



# *Abide With Me*



**HOLY TRINITY**  
Lutheran Church

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Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Synod

[www.els.org](http://www.els.org)

## *Welcome to Holy Trinity*

We're glad you came today to join us in worshipping the one true God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He has graciously created us, mercifully redeemed us, and freely gives us all the treasures of heaven through His Word and Sacraments!

If you are a **visitor** with us today, please sign the "GUEST" cards in the pews and give them to the ushers or pastor. If you want to find out more about what we teach, or are curious about church membership, please talk to our pastor. Members of Holy Trinity, please fill in the side marked "MEMBER."

A **Parents' Room** is located at the rear of the sanctuary if you need to temporarily leave to calm a child. Inside the Parents' Room you can still see, hear and participate in the worship service.

**Wheelchair accommodations** are found on the organ side of the church. If you do not use a wheelchair, be careful to leave space in these wheelchair accessible pews for the benefit of those who need them and their families.

HOLY TRINITY is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), a national church body headquartered in Mankato, Minnesota. We confess that we are saved by Grace Alone (Eph. 2:8) through Faith Alone (Acts 16:31) revealed in Scripture Alone (John 5:24). Though we are totally sinful from birth, Jesus Christ paid for our sins on the cross and gives us eternal life in heaven. We subscribe to the Lutheran Confessions (the Book of Concord, 1580) because they are a faithful and accurate summary of this Biblical doctrine. The ELS has been in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) since 1872.

### *A Note to All Our Guests Regarding the Lord's Supper:*

During this service, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. Since this sacrament is the Lord's Supper and not ours, we are careful to follow our Lord's instructions. In particular, we take to heart these important truths:

1. In the Lord's Supper, Jesus truly gives us His body and blood together with the bread and the wine. Jesus says, "Take and eat; this is my body...Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood" (Matthew 26:26-28).
2. In the Lord's Supper, we express a unity of faith with one another. "Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf" (1 Corinthians 10:17).
3. Our Lord urges us to practice this unity with great love and care. "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Corinthians 11:27,29).

Because we take these truths seriously, we invite all communicant members of our congregation or of a sister congregation in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) or the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) to commune with us today. However, we ask that those who are not members of a sister congregation refrain from taking the Lord's Supper with us at this time. In doing this, we are not judging anyone's faith. Out of love for our Lord and all people, we simply desire to discuss the Bible's teachings with our guests before communing together. We want all who commune to receive the Lord's Supper for their benefit and in a way that follows our Lord's instructions. If you have any questions about this or any other teaching of the Bible—or if you would like information about how to join our congregation—please feel free to speak to our pastor.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

**Hymn** • *“Help Us, O Lord, for Now We Enter”*

[CW93 70]

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|--|---|
| <p>1. Help us, O Lord, for now we enter<br/>Upon another year today.<br/>In you our hopes and thoughts now center;<br/>Renew our courage for the way.<br/>New life, new strength, new happiness<br/>We ask of you – oh hear and bless.</p> | <p>2. May ev'ry plan and undertaking<br/>Begin this year, O Lord, with you;<br/>When I am sleeping or am waking,<br/>Help me, dear Lord, your will to do.<br/>In you alone, my God, I live;<br/>You only can my sins forgive.</p> |
|--|---|
4. Jesus, be with me and direct me;  
Jesus, my plans and hopes inspire;  
Jesus, from tempting thoughts protect me;  
Jesus, be all my heart's desire;  
Jesus, be in my thoughts all day  
And never let me fall away.

-Stand-

### Service of Light

**P**ASTOR     *Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Light,*

**C**ONGREGATION     **The light no darkness can overcome.**

**P**     *Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,*

**C**     **And now the day is almost over.**

**P**     *Lord, be our light, chase gloom away,*

**C**     **And hear our evening hymn of praise.**

## Hymn Response

[Tune: CW93 70]

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1. A gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,<br/>In You the Father's glory shone.<br/>Immortal, holy, blest is he,<br/>And blest are You, His only Son.<br/>Lord, be our light, chase gloom away,<br/>And hear our evening hymn of praise.</b></p> | <p><b>2. Praise Father, Son, and Spirit: God<br/>Who swells in the eternal light.<br/>Worthy are You of endless praise,<br/>O Son of God, life-giving Lord;<br/>Lord, be our light, chase gloom away, And<br/>hear our evening hymn of praise.</b></p> |
|---|--|

## Confession of Sins

**P** *Dearly loved by the Lord: With faithful and trusting hearts, let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask Him to forgive us.*

**C** **Lord God, to You I make confession. I have sinned and gone astray. Again and again this year I have chosen my own path instead of Your holy way. With my thoughts – with my words – with my actions, I have brought dishonor on Your holy name and upon myself. But in the name of my Lord Jesus Christ, and for His sake, I flee to You for mercy. Hear my cry and answer me according to Your unending compassion. Hear me. Forgive me. Restore me, that I may dwell in Your presence now and forever.**

## Absolution

**P** *God, our heavenly Father has had mercy on us and has given His one and only Son to die for us. For His sake He forgives us all our sins. Through His Holy Spirit He gives us faith to become His children and heirs of eternal life. This is God's faithful promise. Therefore in the name of Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, † and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C** **Amen.**

## Glory be to God

**P** *Glory be to God on high and peace to His people on earth!*

## Song of Praise

[Tune: CW93 63]

Glory be to God above!  
 Glory be to God the Son!  
 Holy Spirit, God of love,  
 Great Jehovah, Three in One!  
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!

## The Word

☞ *The Lord be with you.*

☞ **And also with You.**

☞ *Through the Word of God we have been born again into a living hope, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)*

☞ **I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified, and kept me in the true faith.**

-Be seated-

## First Lesson • Ecclesiastes 12:1-7, 13-14

| Remember your Creator. |

So remember your Creator in the days of your youth,  
 before the bad days come and the years arrive when you will say,  
 “I have no delight in them,”  
<sup>2</sup>before the sun and the light of the moon and the stars are darkened,  
 before the clouds return after the rain,  
<sup>3</sup>before the day when the watchmen of the house tremble,  
 and the strong men are bent over,  
 and the women who grind grain cease because they are few,  
 and those watching through the windows can barely see.  
<sup>4</sup>Then the double doors to the street are shut,

as the grinding of the mill grows quiet.  
 A person wakes up at the sound of a bird,  
 but all the sounds of music are muffled.  
<sup>5</sup>Then they fear heights and terrors along the road.  
 The almond blossoms become white.  
 The grasshopper drags himself along,  
 and the caperberry has no effect.  
 Why? Because the man is heading to his eternal home.  
 Then the wailing mourners will go around in the street.  
<sup>6</sup>Remember your Creator  
 before the silver cord is snapped,  
 and the golden bowl is broken,  
 before the jar is shattered by the spring,  
 and the waterwheel is broken by the well,  
<sup>7</sup>and the dust goes back into the ground—just as it was before,  
 and the spirit goes back to God who gave it.  
<sup>13</sup>This is the conclusion of the matter. Everything has been heard. Fear God and keep his  
 commandments. For mankind, this is everything.  
<sup>14</sup>Yes, God will bring everything that is done into judgment, including everything that is  
 hidden, whether good or evil.

**P** *The Word of the Lord.*

**G** **May the LORD our God be with us as He was with our fathers; may He never leave us  
 nor forsake us.** (*1 Kings 8:57*)

## Psalm 96

**P** *Sing to the LORD, praise his name;*

**G** **proclaim his salvation day after day.**

**P** *Declare his glory among the nations,*

**G** **his marvelous deeds among all peoples.**

**P** *Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;*

**☞ tremble before him, all the earth.**

☞ *Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;*

**☞ let the sea resound, and all that is in it;**

☞ *let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them.*

**☞ Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy;**

☞ *for he comes to judge the world in righteousness*

**☞ and the peoples in his truth.**

## **Second Lesson • Hebrews 13:1-16**

| The Lord gives us encouragement for our lives with him. |

Continue to show brotherly love. <sup>2</sup> Do not fail to show love to strangers, for by doing this some have welcomed angels without realizing it. <sup>3</sup> Remember those in prison, as if you were fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated, as if you yourselves were also suffering bodily.

<sup>4</sup> Marriage is to be held in honor by all, and the marriage bed is to be kept undefiled, for God will judge sexually immoral people and adulterers. <sup>5</sup> Keep your life free from the love of money, and be content with what you have. For God has said:

I will never leave you,  
and I will never forsake you.

<sup>6</sup> So then we say with confidence:

The Lord is my helper, and I will not be afraid.

What will man do to me?

<sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Carefully consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>9</sup> Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. For it is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which are of no help to those who make them a way of life.

<sup>10</sup>We have an altar from which those who minister at the tent have no right to eat. <sup>11</sup>For the high priest brings the blood of the animals sacrificed for sins into the Most Holy Place, and then their bodies are burned outside the camp. <sup>12</sup>Jesus suffered outside the gate for this reason: to sanctify people by his own blood. <sup>13</sup>So then let us go to him, outside of the camp, bearing his disgrace. <sup>14</sup>For we do not have a permanent city here, but we are looking for the city that is coming. <sup>15</sup>Through Jesus, therefore, let us constantly offer to God a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

📖 *The Word of the Lord.*

📌 **May the Lord direct our hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.**

*(2 Thessalonians 3:5)*

-Stand-

## **Gospel • Luke 2:21**

After eight days passed, when the child was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

📖 *The Gospel of our Lord.*

📌 **May the Lord make our love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else.** *(1 Thessalonians 3:12)*

## **Confession of Faith**

📖 *Let us confess our faith in the one true God.*



## Apostle's Creed

[Tune: CW93 169]

1 I be - lieve in God the Fa - ther, Mak - er of the heav'n's and earth.  
 2 Cru - ci - fied, was dead and bur - ied, Down to hell in vic - to - ry;  
 3 I be - lieve in God the Spir - it, In his church, his cho - sen band.

And in Je - sus Christ, our Sav - ior, God's own Son, of hu - man birth.  
 From the dead he rose the third day; Up to heav'n tri - um - phant - ly.  
 They are joined in close com - mun - ion, Ho - ly in his sight they stand.

Vir - gin - born, the Lord's in - car - nate, Whom the Spir - it did con - ceive,  
 There at God's right hand he's rul - ing, By his will the world is led.  
 I be - lieve in sin for - giv - en; That the dead will rise a - gain;

Suf - fered un - der Pon - tius Pi - late; Our sal - va - tion to a - chieve.  
 He will come to judge the na - tions, Both the liv - ing and the dead.  
 I be - lieve in life e - ter - nal. A - men! And a - gain, A - men!

-Be seated-

**Sermon • Luke 2:21****Marked With Signs and Scars****Offering****Responsive Prayer**

☐ *Lord Jesus Christ, as the old year comes to a close, we are reminded how swiftly all of life passes. We are strangers and pilgrims in this world; our real home is with you in heaven. Help us to keep our sights on that heavenly goal and not to become distracted by the temporary joys of this life which soon pass away. Everything else may change and decay but you, O Lord, remain the same. Therefore we pray:*

☑ **Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide.**  
**The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.**  
**When other helpers fail and comforts flee,**  
**Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!**

[Tune: CW93 588]

☐ *Lord, the struggle of this life is constant. The devil, the world and our own sinful flesh are no friends to Your people. These enemies never stop trying to rob us of our faith and Christian joy. Because the danger is so real and the fight of faith so critical, be at our side every moment of the year that lies ahead. We do not want You to be only an occasional visitor in our homes, but a permanent and honored member of the family. Come with Your healing touch and remove the sickness of our sins. Come, Lord Jesus! Come to stay!*

☑ **Not a brief glance I beg, a passing word,**  
**But as Thou dwelst with Thy disciples, Lord,**  
**Familiar, condescending, patient, free.**  
**Come not to sojourn, but abide with me.**

[Tune: CW93 588]

Ⓟ *Lord Jesus, You know us better than we know ourselves. You know the sins and rebellious patterns of our lives. Though You have smiled on us with Your grace, we have not always appreciated it and instead have gone our own way. We have forsaken You to follow our own desires, and have gone places where we knew You would not follow. Though we have often left You, You have not left us. You have reclaimed us from the way of death, and restored us to Your kingdom of life. Now, Lord, in the temptations that yet lie in the future, yes even in this coming new year, abide with Your grace and equip us to overcome them all. Be our guide and stay throughout the new year that we may serve You better and more faithfully.*

**☒ Thou on my head in early youth didst smile,  
And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile,  
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee.  
On to the close, O Lord, abide with me.**

[Tune: CW93 588]

Ⓟ *Lord Jesus, one enemy remains to try to rob us of salvation and life. Yet, even this enemy You have defeated for us. You have destroyed the terror of death and robbed it of its victory. In You and with You, we can triumph over this "last enemy," too. Abide with us then to the very end of our lives. Let Your cross shine through the gloom of that last hour so that we can see You waiting on the other side to lead us home. When we open our eyes in heaven, then we will be free from all the trouble and danger of this earthly existence. And so we pray: "In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!"*

**☒ I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness,  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still if Thou abide with me.**

[Tune: CW93 588]

**Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**

## Lord's Prayer

**A** 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.

## Prayer before Holy Communion

**P** *Gracious Lord Jesus, in divine love You have instituted for us Your Sacred Supper, in which You offer us the very means by which You won our salvation –*

**G** **Your holy body and Your precious blood.**

**P** *In this meal You promise us all the blessings You won for us on the cross –*

**G** **The redemption of the world and the forgiveness of our sins.**

**P** *We thank You for this covenant of grace, which assures us that sin and death have been overcome and that for all—even for me—the gates of heaven are open.*

**G** **As we come as guests to Your table, give us truly repentant hearts. Make us mindful of our unworthiness before You and give us the grace to rely totally on Your forgiveness.**

**P** *In all humility, O Lord, we dedicate our lives to serving You.*

**G** **Hear us for the sake of Your bitter suffering and death. Amen.**

## Consecration of the Elements

**G** **The night our Savior was betrayed,  
He took the bread and then he prayed.  
Gave thanks and gave to them the bread  
And to His true disciples said:**

*[Tune: CW93 38]*

**P** *“Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for You; do this in remembrance of me.”*

**☞ Then when the sacred meal was o'er,  
Our blessed Savior spoke once more.  
He offered thanks and lifted up  
To give to all the blessed cup.**

[Tune: CW93 38]

**☞** *“Drink from it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”*

## **Lamb of God**

[Tune: CW93 38]

**O Jesus, Lamb of God, You take  
The sin of all; atonement make.  
Oh, grant us from our sins release:  
Have mercy on us! Grant us peace!**

-Be seated-

## **Distribution**

*Guests, please read and take note of the explanation of our Communion practice on page 2 in this service folder.*

## **Hymn • “Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love”**

[CW93 76]

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1. Jesus! Name of wondrous love,<br/>Name all other names above,<br/>Unto which must ev'ry knee<br/>Bow in deep humility.</b></p> | <p><b>3. Jesus! Name of priceless worth<br/>To the fallen here on earth<br/>For the promise that it gave,<br/>“Jesus shall his people save.”</b></p>    |
| <p><b>2. Jesus! Name decreed of old,<br/>To the maiden mother told –<br/>Kneeling in her lowly cell –<br/>By the angel Gabriel.</b></p> | <p><b>4. Jesus! Only name that's giv'n<br/>Under all the mighty heav'n<br/>Whereby all, to sin enslaved,<br/>Burst their fetters and are saved.</b></p> |
- 5. Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we, too,  
Flee, O God, in faith to you.**

**Hymn** • *“The Old Year Now Has Passed Away”*

[CW93 71]

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. The old year now has passed away;<br/>We thank you, O our God, today<br/>That you have kept us through the year<br/>When danger and distress were near.</p> <p>2. We pray you, O eternal Son,<br/>Who with the Father reigns as one,<br/>To guard and rule your Christendom<br/>Through all the ages yet to come.</p> <p>3. Take not your saving Word away,<br/>Which lights and cheers our souls each day.<br/>Abide with us and keep us free<br/>From error and hypocrisy.</p> | <p>4. Oh, help us to forsake all sin,<br/>A new and holier life begin!<br/>Forgive the old year’s sins, and bless<br/>The new year with true happiness,</p> <p>5. Wherein as Christians we may live<br/>Or die in peace that you can give,<br/>To rise again when you will come<br/>And enter your eternal home.</p> <p>6. There shall we thank you and adore<br/>With all the angels evermore.<br/>Lord Jesus Christ, increase our faith<br/>To praise your name through life and<br/>death.</p> |
|--|---|

-Stand-

**Nunc Dimittis**

[Tune: CW93 334]

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Lord, let Your servant now depart.<br/>Your joy and peace are in my heart.<br/>Your saving pow’r my eyes have known.<br/>Your love through all the earth is shown.</p> | <p>2. Lord, let us show the world Your light.<br/>Let us declare Your glory bright.<br/>Proclaim Your death until You come<br/>To take Your ransomed servants home.</p> |
|--|---|

**Closing Prayer**

☞ *Hear the prayer of Your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised You here may glorify You in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of Your Son may long for His coming again, and that all who have received in His true body and blood the gift of Your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

☞ **Amen.**

## Blessing

☐ *The Lord bless you and keep you.*

*The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.*

*The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace †.*

☑ **Amen.**

-Be seated-

## Closing Hymn • “Father, Let Me Dedicate”

[CW93 75]

### 1. Father, let me dedicate

All this year to you,  
 In whate'er my earthly state,  
 In whate'er I do.  
 Not from sorrow, pain, or care  
 Freedom dare I claim;  
 This alone shall be my prayer:  
 Glorify your name.

### 3. If in mercy you prolong

Joys that now are mine,  
 If on life serene and fair  
 Brighter rays may shine,  
 Let my glad heart, while it sings,  
 You in all proclaim  
 And, whate'er the future brings,  
 Glorify your name.

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