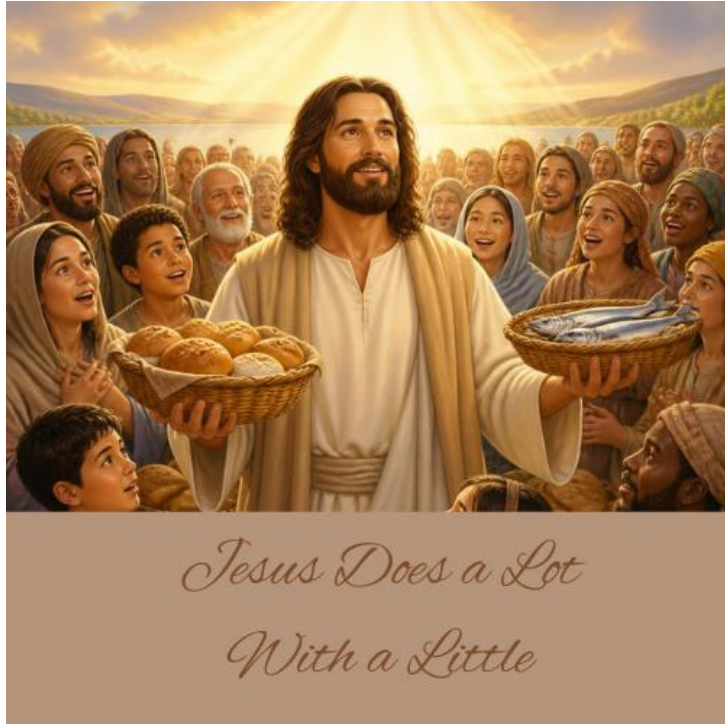




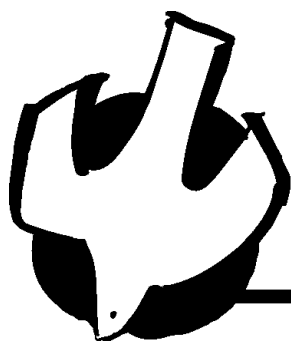
August 2, 2026

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.





Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 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 Paul Stratman

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: 353 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness With a
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren With a
3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who

lib - er - a - ting light; Praise the one who frees the
strong, yet gen - tle, word; Praise the one who drove out
suf - fered in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic -

pris - 'ners, Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
de - mons With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
to - rious That we may know God by grace.

Praise the one who preached the gos - pel, Heal - ing
Praise the one who brings cool wa - ter To the
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, See - ing

ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing storms and feed - ing
des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this well comes liv - ing
what our God has done; Let us praise the true Re -

thou - sands With the Fa - ther's word of peace.
wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
deem - er, Praise the one who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt. © 1987 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
Used by permission.

Tune: BEACH SPRING (87 87 D) attr. Benjamin F. White, 1800–79.

Stand

INVOCATION

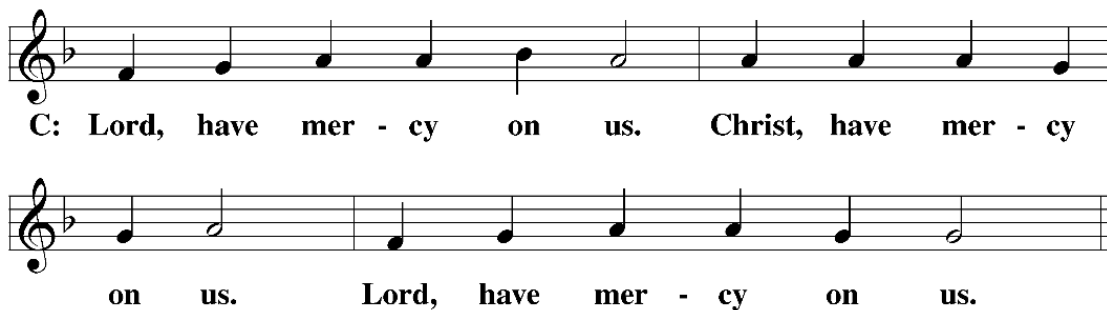
Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

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 traditional, slightly archaic style, using words like 'heav'n' and 'on-ly'. The score begins with a common time signature 'C' and ends with a double bar line.

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: O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; 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

1 Kings 17:1-6

Elijah from Tishbe, one of the settlers in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As surely as the Lord lives, the God of Israel before whom I stand, there will be no dew or rain during the coming years, except at my word.”

²Then the word of the Lord came to him: ³“Leave this place and turn east. Hide yourself by the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. ⁴You will drink from the stream, and I will command the ravens to provide for you there.”

⁵So Elijah went and did just as the Lord had said. He lived in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. ⁶The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and in the evening, and he drank from the stream.

The Refrain is Sung; the Psalm is spoken responsively

Refrain



7

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:3-10

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

⁴He did this when he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, so that we would be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ. He did this in accordance with the good purpose of his will, ⁶and for the praise of his glorious grace, which he has graciously given us in the one he loves.

⁷In him we also have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in keeping with the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished on us in all wisdom and insight. ⁹He made known to us the mystery of his will in keeping with his good purpose, which he planned in Christ. ¹⁰This was to be carried out when the time had fully come, in order to bring all things together in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him." Alleluia. (*John 14:23*)



Stand

GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

Matthew 14:13-21

M: The Gospel of St Matthew, Chapter 14

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

¹³When Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place to be alone. When the crowds heard this, they followed him on foot from the towns.

¹⁴When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw a large crowd. He had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵When evening came, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place and the hour is already late. Send the crowds away, so that they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”

¹⁶But Jesus said to them, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

¹⁷They told him, “We have here only five loaves and two fish.”

¹⁸“Bring them here to me,” he replied. ¹⁹Then he instructed the people to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves and the two fish. After looking up to heaven, he blessed them. He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples. The disciples gave the food to the people. ²⁰They all ate and were filled. They picked up twelve basketfuls of what was left over from the broken pieces. ²¹Those who ate were about five thousand men, not even counting women and children.

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: 338 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this

me and rest; Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down Your
 free - ly give The liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; Stoop
 dark world's light. Look un - to me; your morn shall rise And

head up - on my breast." I came to Je - sus as I
 down and drink and live." I came to Je - sus, and I
 all your day be bright." I looked to Je - sus, and I

was, Wea - ry and worn and sad; I found in
 drank Of that life - giv - ing stream; My thirst was
 found In him my star, my sun; And in that

him a rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
 quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
 light of life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89.

Tune: VOX DILECTI (CM D) John B. Dykes, 1823–76.

SERMON

Theme: The Lord Can Do a Lot with a Little

Text: Matthew 14:13-21

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 and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span multiple notes or measures. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Be Seated

OFFERING

Please take a moment to sign the friendship register found in your pew.

The members of Trinity make joyful offerings to support this church's ministry. A portion of our offerings is also used for the training of future pastors and teachers, and the worldwide mission work carried out by our fellowship, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Our guests are under no obligation to give, but any gifts freely given are welcome and will be put to work in service to God's kingdom.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: 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 promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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

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

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "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 word "Amen" is split across the final two staves.

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: 304, Jesus Sinners Does Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; Oh, may all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray Are not by the
 4 Come, O sin - ners, one and all, Come, ac - cept his
 5 I, a sin - ner, come to you With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
 Lord for - sak - en; Wea - ry souls who lost their way
 in - vi - ta - tion. Come, o - bey his gra - cious call;
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



And from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope
 Here their ills have per - fect heal - ing Who with hum -
 Are by Christ, the shep - herd, tak - en In his arms
 Come and take his free sal - va - tion! Firm - ly in
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words



for all who grieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 ble hearts be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 that they may live— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 these words be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 my soul re - ceive— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

6 Oh, how blest it is to know,
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By your blood and bitter passion,
 For these words I do believe—
 Jesus sinners does receive.

7 Jesus sinners does receive.
 Even I have been forgiven.
 And when I this earth must leave,
 I shall find an open heaven.
 Dying, still to him I cleave—
 Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.; tr. composite.
 Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) *Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt,
 1699, 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.

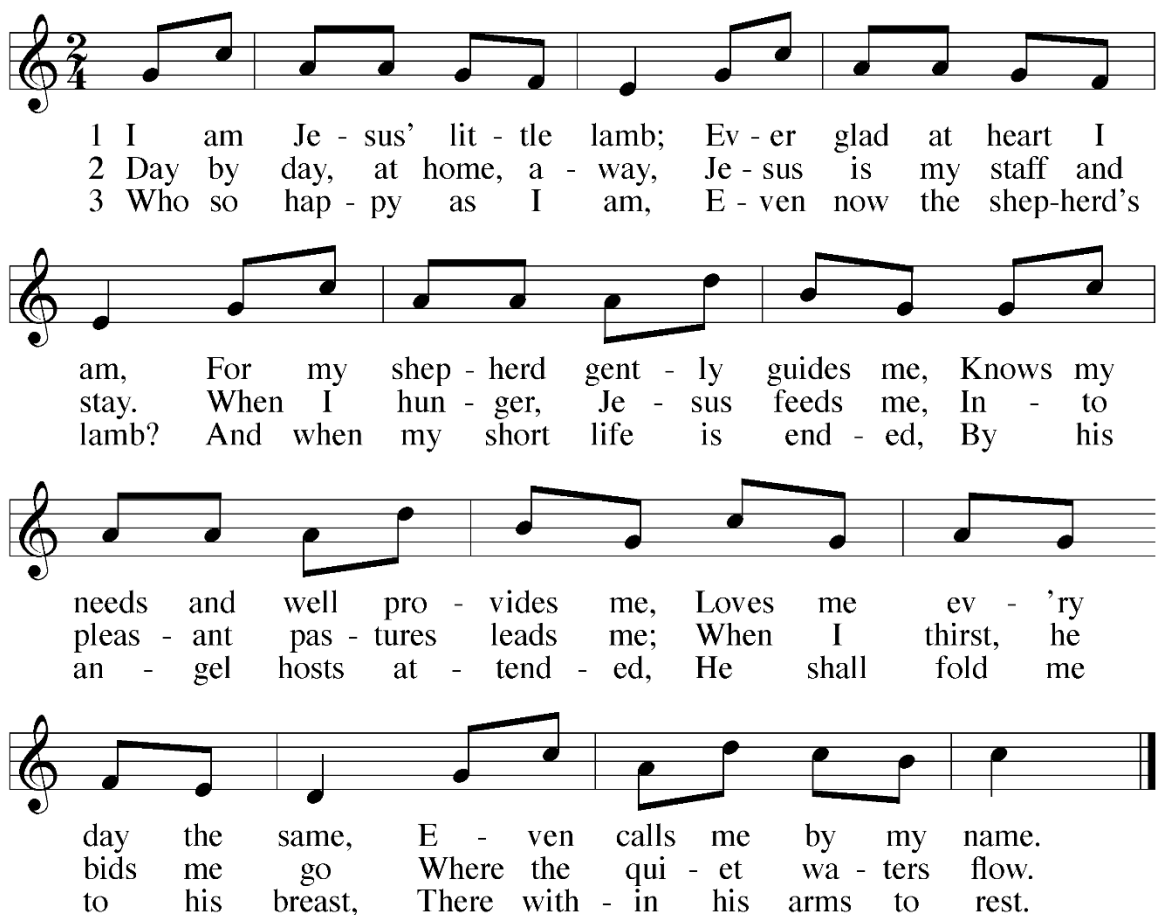
C: Amen.

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.

CLOSING HYMN: 432, I Am Jesus Little Lamb



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb; Ev - er glad at heart I
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my staff and
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the shep-herd's

am, For my shep - herd gent - ly guides me, Knows my
stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me, In - to
lamb? And when my short life is end - ed, By his

needs and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, he
an - gel hosts at - tend - ed, He shall fold me

day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.
to his breast, There with - in his arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–82; tr. composite.

Tune: WEIL ICH JESU SCHÄFLEIN BIN (77 88 77) *Choralbuch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen*, Leipzig, 1784.

Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

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

Wine and Word Bible Study – September 3rd The Wine and Word Bible Study is **studying the book of Ephesians** 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.



The Giver

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20260722/>

For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. Romans 1:20-21,25

Think of the favorite gift you received on your last birthday. Who gave it to you? Your mom or dad? Your grandma or grandpa? A favorite aunt or uncle?

Now imagine something funny. Let’s pretend you received a new video game console. You spent hours mastering the games. You maybe even lost some sleep before your mom or dad asked you to shut it down for bedtime. Here’s a silly question: Did the video game console ever tell you, “I love you!”? Did it ever give you a hug when you were sad? Did it ever thank you for playing it? Of course not. It’s just a video game! Those who gave you the game, however, love you very much! More important than the gift is the giver—the person who gave it to you. Imagine how sad your parents or grandparents would feel if you cared more about the present than about them.

Every birthday gift, every Christmas gift—in fact, everything you have comes from one Giver—God. He gave us the things we can see like food to eat, clothes to wear, homes to live in, and so much more. He gave us things like a beautiful sunset, music to enjoy, minds that can learn new things, and bodies that can run, jump, and play. As wonderful as God’s gifts are, none of them can love us back. But the Giver can. Even better, the Giver loves us so much that he gave us his only Son to forgive our sins and open heaven to us once again.

Unfortunately, people often make a mistake. They begin to love the gifts more than the Giver. The apostle Paul tells us, “For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him” (Romans 1:21). God’s creation should lead us to honor and thank him. Instead, sinners become so focused on God’s gifts that they forget the Giver. That’s called sin, and sin deserves God’s punishment. Paul warns that “the wrath of God is being revealed against all the godlessness and wickedness of people” (Romans 1:18).

Yet God did not stop loving those who loved his gifts more than him. The Giver gave the greatest gift of all—Jesus. Jesus perfectly honored his Father and took our idolatry to the cross. Because of Jesus, our sins are forgiven. Through faith, we learn to love the Giver above all his gifts.

Paul ends by saying that God is “forever praised” (Romans 1:25). Why? Because God didn’t leave us in our sins. He gave us Jesus! The Giver gave us the best gift—Jesus, the Savior from sin.

Questions to Consider;

- Who is the Giver of every good thing we have?
- Why can't a video game love you back?
- Can you name five gifts that God has given you today?
- Which gift from God are you most thankful for right now? Why?
- Paul says people forgot to thank God. Why do you think it's easy to enjoy God's gifts but forget to thank him?
- Agree or disagree: The created world we live in provides enough evidence to know that God exists. Explain your answer.

•

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.