



**April 19, 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.





**April 19, 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: Pastor Steve Blumer**

Pastor Steve has served at Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Orlando FL, starting that congregation as a new mission in 1998. He semi-retired in 2025. He and his wife Bonnie will continue to live in Orlando, as he helps with various vacancies. We are blessed to be with you for three weeks!

# 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.*

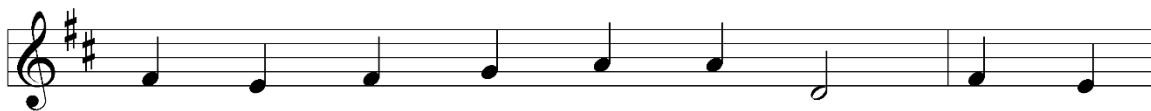
## OPENING HYMN: 141, At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
2 Might - y Vic - tim from the sky,  
3 Now no more can death ap - pall,  
4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy!  
5 Fa - ther, who the crown shall give,



Praise to our vic - to - rious King,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs be - neath you lie.  
Now no more the grave en - thrall;  
This a - lone can sin de - stroy;  
Sav - ior, by whose death we live,



Who has washed us in the tide Flow - ing  
You have con - quered in the fight; You have  
You have o - pened par - a - dise, And your  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, New - born  
Spir - it, guide through all our days, Three in



from his pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
brought us life and light. Al - le - lu - ia!  
saints in you shall rise. Al - le - lu - ia!  
souls in you to be. Al - le - lu - ia!  
One, your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th century, abr.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-68, alt.  
Tune: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT (77 77 4) *Kirchengeseng*, Ivancice, 1566.

*Stand*

## INVOCATION

Minister: Alleluia, The Christ is risen!

**Congregation: He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

M: We celebrate Christ's resurrection in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: Beloved in the Lord: We rejoice in Jesus' Easter victory over sin and death, but also come before him with penitent hearts, to confess our sins which had brought him to death and the grave.

**C: Almighty God, we poor sinners confess that it was for our sins that Jesus suffered and died. We are by nature sinful and we have disobeyed you in our thoughts, words and actions. Forgive us for Jesus' sake. Through his rising from death, restore life and salvation to us. Give us grace that we may always believe in our risen Savior and walk with him in newness of life. Amen.**

M: St. Paul wrote: "Jesus was raised to life for our justification." This means: because Jesus rose, God declares you not guilty of all sin. Our risen Savior said, "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven." By his command, 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 Risen LORD.

**Hymn: 157, Jesus Christ is Risen Today (Verses 2, 3)**



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day,  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured,  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove,



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,  
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured,  
Praise e - ter - nal as his love,



Who did once up - on the cross,  
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now a - bove the sky he's King,  
Praise him, all you heav'n - ly host,



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss,  
Sin - ners to re - deem and save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where the an - gels ev - er sing,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,

Text: Latin hymn, 14th century, st. 1-3; Charles Wesley, 1707-88, st. 4; tr. *Lyra Davidica*, London, 1708, st. 1-3, alt.  
Tune: EASTER HYMN (77 77 with Alleluias) *Lyra Davidica*, London, 1708, alt.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

M: O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE WORD**

### **FIRST LESSON**

#### **Acts 2:14a, 36-47**

<sup>1</sup> <sup>14</sup> Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ...

... <sup>36</sup> “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

<sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

<sup>40</sup> With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

## PSALM OF THE DAY: 118

### *Refrain*

This is the day the Lord has made, let us re-  
joice and be glad! This is the day the  
Lord has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

### *Psalm tone*

\*

The LORD is my rock, my fortress and by deliverer;\*  
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

He reached down from on high and took hold of me;\*  
he rescued me from my powerful enemy.

He brought me out into a spacious place;\*  
he rescued me because he delighted in me.

### ***Refrain***

You, O LORD, keep my lamp burning;\*  
my God turns my darkness into light.

You save the humble\*  
but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.

You give me your shield of victory,\*  
and your right hand sustains me.

**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.**

### ***Refrain***

## SECOND LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

### 1 Peter 1:17-21

<sup>17</sup>Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. <sup>18</sup>For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. <sup>20</sup>He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

### VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia. (*Luke 24:32*)



*Stand*

### GOSPEL

#### Luke 24:13-35

M: The Gospel of St Luke, Chapter 24

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

<sup>13</sup> Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles<sup>[a]</sup> from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; <sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup> One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

<sup>19</sup> "What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup> but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. <sup>22</sup> In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup> but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

*(Continued on Next Page)*

<sup>25</sup> He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

<sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

<sup>33</sup> They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together <sup>34</sup> and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." <sup>35</sup> Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

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.**

*(Continued on Next Page)*

**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: 143, He's Risen, He's Risen**



1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;  
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry  
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,  
4 Oh, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;  
5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.  
The Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.  
And death, hell, and Sa - tan he van - quished, his foes.  
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.  
Pro - claim the blest tid - ings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song  
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,  
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts his ban - ner on high;  
For all our trans - gres - sions his blood does a - tone;  
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain,



And earth, sea, and moun - tain the prais - es pro - long.  
For Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.  
He lives, yes, he lives, and will nev - er - more die.  
Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are his own.  
Who now sits in glo - ry and ev - er shall reign.

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt.  
Tune: WALTHER (11 11 11 11) C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87.

## SERMON

Text: 1 Peter 1:17-21

Theme: "Because Jesus Rose, We are Strangers in the World"

Stand

## CREATE IN ME

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: "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."

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: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

**C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.**

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

**C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.**

M: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

**C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.**

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

**C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.**

### *Special prayers*

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

### *Silent prayer.*

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

**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 and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -  
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

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

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

C: Amen.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

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

*Be Seated*

## DISTRIBUTION

# DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 312, Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, you have pre - pared This feast for  
 2 Al - though you did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel  
 3 Yet, Sav - ior, you are not con - fined To an - y  
 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious  
 5 Though rea - son can - not un - der - stand, Yet faith this



our sal - va - tion; It is your bod - y  
 hosts are dwell - ing, And in your pres - ence  
 hab - i - ta - tion, But you are pres - ent  
 Word be - liev - ing That your true bod - y  
 truth em - brac - es: Your bod - y, Lord, is



and your blood, And at your in - vi - ta - tion  
 they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,  
 ev - 'ry - where And with your con - gre - ga - tion.  
 and your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.  
 ev - 'ry - where At once in man - y plac - es.



As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to  
 And though your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry  
 Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by  
 This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, And there is  
 I leave to you how this can be; Your Word a -



you for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.  
 and your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,  
 an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.  
 naught you can - not do, For you, Lord, are al - might - y.  
 lone suf - fic - es me; I trust its truth un - fail - ing.

6 Lord, I believe what you have said;  
 Help me when doubts assail me.  
 Remember that I am but dust,  
 And let my faith not fail me.  
 Your supper in this vale of tears  
 Refreshes me and stills my fears  
 And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive  
 Your supper, Lord, our Savior,  
 And, truly grieving for our sins,  
 May prove by our behavior  
 That we are thankful for your grace  
 And day by day may run our race,  
 In holiness increasing.

8 For your consoling supper, Lord,  
 Be praised throughout all ages!  
 Preserve it, for in ev'ry place  
 The world against it rages.  
 Grant that this sacrament may be  
 A blessed comfort unto me  
 When living and when dying.

Text: Samuel Kinner, 1603–68; tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841–1931, alt.  
 Tune: DU LEBENSBRÖT, HERR JESU CHRIST (87 87 887) Peter Sohren, c. 1630–c. 1692, alt.

## SONG OF SIMEON



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## BLESSING

P: Alleluia! The Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: Go forth with renewed life. Live each day in the joy, confidence and hope of the resurrection.

C: **So shall we live! Thanks be to God.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

C: **Amen.**

*Be Seated*

CLOSING HYMN: 341, Crown Him with Many Crowns (*Verses 1, 3*)



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his  
3 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the  
throne; Hark how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns All  
grave And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For  
mu - sic but its own. A - wake, my soul, and  
those he came to save. His glo - ries now we  
sing Of him who died for thee, And hail him  
sing Who died and rose on high, Who died e -  
as thy match-less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, st. 1-2, 4, abr., alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3.  
Tune: DIADEMATA (SM D) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

## Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Find us online at [www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org](http://www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org)

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Pastor Steve Blumer 407-694-9670

[spblumer@aol.com](mailto:spblumer@aol.com)

**Voters' Assembly Meeting TODAY!** The next quarterly meeting is TODAY at 2:00pm via Microsoft Teams. Steve Proksch will send out the link and agenda prior to the meeting.

**Youth Group Outdoor Movie Night!** The Trinity Youth Group will hold an outdoor movie night at church on **Saturday May 16, at 7 PM**. Come to enjoy *David* (2025), an animated musical film from Angel Studios that depicts his rise from shepherd to king, his battle with Goliath, and fleeing Saul. **The whole family is invited!** Bring your picnic blankets. Free popcorn will be provided.

**Youth Parents:** This year, the WELS Youth Rally will be in **Ohio, July 14-17**, and registrations will open soon. We are partnering with Grace Lutheran Church to see if we can lower costs, but now we need to know how many teens (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) may be interested in this event so we can transmit a group pre-registration. If you would like your child/children to attend, have any comments, questions or concerns, please contact Hilda Naranjo by sending an email to [arghilda@yahoo.com](mailto:arghilda@yahoo.com) as soon as possible. Group Leaders must work on the pre-registration that opens March 9. Thank you!

**The Trinity Book Club** invites you to join them on **May 23 at 9:30 am** at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries to discuss the Biblical fiction novel *On Living Stone* by Heather Kaufman.

**Save the date!** Trinity's annual church-wide yard sale will be held on **Saturday, May 2** this year! More info to come this spring about when and where to bring your donations, what we need volunteers to help with, and so on.

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

Today and next week, Pastor Blumer will give a power point tour of Holy Week in Jerusalem! He has hosted tours to Israel, the last one in 2020.

### **Wine and Word Bible Study – May 7th**

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.

### **Volunteers Needed to 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!

## **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 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 [spblumer@aol.com](mailto:spblumer@aol.com) with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.



## Saved by a Fish?

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20260406/>

**“In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry. You hurled me into the depths, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me. I said, ‘I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.’ The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head. To the roots of the mountains I sank down; the earth beneath barred me in forever. But you, LORD my God, brought my life up from the pit. “When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple. “Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from God’s love for them. But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the LORD.’”** Jonah 2:2-9

God uses surprising things to save us. Have you noticed that? When a shepherd boy named David had to fight against a giant named Goliath, God used a stone and a sling to give David the victory. Not a sword. A stone and a sling! God uses surprising things to save us.

Like a big fish. The prophet Jonah wasn’t facing a giant. He was facing a huge storm on a big sea. Jonah had been thrown from his ship and was sinking down, down, down into the waves. He was sure he was going to die, until God saved him. With what? A big fish! That fish swallowed Jonah, but he didn’t die. Jonah lived inside that big fish’s belly for three days and three nights. Jonah was saved by a fish! All of that led Jonah to say, “Salvation comes from the Lord” (Jonah 2:9).

Here’s the most surprising part: Do you know why Jonah was sailing across the sea in the first place? He was running away from God. Is that a good idea? No! God had told Jonah to do something he didn’t want to do. Instead of listening to God, Jonah ran away from God. That’s how Jonah got in trouble. He had sinned against God. He didn’t deserve to be saved.

But God still sent that big fish to rescue Jonah. Why? Because God still loved him, even though he didn’t deserve it. God forgave Jonah, even though he didn’t deserve it. God used those three days and three nights in the belly of a fish to save Jonah’s life.

*(Continued on Next Page)*

Just like God used three days and three nights in something else to save you. Someone else spent three days and three nights in a dark place. Do you know who? Jesus did! After he died on the cross for our sins, Jesus was in the dark tomb for three days and three nights. Just like God used that big fish to save Jonah, God used Jesus' death and resurrection to save us.

God uses surprising things to save us, doesn't he? Like a fish. Like a tomb. Thank you, Jesus!

### **Questions to Consider**

- What surprising creature did God use to save Jonah's life?
- How long did Jonah spend inside that creature?
- Why was Jonah running away from God?
- Give an example of how you have tried to run away from God in your life too.
- Look up Matthew 12:40. How did Jesus compare himself with Jonah?
- In addition to Jonah's fish and Jesus' tomb, describe another surprising thing that God has used to save his people.

**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.