



TRINITY MERRILL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Reverend Scott Gustafson
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

TRADITIONAL SERVICE

September 21, 2025 - 8:00 AM & 6:00 PM Matins

Pastor Scott Gustafson will lead us in worship today.

OPENING HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation"

LSB 644 vs. 1-5



1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je-sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E-lect from ev-'ry na-tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der The world sees her op-pressed,
4 Through toil and trib-u-la-tion And tu-mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth has u-nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre-a-tion By wa-ter and the Word.
Her char-ter of sal-va-tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
By schisms rent a-sun-der, By her-e-sies dis-tressed,
She waits the con-sum-ma-tion Of peace for-ev-er-more
And mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho-ly bride;
One ho-ly name she bless-es, Par-takes one ho-ly food,
Yet saints their watch are keep-ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
Till with the vi-sion glo-rious Her long-ing eyes are blest,
O bless-ed heav'n-ly cho-rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
And to one hope she press-es With ev-'ry grace en-dued.
And soon the night of weep-ing Shall be the morn of song.
And the great Church vic-to-rious Shall be the Church at rest.
That we, like saints be-fore us, May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, alt. Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–76 Text and tune: Public domain

VERSICLES

A O Lord, open my lips,

C **And my mouth will declare Your praise.**

A Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C **Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

C **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. Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

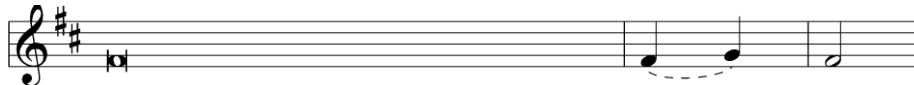
PSALMODY

A Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

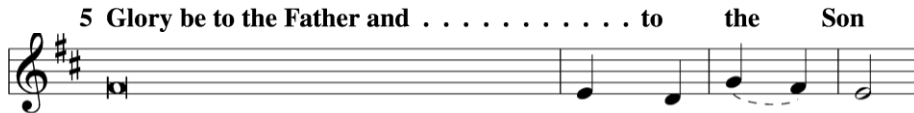
C **O come, let us worship Him.**

VENITE

LSB 220

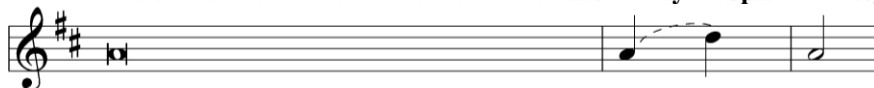


- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,



- 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.



- 5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

- 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

L Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C O come, let us worship Him.

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 2:8- 3:11

⁸“But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you.” ⁹And when I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me, and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. ¹⁰And he spread it before me. And it had writing on the front and on the back, and there were written on it words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

3 And he said to me, “Son of man, eat whatever you find here. Eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.” ²So I opened my mouth, and he gave me this scroll to eat. ³And he said to me, “Son of man, feed your belly with this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it.” Then I ate it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey. ⁴And he said to me, “Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with my words to them. ⁵For you are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel— ⁶not to many peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. ⁷But the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to me: because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart. ⁸Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces, and your forehead as hard as their foreheads. ⁹Like emery harder than flint have I made your forehead. Fear them not, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house.” ¹⁰Moreover, he said to me, “Son of man, all my words that I shall speak to you receive in your heart, and hear with your ears. ¹¹And go to the exiles, to your people, and speak to them and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God,’ whether they hear or refuse to hear.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 4:7-16

⁷But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.”

⁹(In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 9:9-13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the ninth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁹ As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.

¹⁰ And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹² But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“What is the World to Me“

LSB 730



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure
2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y
3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.
Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;
But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,
I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

- C I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

(8:00 AM) **SPECIAL MUSIC** *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”* by the Firm Foundation Ringers

ATTENDANCE / CONNECT TIME & OFFERING

During this time, please sign the attendance book found in the pew or use your mobile device to fill out the Connect Card or submit prayer requests on our app or online at www.trinitymerrill.com/live. You can also visit our app or www.trinitymerrill.com/give to learn more about other ways to support the ministries at Trinity.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

- C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

COLLECT

- A O Lord, hear my prayer.
C And let my cry come to You.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

- A O Son of God, our blessed Savior Jesus Christ, You called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist. Through his faithful and inspired witness, grant that we also may follow You, leaving behind all covetous desires and love of riches; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

COLLECT FOR GRACE

- A O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 228

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

LSB 228

P The grace of our Lord T Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

LSB 738



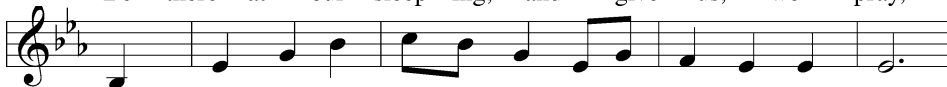
1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:
Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–53 Tune: Irish Text: © Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005698 Tune: Public domain

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Today's radio broadcast is sponsored in loving memory of Jim Downing by his friends

The Flowers on the altar today are in celebration of the 30th Wedding Anniversary of Darrel & Melissa Dengel

LWML Fall Rally -The Trinity Ladies Aid and Dorcas Society would like to invite the women of Trinity to the Zone 6 LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) Fall Rally that we are hosting on Saturday, October 11, 2025. Registration will begin at 8:15 a.m. with the rally beginning at 9:00 a.m. The registration fee of \$5.00 will provide you with rally materials and includes a luncheon which concludes the rally. The rally will feature devotions, a Bible Study on "Prayer", and a guest speaker. We hope many ladies will join us for a day of learning and Christian fellowship! Questions or to pre-register: Please call Diane Schult at 715-722-3401.

The Holiday Choir is Back! Join us each Wednesday at 6 p.m. It is open to anyone high school age or older. Plan now to come and join us as we praise the Lord through our music. Call Vicki at 715-536-2626 for questions.

New Fall Bible Study: It's not too late to join us for a Sunday morning 9:15 am Bible Class where we explore the book of Ecclesiastes! Is everything really "vanity"? Are we living "under the sun," or "under the Son"? Bring your Bible to the Fellowship Hall at church and let's discover what King Solomon says to us today!

Trinity Lutheran School Launches Operation Christmas Child Project

Bringing Joy—and Jesus—to Children Around the World

Through Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, our students and families have the opportunity to shine the light of Jesus into the lives of children across the globe—one shoebox at a time. Our goal is simple but powerful: pack 100 shoeboxes filled with love, joy, and the hope of Christ. Each box is a chance to tell a child they are seen, valued, and deeply loved—not just by us, but by their Savior.

Over the course of September and October, we'll be collecting different types of items each week to fill these shoeboxes. Congregation members can drop off donations in the Christmas box at church. Let's pack these shoeboxes full of hope... and send them off with hearts full of love. Contact the school office or Principal Scott Johnson with any questions. A list of items being collected is on the bulletin board in the narthex. **This week we are collecting Clothing & Accessories like socks, flip-flops, mittens, hats, hair ties, undergarments and also Games & Activities like jump ropes, cards, small puzzles, stickers, coloring books.** *Together, we can show the world that God's love fits perfectly in a shoebox.*

LADIES AID- The Ladies Aid will meet on Thursday, September 25th at 1:00 PM. We will be planning the Fall Mission Rally which will take place October 11, 2025.

Ladies.....Diane Kreager's Bible study will start on Thursday, October 15, at 1:00 pm in the church basement. Our new study is called, "The God of All Comfort" - lessons about hope in Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 1. 3-7.

On October 5 there will be a special door collection for Journeys Lutheran School in Hales Corners. Journeys had a flood on August 9 due to heavy rain. Watch your October newsletter for more information.

Trinity Men's Breakfast and Bible Study - Living and Leading as a Man of God

- The first Study is Saturday, October 18 (the next study will be November 15)
- The study will be on the third Saturday of each month. There will be a breakfast at 7:30, followed by the Bible study from 8-9:00 a.m. The study will take place in the fellowship hall in the basement at church
- This study will be led by either Pastor G or Pastor Jon

It doesn't matter if you're 25 or 75, it's not always easy being a Christian man in our society. Whether it's your role at work, or in your family, you face unique obligations, responsibilities, challenges, and opportunities. The good news is that, regardless of where you are in your walk with Jesus, you are not alone. Please join our new Trinity Men's Breakfast and Bible Study, where you'll spend time with other men of the congregation, enjoy breakfast and a coffee, and leave inspired by fellowship and a casual, pastor-led bible study on real-life topics relevant to men. You'll be done by 9 am and ready to kick off your weekend with a renewed purpose of what it means to be a man of God. In order to plan for the meal, please reserve your spot by calling or texting Mike Milligan at 920.265.7488 or email at mike@millipad.net, or Jesse Severt at 715.218.9351 or jessesevert@outlook.com



**THANK YOU,
SOUND SYSTEM,
LIVE STREAM, AND
PROJECTION
VOLUNTEERS!!**

We are so thankful for all of Trinity's volunteers! This month, we especially want to thank those who faithfully serve with our sound system, live stream, and projection. Your behind-the-scenes work is essential in helping our worship services run smoothly and allowing God's Word to reach both our congregation and those watching from home. We are grateful for the time, talent, and dedication you share with Trinity!