



Reverend Scott Gustafson
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Pastor William Trosien from Eagle River will be sharing the message with us 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.

PRE-SERVICE: *"King of My Heart"* Praise Team
 "How Rich A Treasure We Possess" Praise Team

WELCOME & GREETING

OPENING SONG *“Steadfast Love (Psalm 33)”*

Vs.1 *By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made
And by the breath of His mouth the heavenly host
He gathers the deep and stores them in place
The foundations were formed the moment that He spoke*

Pre-Chorus 1 *It was all at His command
So we stand in awe of Him*

Chorus *Great is Your steadfast love
Great is Your steadfast love
Forever You're reigning in beauty and splendor
Here in the waiting Lord You are the great reward
How constant Your goodness
How steadfast Your love (for us)*

Vs.2 *The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him
Those who hope in His word won't be put to shame
His promise will stand for all generations
And our hearts will be glad for we trust in His name*

Pre-Chorus 2 *And His wisdom never ends
So we stand in awe of Him*

(Chorus)

Bridge *We have seen and we believe
In Jesus Christ the love of the Father
And as we wait we trust and praise
His holy name for there is no other
(Repeat)*

Chorus *Great is Your steadfast love
Great is Your steadfast love
Forever You're reigning in beauty and splendor
Here in the waiting Lord You are the great reward
How constant Your goodness
How steadfast Your love (for us)*

Tag *How constant Your goodness how steadfast Your love
How constant Your goodness
How steadfast Your love for us*

Ending *Oh how steadfast Your love for us*

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 31:24; Hebrews 10:23; Psalm 39:7

Pastor: Be strong, and let your heart take courage,

People: **all you who wait for the LORD!**

Pastor: Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,

People: **for He who promised is faithful.**

Pastor: And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?

People: **My hope is in You.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Psalm 130:5

Pastor: Let us confess to the Lord our sins and trust in His salvation.

People: **"I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope."**

Pastor: Almighty God, You spoke a perfect world into being, yet now Your creation bears the stains and scars of our failure.

People: **"I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope."**

Pastor: We bear responsibility for the suffering around us, filling the world with evil and failing to do the good we ought.

People: **"I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope."**

Pastor: Our hearts are crushed beneath the burden of our sin and with longing for the world to be made right.

People: **"I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope."**

Pastor: Forgive us, O God, for You are faithful and just and will cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

People: **"I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope."**

Pastor: Your hope is met by the redemption and renewal of our God found in His Son, Jesus Christ, who was given to die for you, and for whose sake God forgives you all your sins. 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.

People: **Amen.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

People: Amen.

MONTHLY VERSE (Acts 1:8a)

***But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you,
and you will be my witnesses.***

SONG

“Echo Holy”

Vs.1	<i>Gathered at the highest throne Welcomed by a melody An anthem I have always known A song that’s always been in me</i>	Pre-Chorus 2	<i>All glory and honor Dominion and power To You All wisdom and wonder Belong to no other But You</i>
Pre-Chorus 1	<i>All glory and honor Dominion and power To You</i>		
Chorus	<i>A million angels fall Face down on the floor All to echo holy is the Lord My heart can’t help but sing With all of heaven roar Forever echo holy is the Lord</i>		(Chorus)
Tag	<i>Oh oh Forever echo holy is the Lord</i>	Tag	<i>Oh oh Forever echo holy is the Lord</i>
Vs.2	<i>Memorized by every heart Written in eternity Every lifted voice a part Joining in the symphony</i>	Vs.3	<i>Standing at the end of time There before the throne of grace Majesty before my eyes I’ll let it take my breath away</i>
			(Chorus-Repeat)
		Tag	<i>Oh oh Forever echo holy is the Lord (Repeat)</i>

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APOSTLES' CREED

People: 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

FIRST READING Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶ Thus 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. ⁷ Who 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. ⁸ Fear 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."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND READING Romans 8:18-27

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

²⁶ Likewise 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. ²⁷ And 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.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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, ²⁵ but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷ And 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?' ²⁸ He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But 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."'"

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.

SONG OF THE DAY

"Blessings"

Vs.1 *We pray for blessings
We pray for peace comfort for family
Protection while we sleep
We pray for healing for prosperity
We pray for Your mighty hand
To ease our suffering
And all the while You hear each spoken need
Yet love is way too much to give us
lesser things*

Chorus 1 *'Cause what if Your blessings come
through raindrops
What if Your healing comes through tears
And what if a thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know You're near
And what if trials of this life
Are Your mercies in disguise*

Vs. 2 *We pray for wisdom
Your voice to hear
We cry in anger when we cannot feel
You near
We doubt Your goodness
We doubt Your love
As if ev'ry promise from Your Word is not enough*

*And all the while You hear each
desp'rate plea
And long that we'd have faith to believe*

(Chorus 1)

Bridge *When friends betray us
When darkness seems to win
We know that pain reminds this heart
That this is not this is not our home*

Tag *It's not our home*

Chorus 2 *'Cause what if Your blessings come
through raindrops
What if Your healing comes through tears
And what if a thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know You're near
What if my greatest disappointments
Or the aching of this life
Is a revealing of a greater thirst
This world can't satisfy
And what if trials of this life
The rain the storms the hardest nights
Are Your mercies in disguise*

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MESSAGE

ATTENDANCE /CONNECT TIME / OFFERING (Instrumental) *"Blessings"*

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 include your last names and list the names of everyone in attendance in your family.)

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

"All The People Said Amen"

Vs.1 *You are not alone if you are lonely
When you feel afraid you're not the only
We are all the same in need of mercy
To be forgiven and be free
It's all you got to lean on
But thank God it's all you need*

Chorus *And all the people said amen whoa
And all the people said amen
Give thanks to the Lord for His love
never ends
And all the people said amen*

Vs.2 *If you're rich or poor well it don't matter
Weak or strong you know love is what
we're after
We're all broken but we're all in this
together
God knows we stumble and fall
And He so loved the world
He sent His son to save us all*

Chorus *And all the people said amen whoa
And all the people said amen
Give thanks to the Lord for His love
never ends
And all the people said amen*

Bridge *Blessed are the poor in spirit who are
torn apart
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure
in heart
Blessed are the people hungry for
another start
For theirs is the kingdom the kingdom of
God*

Chorus (2x)

Ending *And all the people said amen*

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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 three 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.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH? WE'RE HERE TO HELP! 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**

****How many people will need transportation to Trinity Church**

***Your pickup address**

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 Block Party – August 16 at Normal Park

Plan to join us for the Trinity Block Party on Saturday, August 16, from 12:00–3:00 p.m. at Normal Park!

Bring your lawn chairs, yard games, family, friends, and neighbors for an 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 long-time 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**.

**Join us in welcoming our newest members to Trinity Church:
Ty Neideffer, Hunter Opper, Preston Schuelke, and James and Sarah Schwantes**