



December 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.





Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 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: Jesus brings perfect peace to our lives by restoring our peace with God. Our worship follows *The Common Service*.

WE COME INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

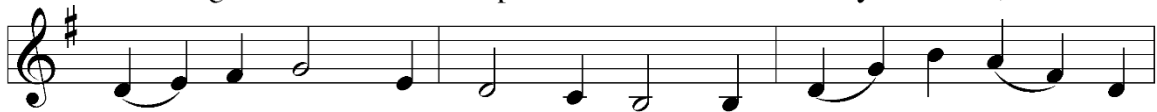
MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

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

OPENING HYMN: 4, Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates, verses 1-4



1 Lift up your heads, you might - y gates! Be -
2 The King is born in pov - er - ty, His
3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where
4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make



hold, the King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is
char - iot is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is
Christ the rul - er is con - fessed! O peace - ful hearts and
it a tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for



draw - ing near; The Sav - ior of the world is here.
ho - li - ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress.
hap - py homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes!
heav'n's em - ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy.



Life and sal - va - tion he will bring; There -
The end of all our woe he brings; There -
The cloud - less sun of joy is he Who
So shall vour Sov - 'reign en - ter in And



fore re - joice and glad - ly sing. To God the Fa - ther
fore the earth is glad and sings. To Christ the Sav - ior
comes to set his peo - ple free. To God the Spir - it
new and no - bler life be - gin. To God a - lone be



raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.
praise For word and deed and grace!

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

(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. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you with joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

Micah 5:2-5a

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
from you, will go out the one who will be the ruler for me in Israel.
His goings forth are from the beginning, from the days of eternity.

³Therefore the LORD will give them up,
until the time when the woman who is in labor bears a child.
Then the remaining survivors from his brothers will return to the people of Israel.

⁴He will stand and shepherd with the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
They will dwell securely, for at that time he will be great to the ends of the earth.

⁵This one will be their peace.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 85

Read Responsively

M: You showed favor to your land, O LORD;

C: you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

M: You forgave the iniquity of your people

C: and covered all their sins.

M: Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,

C: and grant us your salvation.

M: I will listen to what God the LORD will say;

C: he promises peace to his people, his saints.

M: Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,

C: that his glory may dwell in our land.

M: Love and faithfulness meet together;

C: righteousness and peace kiss each other.

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 10:5-10

By the sacrifice of his own body, Christ sanctifies us, that is, makes us holy and at peace with God.

Therefore when he entered the world, Christ said:

Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but you prepared a body for me.

⁶You were not pleased
with burnt offerings and sin offerings.

⁷Then I said, "Here I am.

I have come to do your will, God.

In the scroll of the book it is written about me."

⁸First he said:

Sacrifices and offerings that were offered according to the law,
both burnt offerings and sin offerings,
you did not desire,
and you were not pleased with them.

⁹Then he said:

Here I am.

I have come to do your will.

He does away with the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰By this will, we have been sanctified once and for all, through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! The virgin will be with child and will give birth to son, and they will call him Immanuel.
Alleluia! (*Matthew 1:23*)

Stand

GOSPEL

Luke 1:1:39-55

Mary's song of praise reflects the peace that the coming Savior brings to her and all believers.

M: The Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 1.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

In those days Mary got up and hurried to the hill country, to a town of Judah. ⁴⁰ She entered the home of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ Just as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² She called out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ But why am I so favored that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ In fact, just now, as soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy! ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who believed, because the promises spoken to her from the Lord will be fulfilled!"

⁴⁶ Then Mary said,

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ because he has looked with favor on the humble state of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ because the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm.

He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones.

He has lifted up the lowly.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things, but the rich he has sent away empty.

⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy,

⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his offspring forever.

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: Quiet Peace, Loud Peace

HYMN OF THE DAY: 23, Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your
4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,
draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
heav'n - ly home. Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!
And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
And close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

SERMON

Text: Micah 5:2-5a

Theme: Jesus Will Be Your Peace

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 treble clef, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music is a simple, melodic line.

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: Lord God, heavenly Father, Creator and Sustainer of the universe, we praise you for the special love you have shown us, your fallen and sinful creatures. You have kept your word and sent your Son to be born as the promised Savior and Redeemer.

Lord Jesus Christ, we marvel at your servant's heart, which moved you to do your Father's will and take on our human flesh. You became human so that you might live the holy life we could not live, endure the agony of the cross, and suffer death as our substitute.

O Holy Spirit, we thank you for your saving work of bringing us to faith in our Savior. You have opened our eyes to see that, despite his humble appearance and lowly circumstances, the child who lies in Bethlehem's manger is the mighty God, Redeemer of the world.

God of our salvation, you have brought us to faith in the Christ Child, so we ask that you would work powerfully also in the hearts of those who do not yet know him, or do not know him truth. Grant that the world's attention to the Christ Child may not be a seasonal novelty. Rather, bring all sinners to faith that they may see him as the answer to life's problems here and the sure hope of life eternal in heaven with you.

Special prayers

M: Let the joyous message of Christmas be preached in all the world, and may it find acceptance in believing hearts, for the eternal benefit of souls, for the expansion of your kingdom, and for the glory of your holy name. 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.**

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

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this (+) is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



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

Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: 377, Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice, verses 1-5



1 Dear Chris - tians, one and all, re - joice, With
 2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death
 3 My own good works a - vailed me naught, No
 4 But God be - held my wretch - ed state Be -
 5 He spoke to his be - lov - ed Son: "'Tis



ex - ul - ta - tion spring - ing, And, with u -
 brood - ed dark - ly o'er me. Sin was my
 mer - it they at - tain - ing; My will a -
 fore the world's foun - da - tion, And, mind - ful
 time to have com - pas - sion. Then go, bright



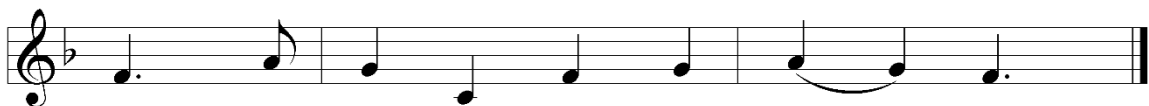
nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly rap - ture
 tor - ment night and day; In sin my moth - er
 gainst God's judg - ment fought, No hope for me re -
 of his mer - cies great, He planned my soul's sal -
 Jew - el of my crown, And bring man - kind sal -



sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God
 bore me. Yet deep and deep - er still
 main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer
 va - tion. A Fa - ther's heart he turned
 va - tion. From sin and sor - row set



has done, How his right arm the vic - t'ry
 I fell; Life had be - come a liv - ing
 de - spair Left naught but death to be my
 to me, Sought my re - demp - tion fer - vent -
 them free; Slay bit - ter death for them that



won. How dear - ly it has cost him!
 hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
 share And hell to be my sen - tence.
 ly; He gave his dear - est trea - sure.
 they May live with you for - ev - er."

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.

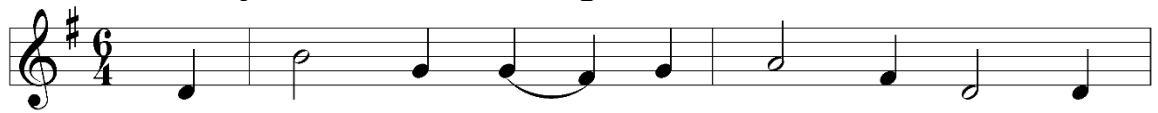
C: Amen.

BLESSING

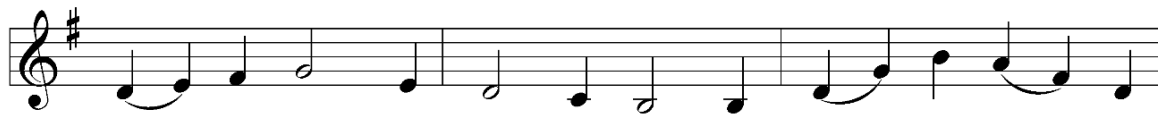
M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: 4, Lift Up Your Heads, You Might Gates, verse 5



5 Re - deem - er, come! I op - en wide My



heart to you; here, Lord, a - bide! Oh, en - ter with your



sav - ing grace; Show me your kind and friend - ly face.



Your Ho - ly Spir - it guide us on Un -



til our glo - rious goal is won. E - ter - nal praise and



fame We of - fer to your name.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: MILWAUKEE (88 88 88 66) August Lemke, 1820–1913.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Christmas Worship Information

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 January 16

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. 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 Book Club – January 18

Trinity's Book club will meet at 9:30am on Saturday, January 18, at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries. Please join us to discuss *An Hour Unspent* by Roseanna M. White and to choose our next read! New members are always 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



Christmas brings happy, noisy peace!

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20231225/>

Devotion based on Micah 5:2,4,5

“Peace and quiet.” Ever hear an adult complain that’s what they want? Have you found peace and quiet as you celebrate Christmas? Maybe the most peaceful part of it in your mind is when all the worshipers at church are holding lit candles and listening to the account of Jesus’ birth, or that moment when the wrapping paper is all cleaned up and everyone falls asleep in their beds. Peace and quiet.

But peace isn’t always quiet. The word God uses for peace is “shalom.” It’s a Hebrew word that means that everything is in its right place—just the way it should be. That’s why Jesus came, stepping out of his world and entering our world. That’s why he was born as a small child in one of the smallest towns, so that he could live the life God demands from us, pay the price for our sins and bring us back to him. That’s peace—but it’s not always quiet.

It’s like a shepherd standing in front of his flock. They’re safe and happy and eager for his voice. Do you hear him calling them to cool waters? Do you hear the joyful bleating and baa-ing of the sheep?

It’s like a mighty King protecting his people. The air rings with his promises that everything will be okay. Your whole body shakes with their clapping and cheering as they rejoice in his care.

And it’s like you. Maybe you had a “noisy” Christmas, filled with relatives and friends and crowded parties. Maybe it was noisy with problems and fights. Or maybe it was a bit quieter, and you didn’t have many people to celebrate it with.

But Jesus was there. The God who gave his life for you is still living with you. He’ll be with you when your home is filled with celebrating (or squabbling) loved ones, and he’ll be with you on the days you’re all alone. Sometimes it’ll be peaceful and sometimes noisy, but when Jesus is there as your Savior, you’ll always have peace.

(Continued on Next page)

Questions to Consider:

- Who is the loudest, noisiest person in your family? Is it a big person or a small person?
- God promised Jesus would be born in a small town called Bethlehem. What is a “big thing” God can do through “little you”?
- Jesus is described as a shepherd here. How is Jesus like a shepherd?
- How did Jesus bring us peace?
- What makes it more difficult for you to feel close to God—the loud, busy times or the quiet and lonely times?
- What do you think it means that Jesus’ origins “were from of old”?

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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.