The Festival of Holy Trinity Rev. Jonathan D. Meyer, Pastor Pastor Meyer-(979) 540-7973 Our website – www.trinity-stjames.org

The Elder-in-Charge – Martin Schubert

Color-WHITE [Holiness, innocence, and purity] Our email address – lexington.fedor.lcms@gmail.com Church-(979) 773-2634

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - FEDOR

The Organist – Kevin Patschke

The Organist – Kevin Patschke

The Head Usher – Allan Urban

The Altar Guild – Mary Ann Blair, Lynn Cain

The Flowers – To the glory of God in honor and in loving memory of our congregation's fathers in celebration of Father's Day.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH - LEXINGTON

The Elder-in-Charge – David Clifford

The Acolyte – Boone Brockenbush

The Head Usher – Wesley Boriack

The Finance Board – Ryan Brockenbush, Jeremy Brown, Tom Kleinschmidt, Clyde Lay Curtis Yurk, Victor Yurk

The Altar Guild – Debra Phillips, Gloria Brockenbush

The Flowers – To the glory of God in honor and in loving memory of our congregation's fathers in celebration of Father's Day.

<u>**TO OUR VISITORS</u>** - In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bid you welcome. May the Holy Spirit bless you, together with us, as we give our attention to the Word of God this morning. *** Please sign the <u>GUEST REGISTER</u> [*please also include your address*] in the <u>NARTHEX</u> as you leave the church.</u>

HOLY COMMUNION STATEMENT AND POLICY: It is our expressed belief, confidence and joy that the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, present under the bread and wine, are distributed in the Lord's Supper. All who commune at His altar are to be in complete confessional agreement with the other communicants. This practice of Closed Communion is an evangelical expression of our love for the communicant and for Christ's Holy Supper. In accordance with the Word of God in 1 Corinthians 1:10; 11:27-29, we only permit members of this congregation, as well as members of fellow Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod congregations, to commune today. If your membership is with a different faith group, so that you have a belief which differs from our belief and confession on Holy Communion, then we kindly ask you in love to refrain from communing today and first speak with Pastor or an Elder. Members of our congregation who wish to commune are asked to sign the communion registration sheet in the Narthex.

OUR WORSHIP THIS MORNING

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION - PAGE 15 IN THE FRONT OF THE HYMNAL.

(Our visitors are asked to please read and honor our communion statement above.)

SILENT PRAYER upon entering the nave: Loving heavenly Father! I have come to hear Your Holy Word that makes the soul righteous. So then, put Your Holy Spirit in my heart that I may accept Your Gospel with awe and truly believe it. Amen.

SUMMARY OF TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

The Holy Trinity Reveals Himself to Sinners When Isaiah beheld the glory of the Lord, he cried out "Woe is mel" (Isaiah 6:5) For the sinner cannot stand in the presence of a holy God and live. But God the Father lifted up His Son Jesus for us on the cross, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. This eternal life of Christ is given us according to the Holy Spirit's good pleasure in Baptism. "Unless one is born [from above] of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." (John 3:5) To sinners in fear of death, the messengers of God place on our lips the living body and blood of Christ and speak His words of absolution, "Your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." (Isaiah 6:7) Having received forgiveness and life from the Father through the Son by the Holy Spirit, we join with the angels in praising the blessed Trinity: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!" (Isaiah 6:3) "For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen." (Romans 11:33-36) (lcms.org/lectionary-summaries)

READING FROM THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS

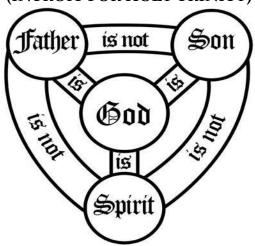
Summary: As Trinitarian, Creedal Christians, we believe in, worship and confess one God in three persons – God the Father and God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

[God the] Father, Son, and Holy Spirit [are] three distinct persons in one divine essence and nature, [and so] are one God, Who has created heaven and earth.

The Father is begotten of no one; the Son [is begotten of] the Father; the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and [the] Son.

Neither the Father nor the Holy Spirit but the Son [of God] became man. (Smalcald Articles, Article 1: The Nature of God; Article 2: The Father; Article 3: The Son)

BLESSED BE THE HOLY TRINITY AND THE UNDIVIDED UNITY. LET US GIVE GLORY TO HIM BECAUSE HE HAS SHOWN HIS MERCY TO US. (INTROIT FOR HOLY TRINITY)



The Shield of the Blessed Holy Trinity teaches the Doctrine of the Trinity: The above Trinitarian symbol visually teaches us about the mystery of the Godhead. The upper left-hand Father, the upper right-hand Son and the lower Holy Spirit all point to the middle: God. Therefore, the Father is God, the Son is God and the Holy Spirit is God. The outer band teaches us that the Father is not the Son, the Son is not the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit is not the Father. And so we worship One God in Three Persons, Blessed Holy Trinity!

† IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT † PRE-SERVICE MUSIC RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL (CALL TO WORSHIP) WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: 🎜 243

PREPARATORY SERVICE OF CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION AND SERVICE OF THE WORD [PAGE 15 TO 23, FRONT OF HYMNAL]

INTROIT (ENTRANCE INTO THE SERVICE OF THE WORD)

PASTOR: Blessed be the Trinity and the undivided Unity. **CONGREGATION:** Let us give glory to Him because He has shown mercy to us.

P: O Lord, our Lord,

C: how majestic is Your Name in all the earth!

P: You have set Your glory above the heavens.

C: Out of the mouth of babies and infants, You have established strength.

P: When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,

C: the moon and the stars, which You have set in place,

P: what is man that You are mindful of him,

C: and the son of man that You care for him?

P: Yet You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings

C: and crowned him with glory and honor.

P: You have given him dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet.

C: O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your Name in all the earth! (Liturgical verse; Psalm 8:1-6, 9)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in the faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C: J Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – ISAIAH 6:1-7

P: ^{6:1} In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the temple. ²Above Him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!" ⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" ⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C:** Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29

P: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

C: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His Name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

P: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters.

C: The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

P: The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

C: The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

P: The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in His temple all cry, "Glory!" **C:** The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as King forever.

P: May the Lord give strength to His people!

C: May the Lord bless His people with peace!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

HYMN: 🎜 249

EPISTLE LESSON – ROMANS 11:33-36

P: ^{11:33} Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways! ³⁴ "For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been His counselor?" ³⁵ "Or who has given a gift to Him that he might be repaid?" ³⁶ For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

TRIPLE HALLELUJAH AND READING OF THE GOSPEL LESSON – JOHN 3:1-17 C: J Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter.

C: ♫ Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

P: ^{3:1} Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a Teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with Him." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹Nicodemus said to Him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, We speak of what we know, and bear witness to what We have seen, but you do not receive Our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except He Who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: J Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

ATHANASIAN CREED (CONFESSION OF FAITH) [PAGE 53]

HYMN OF THE DAY: 5 245

SERMON: WE CONFESS GOD THE HOLY TRINITY AND CHRIST OUR LORD IN THE ATHANASIAN CREED – ATHANASIAN CREED

"Blessed be the Holy Trinity and the undivided unity." (Liturgical text) Amen.

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. What a wonderful faith we have as Christians! We believe and confess the one true Christian faith before God and man since it's been given to us by our gracious Father to profess to all. The crux of our faith; the Truth of God which we affirm is that "we are justified before God, through faith in Christ, when we believe that our sins are forgiven for [Jesus'] sake." (Augsburg Confession, Article 24: The Mass, 28)

How good it is to be Trinitarian creedal Christians! We don't hold to religious convictions from within us or from some other sinful, fallen source, but from God alone – Holy Scripture alone. It was our Lord Jesus, after all, Who asked His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" (Mt. 16:15) We, the Church, have been devoutly and

resolutely answering our Lord's call to confess Him ever since from Holy Scripture. Alongside St. Peter, we declare: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!" (Mt. 16:16) in the words of The Apostles', The Nicene and the Athanasian Creeds.

It's a great privilege to confess the Athanasian Creed – the 5th-century Creed of the Church named in honor of the Church Father Athanasius who was a champion and defender of the Doctrine of the Holy Trinity and the eternal deity of Jesus Christ during the previous century. The Athanasian Creed consists of two distinct parts or halves. The first part of the Creed states the teaching of the Trinity in great detail. The second half gives a clear and strong pronouncement on the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ, teaching the proper relation between His divine and human natures.

This longest of the Creeds shields and saves us from several soul-dooming heresies or false doctrines about the Holy Triune God which will forever condemn all who believe them. One such heresy is known as Sabellianism or Modalism. It's a terrible teaching which denies the distinct, personal existence of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit – that they're three separate, distinct Divine Beings – which they most certainly are! Modalism claims that the three persons are merely modes or manifestations of one God. Not one God in three Persons, as we believe, but one God who wears the masks of or plays the roles of Father, Son and Spirit. This sounds absurd to us, yet sadly I have a niece who believes it.

The Athanasian Creed also protects us from a heresy known as tri-theism. Tri-theism is the unbiblical belief that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are separate-and-distinct Gods, so that there are three Gods, not one. This false teaching is a core-belief of the Mormons, or as I call them, the false Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The truth of the matter is that "there are not three Gods, but one God."

The second half of the Athanasian Creed declares the Biblical truth that Christ the Lord was "incarnate by the Holy Ghost," (Nicene Creed) so that He assumed unto His divinity a human body and soul just like ours. "It is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ," we confess.

So it's a matter of faith and eternal life that we don't doubt but firmly believe that the Son of God "assumed the human nature in the womb of the blessed virgin Mary. [In our Lord Jesus] there are two natures – the divine and the human – insuperably joined in one person." (Augsburg Confession, Article 3: The Son of God, 1-2) Which makes Jesus fully God and fully man – one Christ, not two Christs, "one…not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God."

To believe and confess Jesus as true God and true man is to confess Him as Lord and Savior. It's a Christian distinctive to believe and confess that He's our everlasting Lord and God – eternally-begotten of the Father Almighty. No one outside of Christianity believes this. All other religions deny the eternal divinity of Jesus, along with His assumed humanity. They don't have Him as their Savior; they don't have the true faith. We do have Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. We believe in Him and know Him aright. All glory be to God alone for this!

It's also a matter of faith and salvation that we believe that the Holy Son of God died on the cross to make complete satisfaction for all our sins and rose again in order to open heaven to us. As it's written: He "was delivered up unto death for our trespasses and raised for our justification." (Rom. 4:25)

At this point the Athanasian Creed protects us from two major Christological heresies that deny Jesus Christ. One of these false teachings about the Lord Jesus is that He stopped being divine and became a mere man in the Incarnation. Or, that Jesus was never really divine at all. The second heresy denies that God's Son became man as well, so that He's only divine. As God from eternity and man in time, our Lord Jesus never changed His deity into humanity like a caterpillar changes into a butterfly. Instead, Christ the Lord became man while remaining fully God. "The Word became flesh and dwelled among us." (Jn. 1:14) "Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: [Christ] appeared in the flesh." (1 Tim. 3:16) Holy, pure, sinless, righteous, perfect God; holy, pure, sinless, righteous, perfect man as well!

When we confess that Jesus is "equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity," we're not demeaning the Son of God or robbing Him of His glory as God. Jesus in His divinity is everything that the Father is, except the Father Himself. The Son isn't the Father. He's God together with the Father. Certainly Jesus' human nature isn't the same as His divine nature. But neither does the Creed put down His humanity. This is important to understand. Jesus is equal to the Father according to His divine nature. He's one-with-us and so less than the Father according to His human nature. And He'll remain this way forever as our Lord.

So we steadfastly reject a Jesus Who's only God and not man or only man and not God or half-God, half-man or anything like that. In Jesus' supernatural conception, His mother Mary is the one who gives Him – the Second Adam – the dust of the First Adam. And so the Divine takes on the dust, the DNA of flesh.

In the Athanasian Creed we also say "no" to any confusion of the substance of Jesus' divinity and humanity. His divinity isn't mixed with His humanity, nor can it ever be. The one nature is completely separate from the other, yet all that makes Jesus man is completely and inseparably joined with Who He is as our God, so that "God and man is one Christ." "In [Christ] the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily." (Colossians 2:9) We learn in the Small Catechism: "The divine and human natures are united in Jesus Christ. This Personal Union began when He became man and continues forever."

This Personal Union of God and man in our Lord Jesus is a great mystery that we'll never fully comprehend on earth – just like we can never fully comprehend the Doctrine of the Trinity. Both Biblical teachings about our God are simply impossible for our human minds to grasp and understand, which proves that we didn't invent them. Trust that your loving Lord teaches these heavenly doctrines to you Himself – so that you believe them by faith alone and are comforted by them always.

Having confessed Who Jesus is, we next profess all that He's done for us as our Savior. Christ assumed the human nature in order to redeem us in our human nature. That which He took on, that's what He's saved! He took on all that we are in our humanity, but was without sin. Our Redeemer took upon Himself all that we are as human beings in order to save the whole of who we are as sinful beings. As we confess: Jesus "suffered for our salvation." According to His human nature, Christ suffered, bled and died for you. Only God could pay for the sins of the whole world according to His holiness and mighty power as God. Only in the flesh could Jesus be slain for us sinners. He's our sacrificial Lamb – the holy substitute which God the Father's righteousness demanded for our pardon and salvation. Christ the Lamb of God is slain and condemned for your sin – you are not!

All that your Savior God has done according to this Creed He's done for you! Believe this with all your heart by faith alone in Jesus! The exalted Christ descended into hell for you, announcing His and your eternal victory over death, devil and hell! He rose from the grave, assuring you of your resurrection with His own. Jesus ascended on high to His Father for you, yet is present everywhere according to His deity and His humanity. So you can be sure that you partake of His true body and blood at His altar.

Jesus' position in heaven is one of all power and authority "at the right hand of the Father," and we're promised and we believe that He'll come to judge the living and the dead on the Last Day.

The Athanasian Creed concludes with two key declarations. First, we'll all have to give an account of ourselves before God concerning our actions on Judgment Day. Then we, His faithful ones, who've done good, will enter into eternal life. Wicked evildoers will suffer in eternal fire. Christianity has never taught that we're saved by our own good works. So we're not confessing here that salvation is by the work of man, but by God's grace alone through faith alone in Jesus. So joyfully confess these concluding words of the Creed as Christ's saving action for you! For as we must stand before our Maker and answer for all the wrong we've done, how-much-more will Christ our Advocate and Defender stand by us and speak of His holy deeds done to save us from our sins and the Law's demands!

All that your Savior Jesus has done for you, which you heartily confess in the Creeds – that, O Christian, is what gives you everlasting life with the one true God! Instead of bringing you to heaven – which only Jesus' good work upon the cross will do, your good works serve as proof that your faith in Christ is living, genuine, (See TLH 377:9) and pleasing to God. Those who're evil are unbelievers who have no good works because they have no faith in God. Your faith in Christ is strong and living. He has made it so, and He justifies and saves you by it!

An ironclad statement made three times in the Athanasian Creed ends it: "This is the catholic [or the one true Christian] faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved." All who believe what God has given them to believe, confess and be saved by in Holy Scripture will live with Him forever. To reject faith in the Holy Triune God and in the deity and humanity of Jesus Christ is to refuse God's salvation. So faithfully and firmly believe the Doctrine of the Holy Trinity and the Doctrine of Jesus Christ! Be saved by God the Holy Trinity forever and ever! Amen. In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OFFERTORY (ANTHEM PRECEEDING THE OFFERING OF TITHES) [PAGES 22-23] OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: LITANY TO THE HOLY TRINITY

P: Lord, have mercy. C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Christ, have mercy. C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy. **C:** Lord, have mercy.

P: Blessed Trinity, C: hear us.

P: Adorable Unity, C: graciously hear us.

P: God the Father of Heaven, **C: have mercy on us.**

P: God the Son, Savior of the world, C: have mercy on us.

P: God the Holy Spirit, Comforter, **C: have mercy on us.**

P: Holy Trinity, One God, C: have mercy on us.

P: Father from Whom are all things, Son of God through Whom are all things, Holy Spirit in Whom are all things, Holy and undivided Trinity, **C: have mercy on us.**

P: Father everlasting, only-begotten Son of the Father, Spirit Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Coeternal Majesty of Three Divine Persons, **C: have mercy on us.**

P: Father, the Creator, Son of God, the Redeemer, Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier, C: have mercy on us.

P: Holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth, Who is, Who was, and Who is to come, God Most High, Who inhabits eternity, to Whom alone is due all honor and glory, Who alone does great wonders, Power infinite, Wisdom incomprehensible, Love unspeakable, Mercy unending, **C:** graciously hear us, **O** Holy Trinity.

P: From all evil, from all sin, from all pride, from all love of riches, from all unclean-ness, from all sloth, from all inordinate affection, from all envy and malice, from all anger and impatience, from every thought, word, and deed contrary to Your holy Law, from everlasting condemnation, **C: deliver us, O Holy Trinity.**

P: Through Your almighty power, through Your plentiful loving-kindness, through the exceeding treasure of Your goodness and love, through the depths of Your wisdom and knowledge, through all Your unspeakable perfections, **C: deliver us, O Holy Trinity.**

P: We sinners C: beseech You to hear us.

P: That we may ever serve You alone, **C: we beseech You to hear us.**

P: That we may worship You in spirit and in truth, C: we beseech You to hear us.

P: That we may love You with all our heart, with all our soul, and with all our strength; that, for Your sake, we may love our neighbor as ourselves; that we may faithfully keep Your holy Commandments; that we may never defile our bodies and souls with sin; that we may go from grace to grace, and from virtue to virtue; that we may finally enjoy the sight of You in Glory; that You would hear us according to Your Grace, O Blessed Trinity, **C: we beseech You to deliver us.**

P: O Blessed Trinity, C: we beseech You to save us.

P: O Blessed Trinity, C: have mercy on us.

P: Lord, have mercy, C: Christ, have mercy. P: Lord, have mercy. C: Amen.

P: O Father, look with kindness and compassion on our fellow members and others in their time of need: _____. Grant them Your divine protection, grace to endure their afflictions and Your healing and restoration, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: O Lord our God, Creator of heaven and earth, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have revealed Yourself as a heavenly Father to all of Your children by faith. Bless, we pray, all earthly fathers. Strengthen them to nurture, protect and guide the children entrusted to their care. Instill within them the virtues of love and patience. May they be slow to anger and quick to forgive. And through the ministrations of Your Holy Spirit, may all fathers be strong and steadfast examples of faithfulness, responsibility and loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR [PAGES 24-31]

PROPER PREFACE (LORD'S SUPPER OPENING PRAYER) FOR FESTIVAL OF HOLY TRINITY

P: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, Who with Your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, one Lord. In the confession of the only true God, we worship the Trinity in person and the Unity in substance, of majesty co-equal. Therefore with angels and arch-angels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, ever more praising You and saying:

COMMUNION HYMNS: J 240, 246, 239

CLOSING HYMN: J 244

\dagger TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY \dagger

FRIDAY

*Pastor's Day Off

***We remember in our prayers:...<u>at Holy Trinity</u>...Frank Newkirk, Eldor Brade, Monroe Brade, Carolyn Nitsche;...<u>at St. James</u>...Clarence Symmank, Curtis Yurk, Charles Hartfiel, Della Biehle, Bernice Lay, Darvin Drosche, Tom Kleinschmidt, Ronnie Iselt, Egor Raines, Genell Boettcher, Ernest Biehle, Charles Kaiser, Ginger Clifford, Walter Dube Jr., Lorine Lerche, Gloria Evans [mother-in-law of Randall Sullivan (St. James)], Diane Sommers [sister of Janet Frosch (St. James)], Zachary Hartfiel [nephew of Charles Hartfiel], JoAnne Meyer [mother of Pastor Meyer], Carole Heller [mother of Juanita Clifford (St. James)], and all of our sick and shut-ins.

+++<u>Holy Trinity</u>...would like to THANK the Ladies Aid for their generous donation from their recent Turkey Dinner to the congregation's restoration/building fund!!! Many thanks!

***Shelving needed: We are looking for a couple shelving units to use for craft supplies in the classrooms at St. James. If anyone has some available and in good condition, please contact Ruth Meyer or Brittney Brockenbush. Thank you!

- +++<u>From Dorothy Wachsmann</u>...a very special **7#ANKS** to Pastor Meyer [and his beautiful words he spoke/addressed to me], the congregation [and the beautiful gift], and everyone for the most lovely retirement reception hosted on my behalf!!! Many thanks for the delicious meal along with the cards and gifts given to me! I will cherish the congregation and each of you..words just can't be expressed for how much I appreciate it and that so much was done for me. God bless you, Dorothy.
- *****Baby Bottle Campaign**: The baby bottle campaign for Place of Hope Pregnancy Center in Rockdale is wrapping up! Please return your bottles to the church office with any money you have collected. Thank you for supporting life!
- +++Sunday Morning Bible Class Study on the Divine Worship Service...Our current Bible study is a unique one as it covers the divine, holy liturgy by which we worship the Lord our God on Sundays and all other holy days. Come learn about and grow in the rich Biblical theology of our Divine Worship as Lutheran Christians. As this study is concerned with how we, the Church of God, have worshiped Him faithfully for many centuries, copies of it will also be made available for all who wish to become better acquainted with our Lutheran worship, but who cannot attend the study.
- ***<u>St. James Cleaning Day</u>: The LWML expresses their <u>**THANKS**</u> to everyone who helped this past Thursday for a cleaning day!
- +++<u>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</u>...our joint VBS will be held the week of June 23 thru 27 from 9am-11:30am!!! We encourage our children from 3 years through the 8th grade to come join in! We are needing and asking for volunteers to <u>HELP</u>...how about you?!!! Our theme this year will be "Hero Hotline...Called Together to Serve God"! Please contact the church office to volunteer!!!
- ***Disciples of the Way handmade items available: Please see the display in the narthex of St. James that features handmade zipper pouches sewn by the women in the program "Sewing Seeds of Faith." This program in hosted by Disciples of the Way, the ministry of Pastor Karim Baidaoui, who has been our mission speaker before. Your gift of \$10 per purse will support the refugee women who make them. These pouches make great gifts and are helping support the ministry of Disciples of the Way as they reach out to Muslim immigrants with the Word of Christ!
- +++Devotional book available: Copies are available in the office of Ruth Meyer's "**Truth Notes**." This devotional is based on her past blog post and point to God's timeless truths in a changing world. Books are \$15 each. See either Sandra Lay or Ruth Meyer to purchase yours!
- ***BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK...Holy Trinity-Kerrito Urban, today; Ella Albrecht, 18; David House, 20;...St. James-Brandon Exner, today; Hoyt Stacy, 16; Clay Boettcher, 19; W. E. Meuth, 19; Riley Wagner, 19; Irene Martin, 20.