



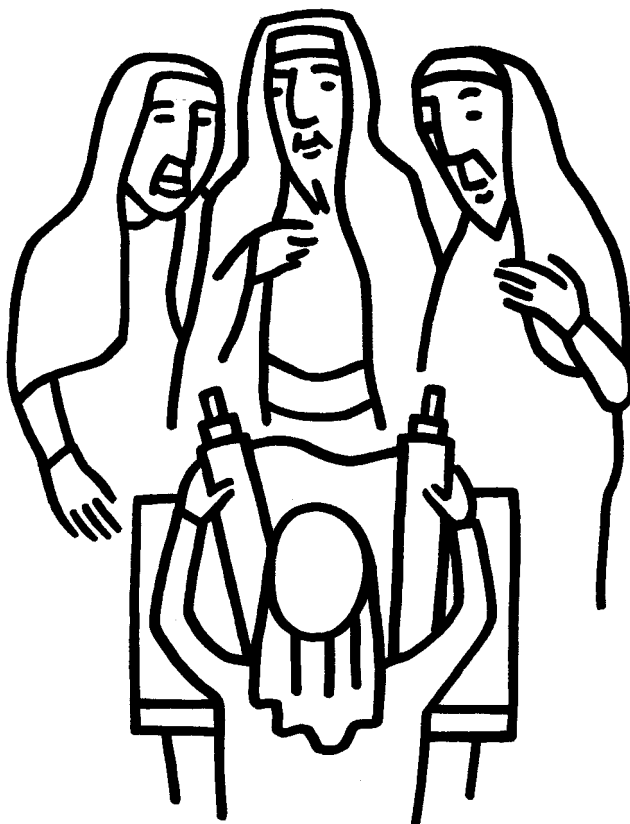
“People coming together to be The Church,
not just attend one.”

Trinity Lutheran Church is an open and inclusive
church, welcoming all who seek God.

69 Griswold Street • Hillsdale, Michigan
517-437-2647 • tlchillsdale.org

First Sunday of Christmas

December 26, 2021



**Service of Holy Communion
8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Worship**

Trinity Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING! We invite you to join us regularly for worship and in a variety of activities and opportunities in our congregational life. If you are new here, we welcome you; if you are a member of longstanding, we celebrate your gifts and your ministry among us. Our order of worship is printed on the following pages of this bulletin.

MISSION STATEMENT - The Mission Statement of Trinity Lutheran Church is to nurture faith through proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ by word, sacrament, deeds and loving relationships, to ALL people.

VISION STATEMENT - As proclaimers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Vision of Trinity Lutheran Church is to maximize our gifts and resources to reach out with God's love and serve the global community.

COMMUNION PROCEDURE - The communion table of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is open to all baptized Christians who believe that our Lord Jesus is truly present in the forms of bread and wine. Please follow the ushers' instructions at the time of distribution. Children who have not yet received first communion instruction are welcome to come forward with their families to receive a blessing.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated weekly throughout the year. No one is ever required to participate in the sacrament, but it is offered to nourish and sustain God's people. This is in accordance with Lutheran teaching:

Background 35A: The Church celebrates the Holy Communion frequently because the Church needs the sacrament, the means by which the Church's fellowship is established and its mission as the baptized people of God is nourished and sustained. This practice was reaffirmed in 1989 by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We continue to need "consistent pastoral encouragement and instruction relating to Holy Communion...pointing up Christ's command, his promise, and our deep need." For a variety of historical reasons, Lutherans in various places moved away from the weekly celebration of the sacrament.

Application 35C: Participation in the sacramental meal is by invitation, not demand. The members of the church are encouraged to make the sacrament a frequent rather than occasional part of their lives.

(Excerpts from: The Use of the Means of Grace, Principle 35)

OFFERING

Forth Sunday: Barnyard Boxes ELCA Good Gifts

The offering is collected at the beginning or end of worship using the plate at the entrance of the church. Each week, our congregation collects a general offering for the church and our ministries. Additionally, we collect an offering for special projects. If you would like to make a regular gift to the church, please place it in the offering plate. If you are looking to support our special project (noted above), please place your offering in the barnyard boxes or noisy offering buckets

Sunday, December 26, 2021

INTRODUCTION

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” It is Christmas, still.

COMMEMORATIONS: Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(8:30am: kneel/sit) Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**

Stand

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #269 vs. 1, 2 & 4

Once in Royal David's City

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed;
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

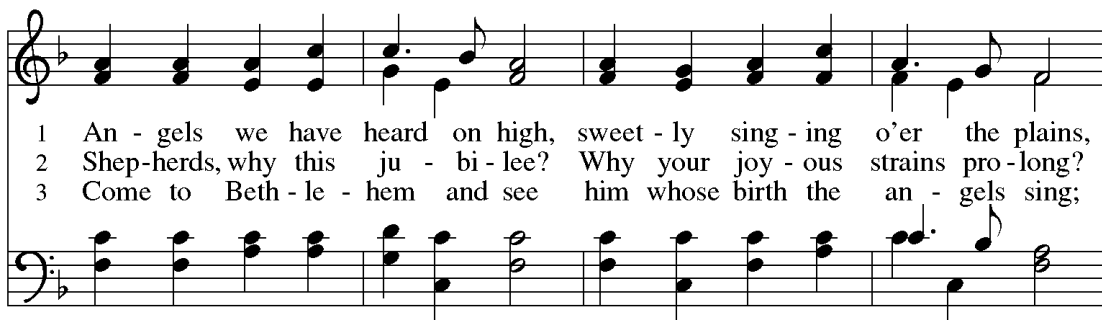
GREETING

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

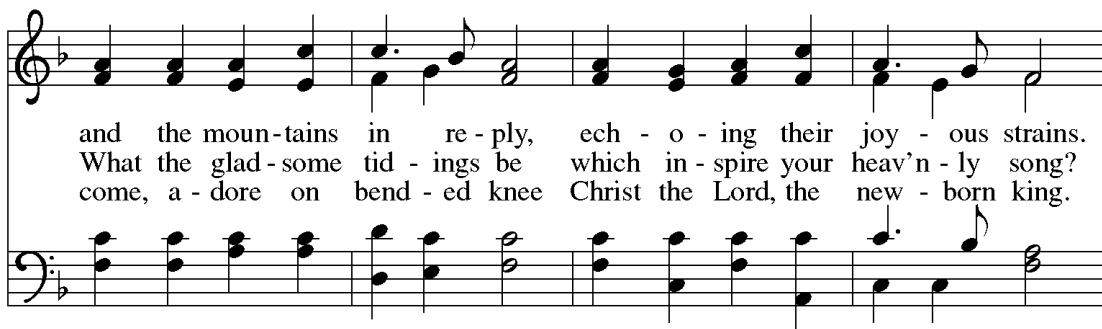
C And also with you

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW #289 vs. 1 & 3

Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sit

A A reading from 1 Samuel

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Having dedicated her son Samuel to God's service, Hannah visits him every year when she and her husband Elkanah come to the temple to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel himself gains favor in the sight of all.

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD"; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

A Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 148

The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

³Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.

⁴**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,

⁶**who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

⁹mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**

¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

¹²**young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

A A reading from Colossians

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-17

Just as newly baptized Christians in the early church were clothed with new garments upon arising from the baptismal waters, so all who have received God's gift of life in Jesus Christ are covered with the character of Christ.

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

A Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #289

Refain only see page 6

Angels We Have Heard on High

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 2nd chapter.

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

GOSPEL

Luke 2:41-52

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

Jesus grew up in a family that went to the Passover festival each year. It was in this environment of faithful adherence to the law that Jesus grew into spiritual maturity and an understanding of his identity and mission.

⁴¹Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sit

SERMON

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #293 vs. 1, 2, 5 & 6

That Boy-Child of Mary



That boy - child of Mar - y was born in a sta - ble,



a man - ger his cra - dle in Beth - le - hem.



- 1 What shall we call him, child of the man - ger?
- 2 His name is Je - sus, God ev - er with us,
- 3 How can he save us, how can he help us,
- 4 Gift of the Fa - ther, to hu - man moth - er,



What name is giv - en in Beth - le - hem?
God giv - en for us in Beth - le - hem.
born here a - mong us in Beth - le - hem?
makes him our broth - er in Beth - le - hem.

5 One with the Father,
he is our Savior,
heaven-sent helper
in Bethlehem.

6 Gladly we praise him,
love and adore him,
give ourselves to him
in Bethlehem.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A You come to us in gatherings of your church across the globe. Unite us with those who celebrate your birth even when they are weighed down by grief, loss, poverty, hunger, or injustice. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You come to us in the diverse splendor of the universe. Grant us the humility to trust our place in the network of creation, that we live in service to you and the natural world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You come to us through relationships of many kinds: families, friendships, communities, and nations. Guide us in these relationships, that we recognize the Christ child in one another and show your love to those most vulnerable. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You come to us through people whom the world forgets. Poor shepherds and an imprisoned Paul announced your good news. Send your Spirit to all who are imprisoned, struggling with addiction, unwell, or in any need this day (*especially*). Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You come to us in acts of justice and forgiveness. Open our hearts to forgive one another, without permitting injustice. Supply us with the wisdom to be clothed with love, binding all things together in perfect harmony. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A You come to us through those who have died yet live with you forever (*especially*). We give thanks for Stephen, deacon and martyr, who gave his life to tell the story of your love. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical notation is for a single melodic line in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four staves of music, each with lyrics underneath. The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some half notes. There are repeat signs at the end of the first and second staves.

P It is indeed right our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

The musical notation is for a single melodic line in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D, F#). It consists of four staves of music, each with lyrics underneath. The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some half notes and a full note. There are repeat signs at the end of the first and second staves.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word
take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on
earth..

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the
Most High, one God, now and forever..

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION ELEMENTS

Gluten-free communion bread and grape juice are available upon request. Simply tell the usher as communion is distributed.

Please do not consume the elements until instructed to do so after the elements have been distributed to the entire congregation.

Those receiving communion may remove their masks.

P The body of Christ, given for you.

C ***All those receiving communion may remove their masks and are invited to consume the bread.***

P The blood of Christ, shed for you.

All those receiving communion are invited to consume the wine or grape juice.

BLESSING ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT RECEIVE COMMUNION

Parents or family members may choose to make the sign of the cross on the foreheads of children or individuals in their family group that do not receive communion

P The Lord bless you and keep you as beloved children of God. ✠ Jesus loves you.

C **Amen.**

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

Pastor: You and I have been partners in the mission of Trinity Lutheran Church for nine years. It is now time to give thanks for the life we have shared in Christ. It is also time for us to say goodbye as the Spirit has called me into a new ministry, as a Pastor in New Jersey. I have found our time together rewarding and memories of what we have shared will always be precious to me. You have taught me so much and I am grateful to God for our time together. People: The Lord is loving to everyone; God's compassion is over all God's works. All your works praise you, O Lord, and your faithful servants bless you. (Psalm 145:9-10)

Pastor: Let us thank God for these years of partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pastor and People: We give you thanks for your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all people. For our partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for the Spirit that has empowered us to witness, we give you praise. In the name of the Creator, Savior, Spirit God we pray. Amen

Pastor: Dear friends, you have allowed me to share the responsibilities of the ordained ministry in your midst. At the beginning of our ministry, you presented me with symbols expressing my special role among you. It is time for me to return to you what you have lent me. I was called among you to baptize. Here is water which symbolizes God's gift of belonging in Christ. (A vessel of water is given to a lay leader)

People: There is one Lord, one faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all.

Pastor: I was called among you to proclaim the Good News. Here is the Bible that expresses this call. (A Bible is presented to a lay leader)

People: Thanks be to God for the Good News of Christ.

Pastor: I was called among you to lead worship and preside at Holy Communion. Receive now this chalice as a symbol of our worship life. (A chalice is presented to a lay leader)

People: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Pastor: I was called among you to teach. Here is Luther's Small Catechism which represents this call. (The Small Catechism is presented to a lay leader)

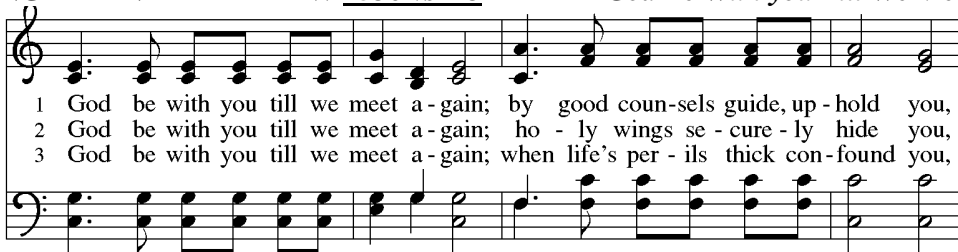
People: Thanks be to God for the life-giving Word.

Pastor: And now, it is time for me to say farewell. I ask that in your love and commitment, you send me forth with a blessing.

People: We send you forth with our blessing. The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace both this day and forever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW #536 vs 1-3

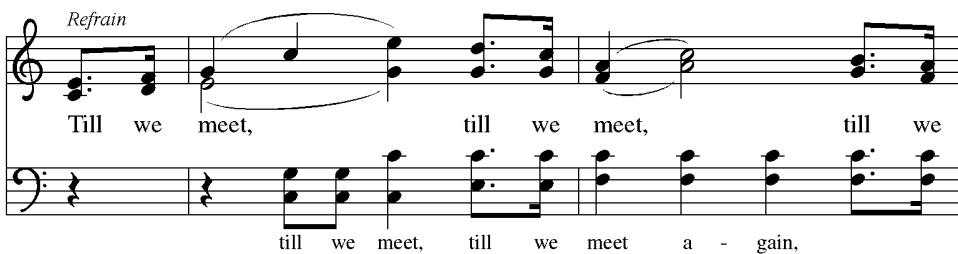
God Be With you Till We Meet Again


1 God be with you till we meet a-gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a-gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a-gain; when life's per - ils thick con-found you,

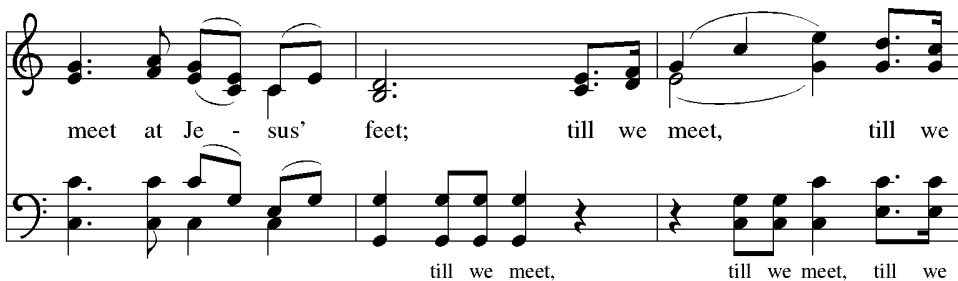


with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
 dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain



Till we meet, till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain,



meet at Je - sus' feet; till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet, till we



meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 meet a - gain,

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SERVING AT TRINITY

Ministers: Every member of the congregation **Council President:** Suzanne Sponsler

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Hahn

Vice-President: Joe Painter

Piano/Keyboard: Paul Lucas

Treasurer: Chris McNamara

Parish Secretary: Chris McNamara

Secretary: Sandra Dufur

Council Members: Johncie Langston, Norma Ludlow, Brad Otterbein, Gene Stockford-Shively, and Tom Walworth.

SERVING TODAY:

11:00 AM

Assisting Minister: Chris McNamara

Ushers: Phyllis Klingler, Tom Stockford- Shively

BOTH SERVICES

Altar Guild: Tom Stockford-Shively

Offering Counters: Suzanne Sponsler and Phyllis Klingler

FLOWERS – The flowers on the altar today are given by Tom & Gene Stockford Shively & Cathy Shivley

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