



Jesus Calls His Children to
Welcome Children

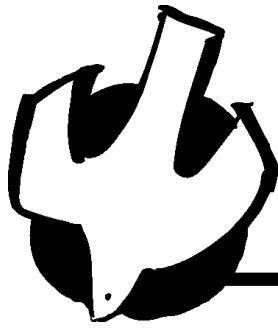
September 22, 2024

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.





Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 2024

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: Like the Savior, Christians make themselves last and least. Our worship follows *The Common Service*.

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: 224, God Himself is Present

At 11:00, the Small Choir sings verses 1 and 2; the congregation joins in verse 3.



1 God him - self is pres - ent— Let us now a - dore him
2 God him - self is pres - ent— Hear the harps re - sound - ing;
3 Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Pu - ri - fy my spir - it,



And with awe ap - pear be - fore him.
See the hosts the throne sur - round - ing.
Trust - ing on - ly in your mer - it.



God is in his tem - ple— All with - in keep si - lence,
"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly"— Hear the hymn as - cend - ing,
Like the ho - ly an - gels, Wor - ship - ing be - fore you,



Hum - bly kneel in deep - est rev - 'rence.
Songs of saints and an - gels blend - ing.
May I cease - less - ly a - dore you.



He a - lone On his throne Is our
Bow your ear To us here: Hear, O
Let your will Ev - er still Rule your



God and Sav - ior; Praise his name for - ev - er!
Christ, the prais - es That your Church now rais - es.
church ter - res - trial As the hosts ce - les - tial.

Text: Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697–1769, abr.; tr. Frederick W. Foster, 1760–1835, and John Miller, 1756–90, alt.
Tune: WUNDERBARER KÖNIG (668 668 33 66) Joachim Neander, 1650–80, alt.

Stand

INVOCATION

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

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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 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.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the
 sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;
 you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray. O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; 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

Numbers 12:1-15

Aaron and Miriam fall prey to pride, and the Lord shows what he thinks of it. (In verse 12, an alternate and more likely reading says, "our mother." As he pleads for mercy, Aaron is likely referencing their own stillborn sibling.)

Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman he had married (for he had married a Cushite woman).² They said, "Has the LORD really spoken only through Moses? Hasn't he also spoken through us?" The LORD heard this.

(Continued on Next Page)

³ (Now the man Moses was very humble, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.)
⁴ Right then the LORD spoke suddenly to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, “You three come out to the Tent of Meeting!”

The three of them came out. ⁵ The LORD came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance to the tent. He called Aaron and Miriam, and they both came forward. ⁶ He said, “Now listen to my words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, will make myself known to him in a vision. In a dream I will speak with him. ⁷ Not so, however, with my servant Moses. He is faithful in my whole household. ⁸ With him I speak face-to-face, clearly, and not in riddles. He sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant, against Moses?” ⁹ The LORD’s anger burned against them, and he left.

¹⁰ The cloud went up from above the tent, and immediately Miriam was leprous, as white as snow. Aaron turned to Miriam and saw that she was leprous.

¹¹ Aaron said to Moses, “My lord, please do not hold this sin against us. We have acted foolishly. We have sinned. ¹² Please do not let her be like a stillborn infant that comes out of its mother’s womb with its flesh half-eaten away.”

¹³ Moses cried out to the LORD, “God, please heal her, please!”

¹⁴ The LORD said to Moses, “If her father had merely spit in her face, would she not be disgraced for seven days? Have her confined outside of the camp for seven days, and after that she can be brought back in.”

¹⁵ Miriam was confined outside of the camp for seven days, and the people did not set out until Miriam was brought back in.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 31

Read Responsively

M: In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge;

C: deliver me in your righteousness.

M: Be my rock of refuge,

C: a strong fortress to save me.

M: Into your hands I commit my spirit;

C: redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.

M: My times are in your hands;

C: save me in your unfailing love.

M: How great is your goodness,

C: which you have stored up for those who fear you.

M: You heard my cry for mercy

C: when I called to you for help.

SECOND LESSON

James 3:13-18

Divine wisdom shows itself in humble service that results in peace.

Who among you is wise and intelligent? Let him by his good way of living show that he does things in wise humility. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not boast and lie, contrary to the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but it is worldly, unspiritual, and demonic. ¹⁶ In fact, where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and every bad practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from above is first pure, then also peaceful, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, and sincere. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who practice peace.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Alleluia! (2 Corinthians 12:9a)

Stand

GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

Mark 9:30-37

M: The Gospel of St. Mark, chapter 9.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know this, ³¹ because he was teaching his disciples. He told them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him. But three days after he is killed, he will rise."

³² But they did not understand the statement and were afraid to ask him about it.

³³ They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴ But they remained silent, because on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. ³⁵ Jesus sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he will be the last of all and the servant of all." ³⁶ Then he took a little child and placed him in their midst. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me, welcomes not just me but also him who sent me."

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.**

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Humility Jesus' Way

HYMN OF THE DAY: 472, Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray, verses 3 and 4

3 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you
4 But while watch - ing al - so pray To the Lord un -

tri - fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's
ceas - ing. God pro - tects you day by day, Strength and

mer - cy sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in, All your
faith in - creas - ing, So that still Mind and will Shall u -

hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.
nite to serve him And for - ev - er love him.

Text: Johann B. Freystein, 1671–1718, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: STRAF MICH NICHT (76 76 33 66) *Hundert . . . geistlicher Arien*, Dresden, 1694, alt.

SERMON

TEXT: Mark 9:30-37

THEME: Jesus Calls His Children to Welcome Children

Stand

CREATE IN ME

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'CREATE IN ME'. It consists of five staves of music in a single system, all written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The music is in common time (C). The lyrics are: 'C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.'

Be Seated

OFFERING

Please take a moment to sign the friendship register found in your 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

Special prayers

M: Lord Jesus Christ, we lift up our hearts with thanksgiving and praise. Through the blood of your covenant, you have made us worthy to receive your Holy Supper. You join us with believers throughout the world and throughout the ages by your body given for us. In this sacrament time and eternity meet as we celebrate a foretaste of the feast now enjoyed by all who are in heavenly glory. As we receive your true body and blood, we rejoice in our salvation through you, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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 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, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on six staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some slurs and ties. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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.

The musical score consists of five staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, diatonic style. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: 486, Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Glad - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en To our
 4 Yes, the sor - row and the suf - f'ring's Which on
 5 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your



life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the
 free - ly, of your own. With the sun - shine of your
 hum - blest char - i - ty In your own mys - te - rious
 ev - 'ry hand we view Chan - nels are for gifts and
 life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the



lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice,
 good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone
 sen - tence, "You have done it un - to me."
 of - f'ring's Due by sol - emn right to you,
 lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings
 Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by
 Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That you
 Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we
 Give us faith to trust you bold - ly, Hope, to



count - less as the sand To th' un - thank - ful and the
 you, at length be - lieve That more hap - py and more
 need what we can do, Say - ing by your poor and
 may not choose but pay Lest that face of love and
 stay our souls on you; But, oh, best of all your



e - vil With your own un - spar - ing hand.
 bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.
 need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you?"
 pit - y Turn from us a - noth - er day.
 gra - ces, With your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-89, alt.

Tune: HYFRYDOL (87 87 D) Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-87.

Stand

SONG OF SIMEON



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

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

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

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: 100, A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, Our guilt and
 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The Lamb of
 3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll bear what
 4 From morn till eve, in all I do, I'll praise you,



e - vil bear - ing And, lad - en with the sins of earth,
 God, our Sav - ior; Him God the Fa - ther chose to send
 you com - mand me. My will con - forms to your de - cree;
 Christ, my trea - sure. To sac - ri - fice my - self for you



None else the bur - den shar - ing. Goes pa - tient on,
 To gain for us his fa - vor. "Go forth, my Son,"
 I'll do what you have asked me." O won - drous Love,
 Shall be my aim and plea - sure. My stream of life



grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with - out com - plaint,
 the Fa - ther said, "And free my chil - dren from their dread
 what have you done! The Fa - ther of - fers up his Son,
 shall ev - er be A cur - rent flow - ing cease - less - ly,



That spot - less life to of - fer, Bears shame and stripes
 Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and stripes
 De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how strong
 Your con - stant praise out - pour - ing. I'll trea - sure in



and wounds and death, An - guish and mock - er - y and says,
 are hard to bear, But by your pas - sion they will share
 you are to save! You make his bed with - in the grave
 my mem - o - ry, O Lord, all you have done for me,



"Will - ing all this I suf - fer."
 The fruit of your sal - va - tion."
 Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
 Your gra - cious love a - dor - ing.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.
 Tune: AN WASSERFLÜSSEN BABYLON (87 87 887 887) Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Trinity Book Club's next meeting: We will now meet at 4pm on Saturday, October 26, at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries. We'll be discussing *A Song Unheard* by Roseanna M. White. All are welcome to join us! If you have questions, ask Rachel Kovaciny.

September Sunday School Service Project

Through the end of the month our Sunday School will be collecting books, food, and hygiene items for Trinity's Little Free Library. Please look for the bin in the narthex and know that all contributions are most useful and welcome by our neighborhood.

Wine and Word Bible Study – Oct 3

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 7-8:30 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.

Fifth Annual Trunk or Treat: Saturday, October 19

Saturday, October 19, will be the date of Trinity's Fifth Annual Trunk or Treat outreach event from 3-4pm in our parking lot. If you're planning on hosting a trunk, please let pastor know. We could also use a couple of volunteers to host a Welcome Table, and one or two for traffic control. If you have any questions or could help out in either of those ways, please speak to pastor also. If you can't make it to host a trunk but would like to contribute, candy donations are welcome.

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.

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



Read: Hebrews 4:9-16

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

Living for the Lord

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20211029/>

Zavier was a mess. The tears were streaking down his face and dripping onto his legs. His eyes were red and puffy. His nose was running. His lips were quivering as he took big breaths trying to calm himself down. “I’m sorry . . . I’m . . . just . . . so . . . sorry!” He managed to say while crying.

Zavier had been caught using his dad’s iPad without asking. But not only did he not ask to use the iPad, Zavier made bad choices while using it, and then he lied about the whole thing. His parents found out and told Zavier how upset and disappointed they were because he had sinned against God and against them.

Now Zavier felt terrible and could hardly calm down—that is, until he heard something very special from his parents. “Zavier, this was very wrong. But we love you and we forgive you . . . and so does Jesus.” “Really?” Zavier asked. “You really forgive me?” “Yes, we forgive you, just like Jesus has forgiven all of us.” Zavier cried again, but this time because he was so relieved and thankful.

Zavier experienced the very thing that God describes in the Bible verse for this devotion. God says that his Word is like a double-edged sword. That means that it is powerful and very sharp as it goes to work. One side of God’s Word we call the law. The law shows us our sin as it reminds us how we break God’s commands. Zavier was “cut” by God’s Word when his parents told him how he had sinned against God and against them. He felt guilty and it hurt.

But then Zavier experienced the other powerful side of God’s Word, something we call the gospel. The gospel is the good news that Jesus loves us, forgives us, and is our Savior from sin. Amazingly, this side of the sword of God’s Word doesn’t hurt—but actually comforts and relieves us. Zavier’s parents shared the gospel with him, the good news that Jesus forgave what he had done.

This week the Scripture readings and devotions have focused on having a humble heart of love like Jesus. Part of being a humble Christian is continually going to the powerful Word of God. There we are reminded that we have sinned against God (that’s the law). But there we are also comforted that we are forgiven for Jesus’ sake (that’s the gospel). God’s Word is so powerful when it creates faith in our hearts to humbly trust in our Savior Jesus!

Now we have the opportunity to put the sword of God’s Word to work too. We can share with other people both the law and gospel so that they also know they need a Savior and that they have one in Jesus Christ. God bless us as we humbly share his Word with others!

Questions to Consider:

God's Word is like a two-edged sword. Name the two powerful sharp sides.

What are times or places that you can read or hear God's powerful Word?

Explain what the law does and what the gospel does in God's Word.

When would you share the law with someone? When would you share the gospel with someone?

Agree/Disagree: Some people have sinned so much and so badly in life that they don't deserve to hear the good news of the gospel. Explain your answer.

Even though God's Word is so powerful and effective, why is it that we are often so afraid to share it? How can we overcome that?

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.