

**March 17, 2024**



## **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.





# The Fifth Sunday In Lent

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- **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:** Jesus faithfully carries his Father's mission all the way to its completion. Our worship follows *Service of Word and Sacrament*.

# We Come into the Presence of God

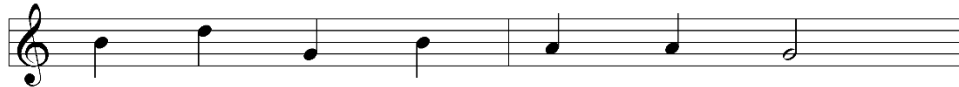
## MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

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

## OPENING HYMN: 226 To Your Temple I Draw Near



1 To your tem - ple I draw near;  
2 I through Christ am rec - on - ciled;  
3 While your glo - rious praise is sung,  
4 While the prayers of saints as - cend,  
5 While I lis - ten to your law,



Lord, I love to wor - ship here.  
I through Christ be - come your child.  
Touch my lips, un - loose my tongue,  
God of love, to mine at - tend.  
Fill my soul with ho - ly awe



Here are sac - ra - ment and Word;  
Ab - ba, Fa - ther, give me grace  
That my joy - ful soul may bless  
Hear me, for your Spir - it pleads;  
Till your gos - pel brings to me



Here be - liev - ers meet their Lord.  
In your courts to seek your face.  
Christ the Lord, my right - eous - ness.  
Hear, for Je - sus in - ter - cedes.  
Life and im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 While your ministers proclaim  
Peace and pardon in your name,  
Through their voice, by faith, may I  
Hear you speaking from the sky.

7 From your house, when I return,  
May my heart within me burn,  
And at evening let me say,  
"I have walked with God today."

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: GOTT SEI DANK DURCH ALLE WELT (77 77) Freylinghausen, *Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch*, Halle, 1704, alt.

STAND

## INVOCATION

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

Congregation: **And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**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.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY - *KYRIE*

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

**C: Amen.**

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

## O LORD, OUR LORD

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in  
all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,  
you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;  
you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and  
ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,  
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,  
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.  
O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes). The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a key signature change to one flat (F).

*(Continued on Next Page)*

you came to live with us;      you made your Fa - ther known;

you washed us from our sins in your own blood.      You are the

King of glo - ry;      you are the Lord!      O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ 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

#### Isaiah 43:1-7

*The Messiah draws people from all over the world to himself.*

But now this is what the LORD says,  
the LORD who created you, O Jacob,  
the LORD who formed you, O Israel.

Do not be afraid, because I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.

<sup>2</sup> When you cross through the waters, I will be with you.  
When you cross the rivers, they will not sweep you away.  
When you walk through fire, you will not be burned,  
and the flame will not set you on fire.

<sup>3</sup> Because I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior,  
I gave Egypt as your ransom,  
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

*(Continued on Next Page)*



- 4 Because you are precious and honored in my eyes,  
and I myself love you,  
I will give people in exchange for you,  
and peoples in exchange for your life.
- 5 Do not be afraid, because I am with you.  
From the east I will bring your offspring,  
and from the west I will gather you.
- 6 I will say to the north, "Give them back!"  
and to the south, "Do not hold them."  
Bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
- 7 everyone who is called by my name,  
everyone I created for my glory,  
everyone I formed,  
yes, everyone I have made.

## PSALM OF THE DAY: 143

*Read responsively*

M: O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;

**C: in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.**

M: Do not bring your servant into judgment,

**C: for no one living is righteous before you.**

M: My spirit grows faint within me;

**C: my heart within me is dismayed.**

M: Answer me quickly, O LORD;

**C: do not hide your face from me.**

M: Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,

**C: for I have put my trust in you.**

M: Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;

**C: may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.**

## SECOND LESSON

### Hebrews 5:7-9

*Jesus was obedient to God's law in order to win salvation for us. He is the eternal High Priest who made full payment for our sins. (The "days of his flesh" refers to Jesus' state of humiliation.)*

In the days of his flesh, he offered prayers and pleas with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. <sup>8</sup>Although he was the Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. <sup>9</sup>After he was brought to his goal, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Alleluia! (*Mark 10:45*)

*STAND*

## GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

### **John 12:20-33**

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Festival. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we want to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup>Philip went to tell Andrew. Andrew came with Philip and told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, "The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it continues to be one kernel. But if it dies, it produces much grain. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who loves his life destroys it. And the one who hates his life in this world will hold on to it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>If anyone serves me, let him follow me. And where I am, there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

<sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, this is the reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name!"

A voice came from heaven: "I have glorified my name, and I will glorify it again."

<sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said it thundered. Others said an angel talked to him. <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, "This voice was not for my sake but for yours.

<sup>31</sup>"Now is the judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be thrown out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate what kind of death he was going to die.

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*BE SEATED*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:** "All the Way to the End"

**HYMN OF THE DAY: 110 My Song is Love Unknown**



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to  
 2 He came from his blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -  
 3 Some - times they strew his way And his sweet prais - es  
 4 Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and  
 5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might  
 stow, But such dis - dain! So few The longed - for  
 sing, Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas  
 spite? He made the lame to run; He gave the  
 way. A mur - der - er they save; The Prince of



love - ly be. Oh, who am I That for my  
 Christ would know! But oh, my friend, My friend in -  
 to their King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their  
 blind their sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at  
 life they slay. Yet cheer - ful he To suff'r - ing



sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?  
 deed, Who at my need His life did spend!  
 breath, And for his death They thirst and cry.  
 these Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst him rise.  
 goes That he his foes From death might free.

6 In life no house, no home  
 My Lord on earth might have;  
 In death no friendly tomb  
 But what a stranger gave.  
 What may I say?  
 Heav'n was his home  
 But mine the tomb  
 Wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing;  
 No story so divine,  
 Never was love, dear King,  
 Never was grief like thine.  
 This is my friend,  
 In whose sweet praise  
 I all my days  
 Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–83, alt.  
 Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN (66 66 4444) John N. Ireland, 1879–1962. © John Ireland Trust.  
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**SERMON**

**TEXT:** John 12:20-33

**Theme:** "See the Jesus You Need and Want"

STAND

## 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.**

*BE SEATED*

## OFFERING

*Please take a moment to sign 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*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Special prayers*

## 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 to the Lord.**

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

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## 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**

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; grant us your peace. A - - men.

*BE SEATED*

**DISTRIBUTION**

**HYMN: 114 Christ, the Life of All the Living**



1 Christ, the Life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the Death of  
 2 Thou, ah, thou hast tak - en on thee Bonds and stripes, a  
 3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might  
 4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur-round thee, Treat - ing thee with  
 5 Thou hast suf - fered men to bruise thee That from pain I



death, our foe, Who, thy - self for me once giv - ing  
 cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on thee,  
 all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,  
 cru - el scorn, And with pierc - ing thorns they crowned thee.  
 might be free; False - ly did thy foes ac - cuse thee—



To the dark - est depths of woe— Through thy suf - f' rings,  
 O thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst thou my  
 Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of  
 All dis - grace thou, Lord, hast borne That as thine thou  
 Thence I gain se - cu - ri - ty. Com - fort - less thy



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
 soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.  
 God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.  
 might - est own me And with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.  
 soul did lan - guish Me to com - fort in my an - guish.



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.  
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.  
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.  
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.  
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>6 Thou has suffered great affliction<br/>             And hast borne it patiently,<br/>             Even death by crucifixion,<br/>             Fully to atone for me.<br/>             Thou didst choose to be tormented<br/>             That my doom should be prevented.<br/>             Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,<br/>             Dearest Jesus, unto thee.</p> | <p>7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,<br/>             For thy sorrows deep and sore,<br/>             For thine anguish in the garden,<br/>             I will thank thee evermore,<br/>             Thank thee for thy groaning, sighing,<br/>             For thy bleeding and thy dying,<br/>             For that last triumphant cry,<br/>             And shall praise thee, Lord, on high.</p> |
|---|---|

Text: Ernst C. Homburg, 1605–81, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1-2, 5, 7, alt.;  
*Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book*, St. Louis, 1912, st. 3-4, 6.  
 Tune: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN (87 87 88 77) *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687, alt.



## THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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: 467** May the Mind of Christ My Savior



1 May the mind of Christ my Sav - ior Live in  
 2 May the Word of God dwell rich - ly In my  
 3 May the peace of God my Fa - ther Rule my  
 4 May the love of Je - sus fill me As the  
 5 May I run the race be - fore me, Strong and



me from day to day, By his love and  
 heart from hour to hour, So that all may  
 life in ev - 'ry - thing, That I may be  
 wa - ters fill the sea, Him ex - alt - ing,  
 brave to face the foe, Look - ing on - ly



pow'r in - spir - ing All I do or say.  
 see I tri - umph On - ly through his pow'r.  
 calm to com - fort Sick and sor - row - ing.  
 self a - bas - ing— This is vic - to - ry!  
 un - to Je - sus As I on - ward go.

6 May his spirit live within me  
 As I seek the lost to win,  
 And may they forget the channel,  
 Seeing only him.

Text: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1859–1928, alt.  
 Tune: ST. LEONARD'S (87 85) A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1891–1953.



## Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge](http://www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge)

### Lenten Suppers

The final Lenten Supper is Wednesday, March 20. Doors open at 5:30, with supper at 6:00 and a brief Lent devotion at 6:30. Beverages, tableware and silverware will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass if you can. But even if you can't, please come anyway!

### March Worship Notes

Next Sunday the 24th, five young members of Trinity will be confirmed in the 11:00 service, with a reception afterward; the Sunday School will also sing in both services, because it's also Palm Sunday. The 11:00 service will be livestreamed instead of 8:30.

On Maundy Thursday, March 28, worship with Communion will be at 7. Good Friday worship the following evening will also be at 7. On Easter Sunday, worship will be at the usual times of 8:30 and 11:00. Between services there will be a potluck breakfast and Easter egg hunt for kids; there will be no Bible class or Sunday School on Easter.

### Vacation Bible School Registration OPEN!

Registration is now open for this year's VBS, which will be held July 15-19 from 9:00-11:30 am. Come join us for Scuba VBS where we will dive into an amazing undersea adventure and experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. We look forward to sharing God's Word, singing songs, making crafts, playing games, and of course, having some awesome snacks together! VBS is for kids ages 3 (and potty trained) to those entering 6th grade in the fall. Kids entering 7th grade and older may volunteer as helpers. Please register here: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/trinity24> or scan this QR Code!



### Wine and Word Bible Study – March 21

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 7-8:30 pm. We are studying the book of Revelation with Larry Kovaciny as our guide. Those who wish can bring a bottle of wine and a 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](mailto:dawn.f.knox@gmail.com) to RSVP.

### Fourth Annual Easter Egg Hunt – March 23

Trinity's next neighborhood outreach event will our Fourth Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23, at 2pm. This event allows us to show kindness while also extending Easter worship invitations to our neighbors. It does not require a lot of volunteers, but four or five would be nice, to supervise the hunt and to staff a welcome table. If you would like to help, please let pastor know. Also, this year pre-filled eggs will be ordered in bulk for the hunt. If, however, you are someone who enjoys assembling and donating eggs, you are of course welcome to add your own.

### Women's Bible Study on Esther

The remaining dates for the Women's Bible Study on Esther are:

April 13 at 9:00 am (Chapter 6)

May 11 at 9:00 am (Chapter 7)

The Women's Bible Study meets at Trinity. We are discussing the book "Esther: Providential Persian Queen" by Lou Ann Mokwa. Please join us anytime!

### **Save the date!**

Trinity's annual church-wide yard sale will be held Saturday, May 4. Start gathering up your clothing, shoes, housewares, books, and other items that you would like to donate! Watch for more details in April. All proceeds go to the Sunday School mission offering.

**Trinity Book Club** will meet again on Saturday, April 27, at 9:30 am at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries to discuss *Up from Dust* by Heather Kaufman. Any questions? Ask Rachel Kovaciny.

### **Small Choir**

Trinity's small choir sings about 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](mailto:admin@trinityofwoodbridge.org)

### **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](mailto:revpauljenkins@yahoo.com) with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work



## Smart Isn't Always Wise

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20240306/>

It's a normal question: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

Grown-ups ask this question when they want to hear what a child is interested in. Is the child interested in airplanes or big trucks? Perhaps she wants to write a book. Maybe he's interested in everything, and it's difficult to narrow down.

The world around us looks up to people who are smart, successful, wealthy. We listen to people who are on TV, who have their own shows, or who have made a living playing sports.

These two ideas are very similar. The question "What do you want to be when you grow up?" is answered by thinking of people we admire—people who lead countries, make millions, and go to the moon.

That's the way our world thinks. We look for success. We look for fame.

But how does God think? Paul tells us: "The message of the cross is foolishness."

When God walked the earth visibly, he didn't choose success. He didn't choose fame, fortune, or a career of playing a game.

He chose crucifixion. Rejection. Betrayal. Death.

Why?

**God was showing that he does all the work.** Your forgiveness doesn't depend on your skill, your accomplishment, or your money; your forgiveness depends entirely on this Jesus, who gave up his life for you.

### Questions to Consider

- What did Jesus do on earth that shows his *power*?
- What did Jesus do on earth that shows his *love*?
- If Good Friday was the only thing that someone knew about Jesus, what would they think?
- What do you have to do in order to be forgiven?
- Why did God use crucifixion as the tool of our salvation?
- Respond: "I don't want to be a Christian. It sounds foolish that Almighty God would die like that."



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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.