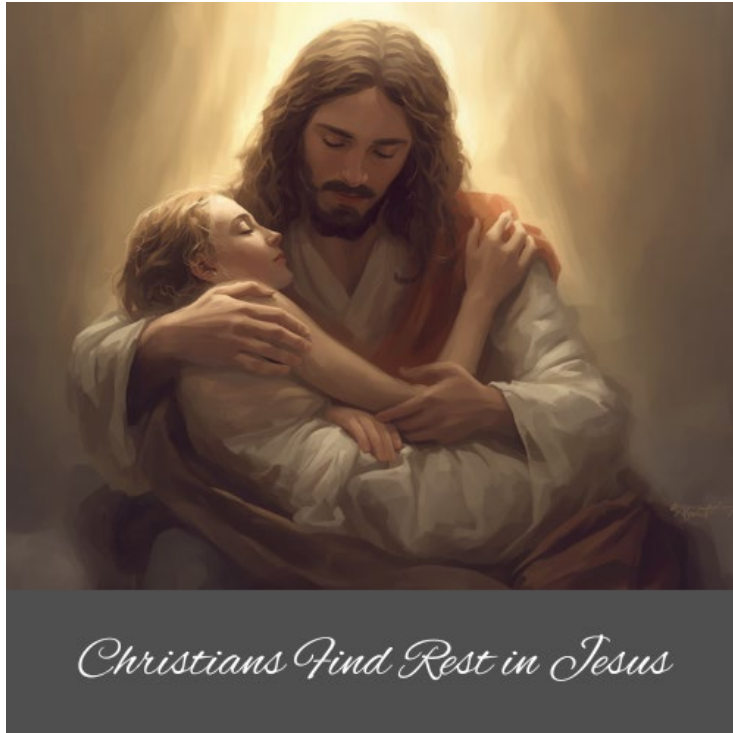




Christians Find Rest in Jesus

July 5, 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.





July 5, 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 Timothy Satorius

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: 215 Jerusalem, My Happy Home



1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home, When
2 When shall these eyes thy heav'n - built walls And
3 Oh, when, thou cit - y of my God, Shall
4 A - pos - tles, mar - tyrs, proph - ets, there A -
5 O Christ, do thou my soul pre - pare For

shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - rows
pearl - y gates be - hold, Thy bul - warks with sal -
I thy courts as - cend? Where ev - er - more the
round my Sav - ior stand, And soon my friends in
that bright home of love That I may see thee

have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
va - tion strong And streets of shin - ing gold?
an - gels sing, The Sab - bath has no end.
Christ be - low Will join the glo - rious band.
and a - dore With all thy saints a - bove.

Text: F. B. P., 16th century, abr., alt.

Tune: LAND OF REST (CM) Annabel M. Buchanan. © 1938, Renewed J. Fischer & Bro.

All rights assigned to and administered by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. Used by permission.

Stand

INVOCATION

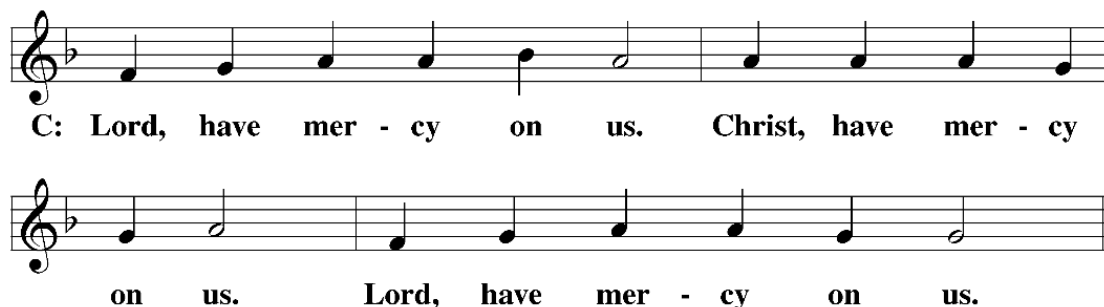
Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

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: Almighty 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 Risen LORD.

GLORY BE TO GOD

The musical score is written on ten staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The lyrics are in a bold, sans-serif font. The score begins with a common time signature 'C'.

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: God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; 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

Exodus 33:12-23

¹² Moses said to the Lord, “Look, you yourself have been telling me, ‘Lead this people up,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ ¹³ So now if I have found favor in your sight, please show me your ways, so that I may know you, so that I may find favor in your sight. Consider that this nation is your people.”

¹⁴ The Lord said, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

¹⁵ Moses said to him, “If your Presence is not going to go with me, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶ After all, how would people know that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Isn’t it in this way: that you go with us, so that we are distinguished, I and your people, from all the people who are on the face of the earth?”

¹⁷ The Lord said to Moses, “I will also do this thing that you have said, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.”

¹⁸ Then Moses said, “Please show me your glory.”

¹⁹ The Lord said, “I will make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord in your presence. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy.” ²⁰ He said, “You cannot see my face, for no human may see me and live.”

(Continued on Next Page)

²¹The Lord also said, “Look, there is a place next to me, where you shall stand on the rock. ²²It will happen that, while my glory passes by, I will put you in a crevice in the rock. I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will take away my hand, and you will see my back. But my face will not be seen.”

PSALM OF THE DAY: 145

We sing the Refrain together; the Psalm is spoken responsively



M: Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;

C: his greatness no one can fathom.

M: One generation will commend your works to another;

C: they will tell of your mighty acts.

M: The LORD upholds all those who fall

C: and lifts up all who are bowed down.

Refrain

M: The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food at the proper time.

**C: You open your hand
and satisfy the desires of every living thing.**

M: The LORD is near to all who call on him,

C: to all who call on him in truth.

(Continued on Next Page)

M: He fulfills the desires of those who fear him;

C: he hears their cry and saves them.

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

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission

SECOND LESSON

Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵For I do not understand what I am doing, because I do not keep doing what I want. Instead, I do what I hate. ¹⁶And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But now it is no longer I who am doing it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸Indeed, I know that good does not live in me, that is, in my sinful flesh. The desire to do good is present with me, but I am not able to carry it out. ¹⁹So I fail to do the good I want to do. Instead, the evil I do not want to do, that is what I keep doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who am doing it, but it is sin living in me.

²¹So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is present with me. ²²I certainly delight in God's law according to my inner self, ²³but I see a different law at work in my members, waging war against the law of my mind and taking me captive to the law of sin, which is present in my members. ²⁴What a miserable wretch I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my sinful flesh I serve the law of sin.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Happy are they who hear the Word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience. Alleluia. (Luke 8:15)



Stand

GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

Matthew 11:25-30

M: The Gospel of St Matthew, Chapter 11

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

²⁵ At that time, Jesus continued, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from clever and learned people and have revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, because this was pleasing to you. ²⁷ Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wants to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

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.

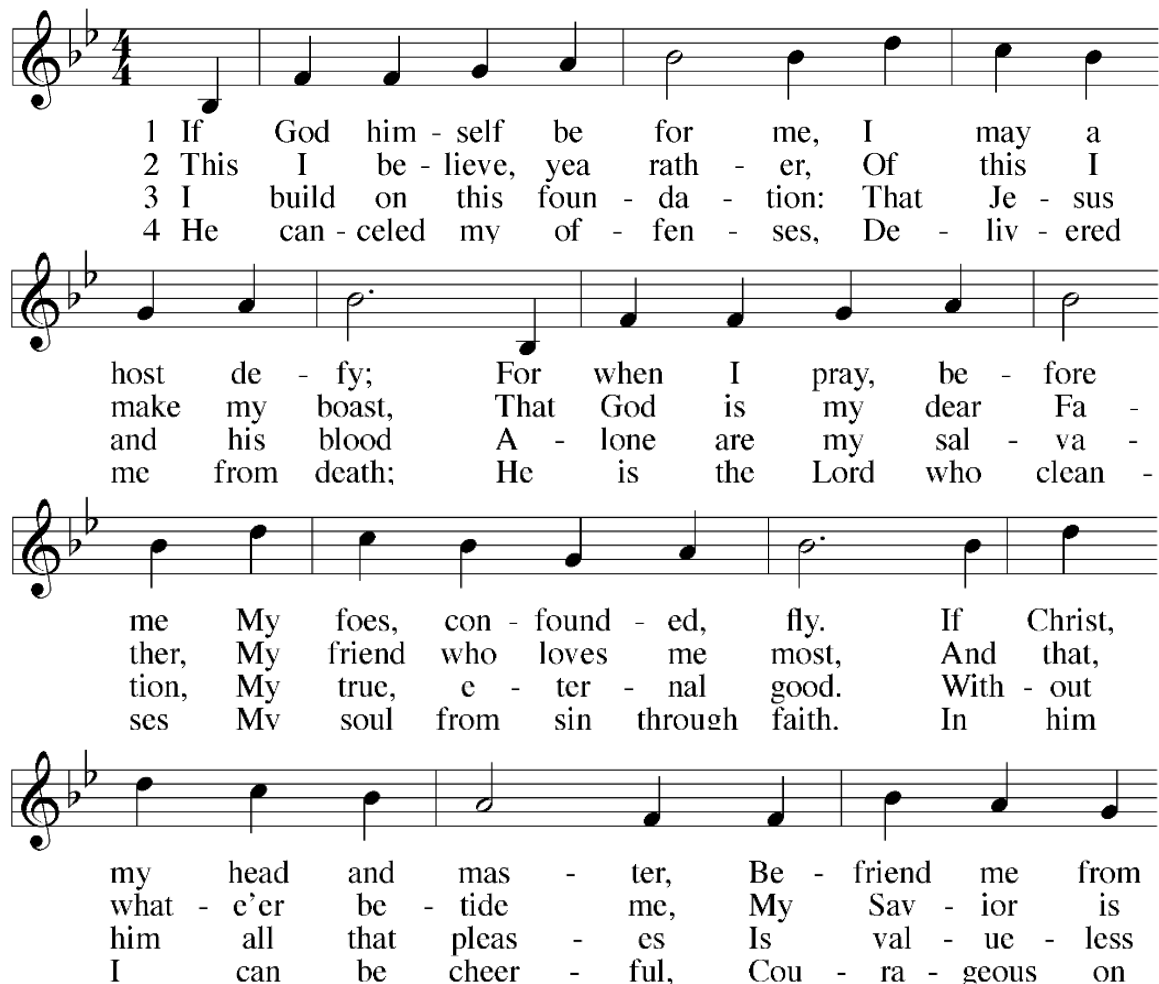
(Continued on Next Page)

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.

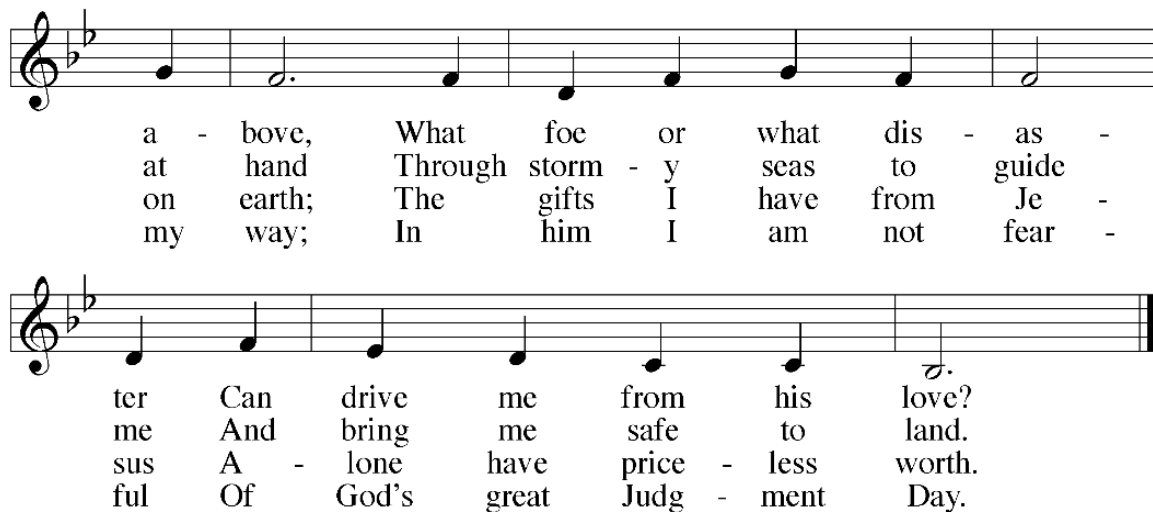
Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: 419, If Go Himself Be For Me (Verses 1-4)



1 If God him - self be for me, I may a
2 This I be - lieve, yea rath - er, Of this I
3 I build on this foun - da - tion: That Je - sus
4 He can - celed my of - fen - ses, De - liv - ered
host de - fy; For when I pray, be - fore
make my boast, That God is my dear Fa -
and his blood, A - lone are my sal - va -
me from death; He is the Lord who clean -
me My foes, con - found - ed, fly. If Christ,
ther, My friend who loves me most, And that,
tion, My true, e - ter - nal good. With - out
ses My soul from sin through faith. In him
my head and mas - ter, Be - friend me from
what - e'er be - tide me, My Sav - ior is
him all that pleas - es Is val - ue - less
I can be cheer - ful, Cou - ra - geous on

(Continued on Next Page)



a - bove, What foe or what dis - as -
at hand Through storm - y seas to guide
on earth; The gifts I have from Je -
my way; In him I am not fear -
ter Can drive me from his love?
me And bring me safe to land.
sus A - lone have price - less worth.
ful Of God's great Judg - ment Day.

SERMON

Theme: Christians Find Rest in Jesus

Text: Matthew 11:25-30

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.

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

PREFACE

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 on this day kept his promise and poured out the Holy Spirit to empower his Church to proclaim the gospel in all the world. 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.

The musical score is written on five staves in C major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C:'. The piece concludes with a double bar line after the final staff.

Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 313, Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



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 -
 5 Christ says, "Come, all you that la - bor, And re - ceive



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 -
 my grace and fa - vor; Those who feel no pain or



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.
 ill Need no phy - si - cian's help or skill."

6 Then hold fast with faith unshaken
 That this food is to be taken
 By the souls who are distressed,
 By hearts that long for peace and rest.

7 Praise the Father, who from heaven
 Unto us such food has given
 And, to mend what we have done,
 Gave into death his only Son.

8 If your heart this truth professes
 And your mouth your sin confesses,
 Surely you will be his guest
 And at his banquet ever blest.

Text: John Hus, 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. composite.
 Tune: JESUS CHRISTUS, UNSER HEILAND, DER VON UNS (88 78) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert*,
 Wittenberg, 1535, alt.

THANKSGIVING

Stand

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: 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: 288, The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace



1 The gos - pel shows the Fa - ther's grace, Who
2 It sets the Lamb be - fore our eyes, Who
3 It brings the Sav - ior's right - eous - ness To
4 It is the pow'r of God to save From
5 It bears to all the ti - dings glad And

sent his Son to save our race, Pro -
made the a - ton - ing sac - ri - fice And
robe our souls in roy - al dress; From
sin and Sa - tan and the grave; It
bids their hearts no more be sad; The

claims how Je - sus lived and died That
calls the souls with guilt op - pressed To
all our guilt it brings re - lease And
works the faith which firm - ly clings To
wea - ry, bur - dened souls it cheers And

we might thus be jus - ti - fied.
come and find e - ter - nal rest.
gives the trou - bled con - science peace.
all the trea - sures which it brings.
ban - ish - es their guilt - y fears.

6 May we in faith its message learn
Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;
May we in faith its truth confess
And praise the Lord, our righteousness.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.

Tune: HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND (LM) *Cantionale Germanicum*, Gochsheim, 1628.

Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Call Meeting Next Sunday: We'll have our next call meeting next Sunday, July 12th, after our 9:30 am service.

Christmas Program Director Needed Our Sunday school's annual Christmas program needs a new director! This would involve attending one planning meeting and leading rehearsals for half an hour every Sunday morning during November and early December. If you're interested, please chat with Rachel Kovaciny or email her at hamlettthedame@gmail.com

VBS Wish List Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for items that you could donate or loan for Vacation Bible School. Thanks for seeing how you can help out!

VBS Volunteer Training Meeting - July 22 There will be a training meeting for all VBS volunteers (teens and adults) who will be helping on-site the mornings of VBS. The training meeting is set for Wednesday, July 22 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at Trinity. Supper will be provided and starts before the meeting at 6. Questions: contact Erika at 617-821-3126 or erika.ohlendorf@gmail.com

Vacation Bible School Registration is OPEN. Registration is now open for this year's VBS, which will be held July 27-31 from 9:00-11:30 am. Come join us for Tropical Trek VBS and be guided by our Savior, Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life!. We look forward to sharing God's Word, singing songs, making crafts, playing games, and of course, having some awesome snacks together! VBS is for kids ages 4 to those entering 6th grade. Kids entering 7th grade and older may volunteer as helpers. Adult volunteers are needed as well! Please contact Erika Ohlendorf (erika.ohlendorf@gmail.com) with questions. Register your child here: <https://vbsmate.com/events/TrinityofWoodbridge/31882>



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 (8th-12th 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 **as soon as possible**. Group Leaders must work on the pre-registration that opens March 9. Thank you!

Wine and Word Bible Study – July 9th 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.

Trinity's Book Club invites you to join them at 9:30 am on Saturday, August 29, at Cuppi Coffee in Dumfries. We'll be discussing *The Sweet Life* by Suzanne Woods Fisher. Come enjoy coffee, snacks, and fun bookish conversation!

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 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 with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.



Safe in God's Care

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20260626/>

[Jesus said] Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. "Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. Matthew 10:29-33

Imagine you saw a job description that read something like this:

WANTED: Someone willing to work long hours for little pay. You won't see your family as much. Some people won't like you. Some may even be angry with you. You might have to leave your home and travel to new places. Your job will never end.

Would you want that job? That doesn't sound very exciting, does it?

It's not so different from what Jesus told his disciples when he sent them out to tell others about him. Jesus wanted them to know that sharing God's Word would not always be easy. And Jesus doesn't just send pastors and missionaries. He sends all of us to tell others about him. Sometimes people don't want to hear about Jesus. Sometimes they disagree with what God says. Sometimes they may even make fun of Christians.

That happened to Jesus' disciples. All of them suffered. Most of them gave their lives for their faith because they shared the good news about Jesus. But Jesus didn't tell those things to scare them. He told them something better. Jesus said: "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care" (verse 29).

Sparrows are tiny birds. Most people barely notice them. But God notices every single one. "Even the very hairs of your head are all numbered" (verse 30). God knows everything about you. He knows your name. He knows your thoughts. He knows your joys and your fears. And because he loves you so much, Jesus says: "Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows" (verse 31). What a promise! When Jesus sends us to share our faith, he doesn't send us alone. He walks beside us. He watches over us. He cares for us every day.

So, imagine reading this instead:

(Continued on Next Page)

WANTED: Someone to see God's love every day. You'll walk side-by-side with a Savior who never leaves you. There will be challenges, but you never need to be afraid. God will care for you so closely that he even knows how many hairs are on your head. And one day you'll live with him forever in heaven.

You don't have to imagine it. That's exactly the life Jesus has given you.

Questions to Consider

- Why do you think Jesus talked about sparrows?
- What does it mean that God knows even how many hairs are on your head?
- Why can you be brave when you talk about Jesus or share your faith?
- Who is someone you know that shares Jesus with others? Pray for them together.
- Jesus says that following him can sometimes be hard. If nobody has ever given you a hard time because you're a Christian, does that mean you aren't sharing your faith well? Why or why not?
- What does Jesus promise to do for those who acknowledge him before others? (see verse 32)

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.