



# TRINITY MERRILL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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715-536-5482 | trinitymerrill.com

Reverend Scott Gustafson  
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

June 21, 2026 - 8:00 AM & 6:00 PM - Matins

*The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

*"Hey, God! What about CHRISTIAN FAMILIES"*

## FATHER'S DAY

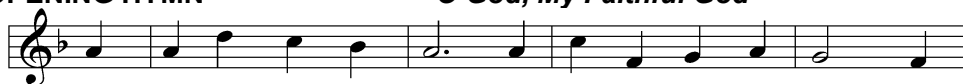
**Sharing the message with us today is Pastor Scott Gustafson and Ken Van De Zande as our Lector. Eileen Hass is our organist today.**

**AS WE GATHER:** Polls tell us that many of us live in fear and struggle with depression. Jesus calls us not to be afraid—not because we have no enemies but because He is stronger than them all. God knows the score—from every bird that falls from the sky to every hair on our head. He has invested His love and mercy in us in Christ and will not turn away from us. This promise is sure. Because of this, we can surrender our fears of being known as His children. Everyone who confesses Him on earth, Christ will confess him before His Father in heaven. From this promise comes the strength to live the new life given to us in our Baptism and to make known what Christ has done by His death and resurrection—for us and for all the world. We are called to judge not by the times but by the promises of God. Neither will He disappoint us nor will He forsake us.

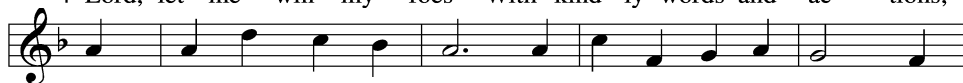
### OPENING HYMN

### "O God, My Faithful God"

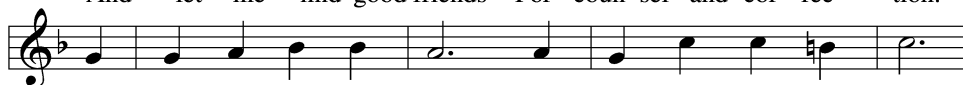
LSB 696



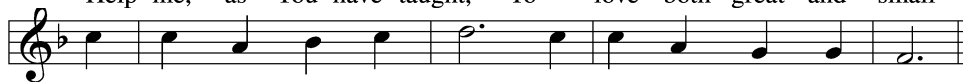
1 O God, my faith - ful God, True foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,  
2 Grant me the strength to do With read - y heart and will - ing  
3 Keep me from say - ing words That lat - er need re - call - ing;  
4 Lord, let me win my foes With kind - ly words and ac - tions,



With - out whom noth - ing is, All per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:  
What - ev - er You com - mand, My call - ing here ful - fill - ing;  
Guard me lest i - dle speech May from my lips be fall - ing;  
And let me find good friends For coun - sel and cor - rec - tion.



Give me a health - y frame, And may I have with - in  
That I do what I should While trust - ing You to bless  
But when with - in my place I must and ought to speak,  
Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small



A con - science free from blame, A soul un - stained by sin.  
The out - come for my good, For You must give suc - cess.  
Then to my words give grace Lest I of - fend the weak.  
And by Your Spir - it's might To live in peace with all.

5. *Let me depart this life  
Confiding in my Savior;  
By grace receive my soul  
That it may live forever;  
And let my body have  
A quiet resting place  
Within a Christian grave;  
And let it sleep in peace.*

6. *And on that final day  
When all the dead are waking,  
Stretch out Your mighty hand,  
My deathly slumber breaking.  
Then let me hear Your voice,  
Redeem this earthly frame,  
And bid me to rejoice  
With those who love Your name.*

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., MeiningenText and tune: Public domain

## INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Psalm 25:7, 18*

P Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!

C **Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.**

P Holy and gracious God,

C **I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver according to Your mercy and grant peace to my heart so that I may serve You with all my mind, body, and soul.**

P By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C **And also with you. Amen.**

## VERSICLES

L O Lord, open my lips,

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

L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

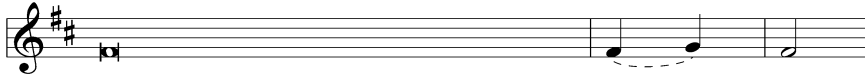
C **Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

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.**

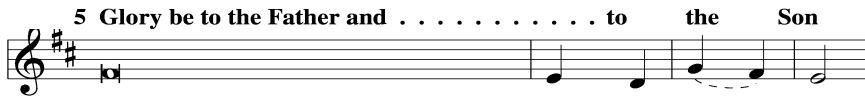
## PSALMODY

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

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



**C** 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,



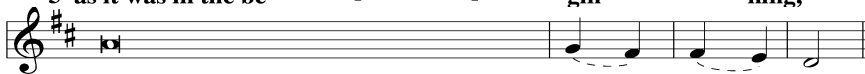
5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son

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.**

**FIRST READING**

**Jeremiah 20:7-13**

O Lord, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughing stock all the day; everyone mocks me. <sup>8</sup>For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. <sup>9</sup>If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. <sup>10</sup>For I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! "Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" say all my close friends, watching for my fall. "Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him." <sup>11</sup>But the Lord is with me as a dread warrior; therefore, my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. <sup>12</sup>O Lord of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause. <sup>13</sup>Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C Thanks be to God.**  
**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**EPISTLE READING**

**Romans 6:12-23**

<sup>12</sup> Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. <sup>13</sup> Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. <sup>14</sup> For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. <sup>15</sup> What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, <sup>18</sup> and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup> I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification. <sup>20</sup> For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup> But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup> But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL READING**

**Matthew 10:5a, 21-33**

**P** The Holy Gospel reading according to St. Matthew the tenth chapter.  
**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans.

<sup>21</sup> Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, <sup>22</sup> and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup> When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. <sup>24</sup> "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup> It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

<sup>26</sup> "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. <sup>27</sup> What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. <sup>28</sup> And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup> But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. <sup>32</sup> So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before

my Father who is in heaven,<sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

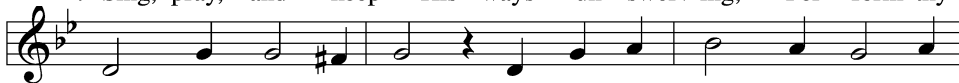
## HYMN OF THE DAY

### *“If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee”*

LSB 750 vs. 1-4 & 7



1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee And hope in  
2 What can these anx - ious cares a - void thee, These nev - er -  
3 Be pa - tient and a - wait His lei - sure In cheer - ful  
4 God knows full well when times of glad - ness Shall be the  
7 Sing, pray, and keep His ways un - swerv - ing, Per - form thy



Him through all thy ways, He'll give thee strength, what - e'er be -  
ceas - ing moans and sighs? What can it help if thou be -  
hope, with heart con - tent To take what - e'er thy Fa - ther's  
need - ful thing for thee. When He has tried thy soul with  
du - ties faith - ful - ly, And trust His Word; though un - de -



tide thee, And bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in  
vail thee O'er each dark mo - ment as it flies? Our cross and  
plea - sure And His dis - cern - ing love hath sent, Nor doubt our  
sad - ness And from all guile has found thee free, He comes to  
serv - ing, Thou yet shalt find it true for thee. God nev - er



God's un - chang - ing love Builds on the rock that naught can move.  
tri - als do but press The heav - ier for our bit - ter - ness.  
in - most wants are known To Him who chose us for His own.  
thee all un - a - ware And makes thee own His lov - ing care.  
yet for - sook in need The soul that trust - ed Him in - deed.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text and tune: Georg Neumark, 1621–81 Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON *“Hey, God! What about CHRISTIAN FAMILIES”*

### 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.**

## 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](http://www.trinitymerrill.com/live). You can also visit our app or [www.trinitymerrill.com/give](http://www.trinitymerrill.com/give) to learn more about other ways to support the ministries at Trinity. **(When filling out the attendance book – please list the names of all in attendance in your family)***

## 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

**L O Lord, Hear my prayer**  
**C And let my cry come to You.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

**L O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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

**L 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.**

1 Je - sus sat with His dis - ci - ples On a  
2 "Bless-ed are the meek and hum - ble, All the  
3 "Bless-ed are God's sons and daugh - ters, Mak - ing  
moun - tain - side one day; As the crowds of peo - ple  
earth to them is willed. Those who hun - ger to be  
peace where there is strife. Bless - ed are the per - se -  
gath - ered, He be - gan to teach and say:  
ho - ly, They are bless'd and will be filled.  
cut - ed, Who for righ - teous - ness lose life;  
"Bless-ed are the poor in spir - it, Heav - en's  
Yes, the mer - ci - ful are bless - ed, Mer - cy  
Their re - ward is great in heav - en, In the  
king - dom they will share. Bless-ed are the sad and  
will to them be shown. And the pure in heart are  
king - dom up a - bove— So be glad to share My  
mourn - ing, Joy and com - fort will be theirs.  
bless - ed, They have eyes for God a - lone.  
suf - f'ring And re - joice to know My love."

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955 Tune: Marty Haugen, 1950 Text: © 1997 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005698 Tune: © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005698

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**Today's radio broadcast** is sponsored in loving memory of Walter Zahn, Roger Hinner Sr. and Louis Marnholtz by Roger and Rebecca Hinner and family.

**The flowers on the altars** are sponsored by Deb Stadler-Gapko in memory of Don Stadler & Walter Zahn and all other fathers in heaven on this Father's Day.

**New Twin size bedding is needed!** We've got the materials for building the bunk beds – Now we are asking for your help in supporting this project with donations of new twin sized bedding. Donations can be dropped off at Trinity Church. We are also accepting cash donations to purchase bedding if you would like to help with this remarkable effort to supply children with a bed.

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Trinity is actively seeking someone to take over as Coordinator for our Scrip Program. Having some bookkeeping and computer knowledge would be very helpful. Please call the church office if this is something you would be willing to help with.

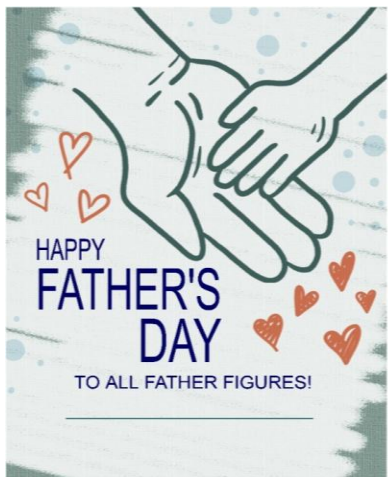
**NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH? WE'RE HERE TO HELP!** Getting to church shouldn't be a barrier to worship. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, Trinity is pleased to offer **free taxi rides to and from worship services** through Blue Jay Taxi. If you or someone you know could benefit from transportation assistance, simply call **715-921-4110** by **Wednesday** before the weekend service you plan to attend. When leaving your message, please include:

- Which worship service you will attend
- Your pick-up address
- How many people will need transportation

We are grateful for this opportunity to help connect people with God's Word, worship, and the fellowship of our church family. If transportation has been keeping you from attending worship, we encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful ministry. We look forward to welcoming you to Trinity!

## **Trinity Lutheran Church – “Living River” Concert in the Park**

Trinity Lutheran Church will be hosting the “Living River Quartet” on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at Normal Park, 500 N. Center Ave in Merrill. Bring your lawn Chairs and refreshments. Last year, two Trinity members sponsored the entire cost of this group. This year we would like to open this up to all members to help sponsor this city-wide event. Envelopes are available on the “Adopt a Bill” board. Living River’s mission is to share the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, with their music, and to proclaim His gift of salvation and eternal life. Volunteers from Aspirus Merrill Hospital will be selling hamburgers, brats, chips and soda from the concession stand. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors and enjoy this wonderful concert in the park with us.



## **Part-Time Office Coverage Opportunity**

The Trinity Office is seeking a dependable individual to provide office coverage during Robin's absence. This position offers an opportunity to support the daily operations of Trinity Church. Training will be provided. Experience with computers is helpful. If you are interested in joining our team and serving in this important role, please call the church office or stop by to learn more.

## **Trinity Community Meal – Faith, Fellowship, and Food**

Trinity will host a **Community Meal** on **Wednesday, July 15, from 4:30–6:30 p.m.** Our goal is simple: to share **Faith, Fellowship, and Food** with our community. A dedicated group of Trinity volunteers has already begun planning this event, but we will need your help to make it a success. While serving a delicious meal is important, our greatest goal is to provide something even more meaningful—**friendship**. We invite members of our Trinity family to come, sit, visit, and build relationships with those who attend. A warm smile, a friendly conversation, and a welcoming spirit can make a lasting

impact. Through these interactions, we hope to show our community the love of Christ and the welcoming nature of our congregation. The menu will feature **pulled pork with a variety of sides**, and **desserts graciously provided by the Dorcas Society**. Whether you can help prepare, serve, clean up, or simply spend time getting to know our guests, your presence can help make this event a blessing to many. We hope our Trinity family will come for dinner and help support this event.