

Keep Watch for  
Your Coming King



**November 24, 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.





# Christ the King

November 24, 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:** Jesus' people keep watch for their King's return. 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: 341, Crown Him with Many Crowns



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his  
2 Crown him the Lord of love— Be - hold his hands and  
3 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the  
4 Crown him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a -



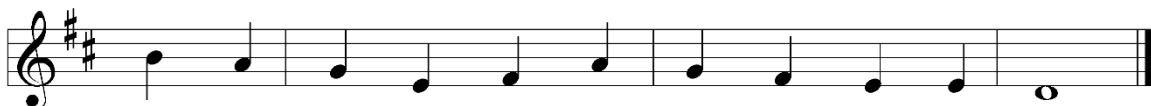
throne; Hark how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns All  
side, Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In  
grave And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For  
bove; Crown him the King to whom is giv'n The



mu - sic but its own. A - wake, my soul, and  
beau - ty glo - ri - fied. No an - gel in the  
those he came to save. His glo - ries now we  
won - drous name of Love. Crown him with man - y



sing Of him who died for thee, And hail him  
sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But down - ward  
sing Who died and rose on high, Who died e -  
crowns As thrones be - fore him fall; Crown him, ye



as thy match-less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
bends his won-d'ring eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.  
ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.  
kings, with man - y crowns For he is King of all.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, st. 1-2, 4, abr., alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3.  
Tune: DIADEMATA (SM D) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

*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 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.



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

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. Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the Evil One. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and on earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; 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

### Isaiah 51:4-6

*Isaiah prophesies the Messiah's second coming, when he brings righteousness and salvation for all who believe and brings an end to the present world.*

Pay attention to me, O my people.  
My nation, listen to me!  
For the law will go out from me,  
and I will establish my justice as a light to the peoples.  
<sup>5</sup> My righteousness is near.  
My salvation goes forth,  
and my arms will bring justice to the peoples.  
The seacoasts will wait for me.  
They will have confidence in my arm.  
<sup>6</sup> Lift up your eyes to the heavens.  
Look closely at the earth beneath,  
because the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
and the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and its inhabitants will die like gnats.  
But my salvation will remain forever,  
and my righteousness will never be abolished.

### PSALM OF THE DAY: 45

*Read Responsibly*

M: My heart is stirred by a noble theme

**C: as I recite my verses for the King.**

M: You are the most excellent of men,

**C: and your lips have been anointed with grace.**

M: Gird your sword upon your side, O Mighty One;

**C: clothe yourself with splendor and majesty.**

M: In your majesty ride forth victoriously;

**C: let your right hand display awesome deeds.**

M: Your throne, O God, will last forever and ever;

**C: a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.**

M: You love righteousness and hate wickedness;

**C: therefore God has anointed you with the oil of joy.**

*(Continued on Next Page)*

M: I will perpetuate your memory through all generations;

**C: therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.**

## SECOND LESSON

**June 20-25**

*Jude vividly pictures the renewal of all things at Christ's return, as well as the importance of our work until that day.*

But you, dear friends, continue to build yourselves up in your most holy faith as you keep praying in the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> Keep yourselves in God's love as you continue to wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, which results in eternal life. <sup>22</sup> Show mercy to those who are wavering. <sup>23</sup> Save others by snatching them out of the fire. Show mercy to still others with fear, hating even the clothing that is stained by the flesh.

<sup>24</sup> Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you faultless in the presence of his glory with great joy, <sup>25</sup> to the only God, our Savior, be glory, majesty, power, and authority through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all time, now, and to all eternity. Amen.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Alleluia!  
*(Revelation 22:13)*

*Stand*

## GOSPEL AND SERMON

**Mark 13:26-37**

M: The Gospel of St. Mark, chapter 13.

**C: Glory be to you, O Lord!**

"Then you will see the Son of Man coming on clouds with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup> At that time he will send out his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of the sky.

<sup>28</sup> "Learn from this illustration of the fig tree: Whenever its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup> So also when you see these things happening, you will know that he is near—at the doors! <sup>30</sup> Amen I tell you: This generation will certainly not pass away until all these things happen. <sup>31</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

*(Continued on Next Page)*



<sup>32</sup>“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup> Watch! Be alert and pray, because you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup> It is like a man going away on a journey. When he left his home, he put his servants in charge and assigned what each one was to do. He also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch. <sup>35</sup> Therefore keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house is coming: whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or early in the morning. <sup>36</sup> If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. <sup>37</sup> What I say to you, I say to everyone: Keep watch!”

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: Stay Awake**

HYMN OF THE DAY: 207, The Day Is Surely Drawing Near



1 The day is sure - ly draw - ing near When God's Son,  
 2 A trum - pet loud shall then re - sound And all the  
 3 A book is o - pened then to all, A rec - ord  
 4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but  
 5 My Sav - ior paid the debt I owe And for my



the A - noint - ed, Shall with great maj - es - ty ap - pear  
 earth be shak - en. Then all who in their graves are found  
 tru - ly tell - ing What each has done, both great and small,  
 car - nal plea - sures, Who here de - spised his pre - cious Word  
 sin was smit - ten; With - in the Book of Life I know



As judge of all ap - point - ed. All mirth and  
 Shall from their sleep a - wak - en And with the  
 When he on earth was dwell - ing, And ev - 'ry  
 And loved their earth - ly trea - sures! With shame and  
 My name has now been writ - ten. I will not



laugh - ter then shall cease When flames on flames will  
 liv - ing in that hour By the Al - might - y's  
 heart be clear - ly seen, And all be known as  
 trem - bling they will stand And at the judg - e's  
 doubt, for I am free, And Sa - tan can - not



still in - crease, As Scrip - ture tru - ly teach - es.  
 bound - less pow'r Be changed at his com - mand - ing.  
 they have been In thoughts and words and ac - tions.  
 stern com - mand To Sa - tan be de - liv - ered.  
 threat - en me; There is no con - dem - na - tion!

6 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,  
 But hasten our salvation;  
 We often tremble on our way  
 In fear and tribulation.  
 Your saints are waiting patiently;  
 Come soon, Redeemer; make us free  
 From ev'ry evil. Amen.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532-99, abr.; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832-1919, alt.  
 Tune: ES IST GEWISSLICH (87 87 887) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert*, Wittenberg, 1535.

## SERMON

**Text:** Mark 13:26-37

**Theme:** Keep Watch for Your Coming King

*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.

*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: 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.

**C: 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 unto 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 preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as King to judge all people and take his own to 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 G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. 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 is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is common time (C). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes or bar lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

*Be Seated*

**DISTRIBUTION**

HYMN: 384, By Grace I'm Saved



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound - less;  
 2 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior,  
 3 By grace! Oh, mark this word of prom - ise  
 4 By grace to tim - id hearts that trem - ble,  
 5 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing;



My soul, be - lieve and doubt it not. Why wa - ver  
 Came down to earth to bear our sin. Was it be -  
 When you are by your sins op - pressed, When Sa - tan  
 In trib - u - la - tion's fur - nace tried— By grace, de -  
 In Je - sus' prom - ise I re - joice. For though I



at this word of prom - ise? Has Scrip - ture ev - er  
 cause of your own mer - it That Je - sus died your  
 plagues your trou - bled con - science, And when your heart is  
 spite all fear and trou - ble, The Fa - ther's heart is  
 know my heart's con - di - tion, I al - so know my



false - hood taught? So then this word must true re -  
 soul to win? No, it was grace, and grace a -  
 seek - ing rest. What rea - son can - not com - pre -  
 o - pen wide. Where could I help and strength se -  
 Sav - ior's voice. My heart is glad; all grief has



main: By grace you, too, shall heav'n ob - tain.  
 lone, That brought him from his heav'n - ly throne.  
 hend God by his grace to you did send.  
 cure If grace were not my an - chor sure?  
 flown Since I am saved by grace a - lone.

Text: Christian L. Scheidt, 1709–61, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE (DRETZEL) (98 98 88) Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775, alt.

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: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of 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: 370, All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, verses 1 and 3

1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels  
3 Sin - ners whose love can ne'er for - get The worm - wood  
pros - trate fall; Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And  
and the gall, Go, spread your tro - phies at his feet And  
crown him Lord of all. Bring forth the roy - al  
crown him Lord of all. Go, spread your tro - phies  
di - a - dem And crown him Lord of all.  
at his feet And crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726-92, st. 1-3, abr., alt.; *A Selection of Hymns*, London, 1787, st. 4-5, alt.  
Tune: CORONATION (86 86 86) Oliver Holden, 1765-1844.

## Trinity Lutheran Church

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Find us online at [www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org](http://www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org)

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

### Wine and Word Bible Study

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](http://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](mailto:dawn.f.knox@gmail.com) to RSVP.

### 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 – December 7

Trinity's next outreach event will be our Third Annual Christmas for Kids on 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.

**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](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



## **You Will Live and Reign with Christ**

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20241106/>

Read: Read Revelation 20:4-6

Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

Revelation 20:6

Where am I STARTING?

That is an important question if you want to get to your destination. If you are heading to Topeka, Kansas you might know that you need to take Interstate 70. But it makes a difference where you are starting from as to whether you'll drive east or west on I-70. If you are in Denver, you'd go east. If you are in St. Louis, you'd head west.

It's an important question to ask as we hear today's word of God. If we have the wrong starting place, we might end up with some confusion about what is being told to us here. So, where are we starting?

The Bible teaches us that at the start of life, we are born alive but spiritually dead in sin. The Bible says that when a person hears the good news of Jesus and believes in him as their Savior, the Spirit of God has raised that person to a new life. That's faith. This is what John refers to as the first resurrection. It means YOU are part of the first resurrection! It also means you get to live and rule with Christ for a "1,000 years." Wow, that sounds like a really long time! Doesn't it? And it's true, the time between Jesus' ascension into heaven and when he finally returns to take his people home to heaven has already been a long time—that's about 2,020 years and counting.

That's why it's important to ask, "Where am I starting?" Each of us has already started our lives on earth. Every start of life has an end to life. We will all die physically. Nobody likes to talk about death, but the Bible talks a lot about it because God doesn't want you to be afraid of it. We'll cease to breathe, and our souls will separate from our bodies. We could call that the first death. But don't be afraid because Jesus will raise our bodies in the second resurrection. And we need not ever fear the second death either. We'll never be separated from God because we've been made fully and eternally alive in Jesus, over whom death no longer has any power.

But now, "Where are we going?" Here's the cool thing—believer in Jesus. By faith, you are part of what's called the "communion of saints"—those who get to go and live and reign with Jesus in the palace of heaven, in a life that knows only joy, peace, and no end.

## Questions for Younger Children

Describe what you think heaven will be like.

True or False. The Bible doesn't want us to be afraid of dying.

Today's devotion talked about the first resurrection. What is it?

How does a person take part in the first resurrection?

What does the number 1,000 represent in Revelation? What does it not mean?

Read John 5:24-29. How do those words of Jesus help us understand these words of Jesus?

**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.