



## Jesus Reveals His Glory

January 18, 2026

## **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.





**January 18, 2026**

**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:** Rev. Gary Wong

# 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: 85, O God from God, O Light from Light (Verses 1-3)



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of  
2 Deep in the proph - ets' sa - cred page, Grand in the  
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of



Peace and King of kings, To you in heav - en's  
po - ets' wing - ed word, Slow - ly, in type, from  
pain mid hate and scorn—These all are past, and



glo - ry bright The song of praise for - ev - er rings.  
age to age The na - tions saw their com - ing Lord;  
now a - bove He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.



To him who sits up - on the throne, The Lamb once  
Till through the deep Ju - de - an night Rang out the  
Lift up your heads, O might - y gates! So sang the



slain but raised a - gain, Be all the glo - ry  
song, "Good will to men!" Sung by heav'n's hosts in  
an - gel hosts a - gain. Lift up your heads— your



he has won, All thanks and praise! A - men, A - men.  
splen - dor bright, Re - ech - oed now, "Good will!" A - men.  
King a - waits. We lift them up, A - men, A - men.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, abr., alt.

Tune: O GROSSER GOTT (LM D) *Johann Störks . . . Schlag-Gesang-Und Noten-Buch*, Stuttgart, 1744.

*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: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**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.**

## LORD OF MERCY

### *KYRIE*

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

**C: Amen.**

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

## O LORD, OUR LORD

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in  
all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,  
you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;  
you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and  
ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,  
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,  
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.  
O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,  
you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 7/8. The lyrics are placed below the notes. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in the second, third, and fourth staves. The score ends with a double bar line and a key signature change to one flat (F).

*(Continued on Next Page)*

you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the

King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Be Seated*

## The Word

### FIRST LESSON

#### Isaiah 49:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you coastlands.  
 Pay attention, you faraway peoples!  
 The Lord called me from the womb.  
 When I was inside my mother, he mentioned my name.

<sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharpened sword.  
 He hid me in the shadow of his hand.  
 He made me a polished arrow.  
 He concealed me in his quiver.

<sup>3</sup>He said to me, "You are my servant Israel,  
 in whom I will display my glory."

*(Continued on Next Page)*

<sup>4</sup> But I said to myself, "I have labored in vain.  
I spent my strength and came up empty, with nothing.  
Yet a just verdict for me rests with the Lord,  
and my reward is with my God."

<sup>5</sup> But now the Lord,  
who formed me from the womb to be his servant,  
to turn Jacob back to him,  
so that Israel might be gathered to him,  
so that I will be honored in the eyes of the Lord,  
because my God has been my strength—

<sup>6</sup> the Lord said:  
It is too small a thing that you should just be my servant  
to raise up only the tribes of Jacob  
and to restore the ones I have preserved in Israel,  
so I will appoint you to be a light for the nations,  
so that my salvation will be known to the end of the earth.

## **PSALM OF THE DAY: 89**

*Read Responsively*

M: At the works of your hands, O Lord,

**C: I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.**

M: I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;

**C: I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.**

M: I will declare that your love stands firm forever,

**C: That you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**

M: The heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

**C: Your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.**

M: O Lord God Almighty, who is like you?

**C: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness surrounds you.**

M: Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,

**C: Who walk in the light of your presence, O Lord.**

*(Continued on Next Page)*

M: They rejoice in your name all day long;

**C: They exult in your righteousness.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **SECOND LESSON**

### **1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup> To the church of God in Corinth—those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, who are called as saints—along with all in every place who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

<sup>4</sup> I always thank my God for you because of the grace of God given to you in Christ Jesus. <sup>5</sup> You were enriched in him in every way, in all your speaking and all your knowledge, <sup>6</sup> because the testimony about Christ was established in you. <sup>7</sup> As a result you do not lack any gift as you eagerly wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also keep you strong until the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, who called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## **VERSE OF THE DAY**

M: Alleluia. He said to me, "You are my servant in whom I will display my splendor." Alleluia. (*Isaiah 49:3 cf. NIV*)

*Stand*

## GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

### John 2:1-11

M: The Gospel of St John Chapter 2

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

<sup>1</sup>“Three days later, there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there. <sup>2</sup> Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

<sup>3</sup> When the wine was gone, Jesus’ mother said to him, “They have no wine.”

<sup>4</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does that have to do with you and me? My time has not come yet.”

<sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

<sup>6</sup> Six stone water jars, which the Jews used for ceremonial cleansing, were standing there, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>7</sup> Jesus told them, “Fill the jars with water.” So they filled them to the brim. <sup>8</sup> Then he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.” And they did.

<sup>9</sup> When the master of the banquet tasted the water that had now become wine, he did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew). The master of the banquet called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup> and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when the guests have had plenty to drink, then the cheaper wine. You saved the good wine until now!”

<sup>11</sup> This, the beginning of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

#### C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: 86, The Only Son From Heaven**



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, Fore - told by  
 2 Oh, time of God ap - point - ed, Oh, bright and  
 3 A - wak - en, Lord, our spir - it To know and  
 4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore you With God the



an - cient seers, By God the Fa - ther giv - en,  
 ho - ly morn! He comes, the King a - noint - ed,  
 love you more, In faith to stand un - shak - en,  
 Ho - ly Ghost And Je - sus, we a - dore you,



In hu - man form ap - pears. No sphere his  
 The Christ, the vir - gin - born, Grim death to  
 In spir - it to a - dore, That we, through  
 O Pride of an - gel host. Be - fore you



light con - fin - ing, No star so bright - ly  
 con - quer for us, To o - pen heav'n be -  
 this world mov - ing, Each glimpse of heav - en  
 mor - tals low - ly Cry "Ho - ly, ho - ly,



shin - ing As he, our Morn - ing Star.  
 fore us And bring us life a - gain.  
 prov - ing, May reap its full - ness there.  
 ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

Text: Elizabeth Cruciger, c. 1500–35, abr., st. 1-3; *Lutheran Book of Worship*, Minneapolis, 1978, st. 4;  
 tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, st. 1-3, alt.

Tune: HERR CHRIST, DER EINIG GOTTS SOHN (76 76 776) *Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein*, Erfurt, 1524, alt.

**SERMON**

**Text:** John 2:1-11

**Theme:** Jesus Reveals His Glory

*Stand*

## 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*

## 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*

M: 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.**

## THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

## 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."

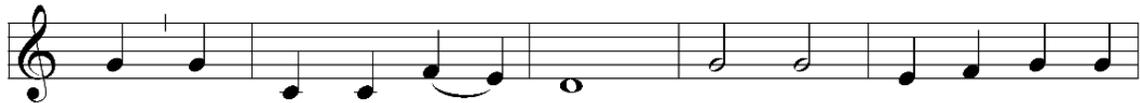
M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



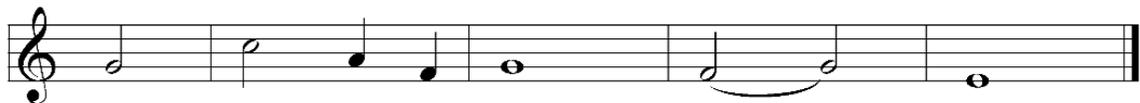
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



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: 315, Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face (Verses 1-4)



1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;  
2 This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
3 I have no help but yours nor do I need  
4 Mine is the sin but yours the right - eous - ness;



Here would I touch and handle things un - seen,  
Here is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread a - new.  
An - oth - er arm but yours to lean up - on.  
Mine is the guilt but yours the cleans - ing blood.



Here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,  
Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long  
It is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;  
Here is my robe, my ref - uge, and my peace:



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

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, abr., alt.

Tune: FARLEY CASTLE (10 10 10 10) Henry Lawes, 1595–1662.

*Stand*

## THANK THE LORD



**C:** Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**M:** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, 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: CW 100, A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, Our guilt and  
 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The Lamb of  
 3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll bear what  
 4 From morn till eve, in all I do, I'll praise you,



e - vil bear - ing And, lad - en with the sins of earth,  
 God, our Sav - ior; Him God the Fa - ther chose to send  
 you com - mand me. My will con - forms to your de - cree;  
 Christ, my trea - sure. To sac - ri - fice my - self for you



None else the bur - den shar - ing. Goes pa - tient on,  
 To gain for us his fa - vor. "Go forth, my Son,"  
 I'll do what you have asked me." O won - drous Love,  
 Shall be my aim and plea - sure. My stream of life



grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with - out com - plaint,  
 the Fa - ther said, "And free my chil - dren from their dread  
 what have you done! The Fa - ther of - fers up his Son,  
 shall ev - er be A cur - rent flow - ing cease - less - ly,



That spot - less life to of - fer, Bears shame and stripes  
 Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and stripes  
 De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how strong  
 Your con - stant praise out - pour - ing. I'll trea - sure in



and wounds and death, An - guish and mock - er - y and says,  
 are hard to bear, But by your pas - sion they will share  
 you are to save! You make his bed with - in the grave  
 my mem - o - ry, O Lord, all you have done for me,



"Will - ing all this I suf - fer."  
 The fruit of your sal - va - tion."  
 Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.  
 Your gra - cious love a - dor - ing.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.  
 Tune: AN WASSERFLÜSSEN BABYLON (87 87 887 887) Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487-1553.

## 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](https://www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge)

Rev. Gary Wong: [revgwong@gmail.com](mailto:revgwong@gmail.com)

### Looking for volunteers to help provide snacks for our Sunday School and Fellowship Hour!

If you're able to bless our community with simple treats, please sign up on the sheet posted on the Sunday School bulletin board located in the large fellowship and adult Sunday School room. Your contributions help make our time together even more welcoming and enjoyable—thank you for supporting our fellowship!

**The Trinity Book Club will meet on Saturday, February 7, at 9:30 am** at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries to discuss *A Heart Adrift* by Laura Frantz. Come join us!

### Offering Envelopes

If any new member or regular attendee would like to have envelopes for their offering for the 2026 calendar year, please contact the Financial Secretary, Daniel King; the Treasurer, Jim Strock; or Council President, Steve Proksch.

### Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:45am

#### Wine and Word Bible Study – Feb. 5th

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 [revgwong@gmail.com](mailto:revgwong@gmail.com) with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.



## The MYSTERIOUS Light

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20260107/>

**Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 3:2-6**

Have you ever read a mystery book—or watched a mystery show—where you’re trying to guess what’s going to happen next? You look for clues. You make predictions. You keep thinking, “I wonder how this will end?” That kind of mystery keeps you guessing right up to the very end.

But when God talks about a “mystery,” he means something very different. God’s mysteries are not puzzles you have to solve. They aren’t only for super-smart people. They don’t depend on you finding the right clues. And they aren’t secrets God wants to hide from you.

God’s mystery is actually GOOD news meant to be shared. God’s mystery is the light of Jesus. Jesus came not just for one group of people, but for everyone—people from every country, language, and family. Jesus came to shine God’s truth like a bright light so everyone could see it.

This truth is called a mystery because we could never figure it out on our own. The Holy Spirit shows it to us and helps us believe it. Because you trust in Jesus, you get to see amazing things in his light! In the mysterious light of Christ:

You see that God loves sinners and gives them grace—even when they mess up.

You see that Jesus washes away sin and gives eternal life.

You see that God keeps his promises and has a place in heaven for you.

You see why the Bible matters—God uses it to grow your faith and teach you how to live.

You see that you can talk to God anytime and ask for forgiveness, help, or strength because of Jesus.

That’s a LOT to see—and it’s all because of Jesus’ light!

*(Continued on Next Page)*

And here's the best part: None of these gifts come from being extra good, extra smart, or extra strong. They are gifts from God—the Creator of everything—freely given to you.

God doesn't want your life to feel like a confusing mystery book. He wants you to know that you are loved. He wants you to know where you are going—heaven! And he wants to guide you with his wisdom every day until you get there.

That's why the Bible is so important. Keep reading it. Keep listening to it. God uses it to fill you with the "riches of Christ" and to help you grow wiser and stronger in faith.

### **Questions for Consideration**

Because you know Jesus' light, you can pray to God. What's the number one thing you would like to pray for today?

Who are some people you can pray for right now—at school, at home, or in your family?

Long ago, many people thought God's promises were only for one group. Why do you think it was surprising that Jesus came for everyone?

What did Jesus do to show that God's love is for all people?

What are some simple ways you can keep learning more about "the unsearchable riches of Christ"?

How does knowing the "riches of Christ" (Jesus loves and forgives you) make it easier to talk to God when you mess up or feel worried?

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**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.