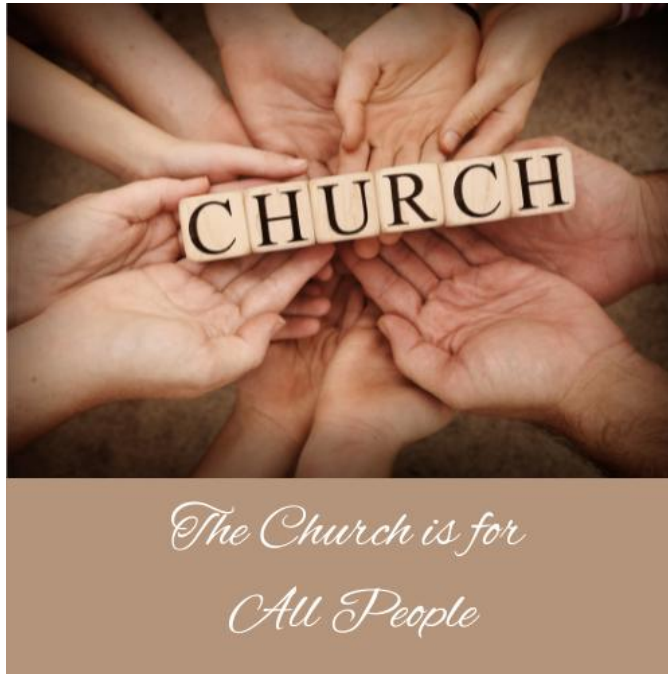




August 16, 2026

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.





Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 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 Charles Degner

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: 532, God is Here! As we his people



1 God is here! As we his peo - ple Meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us Of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come In the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of Church and King - dom, In an age of



praise and prayer, May we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace. Here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; Here, as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, Keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



What it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world a -
Here the cross has cen - tral place. Here, in hon - es - ty of
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants of the
Help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's ded - i -



round us, All our var - ied skills and arts Wait the
preach - ing, Here, in si - lence as in speech, Here, in
Ser - vant Seek in wor - ship to ex - plore What it
ca - tion, All we have to give, re - ceive; We who



com - ing of his Spir - it In - to o - pen minds and hearts.
new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
means in dai - ly liv - ing To be - lieve and to a - dore.
can - not live with - out you, We a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000. © 1979 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
Used by permission.

Tune: IN BABILONE (87 87 D) *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse . . . Contradansen*, Amsterdam, c. 1710.

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 HAVE 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:

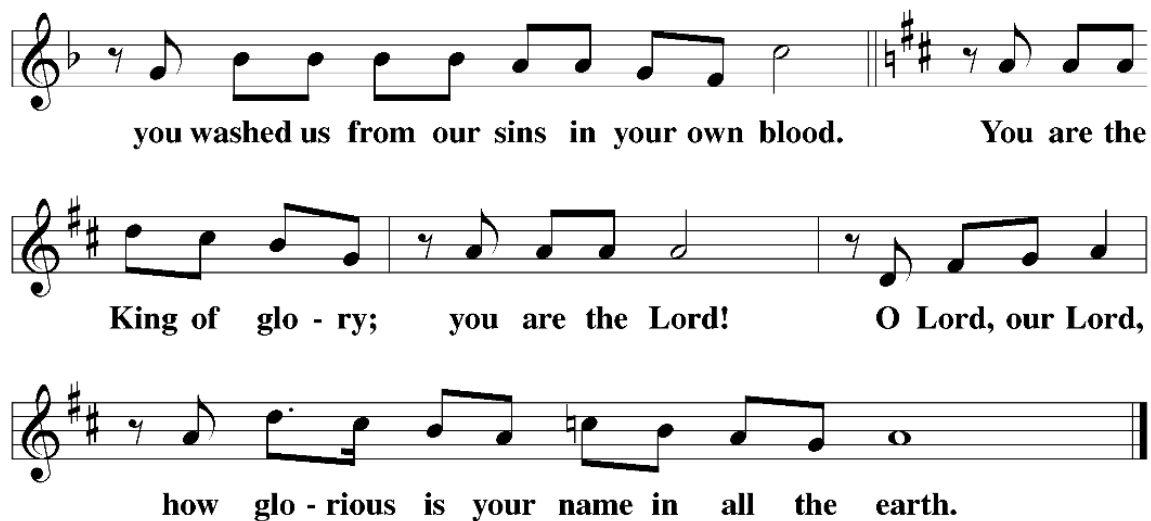
C: Amen.

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

O LORD, OUR LORD

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef. It begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes). The lyrics are printed below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The score concludes with a double bar line and a key signature change to one flat (Bb).

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;



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Be Seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹He came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord suddenly came to him, saying, “Why are you here, Elijah?”

¹⁰He said, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life.”

¹¹Then the Lord said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is passing by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains and shattered rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind.

After the wind came an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake.

¹²After the earthquake there was a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire.

After the fire there was a soft, whispering voice.

(Continued on Next Page)

¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak, and he went out and stood at the entrance to the cave. Then a voice came to him and said, “Why are you here, Elijah?”

¹⁴ He said, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life.”

¹⁵ Then the Lord said to him, “Go back the way you came and go to the Wilderness of Damascus. When you get there, you are to anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ You will also anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel and Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill, and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. ¹⁸ But I have preserved in Israel seven thousand whose knees have not bent to Baal and whose lips have not kissed him.”

PSALM: 133-134

Refrain sung together, Psalm said responsively



M: How good and pleasant it is

C: when brothers live together in unity!

M: For there the LORD bestows his blessing,

C: even life forevermore.

Refrain

M: Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD

C: who minister in the house of the LORD.

M: Lift up your hands in the sanctuary

C: and praise the LORD.

M: May the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth,

C: bless you from Zion.

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

Ephesians 2:13-22

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus, you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace. He made the two groups one by destroying the wall of hostility that divided them ¹⁵ when he abolished the law of commandments and regulations in his flesh. He did this to create in himself one new person out of the two, in this way making peace. ¹⁶ And he did this to reconcile both to God in one body through the cross by putting the hostility to death on it. ¹⁷ He also came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

¹⁹ So then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of God's household. ²⁰ You have been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the Cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you too are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

VERSE OF THE DAY:

M: Alleluia. The Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Alleluia. (*Hebrews 4:12*)

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Stand

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

M: The Gospel of St Matthew, Chapter 15

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

²¹ Jesus left that place and withdrew into the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² There a Canaanite woman from that territory came and kept crying out, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David! A demon is severely tormenting my daughter!"

²³ But he did not answer her a word.

His disciples came and pleaded, "Send her away, because she keeps crying out after us."

²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

²⁵ But she came and knelt in front of him, saying, "Lord, help me."

²⁶ He answered her, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to their little dogs."

²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she said, "yet their little dogs also eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

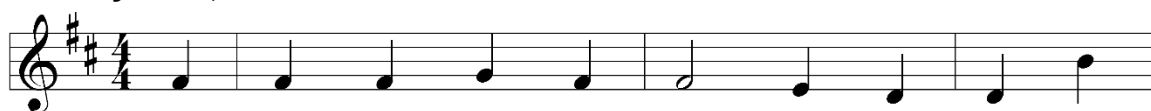
²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, your faith is great! It will be done for you, just as you desire." And her daughter was healed at that very hour.

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

Hymn of The Day: 538, The Church's One Foundation



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er
 3 The Church shall nev - er per - ish. Her dear Lord,
 4 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees
 5 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult



Christ, her Lord; She is his new cre - a - tion By
 all the earth; Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One
 to de - fend, To guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, Is
 her op - pressed, By schisms rent a - sun - der, By
 of her war She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of



wa - ter and the Word. From heav'n he came and
 Lord, one faith, one birth. One ho - ly name she
 with her to the end. Though there be those that
 her - e - sies dis - tressed, Yet saints their watch are
 peace for - ev - er - more Till with the vi - sion



sought her To be his ho - ly bride; With his own
 bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food, And to one
 hate her And strive to see her fail, A - gainst both
 keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the
 glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest And the great



blood he bought her, And for her life he died.
 hope she press - es, With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 foe and trai - tor She ev - er shall pre - vail.
 night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
 Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, abr., alt.

Tune: AURELIA (76 76 D) Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–76.

SERMON

Verse: Ephesians 2:13-22.

Theme: I Believe in the Holy Christian Church

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: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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: 526, We Are Your People



1 We are your peo - ple; Lord, by your grace
 2 How can we dem - on - strate Your love and care?
 3 Called to por - tray you, Help us to live
 4 Glad of tra - di - tion, Help us to see
 5 Joined in com - mu - ni - ty, Break - ing your bread,



You dare to make us Christ to our neigh - bors,
 Speak - ing or list'n - ing? Bat - tling or serv - ing?
 Clos - er than neigh - bors, O - pen to stran - gers,
 In all life's chang - ing Where you are lead - ing,
 May we dis - cov - er Gifts in each oth - er,



Of ev - 'ry na - tion and race.
 Help us to know when and where.
 A - ble to clash and for - give.
 Where our best ef - forts should be.
 Will - ing to lead and be led. love with our praise.

6 Lord as we minister
 In diff'rent ways,
 May all we're doing
 Show that you're living,
 Meeting your love with our praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936, alt. © 1975 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
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Tune: WHITFIELD (Irregular) John W. Wilson, 1905–92. © 1980 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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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 - jice 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: 528, Christ is Our Cornerstone



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone; On him a - lone we
 2 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall
 3 Here, gra - cious God, do now And ev - er - more draw
 4 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im -



build. With his true saints a - lone The courts of
 ring! Our voic - es we will raise The Three in
 near; Ac - cept each faith - ful vow And all your
 plore, And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us



heav'n are filled. On his great love Our hopes we
 One to sing And thus pro - claim In joy - ful
 chil - dren hear, And more and more On those who
 ev - er - more Un - til that day When all the



place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
 song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.
 pray Each ho - ly day Your bless - ing pour.
 blest To end - less rest Are called a - way!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th century, abr.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.

Tune: DARWALL'S 148TH (66 66 4444) John Darwall, 1731–89.

Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Call Meeting Scheduled! Our next call meeting is Sunday August 16th after our 9:30am worship service. Please join us for this important decision.

Sign up for Sunday School! It's time to register your students for Trinity's Sunday school program! All students in pre-K through 8th grade are welcome. Registering your students helps our Sunday school staff know how many lesson sheets, activities, and crafts to prepare for each class. You can either sign up by visiting trinityofwoodbridge.org/sundayschool or by scanning this QR code:



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.

Join us for our Fall Schedule starting Sunday, September 13th!

We are excited to return to our regular weekly schedule. Please note the updated service and education times below:

8:30 AM – Early Service

9:45 AM – Adult Bible Class & Children's Sunday School

11:00 AM – Late Service

12:00 PM – Catechism Class (7th & 8th graders)

We look forward to gathering together in worship, study, and fellowship!

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.



God's Delivery Service

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20260803/>

You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there.” So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook. 1 Kings 17:4-6

Birds are pretty good at finding food. They peck in the grass. They look for crumbs. They raid your beach picnic (we're looking at you, seagulls!). They search in trees and bushes. But in today's Bible reading, you probably noticed that the birds weren't finding food for themselves. They were working for God's delivery service! God used ravens to deliver food to Elijah.

Sounds pretty strange, right?

Elijah was a prophet who spoke God's Word during the reign of a wicked king named Ahab. Ahab didn't love the one true God and led many people away from the Lord. So, God sent Elijah with a message to show Ahab how serious his sin was: there would be no rain for a long time.

No rain meant dry ground; dry ground meant no crops; no crops meant people wouldn't have enough food. Many people and animals could starve to death! But God didn't forget about Elijah. He told his prophet to go to a special place near a brook, where clean, cool water would flow for Elijah to drink. God would even send ravens to bring food for Elijah! So, Elijah went, and God kept his promise. Every morning and evening, ravens came with bread and meat. Day after day, Elijah had what he needed.

God's care looked strange . . . it came through birds! But it was still God's care.

God still provides for us today. And he provides for us in ways you have come to expect: grocery stores, parents, friends, a teacher, a neighbor . . . so many different ways. But, at other times, God provides for us in ways we never saw coming.

This is what makes God's people different, though, just like Elijah was different from Ahab. Christians don't always know how God will provide or when he will provide. But we do know this: God will provide! God cared for Elijah near the brook. God cares for you, too. And if you ever need proof of that, remember that God provided his own Son, Jesus, as the sacrifice needed to pay for our sins. Through Jesus, God gives you what you need. Through Jesus, God gives forgiveness, life, and a home with him forever.

The God who sent birds with bread has not forgotten what his children need. And he knows why you need it. And he promises that he will always provide.

Questions to Consider

- What kind of birds brought Elijah food?
- Pretend you are a raven delivering Elijah's meal. What food are you carrying?
- What did God show Elijah by giving him food each morning and evening?
- List as many people, places and things God uses to give you what you need as you can in 30 seconds. Ready. Set. Go!
- Why can it be hard to trust God when he provides only one day at a time?
- What's the difference between trusting God to provide what we need and expecting him to give us everything we want?

•

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.