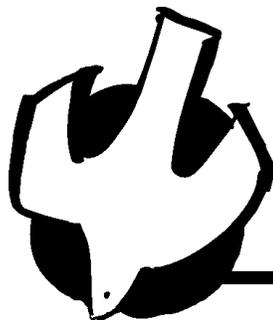


August 31, 2025



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 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

GREETING AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

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

STAND

OPENING HYMN: 238 Oh Bless the Lord My Soul



1 Oh, bless the Lord, my soul! Let
2 Oh, bless the Lord, my soul, Nor
3 'Tis he for - gives my sins; 'Tis
4 He fills the poor with good; He
5 His won - drous works and ways He



all with - in me join And aid my tongue to
let his mer - cies lie For - got - ten in un -
he re - lieves my pain; 'Tis he that heals my
gives the suf - f'ers rest; The Lord has judg - ments
made by Mo - ses known, But sent the world his



bless his name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.
thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die.
sick - ness - es And makes me young a - gain.
for the proud And jus - tice for th' op - pressed.
truth and grace By his be - lov - ed Son.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
Tune: ST. THOMAS (SM) Aaron Williams, 1731–76.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

M: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

(Continued on Next Page)

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: O Lord, open my lips.

C: And my mouth shall declare your praise.

M: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

M: The Spirit of the Lord fills the world; let us worship him.

OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: "Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing, let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are".

(Continued on Next Page)



in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he



made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and



bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God,



and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

Ruth 1:1-19

During the days of the judges, a famine occurred in the land. So a man left Bethlehem in Judah to stay awhile in the territory of Moab—he, his wife, and his two sons. ² The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were from the clan of Ephrath from Bethlehem in Judah. They entered the territory of Moab and remained there.

³ But Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, so she was left with her two sons. ⁴ They then married Moabite wives. The name of the first was Orpah, and the name of the second was Ruth. They lived there for about ten years. ⁵ But Naomi's sons, Mahlon and Kilion, also died. So the woman was left without her two children and without her husband.

⁶ Then Naomi set out with her daughters-in-law to return from the territory of Moab, because while she was in the territory of Moab, she had heard that the Lord had graciously visited^[d] his people by providing them with food. ⁷ So she left the place where she had been, and her two daughters-in-law left with her. They set out on the road to return to the land of Judah.

⁸ But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back. Both of you return to your mother's house. May the Lord show you kindness as you have shown kindness to the dead and to me. ⁹ May the Lord grant that each of you finds security^[f] in the house of a husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept loudly.

(Continued on Next Page)

¹⁰ But they said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.”

¹¹ Then Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters. Why should you go with me? Am I going to give birth to any more sons who could become your husbands? ¹² Turn back, my daughters. Go! For I am too old to be married to another husband. Suppose I say, ‘I have hope, and I will be married to another husband tonight, and I will even give birth to sons.’ ¹³ Would you wait for them until they grow up? On the basis of that hope would you give up the chance to marry another husband? No, my daughters. It is much more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has reached out against me.”

¹⁴ They once again wept loudly. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth would not let her go.

¹⁵ Naomi said, “Look, your sister-in-law has returned to her people and to her gods. Go back! Follow your sister-in-law.”

¹⁶ But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to abandon you or to turn back from following you. Because wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you make your home, I will make my home. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. ¹⁷ Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me severely and double it if anything but death^[u] separates me from you.”

¹⁸ When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

¹⁹ Then the two of them traveled until they arrived at Bethlehem. When they entered Bethlehem, the whole town became excited over them. The women said, “Is this Naomi?”

PSALM: 33

Read Responsively

M: Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;

C: It is fitting for the upright to praise him.

M: For the Word of the LORD is firm and true;

C: he is faithful in all he does.

M: By the word of the LORD were the heavens made,

C: their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

M: For he spoke, and it came to be;

C: he commanded, and it stood firm.

M: The LORD foils the plans of the nations;

C: he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

(Continued on Next Page)

M: But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever,

C: the purposes of his heart through all generations.

M: The LORD loves righteousness and justice;

C: the earth is full of his unfailing love.

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

2nd Timothy 2:8-13

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, a descendant of David, in accordance with my gospel, ⁹ for which I am suffering, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰ For this reason I endure all things for the sake of the elect, so that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, along with eternal glory. ¹¹ This saying is trustworthy:

Indeed, if we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹² If we endure, we will also reign with him;

If we deny him, he will also deny us;

¹³ If we are faithless, he remains faithful,
because he cannot deny himself.

STAND

GOSPEL

Luke 17:11-19

On another occasion, as Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem, he was passing along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² When he entered a certain village, ten men with leprosy met him. Standing at a distance, ¹³ they called out loudly, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

¹⁴ When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." As they went away they were cleansed.

¹⁵ One of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He fell on his face at Jesus' feet, thanking him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Jesus responded, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Was no one found to return and give glory to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹ Then he said to him, "Get up and go your way. Your faith has saved you."

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY: 609 We Praise You, O God Our Redeemer



1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor!
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fath - ers; we bless you.
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer;



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring;
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been;
To you, great Je - ho - vah, glad an - thems we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
Your strong arm will guide us; our God is be - side us.



We bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
And with your help, O Lord, our bat - tles we win.
To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - e'er be praise!

Text: Julia B. Cory, 1882–1963, alt.

Tune: KREMSER (12 11 12 11) *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, Haarlem, 1626.

SERMON

Text: Ruth 1:1-19

Theme: Where You Go I Will Go

STAND

WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD



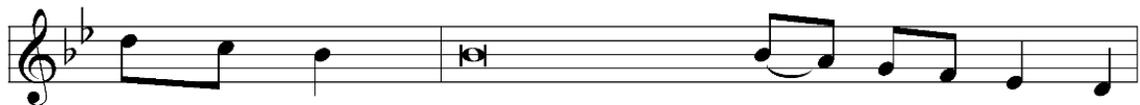
C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



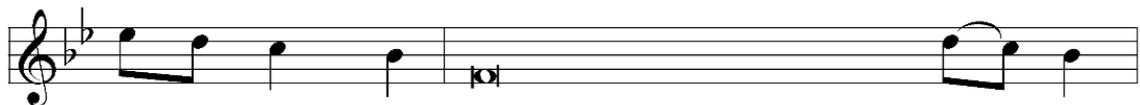
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



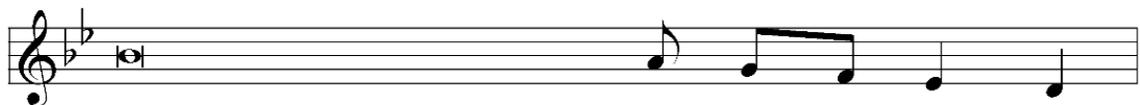
heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,

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OFFERING

Please take a moment to fill in the Friendship Register in the 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

LORD HAVE MERCY

M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

C: **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

PRAYER FOR GRACE

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: Let us praise the Lord.

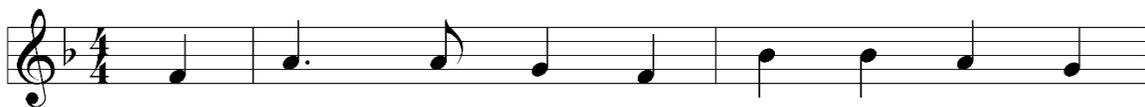
C: **Thanks be to God.**

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

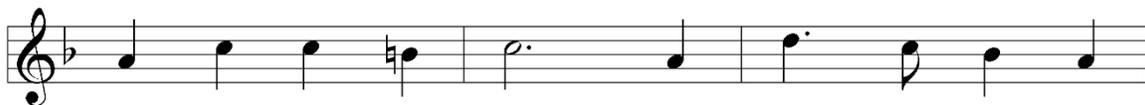
C: **Amen.**

BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: 259 When All Your Mercies, O My God



1 When all your mer - cies, O my God, My
2 Ten thou - sand thou - sand pre - cious gifts My
3 Through ev - 'ry pass - ing phase of life Your
4 Through all e - ter - ni - ty to you A



wak - ing soul sur - veys, Trans - port - ed with the
dai - ly thanks em - ploy, Nor is the least a
good - ness I'll pur - sue And af - ter death, in
joy - ful song I'll raise, But, oh, e - ter - ni -



view, I'm lost In won - der, love, and praise.
cheer - ful heart That tastes these gifts with joy.
dis - tant worlds, The glo - rious theme re - new.
ty's too short To ut - ter all your praise.

Text: Joseph Addison, 1672–1719, abr., alt.
Tune: WINCHESTER OLD (CM) attr. George Kirbye, c. 1560–1634.

Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Pastor Paul Mueller: 925-337-3635

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.

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.

Women's Bible Study Starts September 13

The Trinity Women's Bible Study will meet Saturday, September 13 at 9:00 am at Trinity. We'll start the book "Take Heart: God's Comfort for Anxious Thoughts" by Lindsay Hausch. Copies can be found in the narthex. The Bible Study will meet the second Saturday of each month. For questions, please contact Erika Ohlendorf at erika.ohlendorf@gmail.com.

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 Steven Douglas. 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 Bev 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.



Why Discipline Hurts—and Helps

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20250820/>

Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Hebrews 12:7,11

Have you ever been in trouble for being disrespectful? Maybe you said something unkind to your mom. Later, your dad finds out. You admit what you did—but you know a consequence is coming. Maybe you get a timeout. Maybe you lose screen time. Maybe you even get a spanking. And then Dad says, “This hurts me more than it hurts you.”

There’s a reason parents say things like that. They’re not trying to be mean. They’re trying to help you grow.

The Bible says, “No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it” (Hebrews 12:11). That means that even though discipline can feel hard, it helps us learn what’s right. That’s why your parents give consequences—not to hurt you, but because they love you and want you to learn.

The author of Hebrews captures the feelings of father and child when he says, “No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful.” God is the same way. He gives us discipline too—not because he’s mad, but because he’s a loving Father. Discipline equals love and it helps train us.

Now here’s something really important: There is a difference between discipline and punishment.

Punishment is getting the full penalty for something you did wrong.

Discipline is a loving way to teach you and help you grow.

We all deserved punishment because of our sin. But Jesus already took that punishment for us when he died on the cross. The Bible says, “For the joy set before him, [Jesus] endured the cross” (Hebrews 12:2). That joy was you—Jesus wanted to save you because he loves you! Now, because of Jesus, we don’t need to fear punishment anymore.

When you go through something hard, “Do not lose heart; endure hardship as discipline; run with perseverance the race marked out for you.” How? By fixing your eyes on what never moves. Jesus. And fix your eyes on your Father who trains you in love and calls you his true children.

(Continued on Next Page)

When we go through something hard, we can remember: God isn't punishing us. He's teaching us. He's helping us grow. He's treating us like his own children. And he loves us. Always.

Questions to Consider

How do you feel when a parent says, "You're in trouble"? (That's punishment.)

How do you feel when a parent says, "I want to help you grow"? (That's discipline.)

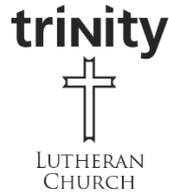
What's the difference between discipline and punishment? (Discipline helps you grow. Punishment gives a penalty. Jesus took our punishment already!)

Why is discipline a good thing—even when it's hard? (It helps us learn and grow. It shows we're loved.)

How does our parents' discipline help us understand what God's discipline is? (They don't punish to be mean—they want what's best for you. God's the same way.)

What's something hard in your life right now? How might God be using it to teach or help you? (Example: A friendship problem, schoolwork, or moving. God might be helping me grow stronger or more patient.)

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.