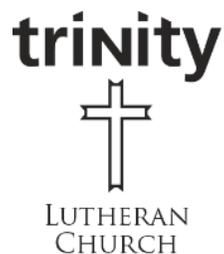


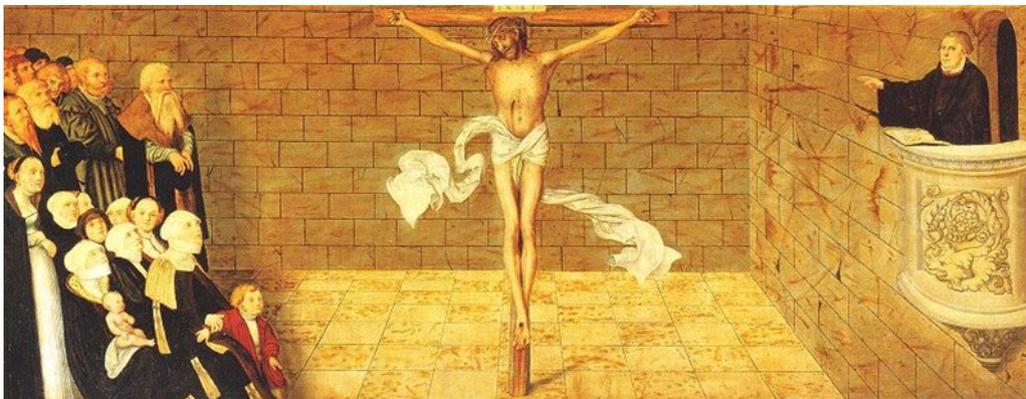
**October 26, 2025**

## **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.





**October 26, 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 David Sternhagen**



*Stand*

## **INVOCATION**

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

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

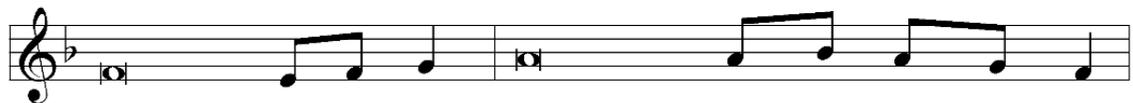
M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**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**



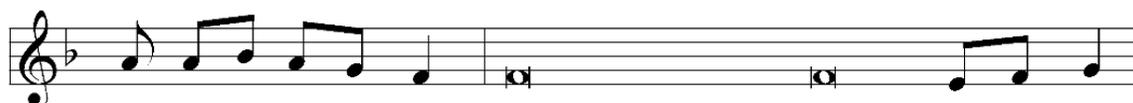
**sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the**



**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: Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; 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 AND SERMON TEXT**

#### **Daniel 6:10-13**

<sup>10</sup> Now, when Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went to his house. It had windows on its upper story that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day he would get on his knees and pray and offer praise before his God. He continued to do that, just as he had been doing before this. <sup>11</sup> Then these men came as a group and found Daniel praying and seeking favor from his God.

<sup>12</sup> They then went and asked the king about the decree. "Your Majesty, did you not sign a decree that anyone who prays to any god or person for thirty days except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the den of lions?"

The king answered, "Indeed I did. The order is established as a law of the Medes and the Persians that cannot be revoked."

<sup>13</sup> Then they responded to the king, "Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, does not pay attention to you, Your Majesty, or to the decree that you signed. Instead, three times each day he is praying his prayers."

## **PSALM OF THE DAY: 46**

*READ RESPONSIVELY*

M: God is our refuge and strength,

**C: An ever-present help in trouble.**

M: Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way

**C: And the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,**

M: Though its waters roar and foam

**C: And the mountains quake with their surging.**

M: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

**C: The holy place where the Most High dwells.**

M: God is within her, she will not fall;

**C: God will help her at break of day.**

M: "Be still, and know that I am God;

**C: I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."**

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

### Romans 3:19-28

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to God's judgment. <sup>20</sup> For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, <sup>23</sup> because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God <sup>24</sup> and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood. God did this to demonstrate his justice, since, in his divine restraint, he had left the sins that were committed earlier unpunished. <sup>26</sup> He did this to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so that he would be both just and the one who justifies the person who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle—by the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we conclude that a person is justified by faith without the works of the law.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. If you continue in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. Alleluia. (*John 8:31,32 cf. RSV*)

*Stand*

## GOSPEL

### John 8:31-36

M: The Gospel of St. John, chapter 8.

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

<sup>31</sup> So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you remain in my word, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> You will also know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

<sup>33</sup> "We are Abraham's descendants," they answered, "and we have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say, 'You will be set free'?"

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Everyone who keeps committing sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> But a slave does not remain in the family forever. A son does remain forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free.

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: 200, A Mighty Fortress is our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A trust - y shield  
 2 With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss  
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, All ea - ger to  
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main, Nor an - y thanks



and weap - on; He helps us free from ev - 'ry need  
 ef - fect - ed. But for us fights the val - iant one  
 de - vour us, We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;  
 have for it; He's by our side up - on the plain



That has us now o'er - tak - en. The old  
 Whom God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask,  
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us. This world's  
 With his good gifts and Spir - it. And do



e - vil foe Now means dead - ly woe;  
 "Who is this?" Je - sus Christ it is,  
 prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,  
 what they will— Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—



Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;  
 The al - might - y Lord. And there's no oth - er God;  
 He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done!  
 Though all may be gone, Our vic - to - ry is won;



On earth is not his e - qual.  
 He holds the field for - ev - er.  
 One lit - tle word can fell him.  
 The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.  
 Tune: EIN FESTE BURG (87 87 55 56 7) Martin Luther, 1483–1546.

## SERMON

Text: **Daniel 6:10-13**

Theme: **Take a Stand for Your God**

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 image shows a musical score for the hymn 'CREATE IN ME'. It consists of five staves of music in a single system, written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music is in common time (C) and ends with a double bar line.

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: Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy Church of God throughout the world, that God the almighty Father gather and guide it so that we may worship him in peace and tranquility:*

M: Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of the Church. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your Word, and bring salvation to people everywhere. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*M: Let us pray for our pastors and teachers and all leaders of the Church, and for all the people of God:*

M: Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the Church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold all who serve you and your people. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the Church. Help each of us to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*M: Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit may show them the way to salvation:*

M: Almighty and eternal God, enable those who do not acknowledge Christ to receive the truth of the gospel. Help us, your Church, to grow in love for you and for one another, so that we become more perfect witnesses of your love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*M: Let us pray for those who serve in public office, that God may guide their minds and hearts, so that all of us may live in true peace and freedom:*

M: Almighty and eternal God, graciously direct those who have been set in positions of authority among us, so that people everywhere may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*M: Let us pray that God, the almighty and merciful Father, may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, and free those unjustly deprived of liberty:*

M; Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. In your mercy hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

**C: 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 preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to 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.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases ending in a fermata. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this (+) is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

# O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is common time (C). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes or bar lines.

*Be Seated*

## DISTRIBUTION

**HYMN: 313, Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior (Verses 1-4)**



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way  
 2 As his pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre -  
 3 Je - sus here him - self is shar - ing; Take heed how  
 4 Use - less would be Je - sus' pas - sion If sal - va -



God's wrath for - ev - er; By his bit - ter grief and  
 cious food sup - ply - ing, Gives his bod - y with the  
 you are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be -  
 tion you could fash - ion. Do not come if you sup -



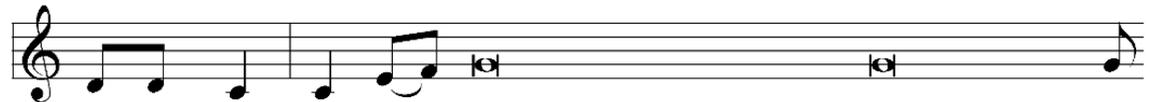
woe He saved us from the e - vil foe.  
 bread And with the wine the blood he shed.  
 lieve, Judg - ment in - stead you shall re - ceive.  
 pose You need not him who died and rose.

*Stand*

**SONG OF SIMEON**



**C:** Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace accord - 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:

**8:30 am service:** Sunday School Choir

**11:00 am service:** 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](http://www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge](http://www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge)  
Pastor David Sternhagen: [ecadave@gmail.com](mailto:ecadave@gmail.com)

## Voters Meeting – TODAY

Trinity's Voters meeting will take place on TODAY at 1:30pm online via Microsoft Teams. The primary agenda item is to review the draft 2026 Spending Plan. Details and meeting link was mailed by Steve Proksch. Please let him know if you did not receive them.

**You're invited to join the Trinity Book Club!** Our next meeting will be **Saturday, November 15** at 9:30 am at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries. We'll be discussing a Christian suspense novel, *Woman in Shadow* by Carrie Stuart Parks.

**Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:45am** 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 adiaphora (if you don't know, you need to come), and a few other questions.

## Wine and Word Bible Study – November 6

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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 Steven Douglas. If you have any questions or are not getting the emails for Sign-Up Genius, please email [worship@trinityofwoodbridge.org](mailto: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 [ecadave@gmail.com](mailto:ecadave@gmail.com) with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.



## **A Harvest—But NOT Food?!**

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20251015/>

And he who provides seed to the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your seed for sowing, and will increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you may be generous in every way, which produces thanksgiving to God through us. **2 Corinthians 9:10-11 (EHV)**

Quick question: What's one food you ate today?

Maybe it was pancakes, pizza, or goldfish crackers. Maybe it came from the grocery store, your lunchbox, or even a drive-through. No matter where you got it—food doesn't actually come from a box or bag.

We know lettuce doesn't grow in plastic wrap, burgers don't pop out of cardboard boxes, and bread doesn't grow on trees. Lettuce grows in a field, wheat grows and gets baked into bread, and cows eat grass until they're old enough to become burgers. That's called a harvest.

That's the idea Paul is talking about in God's Word today: A harvest. But instead of a harvest of FOOD, God is talking about a harvest of GOOD WORKS.

It works the same way. In a FOOD harvest, God gives seeds, rain, and sun so plants grow. In a GOOD WORKS harvest, God gives you faith through his Word, and the Holy Spirit helps you grow as a Christian. Listen to the way Paul describes it: "God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8). Think of it like this: God wants to feed your faith, water your heart, and grow you into someone who produces a good harvest for others.

What does that harvest look like?

It might be kindness to your brothers or sisters. (Even when they annoy you!)

It might be helping with chores. (Even before a parent asks!)

It might be doing your best in school. (Even when no one notices!)

It might be encouraging a friend who's having a rough day.

That's God's harvest in your life!

## Questions for Consideration

What's your favorite food and how do you think it's harvested?

Name one kind thing you could do for someone in your family.

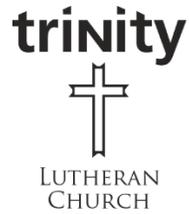
What do plants need for a good harvest of food? (sun, water, good soil)

What do we need for a good harvest of righteousness? (God's Word, the Holy Spirit, prayer)

Sometimes weeds hurt crops. What are some weeds that can choke out our harvest of righteousness?  
(selfishness, laziness, anger, or distractions)

How could our family encourage each other to grow a harvest of righteousness at home?

**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.