

TRINITY MERRILL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Reverend Scott Gustafson
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

July 19, 2026 - 8:00 AM & 6:00 PM - Matins

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

“Hey, God! What about FELLOWSHIP IN THE LORD’S SUPPER”

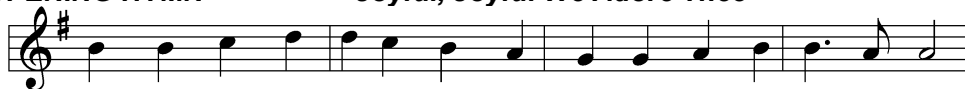
Sharing the message with us today at the 8:00 AM service will be Pastor William Trosien with Ken Van De Zande as our Liturgist. Pastor Stephen Gillet will be sharing the message at the 6:00 PM service. Eileen Hass is our organist today.

AS WE GATHER: If you have ever done a load of laundry, then you know what it feels like to come up one sock short. It is almost like some troublemaker climbed into the dryer and left only one lonesome sock behind. Our laundry is incomplete. We don’t have everything we are supposed to have, everything we started with. Our frustration grows. If we truly took stock of our lives, we would evaluate ourselves as missing more than a sock or two. Sabotaged by the enemy and suffering from our own failures, we feel frustrated and incomplete. But perfection is coming. God’s perfect Word is here to speak your forgiveness. His perfect heart pursues lost souls. And His perfect plan includes His return to make all things right.

OPENING HYMN

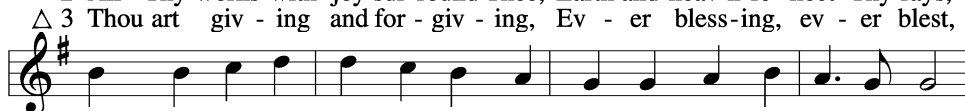
“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

LSB 803



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!

2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,

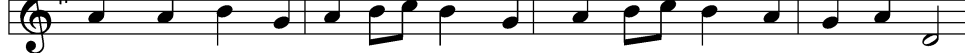


3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.

Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.

Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.

Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.

Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.

Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt. Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867 Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

C **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.**

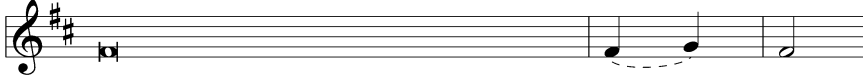
PSALMODY

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

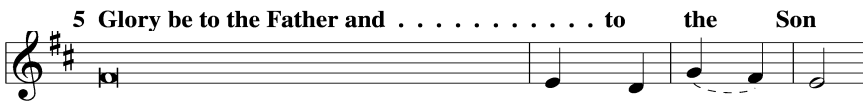
C **O come, let us worship Him.**

VENITE

LSB 220

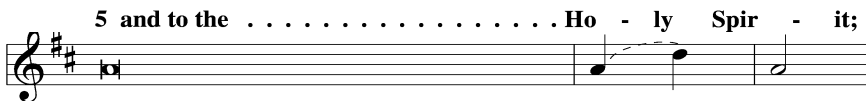


- C** 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,



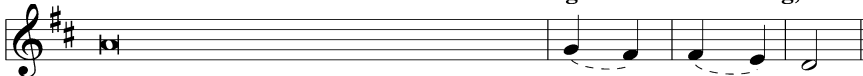
- 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

- 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

Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. ⁸Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any."

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Romans 8:18-27

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

P The Holy Gospel reading according to St. Matthew the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along

with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."³¹

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴² and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior"

LSB 619



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which
 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in
 3 Who can con - demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is
 4 Though death may threat - en with dis - as - ter, It can - not
 5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,



Thou for me didst shed, These are my life and
 Thee and Thou in me. No sor - row fills my
 nigh, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and
 rob me of my cheer; For He who is of
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy



strength for - ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.
 soul, de - light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.
 thus se - cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
 death the mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.
 prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Refrain



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig

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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

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. (When filling out the attendance book – please list the names of all in attendance in your family.) If you are a visitor and you are interested in membership, please put your email and phone number in the attendance book.

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, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; 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

- L Let us bless the Lord.

LSB 228

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

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

LSB 643

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,
The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.
The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,
The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.
The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
U-nite us as one in this life that we share.
His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing
To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.
Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97, alt. Tune: Welsh Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. 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 Georgia Kniess by her husband Dennis and her family.

The flowers on the altar today are sponsored by Dale & Sarah Sabatke in celebration of their 43rd Wedding Anniversary on July 16 and also the 94th Birthday of Honey Weber on July 18th.

Radio Broadcasts There are two Sundays in October and four opportunities in November to sponsor a radio broadcast. If you have a special celebration or want to sponsor in loving memory of someone, stop in the church office. Broadcasts are \$190.00 and bring Trinity Church to the homes of so many people.

If you are a visitor who is interested in membership at Trinity, please contact the church office or add your phone number, email and/or address to the fellowship pad. Otherwise, we have no way to reach you to talk about membership. Thank you.

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 to Trinity Church.

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 8th 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 if you would like to help sponsor this fun community event. 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.

TRINITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT Interested in enrolling your child at Trinity? Please call our school office at 715-536-7501 for more information about enrollment for the 2026-27 school year. We provide faith-based education, uphold academic excellence, emphasize service to others,

embrace Christian family values and have a compassionate staff. We are also part of the Wisconsin School Choice program and if you qualify, your child could attend Trinity for free!

As schedules shift and vacations begin, we invite you to stay connected through worship, fellowship, service opportunities, and the many ministries continuing throughout the summer months. We are grateful for your continued support of Trinity's mission and ministry. Even during the summer season, the work of the church continues each and every week through worship services, outreach, youth programs, education, and care ministries. We encourage you to prayerfully consider maintaining your regular giving throughout the summer, even if you are traveling or away from church.

For your convenience, electronic giving is available through Subsplash at:

<https://trinitymerrill.com/give> You may also continue to mail your offerings directly to Trinity. Please note that electronic giving options do include processing fees charged to the church. Subsplash giving does provide an option to help cover those fees if you choose. No matter the method, we are sincerely thankful for your faithful generosity and partnership in ministry.

Trinity Block Party – August 16 at Normal Park

**Mark your calendars and join us for the Trinity Block Party on
Sunday, August 16, from 12:00–3:00 p.m. at Normal Park!**

Bring your lawn chairs, yard games, family, friends, and neighbors for the afternoon of fun, food, fellowship, and community. This free event is open to everyone, and we would love to see you there. The day begins with a special 10:00 a.m. worship service, including a blessing of backpacks as students prepare to return to school.

Come and enjoy:

- Free meal
- Culver's ice cream
- Popcorn
- Live music
- Bounce houses
- Face painting
- Petting zoo
- Special vehicle viewings
- Sawmill beer sampling
- And much more!

Whether you're a longtime Trinity member or simply looking for a fun way to spend a summer afternoon, there's something for everyone. Come celebrate the blessings of community and enjoy a day of laughter, connection, and family-friendly fun.

For more information, visit **TrinityMerrill.com/BlockParty**.

Interested in sponsoring donuts for Trinity CAFÉ? This could be a business, family and/or individual. The cost is approximately \$75 per week or \$300 per month. If this is something you are interested in contact Dawn Teske at 715-536-7693.

Join us in welcoming our newest members to Trinity Church:

Ty Neideffer, Hunter Oppen, Preston Schuelke, and James and Sarah Schwantes