

**The Believer
Prays
Persistently**

November 9, 2025



Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

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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:

Leader: Luke Hendricks

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: 403, I Know My Faith is Founded

1 I know my faith is found - ed On Je - sus
2 In - crease my faith, dear Sav - ior, For Sa - tan
3 In faith, Lord, let me serve you; Though per - se -
Christ, my God and Lord; And this my faith con -
seeks by night and day; To rob me of this
cu - tion, grief, and pain; Should seek to o - ver -
fess - ing, Un - moved I stand up - on his Word. Man's
treasure And take my hope of bliss a - way. But,
overwhelm me, Let me a stead - fast trust re - tain. And
reason can - not fath - om The truth of God pro -
Lord, with you be - side me I shall be un - dis -
then at my de - par - ture, Lord, take me home to
found; Who trusts in world - ly wis - dom Re - lies on
mayed; And led by your good Spir - it, I shall be
you, And let me there in - her - it All you have
shift - ing ground. God's Word is all - suf - fi - cient,
un - a - fraid. A - bide with me, O Sav - ior,
prom - ised me. In life and death, Lord, keep me
It makes di - vine - ly sure, And, trust - ing
A firm - er faith be - stow. Then I shall
Un - til your heav'n I gain, Where I by
in its wis - dom, My faith shall rest se - cure.
bid de - fi - ance To ev - 'ry e - vil foe.
your great mer - cy The end of faith at - tain.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. composite.

Tune: NUN LOB, MEIN SEEL (78 78 76 76 76 76) *Concentus novi*, Augsburg, 1540, alt.

Stand

INVOCATION

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

Congregation: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

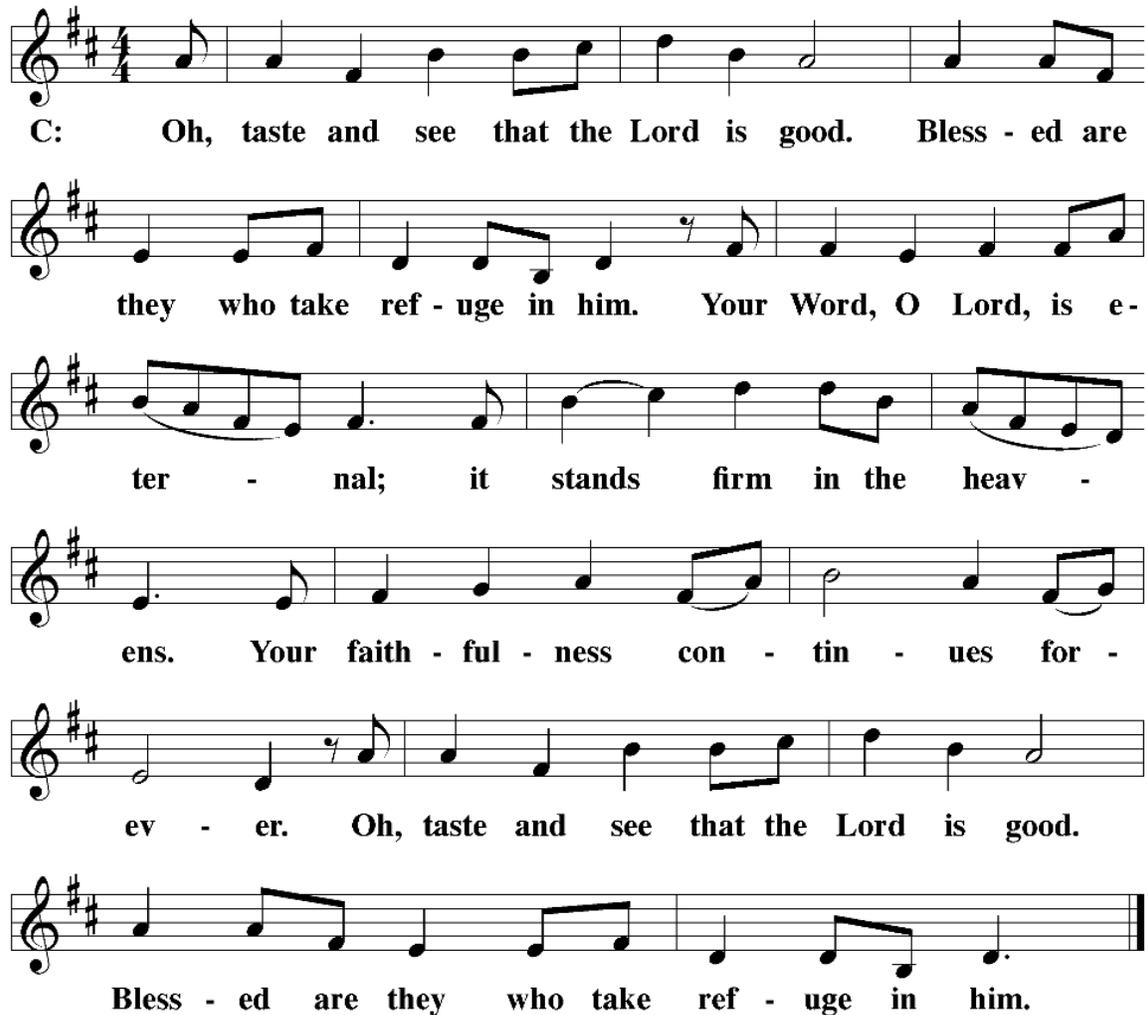
M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Lord, keep your household, the Church, in continual godliness and set us free from all adversities that, under your protection, we may serve you with true devotion and holy deeds; 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

Genesis 32:22-30

He got up that night and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and he also sent his possessions across. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and he wrestled with a man there until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he could not defeat him, he touched the socket of his thigh, and the socket of Jacob's thigh was dislocated as he wrestled. ²⁶ The man said, "Let me go. It's daybreak."

Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

²⁷ Then he said to him, "What is your name?"

He said, "Jacob."

²⁸ Then he said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have fought with God and with men, and you have won."

²⁹ Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name."

He said, "Why do you ask what my name is?" Then he blessed him there.

³⁰ Jacob named the place Peniel, because he said, "I have seen God face-to-face, and my life has been spared."

PSALM OF THE DAY: 121

Read Responsively

M: I lift up my eyes to the hills.

C: Where does my help come from?

M: My help comes from the Lord,

C: The maker of heaven and earth.

M: He will not let your foot slip,

C: He who watches over you will not slumber;

M: Indeed, he who watches over Israel

C: Will neither slumber nor sleep.

(Continued on Next Page)

M: The Lord watches over you,

C: The Lord is your shade at your right hand.

M: The Lord will keep you from all harm,

C: He will watch over your life;

M: The Lord will watch over your coming and going

C: Both now and forevermore.

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

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

¹⁴ As for you, continue in the things you have learned and about which you have become convinced. You know from whom you learned them ¹⁵ and that from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God breathe and is useful for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be complete, well equipped for every good work.

4 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who is going to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom: ² Preach the word. Be ready whether it is convenient or not. Correct, rebuke, and encourage, with all patience and teaching.¹ ³ For there will come a time when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, because they have itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in line with their own desires. ⁴ They will also turn their ears away from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

⁵ As for you, keep a clear head in every situation. Bear hardship. Do the work of an evangelist. Fulfill your ministry.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works. Alleluia.
(*Ephesians 2:10a*)

Stand

GOSPEL

Luke 18:1-8a

Jesus told them a parable about the need to always pray and not lose heart: ² “There was a judge in a certain town who did not fear God and did not care about people. ³ There was a widow in that town, and she kept going to him, saying, ‘Give me justice from my adversary!’ ⁴ For some time he refused, but after a while he said to himself, ‘Even though I do not fear God or care about people, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice so that she will not wear me out with her endless pleading.’”

⁶ The Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ Will not God give justice to his chosen ones, who are crying out to him day and night? Will he put off helping them? ⁸ I tell you that he will give them justice quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: 446, I am Trusting You, Lord Jesus



1 I am trust - ing you, Lord Je - sus, Trust -
2 I am trust - ing you for par - don; At
3 I am trust - ing you for cleans - ing In
4 I am trust - ing you to guide me; You
5 I am trust - ing you for pow - er; You

ing on - ly you, Trust - ing you for
your feet I bow, For your grace and
the crim - son flood, Trust - ing you who
a - lone shall lead, Ev - 'ry day and
can nev - er fail. Words which you your -

full sal - va - tion, Free and true.
ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.
made me ho - ly By your blood.
hour sup - ply - ing All my need.
self shall give me Must pre - vail.

6 I am trusting you, Lord Jesus;
Never let me fall.
I am trusting you forever
And for all.

SERMON

Stand

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

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: Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

C: **We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.**

M: You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

C: **For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.**

M: Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

C: **Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.**

M: Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

C: **Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.**

M: Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

Special prayers

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

Silent prayer.

M: To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

C: **Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake. 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.**

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

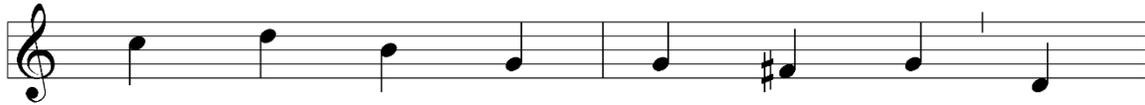
C: Amen.

Be Seated

CLOSING HYMN: 517, Almighty Father, Strong to Save



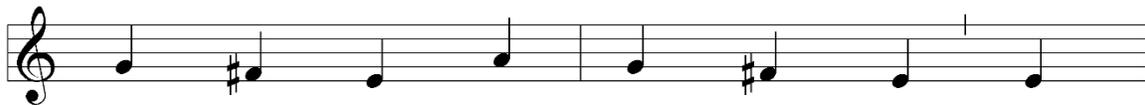
1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, strong to save, Whose
 2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain O'er
 3 O Spir - it, whom the Fa - ther sent To
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, Your



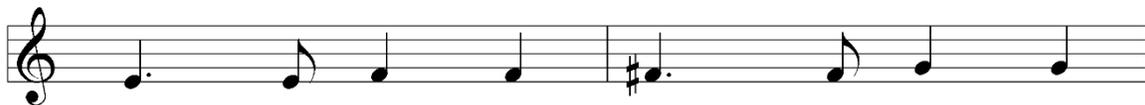
arm has bound the rest - less wave, Who
 which our traf - fic runs a - main By
 spread a - broad the fir - ma - ment; O
 peo - ple shield in dan - ger's hour; From



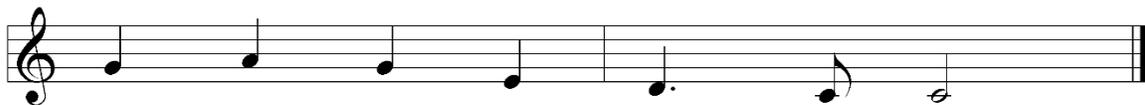
bids the might - y o - cean deep Its
 moun - tain pass or val - ley low; Wher -
 Wind of heav - en, by your might Save
 rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: Oh,
 ev - er, Lord, your peo - ple go, Pro -
 all who dare the ea - gle's flight, And
 tect them all wher - e'er they go; Thus



hear our earn - est, hum - ble plea For
 tect them by your guard - ing hand From
 keep them by your watch - ful care From
 ev - er - more to you shall be Glad



those in per - il on the sea.
 ev - 'ry per - il on the land.
 ev - 'ry per - il in the air.
 praise from air and land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825-78, st. 1, 4, alt.; Robert N. Spencer, 1877-1961, st. 2-3, alt. From *The Hymnal 1982*
 © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Church Publishing Inc.,
 New York, NY.
 Tune: MELITA (88 88 88) John B. Dykes, 1823-76.

Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

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 20

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 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 ecadave@gmail.com with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.



Freed From Chains

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20251029/>

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1

Did you know archaeologists have actually found real iron chains from Bible times? In one place called Great Casterton in England, they dug up heavy rusty ankle shackles that Roman guards used on prisoners. Picture having your legs tied together with heavy metal cuffs. Every step—clank, clank—would remind you that you couldn't move freely.

That's kind of what sin feels like. It's like wearing invisible chains around your heart. You want to do what's right, but you trip up and feel weighted down by guilt.

God's rules are good. If everyone kept them—no lying, no meanness, no selfishness—this world would be awesome! But nobody keeps them perfectly. The harder we try, the more we notice how far we fall short. It's like carrying a backpack full of bricks called "mistakes." It's like invisible chains inside our hearts.

When Paul wrote to the Galatians, some teachers were adding more rules—extra food laws, special rituals—and saying, "If you really want God to love you, do all of these." That made people feel trapped again! Their hearts got tired and worried—'Am I good enough yet?'

So Paul reminded them, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and don't let yourselves be chained again by a yoke of slavery" (Galatians 5:1). And again, "The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love" (Galatians 5:6).

Here's the awesome twist—the great "Uno Reverse" move! Jesus already kept every rule perfectly. Then he took all our sins to the cross, and when he rose again, he snapped sin's chains forever! You don't have to wonder if you're good enough—Jesus already was, for you.

So now we get to live free! Think of God's commands not as heavy chains, but as a path to show love.

- At school, maybe you sit with someone who's alone.
- At home, maybe you share your dessert or say sorry first.

When you do, you're walking free in Jesus' love.

Without Jesus, life feels chained—heavy, stuck, afraid. With Jesus, we're free, forgiven, and full of joy!

(Continued on Next Page)

Questions to Consider:

What's something heavy you've tried to carry, like a giant backpack or bag of sports gear? How did it feel?

How can you show someone Jesus' love, like sharing?

When Paul says Jesus sets us free, what do you think he means? Free from what?

How could you "use your freedom" to show Jesus' love—at school, at home, or with friends?

Agree or Disagree: Since Jesus broke the chains of sin, we can just do whatever we want. (Why might that be wrong?)

If a friend feels like they'll never be good enough, how could you help them see that Jesus already made them free?

It is the mission of

trinity



LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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.