



Reverend Scott Gustafson  
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

**Sharing the message with us today is Pastor Scott Gustafson. Pastor Jon Chapa is our Liturgist.**

**PRE-SERVICE:**     *“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”*     (Praise Team)     #49 Key of E  
                              *“I’ve Got A Fire”*                                     (Praise Team)     # Key of

**OPENING SONG**      *“10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)”*      #16 Key of D

**(Chorus)**  
*Worship Your holy name*  
*Lord I'll worship Your holy name*

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

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION *Matthew 14:33*

**Pastor:** Since we are here assembled to hear God's Word, to call upon Him in prayer, and to receive the body and blood of Christ, let us first think of our unworthiness; confess before God our sins of thought, word, and deed; and acknowledge also that we, by our own strength, cannot free ourselves from our sinful nature or the sins we have committed. Therefore, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy and grace of our heavenly Father, seeking and imploring Him to behold us through Jesus Christ, saying:

**People:** **God have mercy on me, a poor, sinful being, forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and grant to me the Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful ways; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, I pray. Amen.**

**Pastor:** God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting. 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.**

**Pastor:** He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People:** **Amen.**

## SALUTATION

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Pastor:** Let us pray. O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

**MONTHLY VERSE (John 13:34-35)** **"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."**

## SONG

***"The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)"***

**#76 Key of E**

**Vs.** *Father let your kingdom come (holy  
holy)  
Father let your will be done  
On Earth as in Heaven (let it be done)  
Right here in my heart  
(Repeat)*

**Bridge** *It's yours it's yours  
All yours all yours  
The kingdom the power  
The glory are yours  
  
It's yours it's yours  
All yours all yours  
Forever and ever  
The kingdom is yours  
(Repeat)*

**Chorus** *Give us this day our daily bread  
Forgive us forgive us  
As we forgive the ones who sinned  
Against us forgive them  
And lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from the evil one  
Let your kingdom come*

**(Verse with Repeat)**

**Tag** *On Earth as in Heaven  
Right here in my heart*

**(Verse with Repeat & Chorus)**

## FIRST READING

## Genesis 50:15-21

<sup>15</sup> When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." <sup>16</sup> So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: <sup>17</sup> 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup> His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." <sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. <sup>21</sup> So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

## SECOND READING

## Romans 14:1-12

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. <sup>2</sup> One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup> Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. <sup>4</sup> Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

<sup>5</sup> One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup> The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup> For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup> For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup> For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

<sup>10</sup> Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <sup>11</sup> for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."<sup>12</sup> So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

## GOSPEL READING

## Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup> And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup> So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup> He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup> And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup> So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

## SONG OF THE DAY

**"Holy Water"**

**#63 Key of D**

**Vs.1** God I'm on my knees again  
God I'm begging please again  
I need You  
Oh I need You  
Walking down these desert roads  
Water for my thirsty soul  
I need You  
Oh I need You

Take me under baptize  
I need You  
Oh God I need You oh

**(Chorus)**

**Chorus** Your forgiveness  
Is like sweet sweet honey on my lips  
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears  
Like holy water (on my skin)

**Bridge** I don't wanna abuse Your grace  
God I need it ev'ry day  
It's the only thing that ever really  
Makes me wanna change  
(Repeat 2X)

**(Chorus 2X)**

**Vs.2** Dead man walking slave to sin  
I wanna know about being born again  
I need You  
Oh God I need You  
So take me to the riverside

**Ending** Yeah it's like holy water on my skin  
Oh it's like holy water

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## MESSAGE

### NICENE CREED

**People:** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### ATTENDANCE / CONNECT TIME / OFFERING (Instrumental) **"Holy Water"**

*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 include your last names and list the names of everyone in attendance in your family.) If you are a visitor and you are interested in membership, please add your email and phone number to the attendance pad.*

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

**People:** 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.

✠ WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE ✠

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION SONGS

**"How Deep The Father's Love For Us" #103 Key of F**

**Vs.1** *How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory*

**Vs.2** *Behold the Man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished*

**Vs.3** *I will not boast in anything  
No gifts no pow'r no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom*

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**"Man of Sorrows" (Instrumental) #42 Key of D**

COMMUNION BLESSING & BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG

**"I've Got A Fire"**

**#87 Key of D**

**Vs.1** *I've got a fire that will never burn out  
I've got a song that you can't turn down  
I've got a joy deep down in my soul  
I've got joy and it overflows*

**Vs.2** *Break off the chains let the horses run  
Unleash the praise at the top of your lungs  
Right now we're living in the glory days  
Right now heaven is in this place*

**(Repeat Verse 2 & Chorus)**

**Bridge** *How could I forget  
Just how good you've been  
All your promises  
I'll sing it again and sing it again  
(REPEAT)*

**Ending** *I've got a fire that will never burn out  
(I've got a fire that will never burn out)  
(Repeat 2x)*

**Chorus** *I could sing forever  
How you freed my soul  
Freed my soul  
Freed my soul  
I could sing forever  
How you made me whole  
Made me whole  
Made me whole  
(Repeat)*

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**The radio broadcast today** is sponsored by Roger & Rebecca Hinner in celebration of the birthday of Leila Marnholtz and in celebration of all grandparents on National Grandparents Day.

**The flowers on the altar** are given to the glory of God by Chris and Heather Renzelmann and family, in loving memory of Roger & Lenore English, Gerald & Carol Duwe, Pat Renzelmann, and Vera and Renald Henriksen.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** – Join us on Wednesdays from 1:00-2:00 for Diane Kreager's bible study on The book of Ruth, "More than a Love Story"

**Can you imagine teaching your young child about Jesus Christ** without having any kind of Sunday school materials, or even a basic Bible storybook? This situation is a reality from many Lutheran churches around the world, but the Lutheran heritage foundation is helping to change that. Next Sunday, Rev. Mark Moss, LHF Mission engagement associate, will preach at our services. Please plan to join us during Bible study class as well. When Rev. Moss shows the exciting mission work LHF is doing worldwide.

**New Member Class** What are the basics of the Bible? What is a creed? How do Law and Gospel apply to my life today? What do we believe as LCMS Lutherans? If you are asking any of these, **we invite you to come to our new member class starting on September 27<sup>th</sup> @ 9:15 in the youth room.** We will have a 7-session course that will go over what we teach about Law and Gospel, the Creeds, the Means of Grace, and what our lives look like as Christians here and now. We invite anyone who is seeking to learn more about what we believe and wanting to become a new member to join us! Any questions? Talk to Pastor Jon or Dan Schneider!  
**When:** September 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:15am-10:15am **Where:** The youth room downstairs **How Long:** 7 Sessions

**Sunday Morning Bible Class** Join us at 9:15am each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall here at Trinity! This year, we'll be going through the Augsburg Confession. This historic document, written in 1530, is the foundation statement for what we Lutherans believe, teach, and confess--and why! Registration is necessary to make sure we have enough materials for you. Please contact the church to sign up.

**Join us for Trinity's next FREE COMMUNITY MEAL- Wed., Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 - 6:30.**

**The Fall Congregational Meeting is October 25 after the 10:30 service.** At that meeting, we will be electing three members to serve the next three years on the Church Council. If anyone's interested or if anyone has recommendations, please speak to Pastor G.

**Trinity Kids (Sunday School)** will begin on September 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:15-10:15 at Trinity School. Children will enjoy learning about Jesus and his love for them.

**LWML Fall Rally** will be held on September 26 at St. Paul's Pine River from 9:00-12:00. Registration begins at 8:15. Cost is \$5.00. Bring an item for their Food Pantry and stamps.

**North Wisconsin District Adult Gathering** - Make plans now to attend the NWD Adult Gathering on Tuesday, October 13 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Weston. Registration & morning refreshments begin at 9:30 a.m. with the program from 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. A catered lunch will be served at noon. Devotions will be led by District President, Rev. Timothy Shoup. Keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Brian Gauthier, who serves as managing director – global mission operations of the LCMS Office of International Mission. Rev. Gauthier will share a message on “Unpacking Lutheran Mission” providing insight and understanding of LCMS missions, the impact around the world, and how your congregation can make an impact. The \$35 registration fee includes morning refreshments, program, and a catered lunch. Registration deadline is September 25. Registration forms are available in the office and on the NWD homepage at [nwdlcms.org](http://nwdlcms.org) under ‘Events and Info’.

**GRIEFSHARE- September 14<sup>th</sup> through December 7<sup>th</sup> (Mondays) from 6:00-8:00 PM at Trinity Church.** Trinity will once again be offering Grief Support to our church and community. This support group will offer help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. At a GriefShare meeting, you will find understanding, guidance, relief, and a safe place to navigate the challenges of grief. Come join us and bring a friend. Contact us today so we have enough materials. 715-536-5482.



Trinity Dorcas will be collecting new and gently used socks for people in need during the Month of October. There will be a clothes hamper in the narthex for any size sock donations. “Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” – Hebrews 13:16



**OPEN HEARTS FOOD SHELF — VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Our Open Hearts Food Shelf is open every Wednesday and Friday from 2:00–4:00 PM, providing food to individuals and families in our community. We are looking for a few volunteers who can help pick up food on Thursday or Friday mornings and bring it to Trinity. The food will already be packaged and ready to go—no shopping required! Some muscle is helpful, as there will be boxes and food