



August 24, 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.





Eleventh
Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 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: 250 From All that Dwell below the Skies

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
2 E - ter - nal are your mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal is your
praise a - rise. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
glo - rious Word. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore Till
ev - 'ry land, by ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia!
suns shall rise and set no more. Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN (888 888 with Alleluias) *Ausserlesene, Catholische, Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Köln, 1623, 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.



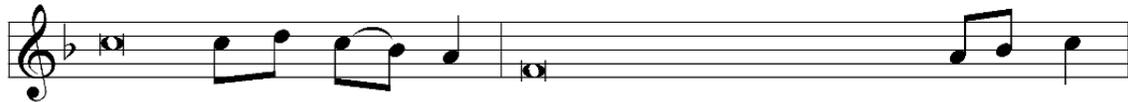
C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



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: O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; 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

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:18-26

²“Nothing but vapor,”^[a] Ecclesiastes said. “Totally vapor. Everything is just vapor that vanishes.”....

2 ¹⁸I also hated all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard under the sun, since I must leave it all to the man who comes after me. ¹⁹And who knows—will he be wise, or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard and so wisely, under the sun. This too is vapor that vanishes.

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²⁰ So I changed my course, and my heart began to despair over all my hard work at which I worked so hard under the sun. ²¹ Sure, there may be a man who has worked hard—wisely, aptly, and skillfully. But he must hand over whatever he accumulated by all his hard work to a man who has not worked hard for it. This too is vapor. It's so unfair! ²² For what does a man gain through all his hard work, through all the turmoil in his heart, as he works so hard under the sun?

²³ Pain fills all his days. His occupation is frustration. Even at night his heart does not rest. This too is vapor.

²⁴ There is nothing better for a man than to eat and to drink and to find joy in his work. This too, I saw, is from God's hand. ²⁵ For who can eat or enjoy himself apart from him?^[a] ²⁶ Yes, God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness to the man whom he considers good, but to the person who goes on sinning God gives the task of gathering and collecting, but only so that he can give it all to a person whom God considers good. This too is vapor, nothing but chasing wind.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 34

READ RESPONSIVELY

M: Taste and see that the LORD is good;

C: blessed are they who take refuge in him.

M: The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous

C: and his ears are attentive to their cry.

M: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,

C: and he delivers them.

M: The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;

C: he delivers them from all their troubles.

M: The LORD is close to the brokenhearted

C: and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

M: The LORD redeems his servant,

C: no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

M: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

C: and to the Holy Spirit,

(Continued on Next Page)

M: as it was in the beginning,

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

SECOND LESSON

Acts 4:8-13

⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel, ⁹ if we are being questioned today for a kind act that was done for the lame man, as to how this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead! By him this man stands before you healed. ¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone.

¹² “There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved.”

¹³ When they saw the boldness of Peter and John and found out that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were astonished and took note of the fact that these men had been with Jesus.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Jesus replied, “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.” Alleluia. (*John 14:23*)

Stand

GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

Luke 12:13-21

M: The Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 12.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

¹³ Someone from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But Jesus said to him, “Man, who appointed me to be a judge or an arbitrator over you?”

¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because a man’s life is not measured by how many possessions he has.”

¹⁶ He told them a parable: “The land of a certain rich man produced very well. ¹⁷ He was thinking to himself, ‘What will I do, because I do not have anywhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸ He said, ‘This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and goods. ¹⁹ And I will tell my soul, ‘Soul, you have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy. Eat, drink, and be merry.’”

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²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool, this night your soul will be demanded from you. Now who will get what you have prepared?’

²¹ “That is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

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: 327 God Be With You Till We Meet Again

(Small Choir sings Verse 1, congregation joins for Verse 2)



1 God be with you till we meet a - gain, By his
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain, 'Neath his



coun - sels guide, up - hold you, With his sheep se - cure - ly
wings pro - tect - ing hide you, Dai - ly man - na still pro -



fold you— God be with you till we meet a - gain.
vide you— God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Refrain



Till we meet, Till we meet, Till we



meet at Je - sus' feet. Till we meet, Till we



meet— God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828–1904, abr., alt.

Tune: GOD BE WITH YOU (98 89 with Refrain) William O. Tomer, 1833–96.

SERMON

Text: **Luke 12:13-21**

Theme: **Who Stole My Cheese?**

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 musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature (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 multiple notes or bars.

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: 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 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



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.

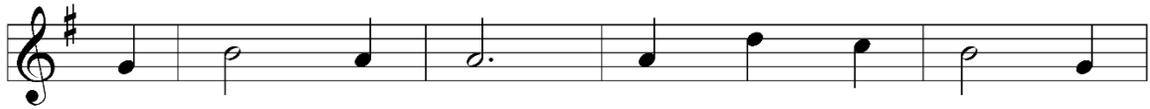
Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: 340 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My great
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As - sist
3 The name of Je - sus calms our fears And bids
4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He sets
5 See all your sins on Je - sus laid; The Lamb



Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my
me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
our sor - rows cease. 'Tis mu - sic in the
the pris - 'ner free. His blood can make the
of God was slain. His life was once an



God and King, The tri - umphs of his grace!
earth a - broad, The hon - ors of your name.
sin - ner's ears; 'Tis life and health and peace.
foul - est clean; His blood a - vails for me.
off - 'ring made That you might live a - gain.

6 Glory to God and praise and love
Be ever, ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, abr., alt.
Tune: BEATITUDO (CM) John B. Dykes, 1823–76.

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

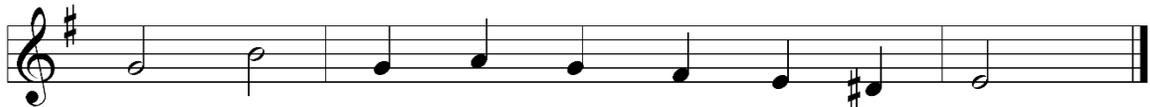
CLOSING HYMN: 203 Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, For you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would seek to o - ver - throw your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend your Chris - ten - dom that
u - ni - ty on earth. Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And to de - stroy what he has done.
we May sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife, And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.

Tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR (LM) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg*, Wittenberg, 1543, alt.

Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

It's time to register your kids for Sunday school! Sunday school classes will resume on Sunday, September 7. If you have kids in your life age three through rising 8th graders, we would love to include them in our classes as we learn more about Jesus and his redemptive love for us. Even if you think your kids or grandkids will only be attending once a month, please sign them up! Registering your kids now helps us have enough materials on hand for all students. You can do that by visiting trinityofwoodbridge.org/sundayschool or scanning this QR code:



You're invited to join the Trinity Book Club! Our next meeting will be Saturday, November 1 at 9:30 am at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries. We'll be discussing a Christian suspense novel, *Woman in Shadow* by Carrie Stuart Parks.

Youth Group Outing All teens are invited to attend the next Youth Group outing on Saturday, September 27! We will meet at 11am at Locust Shade Park in Triangle to enjoy the Warrior Challenge Course and nearby amenities, and to have a picnic and a short devotion. See you there!

Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:15 and Pastor is finishing up with "Important Chapters from the Bible. The next series is "your Questions; Scripture's Answers", based on the book by Prof. John Brug. We'll start out with how God gave us His Bible, look at a few puzzling parts of the Bible, then go into adiphpera (if you don't know, you need to come), and a few other questions.

SERMON SERIES: We've finish the series 'How a Christian ACTS out his Faith' today. Next week the sermon will be on Ruth 1:1-19 "Your God will be My God".

CHURCH COUNCIL did not meet this month... The call to Pastor Shrimpton was recorded... Our finances remain strong... The fence around one side of church will need replacement soon.

Wine and Word Bible Study – September 4

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.

Two Services Return September 7th

Starting on September 7th, we will return to two services. Early service at 8:30am and Later Service at 11:00, with Sunday School for all ages starting at 9:45am. Announcements for Sunday School registration coming soon!

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.



Faith Trusts God's Promises

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20250813/>

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.
Hebrews 11:1

What is faith? How would you explain it to a friend at recess or lunch?

Here's a simple way to think about it: Faith means being 100% sure that God will do what he says—even if you can't see it yet.

A long time ago, there was a man named Abraham. He and his wife were really old—too old to have kids—but God told Abraham he would have a son. That sounded impossible! But Abraham trusted God's promise anyway.

And guess what? God kept his promise. Abraham had a son named Isaac.

But that's not the only promise God kept. God also promised to send a Savior. And he did! He sent Jesus—who paid for our sins, rose from the dead, and opened the door to heaven. God did exactly what he said he would do.

The Bible says in Hebrews 11:1, "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

That means even when life feels confusing or scary, faith holds on to God's promises. It says, "I don't know how this will work out, but I know God will help me. He always does."

God has promised so many good things to his children—that he will always be with them, that he will protect them, and that he will take them to heaven someday. That's what faith believes—even when it's hard to see.

And guess what? The Holy Spirit is the one who helps people trust those promises. He works through God's Word to help believers say, "God's got me. I trust him!"

So, what is faith? It is being completely sure God will do everything he promised—the things we hope for like heaven, and the things we can't always see, like how he helps and protects us every day.

Questions for Consideration

What amazing thing did Abraham believe would happen, even when it seemed impossible?

What is the most important promise God ever kept?

What's something that makes you feel worried sometimes? How can faith help with that?

Why is heaven one of God's most special promises?

When life feels confusing or scary, how does faith help you hold on to God?

How can knowing God's promises change the way you live today?

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.