

December 1, 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.





December 1, 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:

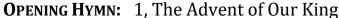
Pastor: Rev. Paul Jenkins

Today's Focus: The Lord is coming with hope to calm the fears and uncertainties in our hearts. 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.





6 All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free, With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806-76, alt.

Tune: St. Thomas (SM) Aaron Williams, 1731-76.

INVOCATION

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

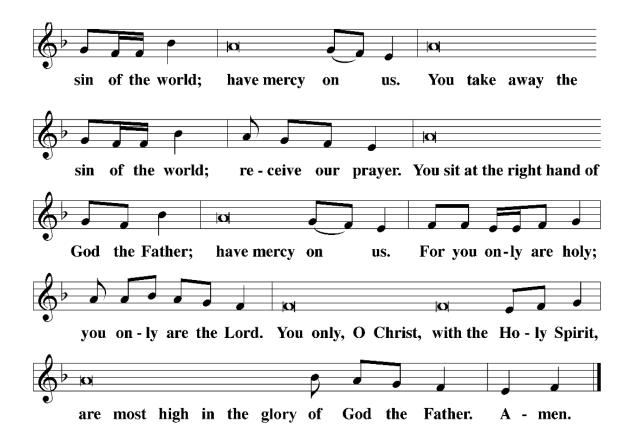
Congregation: Amen.

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





PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Listen, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the good promises that I have spoken to the house of Israel and concerning the house of Judah.

¹⁵ In those days and at that time,

I will cause a righteous Branch to grow up from David's line.

He will establish justice and righteousness on earth.

¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved,

and Jerusalem will dwell securely.

This is what she will be called:

The LORD Our Righteousness.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 25

Read Responsively

M: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;

C: in you I trust, O my God.

M: Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love,

C: for they are of old.

M: Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;

C: according to your great love remember me, for you are good, O LORD.

M: Turn to me and be gracious to me,

C: for I am lonely and afflicted.

M: Look upon my affliction and distress

C: and take away all my sins.

M: Guard my life and rescue me,

C: for I take refuge in you.

SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Christians constantly look ahead to Jesus' coming, which increases our love for each other and all people.

Indeed, how can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have before God on account of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we are praying earnestly to see you in person and to supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ May God our Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord increase your love and make it overflow for each other and for all people, just as ours does for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts as blameless in holiness before our God and Father, when our Lord Jesus comes with all his saints.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia! (*Revelation 22:20*)

Stand

GOSPEL

Luke 19:28-40

Jesus' arrival fills hearts with hope, peace, and joy.

M: The Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 19.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

After Jesus had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he came near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ahead, ³⁰ saying, "Go to the village ahead of you. When you enter it, you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ And if anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you will say this: 'The Lord needs it.'"

³² Those who were sent ahead went and found things just as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

34 They said, "The Lord needs it."

³⁵Then they brought the colt to Jesus. They threw their robes on the colt and set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he went along, people spread their robes on the road. ³⁷As he was approaching the slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began to praise God joyfully, with a loud voice, for all the miracles they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

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³⁹ Some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

⁴⁰ He replied, "I tell you, if these people would be silent, the stones would cry out."

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.

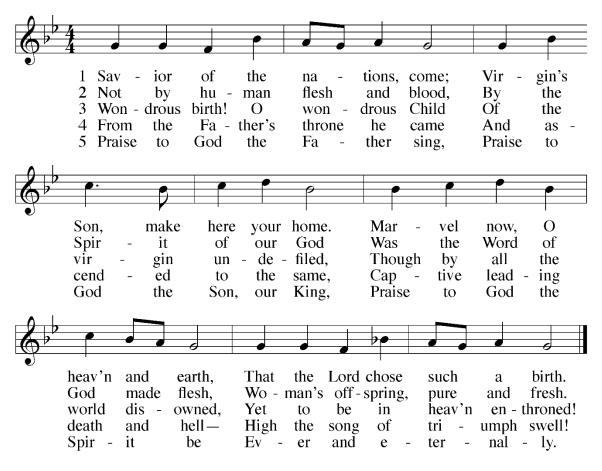
We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON: The Advent of our King

HYMN OF THE DAY: 2, Savior of the Nations, Come



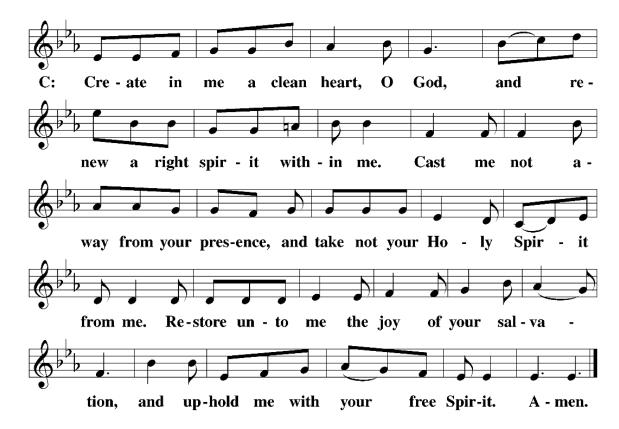
Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt. Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geystiliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.

SERMON

Text: Jeremiah 33:14-16 **Theme:** The Savior Brings Hope

Stand

CREATE IN ME



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

- M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.
- C: We praise you for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

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- M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.
- C: Move us to take to heart the words of John the Baptist: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
- M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.
- C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.
- M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.
- C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers

- M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.
- C: Come, Lord Jesus! 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 unto the Lord.

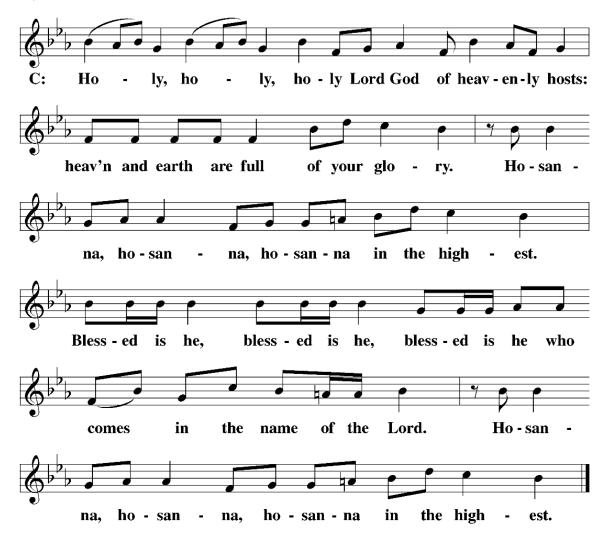
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

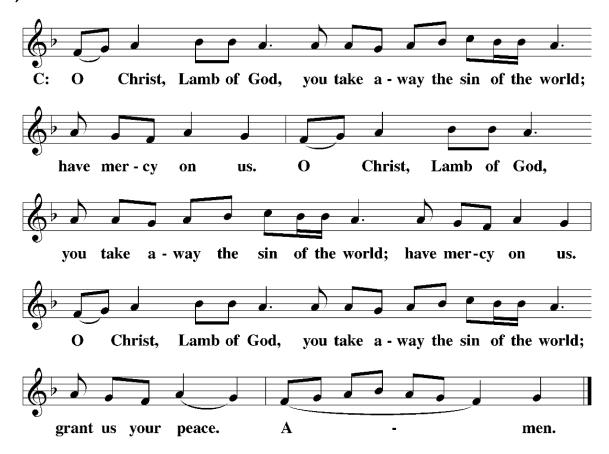
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this (+) is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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: 315, Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face



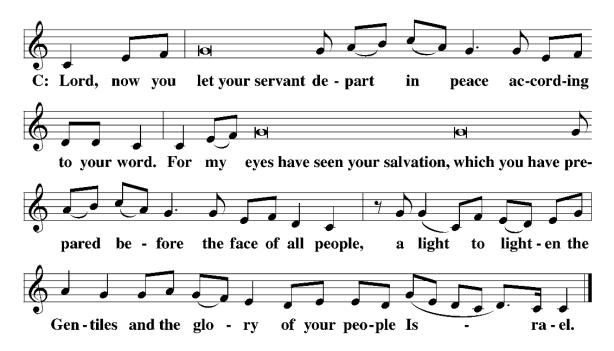
6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above, Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy, The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, abr., alt.

Tune: FARLEY CASTLE (10 10 10 10) Henry Lawes, 1595–1662.

Stand

SONG OF SIMEON



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 our 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.

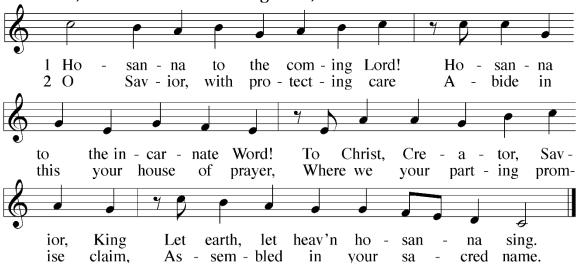
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

C: Amen.

Be Seated

CLOSING HYMN: 21, Hosanna to the Coming Lord, *verses 1 and 2*



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, abr., alt.
Tune: VOM HIMMEL HOCH (LM) Schumann, Geistliche lieder auffs new gebessert, Leipzig, 1539.

Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

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

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

Find us online at www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Sunday School Service Project

Through Sunday, December 8th our Sunday School is collecting cold weather items to donate to HUGS of Warm in Woodbridge. There is a donation box in the narthex, and everything will go to help those in need in our neighborhoods during the winter months.

Christmas for Kids – This Saturday!

Trinity's next outreach event will be our Third Annual Christmas for Kids this Saturday, December 7, from 9:30-11:30. We are aiming to welcome 30-40 kids to learn God's love in action in the Christmas story. Pastor will be preparing the songs, Bible stories, games, gifts, snacks, and crafts. Just two or three more adult or teen volunteers will be needed simply to supervise and help out kids who might need a hand. If you could be one of those helpers, please let pastor know.

Advent and Christmas Worship Information

Brief devotions will follow our midweek Advent suppers on December 4, 11, and 18. The suppers start at 6 (doors open about 5:30), and are potlucks. Please bring something to share if you can; beverages and tableware are provided.

The Children's Christmas Worship Service will be during the 11:00 service on December 15. The 8:30 service on that Sunday will follow the order of *Service of Word and Sacrament*.

Christmas Eve Candlelight services will be at 5:00 and 7:00; Christmas Day worship with Communion is at 10:00.

Women's Bible Study - January 11

The Trinity Women's Bible Study will not meet during the month of December. Our next meeting will be Saturday, January 11 at 9:00 am at Trinity. We'll be discussing chapter four of "Measured by Grace: How God Defines Success" by Sharla Fritz. For questions, please contact Erika Ohlendorf at erika.ohlendorf@gmail.com.

Wine and Word Bible Study – On break until 1/16/2025

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.

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



God's power is scary-good! https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20231204/

Read: Isaiah 64:1-9
Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!
For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

Isaiah 64:1,3,4

Isaiah was asking for something that seems strange. He is asking God to rip the sky open and make the mountains shake. Anyone who has been in an earthquake or a big thunderstorm knows that these are very scary things. So why would anyone want God to do something scary like that?

The answer the Bible gives is clear. When God comes in his power, he comes to be the God who saves.

This time of year, we begin to look forward to the coming of our God on Christmas. When Jesus was born, the true God entered our world. Jesus is true God and true man in one amazing person. And Jesus came with a remarkable mission. He came to take away our sin, and by doing that, he has made the end of all things sad and scary possible. He even defeated the scariest thing of all—death.

Isaiah knows that he needs God to save him. He knows that he has not always loved God with all his heart and he has not always shown love to the people in his life. Isaiah knows that even though every person is important to God, not a single one has been what God asks us to be. Isaiah knows this is why people die.

But Isaiah is confident and glad to know that his God is the one who does things for the good of others. He says, "No eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him." As believers all over the world begin this time of waiting before Christmas, they all wait for the God who saves. He saves us with all the power he has, the kind of power that can shake mountains. In fact, when Jesus died to save the world from sin, the people who saw it said that the earth shook. God used all his mighty power to rescue all people from sin and even from death. All who believe in Jesus will one day die, but in the end, God's power will raise us to live forever with the one who does good things for his people.

Questions for Consideration

What are some of the scary things Isaiah hopes God will do (in verse 1)?

When Jesus died on the cross it was a scary thing. How did God use such a scary thing for our good? People dying is sad and can be scary. How does Jesus dying and rising again help us when people we know are hurt or maybe even die?

Put in your own words how God uses his mighty power to do good things for his people.

If God is powerfully at work in our lives, why do so easily forget him?

"O Lord, we are the clay, you are the potter" (verse 8). What is Isaiah hoping God will "re-shape"?

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.