

February 16, 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 16, 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:

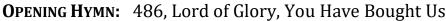
Pastor: Rev. Paul Jenkins

Today's Focus: Jesus blesses us thoroughly; we place our highest value on his eternal blessings. Our worship follows *Service of Word and Sacrament*.

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.





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

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

INVOCATION

Minister: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship

of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

- 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.

LORD OF MERCY

KYRIE

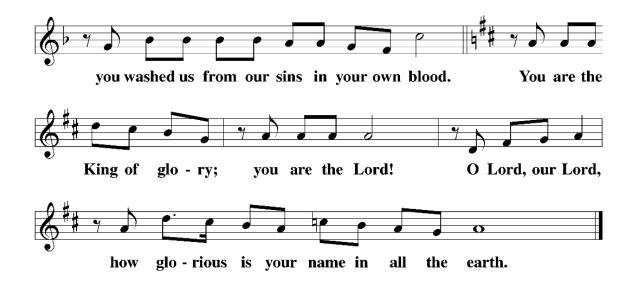
- M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.
- C: Christ, have mercy.
- M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.
- C: Amen.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD



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PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Lord God, in mercy receive the prayers of your people. Grant them the wisdom to know the things that please you and the grace and power always to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Faith in the Lord above everything else in the world both receives constant blessing and produces consistent fruit.

This is what the LORD says.
Cursed is anyone who trusts in mankind,
who seeks his strength from human flesh,
and who turns his heart away from the LORD.

⁶ He will be like a juniper bush in the wasteland.
He will not see good things when they come.
He lives in a dry place in the wilderness,
in a salty land where no one lives.

⁷ But blessed is anyone who trusts in the LORD,
whose confidence is in him.

⁸ He will be like a tree planted by water.

(continued on next page)

It sends out its roots to the stream.
It does not fear the heat when it comes.
Its leaves will remain green.
It is not concerned about a time of drought.
It does not stop producing fruit.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 1

READ RESPONSIVELY

- M: Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked
- C: or stand in the way of sinners.
- M: But his delight is in the law of the LORD,
- C: and on his law he meditates day and night.
- M: He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season
- C: and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.
- M: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
- C: nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
- M: For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
- C: but the way of the wicked will perish.

SECOND LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Therefore, to keep me from becoming arrogant due to the extraordinary nature of these revelations, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me, so that I would not become arrogant. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that he would take it away from me. ⁹ And he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, because my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will be glad to boast all the more in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may shelter me.

¹⁰ That is why I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties, for the sake of Christ. For whenever I am weak, then am I strong.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." Alleluia! (*John 6:68*)

Stand

GOSPEL

Luke 6:17-26

Those who find their highest strength and wealth in the Lord are rich and strong for eternity. Those who find their highest strength and wealth in themselves are doomed.

M: The Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 6.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

He went down with them and stood on a level place with a large crowd of his disciples and a large number of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, as well as from the coastal area of Tyre and Sidon. These people came to listen to him and to be healed of their diseases. ¹⁸ Those who were troubled by unclean spirits were also cured. ¹⁹ The whole crowd kept trying to touch him, because power was going out from him and healing them all.

²⁰ He lifted up his eyes to his disciples and said:

Blessed are you who are poor,

because yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now, because you will be satisfied.

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Blessed are you who weep now,

because you will laugh.

²² Blessed are you whenever people hate you,

and whenever they exclude and insult you

and reject your name as evil because of the Son of Man.

²³ "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy because of this: Your reward is great in heaven! The fact is, their fathers constantly did the same things to the prophets."

²⁴ But woe to you who are rich,

because you are receiving your comfort now.

²⁵ Woe to you who are well fed now,

because you will be hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,

because you will be mourning and weeping.

²⁶ Woe to you when all people speak well of you, because that is how their fathers constantly treated the false prophets.

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Amen.

Be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON: How to Be Really Strong

HYMN OF THE DAY: 283, Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening



Text: Anna Sophia of Hesse-Darmstadt, 1638–83, abr.; tr. composite. Tune: Werde Munter (87 87 77 88) Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667.

SERMON

Text: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Theme: He is Strong

Stand

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

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.
- C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.
- M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.
- C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

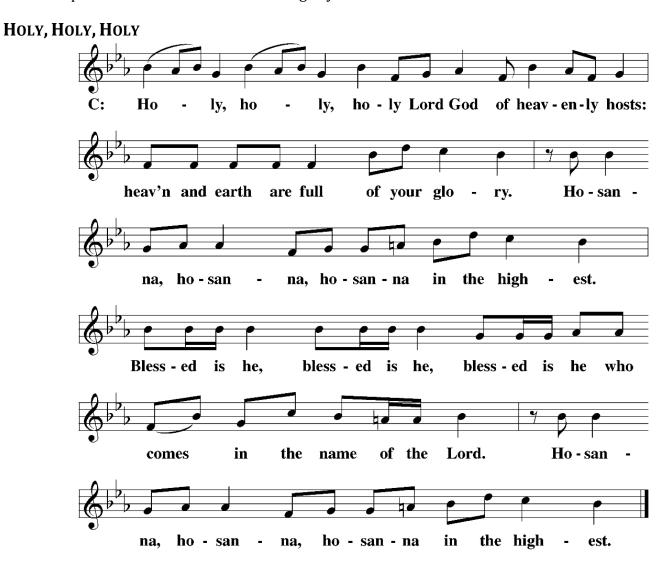
M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

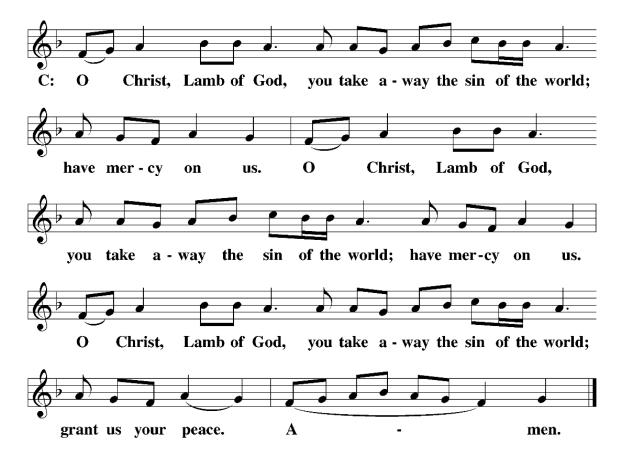
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this (+) is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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: 714, The Lamb



As the Lord provided for Abraham a sacrifice in place of his son Isaac, so also he lovingly provides for us his own Son, Jesus, the perfect Lamb of God sacrificed for the sins of the world.

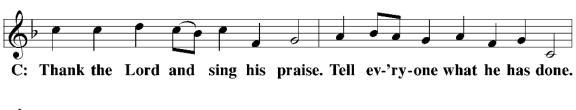
Tune: WINTER (48 48 and Refrain)

Text, Tune: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953 © 1987 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP),

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Stand

THANK THE LORD





Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

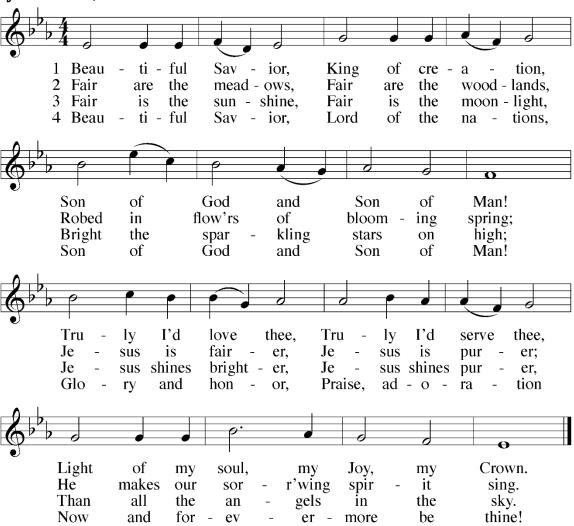
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

C: Amen.

Be Seated

Closing Hymn: 369, Beautiful Savior



Text: *Münsterisch Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677, abr.; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904. Tune: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU (557 558) Silesian folk tune, 19th century, alt.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Find us online at www.trinityofWoodbridge.org Facebook: www.trinityofwoodbridge.org

Wine and Word Bible Study - March 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)

(Also: no toys, please.)

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.

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!

Fifth Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Trinity's next outreach event will be our Fifth Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12 at 2pm. Eggs filled with candy will be ordered again this year, but you're welcome to add your own to the stash, if you'd like. Our goal is to show kindness and also invite our unchurched neighbors to join us for Holy Week worship. This is a low-volunteer event, but a few will be needed to supervise and to staff a welcome table. If you'd like to help, please speak to pastor. Thank you!

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 have any questions or are not getting the emails for Sign-Up Genius, please email worship@trinityofwoodbridge.org. You can also scan this code to sign up:



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.



Fill in the Blank

https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20240221/

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels or demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38,39

Teachers love to use different kinds of questions on tests. Some questions are multiple-choice. Those are the easiest. You get to pick from one of three possible answers. Some questions are short-answer or essay questions in which you have to write out your answer to the questions. Some questions are fill-in-the-blank. The teacher gives you a statement with a line in it. You have to figure out what goes on the line. For example:

God you.

What do you think fills in the blank? God loves you.

The last two verses of our reading for today could really be fill in the blank. God promises us that he will never stop loving us. He promises us that he will always be with us. He promises that he will make everything in our lives work out for our good.

And that means that nothing can separate us from his love.

The apostle Paul lists all kinds of examples of things that won't separate you from God's love—angels, demons, the present, the future, powerful people, scary heights, or dangerous depths. Not even death can separate us from God's love because when we die, he is going to take us to be with him forever in heaven.

You can be sure of that because not even your sins can separate you from God. The punishment for our sins is that we would be separated from God forever in hell, but Jesus suffered that punishment for us on the cross. You can't commit a sin that God won't forgive.

You can put anything in those blanks: "For I am convinced that neither mean kids at school nor unfair teachers, neither getting sick nor getting in trouble with my parents, neither the lies I told nor naughty things I did, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate me from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Nothing can separate you from God's love, not ev	en $___$. How would you fill in the blank? What
makes you feel distant from God? Whatever it is,	here's God's promise: It can't separate you from his love

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Questions for Consideration:

Name one scary thing and one hard thing that you have trouble getting over.

Why don't you ever need to be scared?

Verse 31 says, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" What do you think that means?

How is Jesus' death on the cross the greatest proof of God's love for us?

What are the hardest times or situations to trust that God still loves you? Why?

You have a friend who is depressed, maybe even to the point that he or she doesn't want to live anymore.

How could today's devotion help them to find hope?

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.