

February 2, 2025

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.





February 2, 2025

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: As Joseph and Mary present Jesus in the temple, the Lord presents him as the Savior of all people. Our worship follows *The Common Service*, and will include the baptism of Margaret Olson in the 11:00 service.

WE COME INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

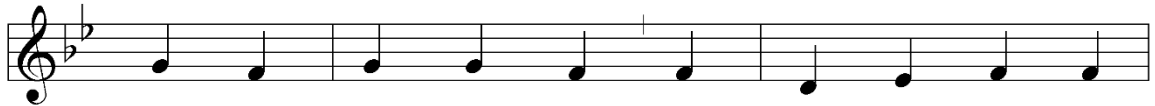
MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

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

OPENING HYMN: 85, O God from God, O Light from Light, verses 1-3



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of
2 Deep in the proph - ets' sa - cred page, Grand in the
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of



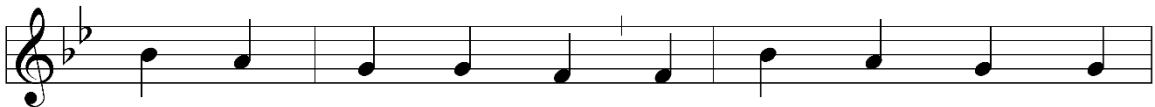
Peace and King of kings, To you in heav - en's
po - ets' wing - ed word, Slow - ly, in type, from
pain mid hate and scorn—These all are past, and



glo - ry bright The song of praise for - ev - er rings.
age to age The na - tions saw their com - ing Lord;
now a - bove He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.



To him who sits up - on the throne, The Lamb once
Till through the deep Ju - de - an night Rang out the
Lift up your heads, O might - y gates! So sang the



slain but raised a - gain, Be all the glo - ry
song, "Good will to men!" Sung by heav'n's hosts in
an - gel hosts a - gain. Lift up your heads— your



he has won, All thanks and praise! A - men, A - men.
splen - dor bright, Re - ech - oed now, "Good will!" A - men.
King a - waits. We lift them up, A - men, A - men.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, abr., alt.

Tune: O GROSSER GOTT (LM D) *Johann Störts* . . . *Schlag-Gesang-Und Noten-Buch*, Stuttgart, 1744.

8:30 Service follows

11:00 Service begins below at Holy Baptism

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.**

8:30 continues on page 6 with Gloria in Excelsis

11:00 service follows

Remain Seated

Holy Baptism

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded baptism when he said: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." All of us are born into this world with a deep need for baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But Jesus took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and give us a new life. Our sinful nature need not control us any longer. We recall what baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words:

(Continued on Next Page)

C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

M: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

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 obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought this child to be baptized. Jesus told us: "Let the little children come me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy, and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

M: Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart (+) to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

Margaret Kathleen Ann Olson, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Stand

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Margaret may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

(Continued on Next Page)

M: Let us pray:

Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life. Look with special favor on Margaret and grant her a rich measure of your Spirit that she may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to all those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

C: Amen.

8:30 & 11:00 services continue:

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



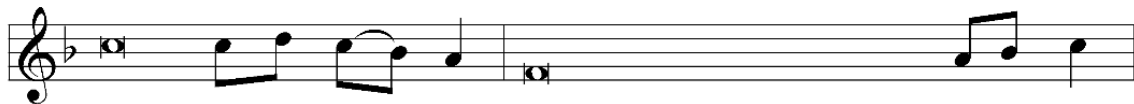
C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



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

(Continued on Next Page)

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. Almighty and ever-living God, grant that like Simeon and Anna of old, we may see with the eyes of faith him who is the glory of Israel and the light for all nations, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, whom with you and the Holy Spirit, we adore, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 1:21-28

Hannah and Elkanah present their boy Samuel in the temple, and dedicate him to the Lord's service.

21 When this man Elkanah and his entire household went up to offer the annual sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his vow, 22 Hannah did not go up with them, because she said to her husband, "Not until the child is weaned. Then I will bring him, so that he can appear before the LORD and remain there permanently."

23 Her husband Elkanah said to her, "Do whatever you think is best. Wait until you have weaned him. Yes, then the LORD will establish his word."

So the woman stayed at home, and she nursed her son until she was ready to wean him. 24 When she had weaned him, she took him up with her. She also took a three-year-old bull, twenty-five pounds of flour, and a container of wine, and she brought him to the House of the LORD in Shiloh. The boy was with them. And they brought him before the LORD, and his father killed the sacrifice as he regularly did before the LORD, and he brought the boy. 25 When they had killed the bull, they presented the child to Eli. 26 She said, "Excuse me, my lord. As your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood here next to you, praying to the LORD. 27 I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked for. 28 So now I have also dedicated him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is dedicated to the LORD." So he worshipped the LORD there.

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 2:14-18

Jesus came into the world as a little boy to do God's work of salvation, stepping into the place of all sinners and living perfectly, before making a single sacrifice for all sin.

Therefore, since the children share flesh and blood, he also shared the same flesh and blood, so that through death he could destroy the one who had the power of death (that is, the Devil) ¹⁵ and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely he was not concerned with helping angels but with helping Abraham's offspring. ¹⁷ For this reason, he had to become like his brothers in every way, in order that he would be a merciful and faithful high priest in the things pertaining to God, so that he could pay for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Indeed, because he suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! "My eyes have seen your salvation." Alleluia! (*Luke 2:30*)

Stand

GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

Luke 2:22-40

M: The Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 2.

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

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. ²³ (As it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male will be called holy to the Lord.") ²⁴ And they came to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, waiting for the comfort of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him into his arms and praised God. He said,

²⁹ Lord, you now dismiss your servant in peace, according to
your word,
³⁰ because my eyes have seen your salvation,
³¹ which you have prepared before the face of all people,
³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your
people Israel.

³³ Joseph and the child's mother were amazed at the things that were spoken about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Listen carefully, this child is appointed for the falling and rising of many in Israel and for a sign that is spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶ Anna, a prophetess, was there. She was a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old. She had lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then she was a widow of eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple complex, since she was worshipping with fasting and prayers night and day. ³⁸ Standing nearby at that very hour, she gave thanks to the Lord. She kept speaking about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When they had accomplished everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town, Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

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: When It's Good to Talk a Lot

HYMN OF THE DAY: 78, O Light of Gentile Nations



1 O Light of Gen - tile na - tions, O
 2 Dear Lord, your ser - vants meet you In
 3 Lord, when life's trou - bles touch us, You
 4 Let us, O Lord, be faith - ful Like



Sav - ior from a - bove, Drawn by your Spir - it's
 ev - 'ry ho - ly place Where your true Word has
 seem to hide your face, And through our tears we
 Sim - eon to the end So that his prayer ex -



lead - ing, We come with joy and love In -
 prom - ised That we should see your face. To -
 of - ten Can scarce - ly sense your grace. Then
 ul - tant May from our hearts as - cend: "O



to your ho - ly tem - ple And wait with
 day you still al - low us Who gath - er
 be our joy and bright - ness, Our cheer in
 Lord, now let your ser - vant De - part in



rev - 'rent mind As Sim - eon once had
 round you here In arms of faith to
 pain and loss, Our sun in dark - est
 peace, I pray, Since I have seen my



wait - ed His God and Lord to find.
 hold you As did that a - ged seer.
 ter - ror, The glo - ry round our cross.
 Sav - ior And here be - held his day."

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77, abr., adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: MUNICH (76 76 D) *Neu-verbmerhtes . . . Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693, alt.


SERMON

Text: Luke 2:22-40

Theme: Presenting Jesus

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: We give you thanks, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with 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 lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. 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: 391, God Loved the World So that He Gave



1 God loved the world so that he gave His on - ly
 2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, Who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die— His Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives the
 5 When you are sick, when death draws near, This truth your



Son the lost to save That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in
 sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the
 sins that you have done. You're jus - ti - fied by
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus saves my



him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word does teach How we the bless - ed goal may reach.
 Je - sus' blood; Bap - tized, you are a child of God.
 soul from death— This is the an - chor of my faith!

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 To you, O blessed Trinity,
 Be praise now and eternally!

Text: *Heiliges Lippen . . . Gesangbuch*, Stettin, c. 1778; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Tune: ST. CRISPIN (LM) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

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: 85, O God from God, O Light from Light, verse 4

4 Sing to the Lord a might - y song; Sing to his
name, his glo - ries tell! Sing, heav'n - ly hosts, your
praise pro - long, And all on earth, your an - them swell!
Wor - thy the Lamb for sîn - ners slain! For - ev - er
let the song as - cend! Wor - thy the Lamb en -
throned to reign; Glo - ry and pow'r! A - men, A - men.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one flat) 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.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, abr., alt.

Tune: O GROSSER GOTT (LM D) *Johann Störls . . . Schlag-Gesang-Und Noten-Buch*, Stuttgart, 1744.

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.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Wine and Word Bible Study – February 6

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. 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.

Sunday School Service Project for February

All February long, Trinity's Sunday School kids are collecting baby items for Birthright of Woodbridge to distribute to expectant moms who have little or no support for their pregnancies.

Items particularly needed are:

- + baby clothes sizes newborn to 6 months (new and gently used)
- + baby toiletries such as baby shampoo, diaper cream, towels, and washcloths
- + diapers size newborn to 4
- + baby blankets (handmade blankets are welcome)

There will be a collection bin in the narthex for these items through February 23. You can find a more complete list of items needed on the Sunday School bulletin board in the hallway leading to the large Sunday school room.

Valentine's Breakfast – Next Sunday between Services

Trinity's Second Annual Valentine's Breakfast will be held between services next Sunday, February 9. (There will be no Bible class, and Sunday School will be abbreviated.) There are still a few ways to help out, and you can find them on the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall, or by speaking to Sandee Clay.

This breakfast would be a great chance to invite a friend or neighbor to worship at Trinity. In addition to getting to enjoy good food and good people, it's also a non-Communion Sunday, so you could ask your guest to join you for worship without the potential awkwardness of having to explain our Close Communion practice. (We don't apologize for our practice but do recognize that it may create some tension with friends who do not understand the reasons for it.) So, if you've been thinking of asking someone you know to join us, why not target this special Sunday?

Our thanks to Sandee for spearheading the breakfast again this year!

Divine Call Received

On January 22, Pastor received a divine call to serve as a pastor at Grace Lutheran Church and School in St. Joseph, Michigan. He is currently deciding where his gifts could be best used by praying for guidance and discussing things with the leaders of both Trinity and Grace. He is aiming to reach a decision late this month and appreciates your prayers.

Ash Wednesday Worship and Lenten Suppers

Ash Wednesday worship will be held on March 5 at 7pm, including the Rite of Imposition of Ashes for those who desire it. On the following five Wednesdays of Lent, potluck suppers will start in the Fellowship Hall at 6, followed by short devotions around 6:30. Everyone is 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 Hall beside the door to the hallway.

Small Choir

Trinity's 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 Andy Lutz. 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 Has Bigger Plans

The LORD said: It is too small a thing that you should just be my servant to raise up only the tribes of Jacob and to restore the ones I have preserved in Israel, so I will appoint you to be a light for the nations, so that my salvation will be known to the end of the earth.

Isaiah 49:6 (EHV)

Today's Bible verse almost sounds like the happy ending of a movie. The Servant of the Lord arrived to deliver God's people who turned away from the Lord. They needed his rescue and help. So God specially chose this Servant to carry out the important work of saving God's people. But there was a problem. It was hard work, sad work, even painful work. The Lord's Servant would suffer so much. He would be lonely. He would face rejection and attacks from his enemies. He would even face death for all those who rejected him. His work would seem empty and unsuccessful.

But God had bigger plans. Through that hard, sad, painful work, the Lord's Servant would rescue the people of ancient Israel. He would save them from their sins and from death, but God had even bigger plans! The Lord's Servant wouldn't just restore God's Old Testament people, but he would reveal God's glory to people all around the world, even to you where you live! "I will appoint you to be a light for the nations, so that my salvation will be known to the end of the earth." The good news of God's salvation wouldn't just be for one group, but for all people.

Maybe you're wondering, "Who is this Servant of the Lord who is going to do these incredible things?" Isaiah is hinting, "It's Jesus!" Jesus' calling was to be a servant. A servant-baby. A servant-Savior. Saving an entire planet of human beings is the dirtiest, hardest, most back-breaking, thorn-crowning, nail-driving work. Jesus would suffer. His work would seem empty and unsuccessful, but the Servant would triumph! Now we can live in joy and triumph. Like a small boy at a football game who jumps up and down shouting, "We've won, we've won!"—even though all he did was watch—we too can shout, "We've won!" over the victory that Jesus won for us.

But God has even bigger plans! Jesus is "a light for the nations." The big plan is for Jesus to be God's light to everyone still in the dark about him. He wants to save everyone! And Jesus carried out that plan perfectly. Now that's a happy ending!

Questions to Consider

What is your favorite happy ending in a book or movie?

What's the happy ending if Jesus is a "light for the nations"?

In your own words, describe God's "bigger plans" (Read verse 6 again.)

Name at least one way God shines the light of his salvation into your life.

Why was it "too small a thing" for God to just save the people of Israel?

It's important for us to understand that God sent Jesus to be "a light for the nations." How does that impact how you look at people who are different from you in some way?

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.