



Who is Like God

August 27, 2023



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2023

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: Rev. Paul Jenkins

Today's Focus: God does all things well for those trust in him. Our worship follows the order *Morning Praise*.

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.

MORNING HYMN



1 Fa - ther, we praise you, now the night is o - ver, Ac - tive and
2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for your man - sions; Ban - ish our
3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it, Trin - i - ty



watch - ful, stand - ing now be - fore you. Sing - ing, we of - fer
weak - ness, health and whole - ness send - ing. Bring us to heav - en,
bless - ed, send us your sal - va - tion. Yours is the glo - ry,



prayer and med - i - ta - tion; Thus we a - dore you.
where your saints u - nit - ed Joy with - out end - ing.
gleam - ing and re - sound - ing Through all cre - a - tion.

Stand

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

M O Lord, open my lips.

C: And my mouth shall declare your praise.

M Hasten to save me, O God.

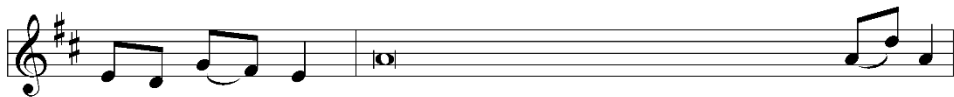
C: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

M: The Spirit of the Lord fills the world: let us worship him.

OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD



C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of



our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing,



let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a



great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are



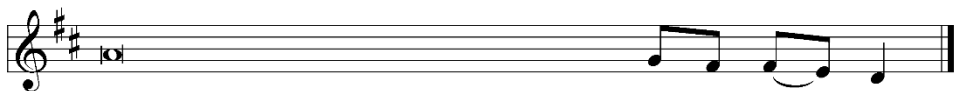
in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he



made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and



bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God,



and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Be Seated

PRAYER

M: Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of faith that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be Seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

Micah 7:18-20

Who is a God like you, who forgives guilt,
and who passes over the rebellion of the survivors from his inheritance?
He does not hold onto his anger forever.

He delights in showing mercy.

¹⁹ He will have compassion on us again.

He will overcome our guilty deeds.

You will throw all their sins into the depths of the sea.

²⁰ You will give truth to Jacob and mercy to Abraham,
as you swore to our fathers from days of old.

PSALM 34

Read Responsively

M: Taste and see that the LORD is good;

C: blessed are they who take refuge in him.

M: The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous

C: and his ears are attentive to their cry.

M: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,

C: and he delivers them.

M: The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;

C: he delivers them from all their troubles.

M: The LORD is close to the brokenhearted

C: and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

M: The LORD redeems his servants;

C: no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 3:4-11

God reveals a truth so beautiful that it is beyond what we could imagine apart from his word: in Christ he has prepared lasting glory. (In verses 6 and 8, the word "letter" is synonymous with the law, or commandments, of God; the word "spirit" is synonymous with the gospel, the good news of salvation in Christ.)

Such is the confidence we have through Christ before God.⁵ Not that we are competent by ourselves to claim that anything comes from us; rather, our competence is from God.⁶ He also made us competent as ministers of a new testament (not of letter, but of spirit). For the letter kills, but the spirit gives life.

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⁷If the ministry that brought death (which was engraved in letters on stone) came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look directly at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face (though it was fading), ⁸how will the ministry of the spirit not be much more glorious? ⁹For if the ministry that brought condemnation has glory, the ministry that brought righteousness has even more glory. ¹⁰In fact, in this case, what was glorious is no longer very glorious, because of the greater glory of that which surpasses it. ¹¹Indeed, if what is fading away was glorious, how much more glorious is that which is permanent!

SEASONAL SENTENCE

M: Come, Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in us the fire of your love. Alleluia!

STAND

GOSPEL

Mark 7:31-37

Jesus does all things perfectly well for those who believe in him – better than they could ever hope for apart for him.

M: The Holy Gospel of St. Mark, chapter 7.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

Jesus left the region of Tyre again and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, within the region of the Decapolis.

³²They brought a man to him who was deaf and had a speech impediment. They pleaded with Jesus to place his hand on him. ³³Jesus took him aside in private, away from the crowd. He put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. ³⁴After he looked up to heaven, he sighed and said, "*Ephphatha!*" (which means "Be opened!") ³⁵Immediately the man's ears were opened, his tongue was set free, and he began to speak plainly. ³⁶Jesus gave the people strict orders to tell no one, but the more he did so, the more they kept proclaiming it. ³⁷They were amazed beyond measure and said, "He has done everything well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak!"

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into 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 Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON: "Jesus Does Everything Perfectly for Us"

HYMN OF THE DAY: 429 "What God Ordains Is Always Good"



1 What God or - dains is al - ways good; His
 2 What God or - dains is al - ways good; He
 3 What God or - dains is al - ways good; He
 4 What God or - dains is al - ways good. Though
 5 What God or - dains is al - ways good; This



will is just and ho - ly. As he di - rects my
 nev - er will de - ceive me. He leads me in his
 is my friend and Fa - ther. He will not let me
 I the cup am drink - ing Which sa - vors now of
 truth re - mains un - shak - en. Though sor - row, need, or



life for me, I fol - low meek and low - ly. My
 right - eous way And nev - er will he leave me. I
 suf - fer harm Though man - y storms may gath - er. Now
 bit - ter - ness, I take it with - out shrink - ing. For
 death be mine, I shall not be for - sak - en. I



God in - deed In ev - 'ry need Knows well how he
 take con - tent What he has sent; His hand that sends
 I may know Both joy and woe; Some day I shall
 af - ter grief God grants re - lief, My heart with com -
 fear no harm, For with his arm He will em - brace



will shield me; To him, then, I will yield me.
 me sad - ness Will turn my tears to glad - ness.
 see clear - ly That he has loved me dear - ly.
 fort fill - ing And all my sor - row still - ing.
 and shield me; So to my God I yield me.

Text: Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.
 Tune: WAS GOTT TUT (87 87 44 77) Severus Gastorius, 1646–82, alt.

SERMON

Text: Micah 7:18-20
Theme: Who is Like God?

Stand

WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD



C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



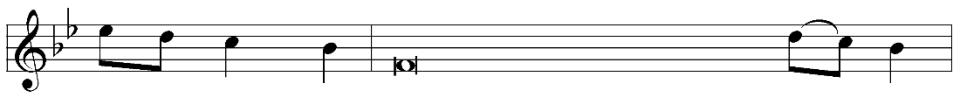
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



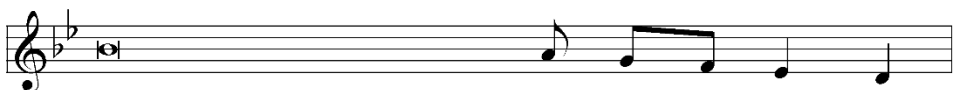
heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:

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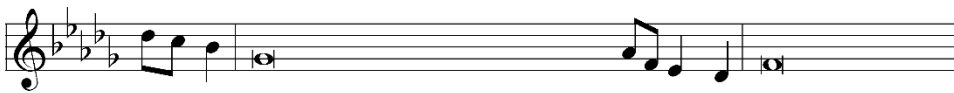
Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



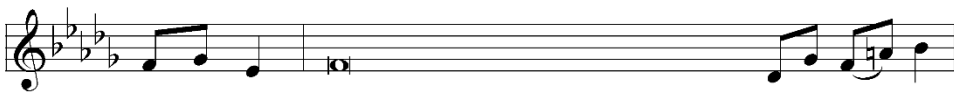
and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir-gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev - ers.

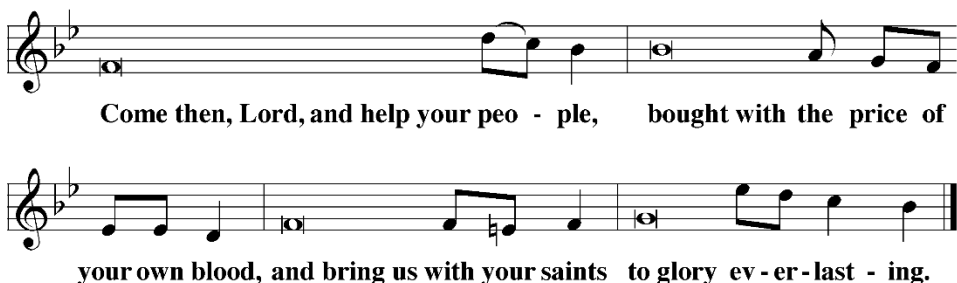


You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.

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Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of
 your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

Be Seated

OFFERING

Please take a moment to fill in the Friendship Register in the pew.

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.

Stand

M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

C: **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you love your whole creation and forget none of your creatures. We bring requests for all your children, for all those we love and all those committed to your care:

C: **We implore you to hear us, O God.**

M: For all who have blessed us with kindness, led us with patience, and restored and refreshed us by their sympathy and help:

C: **We implore you hear us, O God.**

(Continued on Next Page)

M: For all who have wished or done us ill, that you would turn their hearts to penitence and ours to blessing:

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For all prisoners and captives and all who suffer from oppression, that you would lead them to know the perfect freedom of your Son's forgiveness, relieve their suffering, and move us to imitate you by assisting them with works of mercy and compassion:

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For all who bear the cross of suffering, who are ill in body or in mind:

C: Be merciful and spare them, good Lord.

M: For all who are troubled by the suffering or sin of those they love:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For all who have experienced worldly loss, that in the middle of darkness and confusion they may find their peace in you:

C: We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

M: For all who are absorbed in their own grief, that they may be raised to share the sorrows of their brothers and sisters and to know and appreciate the fellowship of those who bear Christ's cross:

C: We implore you to hear us, O God.

M: For all who are suffering because of their faithfulness to conviction and duty, that in sacrifice they might find strength and joy; and that you, who see in secret, may uphold them by your grace, so they may at last come to an open reward:

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For all who are undergoing temptations of the flesh or who imagine evil in their hearts, that you would enable them to overcome and obtain the victory through Christ:

C: Be merciful and spare them, good Lord.

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M: For all who are lonely and sad in the middle of the joys of others, that they may know you as their Father, Friend, and Comforter:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For the infirm, the aged, and all who are approaching death, that they may find their strength in you and obtain a blessed end:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For all whom we have forgotten to pray but who are dear to you:

C: Assist them according to their needs, and bring them to your heavenly kingdom, through Christ our Lord.

M: O God our Father, hear our intercessions, answer them according to your will, and make us channels of your infinite pity and helpfulness. Join our prayers with those of all your faithful people as we pray as our Savior has taught us:

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.

PRAYER FOR GRACE

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

M Let us praise the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: 436 "Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep"



1 Je - sus, shep - herd of the sheep, Who your
2 In your prom - ise firm we stand; None can
3 By your blood our souls were bought; By your
4 Fa - ther, draw us to your Son; We with
5 We, in robes of glo - ry dressed, Join th' as -



Fa - ther's flock does keep, Safe we wake and
take us from your hand. Speak— we hear— at
life sal - va - tion wrought; By your light our
joy will fol - low on Till the work of
sem - bly of the blest, Gath - ered to e -



safe we sleep, Guard - ed still by you.
your com - mand, We will fol - low you.
feet are taught, Lord, to fol - low you.
grace is done, There to live with you.
ter - nal rest In the fold with you.

Text: Henry Cook, 1788–1868, alt.

Tune: CAPE TOWN (777 5) Friedrich Filitz, 1804–76, alt.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Final Night for “Chosen” - August 30

Everyone is welcome to our final “Chosen” potluck supper that will start at 6. Beverages and tableware will be provided; please bring a dish to pass if you can. After supper we will watch an episode of the acclaimed series, “The Chosen,” which tells the story of Jesus through the eyes of those who followed him. A little discussion time will follow the show.

Please speak to Pastor if you have any questions.

It's time to register your kids for Sunday school!

Children age 2 through 8th grade are welcome to attend Trinity's Sunday school every Sunday at 9:45am beginning September 10. Please register your kids at <https://trinityofwoodbridge.org/sundayschool/> or by scanning the QR code below. This helps us know how much curriculum to order for each class.



Women's Bible Study - Saturday, September 9

The Trinity Women’s Bible Study is starting back up again on Saturday, September 9 at 9:00 am at Trinity. We will be starting a new book, “Esther: Providential Persian Queen” by Lou Ann Mokwa. Copies of the book can be found in the narthex. The Bible Study will meet the second Saturday of each month. For questions, please contact Erika Ohlendorf at erika.ohlendorf@gmail.com or 617-821-3126. Sunday Morning

Sunday School Staff Meeting - TODAY

There will be a brief meeting for the teachers and directors of Sunday School following worship on August 27.

Bible Class and Sunday School Start September 10!

The final Sunday for the summer worship schedule is September 3.

On the following Sunday, September 10, we will move back to worship services at 8:30 and 11:00, with Bible class and Sunday School from 9:45-10:45. The first two Bible class topics of the fall will be a five or six week study of the letter of St. James, followed by “My Brother’s Keeper” a five week class that offers insights and strategies for reaching out to straying Christian family members and friends.

Sunday School Collection for Little Free Library

The first service project of the year for Trinity’s Sunday School will support our Little Free Library. Offerings of books, non-perishable food, and personal hygiene items will be collected in the narthex throughout the month of September. Trinity’s Little Free Library is used daily by our neighbors, many of whom have expressed their appreciation with words and notes. Thank you for helping with this project as you’re able!

Catechism Instruction Resumes September 10

Catechism class starts back up at noon on Sunday, September 10, with the goal of confirming five young people on Palm Sunday (March 24) of next year, and starting one more on the road to confirmation in 2025. Returning students are asked to bring their Catechisms and Bibles. Anyone and everyone is welcome to attend Catechism class anytime. This year we will be studying The Lord’s Prayer, The Keys and Confession, Baptism, and the Lord’s Supper. Most sessions last a little over an hour. You may eat lunch during class if you want.

Wine and Word Bible Study – Thursday, Sept. 7

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 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 7-8:30pm. We are studying the book of Revelation 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.

Small Choir

Trinity’s small choir sings once a month during Worship. Anyone is welcome to join! We'll sing hymns from our hymnal, Christian Worship. If you are interested in joining, please let John or Erika Ohlendorf know.

Ushers and Usher Assistants Needed

A sign-up sheet is sent via email through Sign-up Genius. You are welcome to fill in as many Sundays as you are available. 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 Matt Popelier. If you are not getting the emails for Sign-up Genius, please email admin@trinityofwoodbridge.org

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, 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 revpauljenkins@yahoo.com with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work

It is the mission of

trinity



LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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.