees to make shelters, as it is written."

<sup>16</sup> So the people went out and brought branches and made shelters for themselves. Each man made a shelter on his roof. They also made shelters in their courtyards, in the courtyards of the house of God, in the square by the Water Gate, and in the square by the Ephraim Gate. <sup>17</sup> The entire congregation that had returned from the captivity made shelters and stayed in the shelters. From the days of Joshua son of Nun until that day, the Israelites had not celebrated in this way, because there was very great joy. <sup>18</sup> Ezra also read from the Book of the Law of God every day of the festival, from the first day to the last day. They celebrated the festival for seven days, and on the eighth day they held an assembly according to the ordinance.

### PSALM OF THE DAY: 130

Out of the depths I have called to you, O LORD.

<sup>2</sup> LORD, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive to the sound of my cry for mercy.

<sup>3</sup> If you, LORD, kept a record of guilt,
O LORD, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup> But with you there is pardon,
so you are feared.

<sup>5</sup> I wait for the LORD. My soul waits,
and in his word I have put my hope.

<sup>6</sup> My soul waits for the LORD
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

<sup>7</sup> Israel, wait confidently for the LORD.

because with the LORD there is mercy. With him there is abundant redemption. <sup>8</sup> So he himself will redeem Israel from all its guilt.

## SECOND LESSON

### Philippians 4:4-7

The Lord's arrival produces constant joy, which expresses itself in gentle, worry-free, prayerful, thankful, peaceful lives.

Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

### VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia. (Matthew 11:10)

STAND

# GOSPEL

#### Luke 3:7-18

Those who trust in Jesus express their joy with lives full of good works.

M: The Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 3.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

So John kept saying to the crowds who came out to be baptized by him, "You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore produce fruits in keeping with repentance! Do not even think of saying to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' because I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. <sup>9</sup> Even now the ax is ready to strike the root of the trees. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is going to be cut down and thrown into the fire."

<sup>10</sup> The crowds began to ask him, "What should we do then?"

<sup>11</sup>He answered them, "Whoever has two shirts should share with the person who has none, and whoever has food should do the same."

<sup>12</sup> Tax collectors also came to be baptized. They said, "Teacher, what should we do?"

13 To them he said, "Collect no more than what you were authorized to."

<sup>14</sup> Soldiers were also asking him, "And what should we do?"

He told them, "Do not extort money from anyone by force or false accusation. Be satisfied with your wages."

<sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might be the Christ. <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But someone mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor. He will gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup> Then with many other words, he appealed to them and was preaching good news to the people.

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

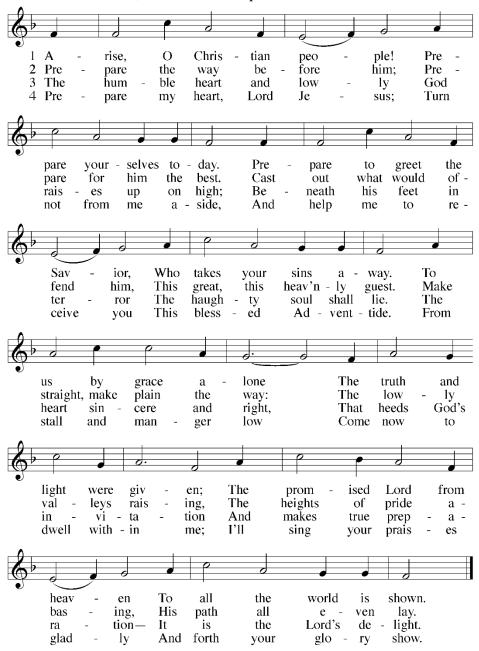
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

RE SEATED

CHILDREN'S SERMON: "Jesus Makes Us Joyful"

# HYMN OF THE DAY: 14 Arise, O Christian People



Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–62, alt.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, st. 1-3, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 4, alt.

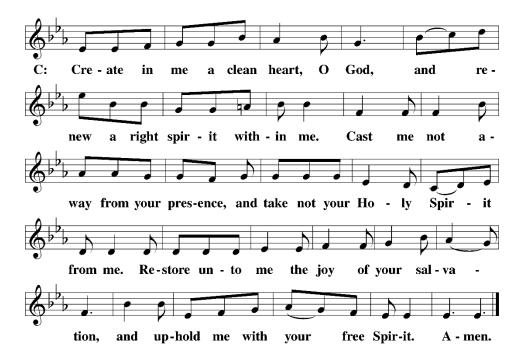
Tune: Aus Meines Herzens Grunde (76 76 67 76) New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein, Hamburg, 1598, alt.

### SERMON

Text: Nehemiah 8:9-18 Theme: Rejoice in the Lord

STAND

## **CREATE IN ME**



#### **OFFERING**

The offering will be collected at the door. You may drop off your offering in the plates either before or after the worship service.

The members of Trinity make joyful offerings to support this church's ministry. A portion of our offerings is also used for the training of future pastors and teachers, and the worldwide mission work carried out by our fellowship, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Our guests are under no obligation to give, but any gifts freely given are welcome and will be put to work in service to God's kingdom.

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

- M: Dear members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sandee Clay, having been baptized and instructed in the teaching of the Word of God, desires to become a member of this congregation.
- M: Sister in Christ, our Lord Jesus Christ promises to confess before his Father in heaven those who faithfully confess him on earth. You have come before this Christian congregation to declare your faith and to unite with us in Christian love and fellowship.

Therefore, lift up your heart to the God of all grace and joyfully answer these questions: Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? If so, answer: I do.

### R: I do.

M: Do you believe that the teaching of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know it from Luther's Small Catechism, is faithful and true to the Word of God? If so, answer: I do.

#### R: I do.

M: Do you intend to continue steadfast in the Christian faith, be diligent in the use of God's Word and sacraments, and lead a godly life even to death? If so, answer: I do, and I ask God to help me.

## R: I do, and I ask God to help me.

M: Will you support with your prayers, time, talents, and offerings the work our Lord has given to this congregation? If so, answer: I will, and I ask God to help me.

# R: I will, and I ask God to help me.

M: Having heard your promises, we, the members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, receive you in fellowship and love, and invite you to share in our worship and mission, in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Stand

M: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, author and perfecter of our faith, in mercy you joined this sister in Christ to your Church when she was born again of water and the Spirit. In mercy you taught her your saving truth. Grant they she may offer herself as a living sacrifice to you as her spiritual act of worship. Help us live in love and harmony with one another and work together in serving you. Keep us united in the Spirit, and bring us at last to your eternal kingdom, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C: Amen.

M: Go in peace.

### LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - SANCTUS



### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

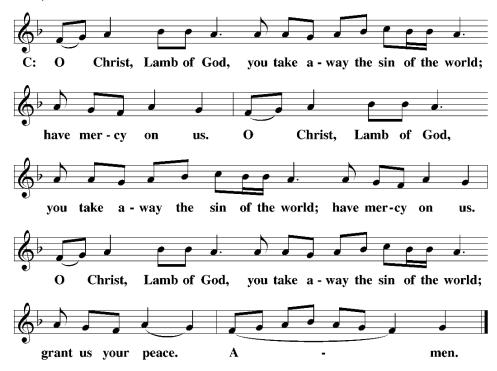
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is (+) my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is (+) my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

### C: Amen.

# O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD - AGNUS DEI



BE SEATED

# **DISTRIBUTION**

# **DISTRIBUTION HYMN:** 313. Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



- 6 Then hold fast with faith unshaken
  That this food is to be taken
  By the souls who are distressed,
  By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 7 Praise the Father, who from heaven Unto us such food has given And, to mend what we have done, Gave into death his only Son.
- 8 If your heart this truth professes
  And your mouth your sin confesses,
  Surely you will be his guest
  And at his banquet ever blest.

Text: John Hus, 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. composite.
 Tune: JESUS CHRISTUS, UNSER HEILAND, DER VON UNS (88 78) Klug, Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, alt.

STAND

### **THANKSGIVING**

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

# C: And his mercy endures forever.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C: Amen.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

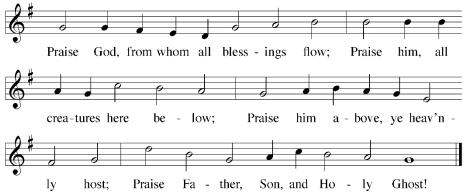
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

#### C: Amen.

BE SEATED

# CLOSING HYMN: 334, Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, abr.

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH (LM) Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551.

# **Trinity Lutheran Church**

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Pastor Paul Jenkins: revpaulienkins@yahoo.com, (309) 433-5807

Dawn Knox Administrative Assistant: AdminAssistant@TrinityofWoodbridge.org, (703) 615-9320

Find us online at <a href="https://www.trinityofWoodbridge.org">www.facebook</a>: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge">www.facebook</a>: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge">www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge</a>: <a href="https://wwww.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge">www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge</

# Warm in Woodbridge Donation Drive -- One Week Left!

Once again, the Sunday School is sponsoring Trinity's "Warm in Woodbridge" campaign!

This is a service project which will support the Woodbridge area HUGS organization which support the homeless souls in our area with food and other supplies.

With colder temps here, they need new cold weather items such as gloves, hats, scarves, socks and blankets.

A donation basket is located in the narthex. Donations are accepted with appreciation until next Sunday, December 12th at the Children's Christmas program. Please contact Vicki Pett with any questions you may have.

### **Christmas Decorations**

A special Thank You to Bob & Vicki Pett and Jim & Merrie Kay Gonyo for putting up the decorations! The congregation is invited to add ornaments anytime they wish. All donations should not include Santa and will be added to the church collection.

# Trinity Women's Bible Study - Not meeting in December

The Trinity Women's Bible Study will not meet for the month of December. We will meet next on Saturday, January 8 to discuss Chapter 4 of "Waiting: A Bible Study on Patience, Hope, and Trust" by Sharla Fritz.

# **In-Person Bible Study**

Our current Bible study topic on Sunday morning is prayer. Other topics to follow through the spring of 2022 will include: friendship evangelism, Mark's Gospel, Lutheran worship, and the prophet Zechariah.

The same sessions are repeated each Wednesday night (Thursdays during Lent and Advent) at 7pm online, for those who teach Sunday school, are out of town on Sunday, or otherwise unable to attend in person. These classes will be on Zoom, with the links provided in pastor's weekly email.

# Midweek Advent Suppers Are Back!

On Wednesdays December 8 and 15, we will gather for midweek Advent suppers and devotions. Doors open at 6; supper is served at 6:15; a brief devotional service starts at 6:45. Please bring a dish or dessert to share if you're able.

# **Trinity's Next Outreach Event**

Our next evangelism effort, which is being coordinated by Trinity's gifted Sunday School staff, will be a giveaway of 60 Christmas gift bags to kids. This will happen on Saturday, December 18, starting at 10am in Trinity's parking lot. It's first-come-first-served, and children must be physically present to receive a gift bag. Please thank a Sunday School teacher for their work on this project.

# Children's Christmas Worship Service -- Next Sunday!

On Sunday December 12, the children of Trinity's Sunday School will lead worship by telling, acting, and singing the Christmas story. There will be no Sunday School or Bible class that morning.

# **Upcoming Bible Class/Sunday School Schedule**

Bible class and Sunday School will not meet on the following upcoming Sundays: December 12 (Children's Christmas Service), December 19 and 26 (Christmas break).

# Wine and Word Bible Study - On Break until January 6th

The Wine and Word Bible Study meets at the home of Bruce and Dawn Knox. Their home is located just 5 minutes from the church in Old Bridge Estates. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays from 7-8:30pm and are journeying through the book of Genesis with Larry Kovaciny as our guide. Those who wish can bring a bottle of wine and small bite appetizer. Come and join us whether you drink wine or not! Contact Dawn at 703-615-9320 or dawn.f.knox@gmail.com to RSVP.

#### **Ushers Wanted**

If you would like to become part of the regular rotation of ushers, or even just fill in once in a while when needed, please speak to Worship Elder Scott Mund.

# **Audio EHV Bibles Available**

Good news: the EHV Bible is available in electronic editions, for as little as \$10. Options include Kindle, Nook, and the Logos Bible Software Library formats. Learn more about purchase options at <a href="https://wartburgproject.org/bookstore/">https://wartburgproject.org/bookstore/</a>

# **Our Little Free Library**

Our Little Free Library always welcomes donations of books and food! If the library outside is full, you can place donations in the white plastic bin in the Fellowship Hall right beside the door to the hallway.

# **Lord's Supper Available to All Members**

If you are a confirmed member of Trinity and waiting to return to the sanctuary for worship, Pastor would be happy to commune you at home, or anywhere else you would like to meet. Just contact him at (309) 433-5807 or <a href="mailto:revpauljenkins@yahoo.com">revpauljenkins@yahoo.com</a> with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.

# It is the mission of



# to glorify God

by growing in His Word and by going with His Word

to Woodbridge and to the world.



Trinity Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.