

August 3, 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.





**Eighth
Sunday** after Pentecost

August 3, 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: Pastor Paul Mueller

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: 226 To Your Temple I Draw Near, Verses 1, 3, 6

1 To your tem - ple I draw near;
3 While your glo - rious praise is sung,
Lord, I love to wor - ship here.
Touch my lips, un - loose my tongue,
Here are sac - ra - ment and Word;
That my joy - ful soul may bless
Here be - liev - ers meet their Lord.
Christ the Lord, my right - eous - ness.

6 While your ministers proclaim
Peace and pardon in your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I
Hear you speaking from the sky.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: GOTT SEI DANK DURCH ALLE WELT (77 77) Freylinghausen, *Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch*, Halle, 1704, alt.

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.



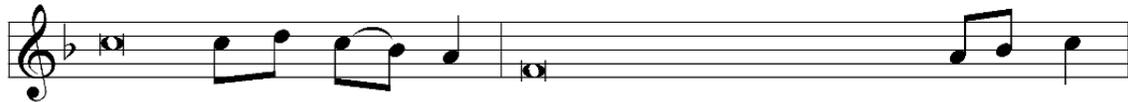
C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



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

(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: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy and to bring forth fruits in faith and hope and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ 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

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

⁹The Lord your God will cause you to be overflowing with good things from all the work of your hands, in the fruit of your womb, in the fruit of your animals, and in the fruit of your soil. Once again he will rejoice over your prosperity, just as he rejoiced over your fathers, ¹⁰when you obey the voice of the Lord your God by keeping his commandments and his statutes written in this Book of the Law, when you return to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

¹¹Certainly, this commandment that I am giving you today is not too difficult for you, and it is not far away. ¹²It is not up in the heavens, so that you have to say, "Which one of us will go up to the heavens and get it for us so we can listen to it and carry it out?" ¹³It is not across the sea, so that you have to say, "Which one of us will cross over to the other side of the sea and get it for us so we can listen to it and carry it out?" ¹⁴Instead, the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so you can obey it.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 25

READ RESPONSIVELY

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

C: in you I trust, O my God.

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

C: for they are from of old.

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

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

M: Turn to me and be gracious to me,

C: for I am lonely and afflicted.

M: Look upon my affliction and my distress

C: and take away all my sins.

M: Guard my life and rescue me,

C: for I take refuge in you.

M: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

C: and to the Holy Spirit,

M: as it was in the beginning,

C: is now, and will be forever. Amen.

SECOND LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

Acts 8:9-21

Now there was a man by the name of Simon, who had been practicing magic arts^a in the city. He amazed the people of Samaria while claiming that he was someone great. ¹⁰ They all paid attention to him, from the least of them to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called 'Great.'" ¹¹ They paid attention to him, because he had amazed them for a long time with his magic arts. ¹² But when they believed Philip, as he preached the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

(Continued on Next Page)

¹³ Then even Simon himself believed. After he was baptized, he stayed close to Philip. As he observed the signs and great miracles that were taking place, he was amazed.

¹⁴ When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ When Peter and John arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, ¹⁶ for he had not yet come upon any of them. They had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

¹⁸ When Simon saw that the Holy^[b] Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money ¹⁹ and said, "Give me this power too, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." ²⁰ But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! ²¹ You have no part or share in this matter, because your heart is not right in God's sight.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. The Word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.
Alleluia. (*Deuteronomy 30:14 cf. NIV*)

Stand

GOSPEL

Luke 10:25-37

M: The Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 10.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

²⁵ Just then, an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶ "What is written in the law?" he asked him. "What do you read there?"

²⁷ He replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind;^[a] and, love your neighbor as yourself."

²⁸ He said to him, "You have answered correctly. Do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He fell among robbers who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ It just so happened that a priest was going down that way. But when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² In the same way, a Levite also happened to go there, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³³ A Samaritan, as he traveled, came to where the man was. When he saw him, he felt sorry for the man. ³⁴ He went to him
(Continued on Next Page)

and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He put him on his own animal, took him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day, when he left, he took out two denarii, ^[c] gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him. Whatever extra you spend, I will repay you when I return." ³⁶ Which of these three do you think acted like a neighbor to the man who fell among robbers?"

³⁷ "The one who showed mercy to him," he replied.

Then Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: Ten Thousand Reasons

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
 wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,
 O my soul; I'll wor - ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn - ing; —
 2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
 3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the

it's time to sing your — song a - gain. What - ev - er may
 name — is — great, and your heart is kind. For all — your
 end — draws — near, and my time has come; ? still — my

pass, — and what - ev - er lies be - fore me,
 good-ness, I will keep — on — sing - ing—
 soul will sing your praise — un - end - ing—

Refrain

let me be sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
 ten thou-sand rea - sons for my heart to find.
 ten thou-sand years and then for - ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Jonas Myrén, b. 1982; Matt Redman, b. 1974

Text and tune: © 2011 Thankyou Music (PRS) / Atlas Mountain Songs (BMI) worshiptogether.com
 Songs (ASCAP) skatesteps Music (ASCAP) (adm. at CapitolCMGPublishing.com)

TEN THOUSAND REASONS
 IRREGULAR METER

Ps 103; Ps 65:8; Ex 34:8; Ps 86:12

SERMON

Text: Acts 8:9-21

Theme: God v Greed

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: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

C: **We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

C: **We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

C: **Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

C: **Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

Special prayers

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

Silent prayer.

M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

C: **We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. 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 who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in 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



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

The musical score is written on five staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The lyrics are: "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 final note of the piece is a whole note on the G line of the staff, followed by a double bar line.

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



1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
 2 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
 3 I have no help but yours nor do I need
 4 Mine is the sin but yours the right - eous - ness;
 5 Too soon we rise; the ves - sels dis - ap - pear.



Here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen,
 Here is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread a - new.
 An - oth - er arm but yours to lean up - on.
 Mine is the guilt but yours the cleans - ing blood.
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone.



Here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
 Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
 It is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;
 Here is my robe, my ref - uge, and my peace:
 The bread and wine re - move, but you are here,



And all my wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.
 The brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with you.
 My strength is in your might, your might a - lone.
 Your blood, your right - eous - ness, O Lord, my God.
 Near - er than ev - er, still my shield and sun.

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

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, abr., alt.
 Tune: FARLEY CASTLE (10 10 10 10) Henry Lawes, 1595-1662.

Stand

SONG OF SIMEON



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: 256 How Great Thou Art
 (Choir Verses 1 & 2, Congregation to join for final 2 verses)



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der,
 3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing,
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion



Con-sid-er all the works thy hand hath made,
 And hear the birds sing sweet-ly in the trees;
 Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
 And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!



I see the stars, I hear the might-y thun-der,
 When I look down from loft-y moun-tain gran-deur
 That on the cross my bur-den glad-ly bear-ing
 Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion



Thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played.
 And hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze,
 He bled and died to take a-way my sin.
 And there pro-claim: "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior-God, to thee, "How great thou



art! How great thou art!" Then sings my soul, my



Sav-ior-God to thee, "How great thou art! How great thou art!"

Text: Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989. © 1949, 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust. U.S. print rights admin. by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: HOW GREAT THOU ART (11 10 11 10 with Refrain) Swedish folk tune. © 1949, 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust. U.S. print rights admin. by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Teen Youth Group Pool Event- Saturday, August 9, 2025 from 1-5 p.m. Hilda Naranjo will be hosting at her home. Teens are invited to come swim and enjoy the company of their peers. This will also provide an opportunity for the teens of the congregation to discuss future youth group events. Snacks will be provided, but please RSVP to Hilda by August 6 (arqhilda@yahoo.com). Location- 12971 Torchlight Dr. Woodbridge, VA 22193. *Must know how to swim or bring life jacket.

Midweek Bible Class: "Foundations of Faith" Bible Class will begin Wed. July 30th at either 5:30 or 7:00. The first class discusses how God gave us the Bible. See Pastor if you're interested.

Church Council Highlights: Our next call meeting is **TODAY...** We will be having a movie nite **on Wednesday Aug. 13th**. Title will be determined... At the end of the fiscal year, we are \$8600 ahead of our expenses... **Youth Group is starting up in August**, with monthly meetings... We will go back to **having two services after Labor Day...** Gift baskets and several follow-up mailings are being used to reach out to new-comers in our neighborhood.

Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:15 and is on "Important Chapters from the Bible". Today is John 2 (Wedding at Cana). After that come Joshua 6 (Walls of Jericho), and 1 Kings 3 (Solomon's Wisdom). Advance copies are available if you want one. Join us Advance copies are available if you want one.

SERMON SERIES: As you know, we're going thru a series on 'How a Christian ACTS out his Faith'. In case you want to look ahead at them, the next ones (with the theme behind it) are: Acts 4:12-23 (Only One Way), [July 27 will be Luke 13:6-9 with a guest preacher], Aug. 3, Acts 8:9-21 (God or Greed), 8:25-38 (Why were you Baptized?), 16:25-34 (What must I DO to be Saved?), and 4:8-13 (Rejected).

Wine and Word Bible Study – August 7th

The Wine and Word Bible Study is **studying the book of EXODUS** and 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 (or other drink of choice) 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.

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:



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.

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 925-337-3635 or pmjrmueller@gmail.com with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.



The Good News That Gives Everything

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20250723/>

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people—the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:1-14 (selected verses)

Have you ever heard of something called minimalism? That's when people try to live with only the things they really need, not a bunch of extra stuff. For example, a minimalist might have just a few outfits in their closet, not tons of clothes. Their garage or room might look really clean and simple.

Some people are minimalists with their money—they only buy what they need. Some are minimalists with their time, they don't sign up for everything, just what matters most. Some even live without furniture! (Can you imagine sitting on the floor all the time?) But no matter how they do it, the big idea is this: you don't need a lot to be okay.

And guess what? Jesus talked about this too! In Luke 10:42, Jesus said, "Only one thing is needed." Just one! So, what is it? Is it food? Water? Air? Those things are important . . . but Jesus says there's something even more important. It's the gospel.

The gospel means "good news." It's the simple and powerful message that Jesus is your Savior. That's the one thing we need more than anything else in life!

Why is the gospel so important? Look at what it gives you (Colossians 1 tells us all this!):

Faith—so you can believe in Jesus and go to heaven.

Hope—so you can trust God with your future.

Wisdom—so you can learn more about God.

Strength—so you can live the way God wants.

(Continued on Next Page)

Patience—so you can handle tough days.

Forgiveness—for every sin, not just a few!

That’s a lot of amazing stuff from one simple message!

But most of all, the gospel gives you Jesus. Jesus is the one thing you really need. He loves you so much that he died for your sins and promises to bring you to heaven. Jesus is everything. And that’s what the gospel gives you.

Questions to Consider

When Jesus said, “Only one thing is needed,” what was he talking about?

Why is the gospel such good news?

What are some amazing things the gospel gives us, according to Colossians 1?

Which one of those do you feel like you need most right now?

What would you say to this: “If the gospel is all I need, I don’t need to go to church, pray, or help others.” Is that right? Why or why not?

Why is the gospel more important than even food or water? (Hint: Without food or water, you can physically die. But without the gospel, you can...)

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.