



WELCOME TO THIS  
WORSHIP CELEBRA-  
TION of the living  
Christ's presence in  
our midst. Christ  
comes to us with new  
life and strength for  
Christian living in  
daily life through the  
hearing of the Word,  
preaching, prayer,  
song, and community.

*As the Confession and  
Forgiveness begins, all  
may make the sign of  
the cross, the sign that  
is marked at baptism.*

*Congregational re-  
sponses are in bold*

*\* Asterisks through-  
out the order of  
worship indicate  
the people stand-  
ing, in body and/or  
in spirit.*

# GATHERING

## CHIMING OF THE HOUR

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Jim Ross, reader*

## PRELUDE "Holy, Holy, Holy!"

*Shirley Newhart, organ*

arr. Hughes

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Leader: Compassionate God.

People: **we confess to you all our sins.**

**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**

**In your mercy, call us back to you.**

**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**

**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**

**In Christ's name we pray,**

**Amen.**

Leader: Jesus says, "Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest."

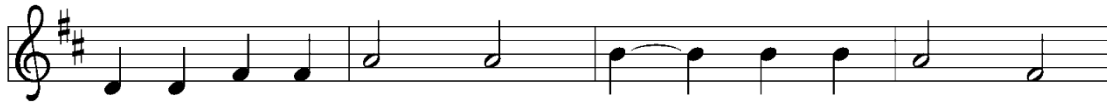
In the name of God,  
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

People: **Amen.**

# \*GATHERING SONG "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!"

Hymn 413



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

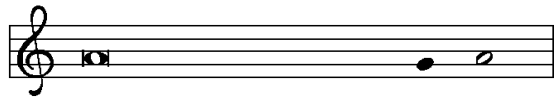
Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.  
Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

## \*GREETING

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

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

# \*KYRIE



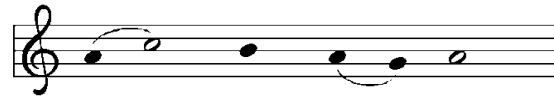
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



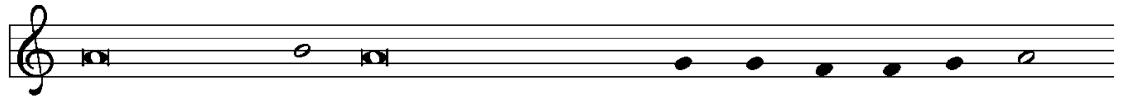
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

# \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Leader:** Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

## **SPECIAL MUSIC** "Lord of the Small"

Forrest

*Rodney Powers, soloist*

*Praise to the Lord of the small, broken things,  
Who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing,  
Who loves the lame child and the waif in the street,  
Who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet.  
Praise to the Lord, the faint and afraid,  
Who girds them with courage and lends them His aid;  
He pours out His Spirit on vessels so weak  
That the timid can serve and the silent can speak.  
Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill,  
Who heals their afflictions, or carries them till  
They leave this tired frame and to paradise fly,  
To never be sick, and never to die, never die.  
Praise Him, O praise Him, all ye who live,  
Who've been given so much and can so little give,  
Our frail, lisping praise God will never despise:  
He sees His dear children through mercy-filled eyes.*

# WORD

*Jim Ross, reader*

## FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-8

*Old Testament 13*

<sup>1</sup> The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup> He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” <sup>6</sup> And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” <sup>7</sup> Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup> Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALMODY: Psalm 8

*How majestic is your name in all the earth! (Ps. 8:1)*

Leader: <sup>1</sup> O Lord our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

People: <sup>2</sup> **you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;  
you have set up a fortress against your enemies,  
to silence the foe and avenger.**

Leader: <sup>3</sup> When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

People: <sup>4</sup> **what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,  
human beings that you should care for them?**

Leader: <sup>5</sup> Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
with glory and honor you crown them.

**People:** <sup>6</sup> **You have made them rule over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet:**

**Leader:** <sup>7</sup> all flocks and cattle,  
even the wild beasts of the field,

**People:** <sup>8</sup> **the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,  
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

**Leader:** <sup>9</sup> O Lord our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

*New Testament 164*

*Paul closes a challenging letter to the Corinthians with an appeal to Christian fellowship grounded in the triune harmony of Christ's grace, God's love, and the Spirit's partnership.*

[Paul writes:] <sup>11</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup> Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

<sup>13</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



## **\*GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20**

*New Testament 29*

*After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them to baptize and teach all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

### SERMON "The Dance Becomes a Table"

*Reverend Jason Talsness*

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY "Come, Join the Dance of Trinity"

*Hymn 412*



1 Come, join the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun—  
2 Come, see the face of Trin - i - ty, new - born in Beth - le - hem;  
3 Come, speak a - loud of Trin - i - ty, as wind and tongues of flame  
4 With - in the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun,



the in - ter - weav - ing of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.  
then blood - ied by a crown of thorns out - side Je - ru - sa - lem.  
set peo - ple free at Pen - te - cost to tell the Sav - ior's name.  
we sing the prais - es of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.



The u - ni - verse of space and time did not a - rise by chance,  
The dance of Trin - i - ty is meant for hu - man flesh and bone;  
We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;  
Let voic - es rise and in - ter - weave, by love and hope set free,



but as the Three, in love and hope, made room with - in their dance.  
when fear con - fines the dance in death, God rolls a - way the stone.  
go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!  
to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trin - i - ty.

*One vase of today's  
Altar Flowers was do-  
nated by Argerie Mar-  
tin "to the glory of  
God."*

## \***APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

### \***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*(In between the petitions of the prayers, the following response is offered.)*

Leader: God of grace,

**People: hear our prayer.**

*(Final petition and response.)*

Leader: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our  
spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus  
our Savior.

**People: Amen.**

## \*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.

## SENDING

### SENDING OUR PASTOR ON SABBATICAL

*Claire Cornwell-Williams, Council President*

Leader: Beloved in Christ, there are many seasons in the life of the church. There are seasons for planting and tending, for labor and growth, for challenge and change. There are also seasons for rest. Again and again, God meets us in Sabbath. In rest, God restores the weary. In stillness, God speaks. In renewal, God prepares us for what comes next.

Today we mark the beginning of Pastor Talsness' sabbatical leave, June 1 through September 1. This will be a season for rest and renewal, for deeper listening to God, for reconnecting with family and friends, and for seeking health and wholeness in body, mind, and spirit. As Pastor Talsness steps away for a time, we also remember that the Holy Spirit continues to guide this congregation, and that Christ remains the head of the church.

Pastor Talsness, as you begin this sabbatical season, will you receive this time as a gift from God: for rest, for prayer, for renewal, and for listening?

Pastor: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Leader: Will you enter this time with openness to the Holy Spirit, attending to your relationship with God, your family and friends, and your own well-being, trusting that God is at work in you even in rest?

Pastor: I will, and I ask God to help me.

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**Leader:** Will you listen for what God is saying to you in this season, and return ready again to share in Christ's ministry among these people?

**Pastor:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Leader:** Messiah Lutheran Church, will we release Pastor Talsness for this season of sabbath with your blessing, your trust, and your prayers?

**People:** **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

**Leader:** Will we continue steadfast in worship, in prayer, in generosity, and in service, remembering that the ministry of the church belongs to the whole people of God?

**People:** **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

**Leader:** Will we listen for what God is saying to us in this season—in our life together, in our ministry, in our care for neighbor, and in our calling as the body of Christ?

**People:** **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

**Leader:** Will you pray for Pastor Talsness during this sabbatical, and will you also open yourselves to the ways God may be renewing and leading us during these months?

**People:** **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

**Leader:** Pastor Talsness, the people of Messiah Lutheran Church and I send you with our love and prayers. May this be for you a time of deep breath, renewed joy, holy rest, and attentive listening.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Leader:** People of Messiah Lutheran Church, Pastor Talsness entrusts us to God's care in this season.

May this be for us a time of faithfulness, shared ministry, holy curiosity, and attentive listening.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Leader:** Let us pray.  
Gracious God, you are the source of life, the giver of Sabbath, and the one who renews your people. We thank you for the ministry shared among the people of Messiah Lutheran Church and for the pastoral care Pastor Talsness has offered in Christ's name.

As he enters this sabbatical time, grant him rest from weariness, renewal in spirit, joy in family and friendship, and deeper communion with you. Restore his strength, clarify his calling, surround him with your peace.

Bless this congregation also during these months. Deepen our trust in you. Strengthen us for shared ministry. Open our ears to your voice and our hearts to your future. Teach us to listen well, love well, and serve well.

Keep Pastor Talsness and this congregation united in prayer and hope until we are gathered together again. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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

**People:** **God go with you.**

**Leader:** Messiah Lutheran Church, go in peace for faithfulness, courage, and listening.

**Pastor:** God go with you.

**Leader:** Christ is with us in every season.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

### **\*PASTORAL BENEDICTION**

**Leader:** Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✠ one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.

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

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**\*SENDING SONG** "Go To the World"

From "All Creation Sings"



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.  
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993  
Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958  
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**\*DISMISSAL**

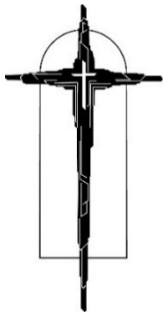
Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**\*POSTLUDE** "We All Believe in One True God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost"

arr. Hildebrand

Shirley Newhart, organ



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, May 31	9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:20 am Adult Discipleship Class
Monday, June 1	10:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm Ronald McDonald House Dinner
Tuesday, June 2	
Wednesday, June 3	8:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
Thursday, June 4	11:00 am Messiah Messenger Training
Friday, June 5	<i>1:00 pm Needlepoint Society</i>
Saturday, June 6	

*Italics indicate outside group*

## MESSIAH OFFICE HOURS

*Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday-9:00 am to 4:00 pm*

*Closed for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 pm*

*Wednesday-8:30 am to 11:30 am*

*Friday-Closed*

## ONLINE GIVING

Please consider making a one-time or recurring gift to Messiah using the secure online portal at the website ([messiahsi.org](http://messiahsi.org)) and clicking on the Give tab. Another option to reach the portal is to scan this QR code using your smartphone's QR reader. This link may be used for paying for altar flowers and other church-related activities. Questions? Contact the Church Office.



If you would like to give the old-fashioned way, the offering plate is on the table as you exit the Sanctuary.



# THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Ministers	The People of Messiah
Pastor	Jason Talsness
Pastor, Congregational Care	Karen Scheib
Director, Faith Formation	Ken Ritz
Pastor Emeritus	James Peper
Presiding Bishop ELCA	Yehiel Curry
Bishop, SE Synod ELCA	Kevin Strickland
Director of Music & Organist	Shirley Newhart
Choral Director	Rodney Powers
Altar Guild	Janet Reardon
Reader	Jim Ross
Evangelism Greeters	Jody & Steve Voss
Ushers	Trish & Rick Tallon
Acolytes	Confirmation Class
Audio Visual	Steve Allen and Ken McLauchlan
Coffee Hour	Christine Lind (host) Milda Blaney(treats)

## MILESTONES THIS WEEK

*Birthdays: Diana Wilson 05/31, Bill Wade 06/02*

*Anniversaries: Jane & Steve Holst 05/31, Eve & Armand Wells 06/04*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **THE ARTS AT MESSIAH 2026**

**Friday, June 12, 2026, at 7:00 pm**

June's concert will feature soprano Ethel Trujillo, accompanied by pianist José Meléndez.

Ethel Trujillo, who is from Morelos, Mexico, graduated summa cum laude from the University of Puebla, Mexico with a B.M. in Vocal Performance. She recently obtained her Artist Diploma from the Academy of Vocal Arts. She has won numerous awards and performed at Opera Naples as well as appearing in operas in Williamsburg, Annapolis, and the Berkshire Opera Festival.

José Meléndez is widely in demand as a vocal coach, conductor, and collaborative artist. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from the Conservatorio de Música de Puerto Rico and a Master of Music degree in Piano Accompanying and Coaching from Rider University.

No reservations are required. No admission charge, but a suggested donation of \$20 per person would be welcome.

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)**

**July 6-10, 2026**

VBS is six weeks away, and twenty-four children are registered so far. There is also a wonderful group of committed team leaders working behind the scenes; however, "it takes a village" (or congregation in our case) to deliver a successful VBS. We need additional helpers to support the team leaders—and

people can be flexible when and how much time they volunteer.

You can volunteer for an hour, a day, or the week. There are also opportunities to help craft the decor ahead of time—painting, taping, cutting—having fun creating four different backdrops. If you are a whiz with technology and electronics, another volunteer option is to provide audiovisual support.

Have questions? Want to sign up? Talk to Peggy Pearson in person or call/text her (443.995.1146).

## **FROM THE CHOIR DIRECTOR**

Summer is nearly upon us, and I am planning for the summer's special music. This year I will be directing a summer choir that I am calling SING THE FAITH. All the songs will be about our faith walk and the faith walk of people from the Bible.

Being part of SING THE FAITH does not require any special musical "ability," just a nice singing voice will do perfectly. We will practice for 20-30 minutes on Sundays after church. The following Sunday, we will warm up at 8:30 am in the Choir Room and sing during that week's worship service. SING THE FAITH will not wear robes or sit in the choir loft. The choir will come up front to sing, then return to their pews. Our first rehearsal is Sunday, June 7th. Our first performance in worship will be the following Sunday, June 14th. We will sing every other Sunday.

You can participate in one or more rehearsals/performances—whatever your schedule allows.

For a full schedule and more details, pick up the lavender handout on the Narthex Table.

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

### 12 Monthly Activities for Spiritual Growth

We are inviting our whole church family to participate in a 12-month spiritual growth journey. Each month we'll focus on one simple, but meaningful activity designed to help you draw closer to Christ.

Here's the activity for June:

### June — Fasting

During June, we invite you to take part in a fast. Fasting is an ancient Christian discipline in which we voluntarily set aside something good to seek something greater—deeper communion with God.

Some options to choose from:

- Skip one meal each week (that you would not ordinarily miss) and use that time for prayer. As an alternative, fast one time for 24 hours.
- Fast from social media or news for a week.
- Devote an hour each week to silence and solitude with prayer and scripture reading/study.
- Fast from entertainment for a period of time.

The goal is not self-denial for its own sake, but spiritual attentiveness. When you feel hunger, boredom, or the urge to check your phone, let it become a prompt to pray, confess, give thanks, and refocus your heart on Christ.

*Stepping outside your comfort zone can open new pathways for growth and help you experience God in fresh and meaningful ways.*

# **SERMON PREVIEW FOR SUNDAY, MAY 31**

## **The Dance Becomes a Table**

*Note: This is Pastor Talsness' final sermon before he begins his Sabbatical on Monday, June 1.*

Today we observe Trinity Sunday, one of the rare church commemorations that focus on a doctrine, a church teaching, rather than an event in the Bible. Here we encounter one of Christianity's most mysterious teachings: God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Rather than trying to solve the mystery, we will explore two powerful images that help us enter it.

The first, Sunday's bulletin cover, is by Russian icon painter Andrei Rublev. His famous icon of the Trinity depicts three figures gathered around a table, with an open place facing the viewer. It is as if the dance of divine love pauses long enough to make room for guests.

The scripture comes from Paul's closing blessing in 2 Corinthians: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all." In these familiar words, Paul offers not a theological explanation of the Trinity but an invitation into the shared life of God—a life C.S. Lewis imagined as a divine dance and the icon painter Andrei Rublev depicted as a table with an open place for us.

In this sermon, we will explore how the church's "map" leads us toward that table, and how the grace of Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit invite us not merely to understand God, but to participate in God's life.

Questions for Reflection:

When you think of the Trinity, do you think primarily of a doctrine to understand or a relationship to enter? Paul blesses the church with "the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit." Which of those gifts do you most need right now: grace, love, or communion? What practices help you make room for God at the center of your life?

# CHURCH COUNCIL 2026

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Vacant

Finance Ministry

**Lisa Oswald (2026)**

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**Rick Tallon (2028)**

Property Ministry

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**Greg Stinson (2026/2027)<sup>1</sup>**

Staff Support/Mutual Ministry

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**George Lawrence (2026/2028)<sup>2</sup>**

Stewardship Ministry

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**Parker Pearson (no term)**

**Treasurer**

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**Pat Cooper (2027)**

Worship & Music Ministry

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<sup>1</sup> Greg Stinson is serving the second year of a three-year term that ends in 2027.

<sup>2</sup> George Lawrence is serving the first year of a three-year term that ends in 2028.