

June 16, 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.





- **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

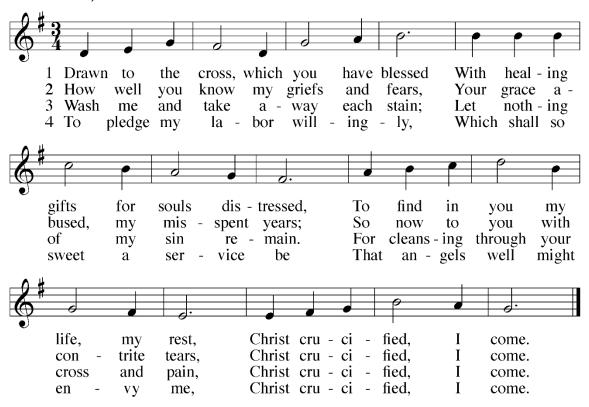
<u>Today's Focus</u>: God plants his Church and grows it to fullness. Our worship follows *Service of Word and Sacrament*.

## 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**: 387, Drawn to the Cross



Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855–1928, alt.

Tune: JUST AS I AM (888 6) Joseph Barnby, 1838–96.

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.

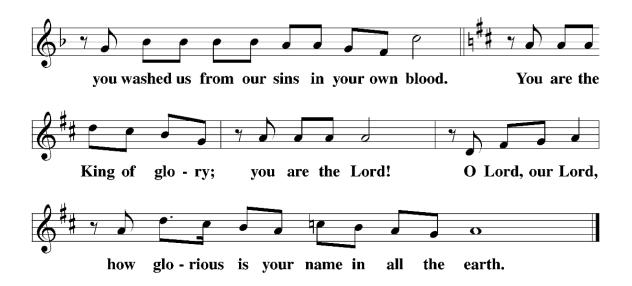
## LORD, HAVE MERCY - KYRIE

- 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 wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, 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



(Continued on Next Page)



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. O God, protector of all the faithful, you alone make strong; you alone make holy. Show us your mercy and forgive our sins day by day. Guide us through our earthly lives that we do not lose the things you have prepared for us in heaven; through 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**

#### Ezekiel 17:22-24

The Lord plants his Church on his mountain, and then causes it grow and spread.

This is what the LORD God says. I myself will take part of the tip of the cedar and plant it. From the topmost of its shoots I will pluck off a tender sprig, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup> On the high mountain of Israel I will plant it. It will produce branches, bear fruit, and become a magnificent cedar. Flying birds of every kind will live under it. In the shelter of its branches they will nest. <sup>24</sup> Then all the trees in the countryside will know that I, the LORD, bring down the high tree and raise up the low tree, that I make the green tree dry up, and I make the dried-up tree blossom. I, the LORD, have spoken, and I will carry it out.

## PSALM OF THE DAY: 92

Read responsively.

M: How great are your works, O LORD,

C: how profound are your thoughts!

M: The senseless man does not know,

C: fools do not understand,

M: that though the wicked spring up like grass

C: and all evildoers flourish,

M: they will be forever destroyed.

C: But you, O LORD, are exalted forever.

M: The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,

C: they will flourish in the courts of our God.

M: They will still bear fruit in old age,

C: they will stay fresh and green,

M: proclaiming, "The LORD is upright;

C: he is my rock, and there is no wickedness in him."

## SECOND LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

#### Colossians 1:3-8

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup> because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love that you have for all the saints <sup>5</sup> because of the hope that is stored up for you in heaven. You have already heard about this in the word of truth, the gospel <sup>6</sup> that is present with you now. The gospel is bearing fruit and growing in the entire world, just as it also has been doing among you from the day you heard it and came to know the grace of God in truth. <sup>7</sup> You learned this from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf. <sup>8</sup> He is the one who told us about your love in the Spirit.

#### SEASONAL VERSE

M: Alleluia! May your priests be clothed with righteousness; may your saints sing for joy. Alleluia! (Psalm 132:9)

Stand

## **GOSPEL**

#### Mark 4:26-34

In his way, which we cannot completely understand, God plants and causes his Holy Church to grow and flourish, bringing shelter and shade far and wide.

He said, "The kingdom of God is like this: A man scatters seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup> and while he sleeps and rises, night and day, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. <sup>28</sup> The ground produces fruit on its own: first the blade, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup> When the crop is ready, he swings the sickle without delay, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup> Then he said, "To what should we compare the kingdom of God? Or with what parable may we picture it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a mustard seed, which when sown on the ground is one of the smallest of all the seeds planted in the ground. <sup>32</sup> Yet when it is planted, it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches so that the birds of the sky can nest under its shade."

<sup>33</sup> With many similar parables he continued to speak the word to them, as much as they were able to hear. <sup>34</sup> He did not speak to them without a parable. But when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them.

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:** How Does it Grow?

## HYMN OF THE DAY: 536, Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head



Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734, abr.; tr. William J. Schaefer, 1891–1976, alt.

Tune: REUTER (87 87 65 66 7) Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924.

## **SERMON**

**TEXT:** Colossians 1:3-8

**Theme:** Hope in Heaven is Growth in the World

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: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

# C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## 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 sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. 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



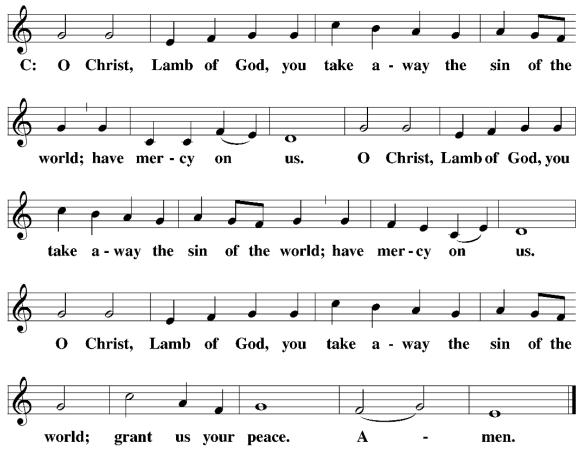
## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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



Be Seated

## **DISTRIBUTION**

## **HYMN:** 538, The Church's One Foundation



Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, abr., alt.

Tune: AURELIA (76 76 D) Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–76.

Stand

## 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



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: 323, Almighty Father, Bless the Word



Text: Scandinavian hymn; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnary*, Decorah, 1913, alt. Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH (LM) *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551.

# **Trinity Lutheran Church**

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

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

Dawn Knox Administrative Assistant: <a href="mailto:Admin@TrinityofWoodbridge.org">Admin@TrinityofWoodbridge.org</a>, (703) 615-9320

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

#### **Summer Bible Class**

Bible class (on Luther's Large Catechism) meets from 9:15-9:45 each Sunday morning, with Sunday School adjourned.

## Wine and Word Bible Study – July 18th

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 Apocrypha with Larry Kovaciny as our guide. The study of follows the study guide for *The Apocrypha: The Lutheran Edition with Notes* (available from Northwestern or Concordia Publishing Houses and other booksellers). You can also follow the readings at apocrypha.org. 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 to RSVP.

#### **VBS Wish List**

Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for items that you could donate or loan for Vacation Bible School. Thanks for seeing how you can help out!

## Family Night Closes VBS – Everyone Invited!

Everyone is welcome to celebrate the close of VBS at 6pm on Friday, July 19. There will be a sing-along and a free supper for everyone, along with special treats. Please come and join us to thank God for another great VBS, and enjoy time together.

# The Return of "Chosen" Night

Each Wednesday night from July 24 through August 28, a potluck supper will start in the Fellowship Hall at 6, followed by an episode of "The Chosen" and a brief discussion. Everyone is welcome. Please bring some food to share if you can. Beverages and tableware will be provided. If you have questions, please speak to pastor.

**Trinity's Little Free Library** is one of our church's most effective tools for reaching out to our neighborhood. Many families in the area around Trinity regularly visit our LFL for books and shelf-stable food items, especially those who are experiencing food scarcity. Particularly useful are canned or boxed foods that do not require additional ingredients besides water to prepare. Books are always welcome, too, of course! If the shelves happen to be full, there is a donation bin for overflow items in the fellowship room beside the door to the hallway.

## **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, neverending 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!

#### **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

#### **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 <a href="mailto:revpauljenkins@yahoo.com">revpauljenkins@yahoo.com</a> with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work



## The Spirit Still Flows Through You!

https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20230602/

For many of you, summer break is already here or is right around the corner. As you are playing outside in the heat of summer, do your parents remind you to drink lots of water? Have you ever noticed how many different types of water there are? There is tap water from your sink faucet, bottled water, smart water, flavored water, water with electrolytes, ionized water, coconut water, antioxidant water, and the list goes on and on. But no matter what type of water you drink, after a few hours you will probably find yourself thirsty again.

There are many types of water but there is only one Savior for our sins. In our Bible reading Jesus says, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink." Those who come to Jesus and drink are those who believe in him as their risen Savior.

The Holy Spirit is the one who brings people to faith. Maybe you were brought to faith as a little baby when you were baptized. The pastor poured water on your head and said, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Through the miracle of baptism, the Holy Spirit uses water and the Word to create faith in the heart of a little baby and to wash away their sins. The Holy Spirit continues to grow and strengthen the faith of believers as they study and hear God's Word.

But Jesus goes on to say, "Whoever believes in me... rivers of living water will flow from within them." This river of living water is the power of the Holy Spirit which was first given to the disciples on the festival of Pentecost. They were filled with confidence and excitement to preach about Jesus. The living water of the Holy Spirit continues to flow through his believers today. It's as if Jesus wants you to be like him and help quench the thirst of others. Knowing that Jesus did everything needed for us to be saved, we can't help but invite others to hear about Jesus and drink so they will never be spiritually thirsty again!

(continued on next page)

# **Questions for Consideration**

What are two things you need to stay alive physically?

What do you need to live spiritually?

If you are baptized, ask your parents to relive your baptism day.

What "gifts" did you receive from the Holy Spirit on the day of your baptism?

How does knowing you have the power of the Holy Spirit working through you give you confidence to tells others about Jesus?

Give at least two reasons people give for not believing in Jesus. How can you respond to those objections?

#### 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.