

# Confirmation Sunday 2026

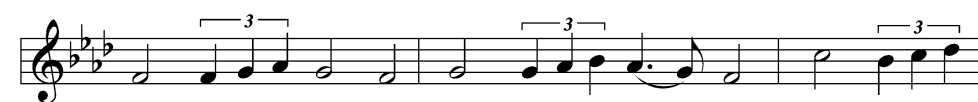
## AS WE GATHER

Today we rejoice in the confession of faith from this year's confirmation class. We give thanks that the Holy Spirit has called them by the Gospel, enlightened them with His gifts, and sanctifies and keeps them in the true faith through His gifts of Word and Sacrament.



## PROCESSIONAL HYMN - Thy Strong Word LSB 578

v. 1-2,5-6



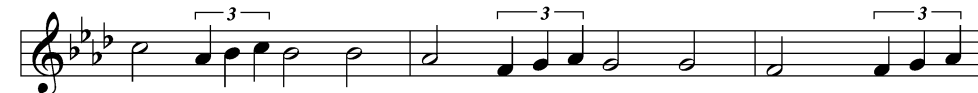
1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as  
 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glo - ry, Tongues Thy  
 Δ 6 God the Fa - ther, light - cre - a - tor, To Thee



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed  
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of  
 mer - cy to pro - claim, Throats that shout the  
 laud and hon - or be. To Thee, Light of



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
 hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy ho - ly name.  
 Light be - got - ten, Praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! May the  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, light - re - veal - er, Glo - ry,



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 light which Thou dost send Fill our songs with  
 glo - ry be to Thee. Mor - tals, an - gels,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ias, Al - le - lu - ias with - out end!  
 now and ev - er Praise the ho - ly Trin - i - ty!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76 Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944  
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## + INVOCATION +

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

## + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1st John 1:8-9*

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)*

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you, and on the third day He was raised again to forgive all your sins and grant you eternal life. As a called and ordained servant of the risen Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**OPENING SCRIPTURES - THE SIX CHIEF PARTS**

**1. THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

Pastor: God declared to you His covenant, the Ten Commandments

People: Which God commanded you to follow. *Deut. 4:13*

**2. THE APOSTLES CREED**

Pastor: Go and make disciples of all nations,

People: Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19*

**3. THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: This, then, is how you should pray:

People: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. *Matthew 6:9*

**4. HOLY BAPTISM**

Pastor: Repent and be baptized, everyone of you,

People: For the forgiveness of your sins. *Acts 2:38*

**5. THE OFFICE OF THE KEYS**

Pastor: Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit,"

People: "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven." *John 20:22-23*

**6. HOLY COMMUNION**

Pastor: "Take eat, this is my body...Take drink, this is my blood."

People: "Poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." *Matthew 26:26-28*

**HYMN OF PRAISE – This is the Feast**

*LSB 155*

*Refrain*

☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Exodus 20:1-17*

<sup>1</sup>And God spoke all these words, saying,

<sup>2</sup>"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

<sup>3</sup>You shall have no other gods before me...

<sup>7</sup>You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain...

<sup>8</sup>Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother...

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house;

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## THE EPISTLE

*Romans 12:1-5*

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*LSB 156*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

*John 14:1-6*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father  
 Almighty.  
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

MESSAGE FOR THE CONFIRMATION CLASS *Mr. Greg Mueller, DCE*

SERMON HYMN - The Church's One Foundation *LSB 644, sts. 1-2, 4-5*



1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je-sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E-lect from ev-'ry na-tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;  
 4 Through toil and trib-u-la-tion And tu-mult of her war  
 5 Yet she on earth has u-nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre-a-tion By wa-ter and the Word.  
 Her char-ter of sal-va-tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
 She waits the con-sum-ma-tion Of peace for-ev-er-more  
 And mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho-ly bride;  
 One ho-ly name she bless-es, Par-takes one ho-ly food,  
 Till with the vi-sion glo-rious Her long-ing eyes are blest,  
 O bless-ed heav'n-ly cho-rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.  
 And to one hope she press-es With ev-'ry grace en-dued.  
 And the great Church vic-to-rious Shall be the Church at rest.  
 That we, like saints be-fore us, May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, alt. Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76 Text and tune: Public domain

## THE SERMON

THE OFFERING *(Offering plates are located in the back of the church.)*

## THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

**P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding. Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

**P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you renounce the devil, and all his works, and all his ways?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as confessed by the creeds and confessions of this church?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you confess the doctrine of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Upon this, your profession of faith, I announce publicly that you are now confirmed members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church and of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing.*

## *Isabel Grace Kershaw*

*Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!*  
*Psalm 46:10*

## *Annabel Rose Mandl*

*For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.*  
*Revelation 7:17*

## *Isaiah Joseph Schroeder*

*So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*  
*Isaiah 41:10*

## *Augustin Jay Spengler*

*Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.*  
*Deuteronomy 31:6*

## *Jack Alexander Terry*

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*  
*John 3:16*

## *Sawyer Stephen VanKirk*

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.*  
*Ephesians 2:8-9*

**P** Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord Jesus, you have called all of us to be students of Your Word. Give us Your Holy Spirit, that we might study, learn and apply Your Word to our lives, Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for our church, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, that God would grant us His love, His peace and His joy as we seek to share His Good News with our community and with the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We pray for those who are hurting or hospitalized, especially... Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

### + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

#### PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

#### SANCTUS

LSB 161

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. 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 LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

**AGNUS DEI**

LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**THE DISTRIBUTION**

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN - Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus**

LSB 685

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience  
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He  
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en

am - ple pure, Through a world that would de-ceive us And to  
bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad-ness; Where He  
con- quered death, He will free us from de- struc- tion, Give to  
from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,

sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,  
is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,  
us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion  
You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;

Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and  
We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts  
That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that  
Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence

hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,  
shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,  
con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,

Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.  
here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.  
here with You I die, There to live with You on high.  
let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626-81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.  
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**DISTRIBUTION HYMN - Thine Forever God of Love** *LSB 687*



1 Thine for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us from Thy throne a - bove;  
 2 Thine for - ev - er! Oh, how blest They who find in Thee their rest!  
 3 Thine for - ev - er, Lord of Life! Shield us through our earth - ly strife.  
 4 Thine for - ev - er! Shep-herd, keep These Thy frail and trem-bling sheep;  
 5 Thine for - ev - er! Thou our guide, All our wants by Thee sup - plied,



Thine for - ev - er may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty!  
 Sav - ior, guard-ian, heav'n-ly friend, O de - fend us to the end!  
 Thou, the life, the truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.  
 Safe a - lone be - neath Thy care, Let us all Thy good-ness share.  
 All our sins by Thee for-giv'n; Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

Text: Mary F. Maude, 1819-1913 Tune: Justin H. Knecht, 1752-1817 Text and tune: Public domain

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN - Almighty God Your Word is Cast** *LSB 577*



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like  
 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This  
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The  
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of  
 ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in  
 ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a  
 giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.  
 ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.  
 hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.  
 truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775-1852, alt. Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London Text and tune: Public domain

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE – Thank the Lord** *LSB 164*



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

**BENEDICTION**

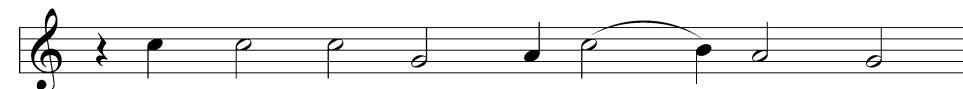
Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

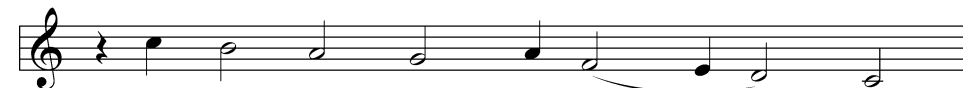
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: Amen.

**656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,  
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,  
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,  
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;  
 Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;  
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,  
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;

He helps us free from ev - 'ry need  
 But for us fights the val - iant One,  
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;  
 He's by our side up - on the plain

That hath us now o'er - tak - en.  
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.  
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.  
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.

The old e - vil foe Now means  
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus  
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce  
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,

dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might  
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,  
 as he will, He can harm us none.  
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,

Are his dread arms in fight; On earth  
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds  
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -  
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -

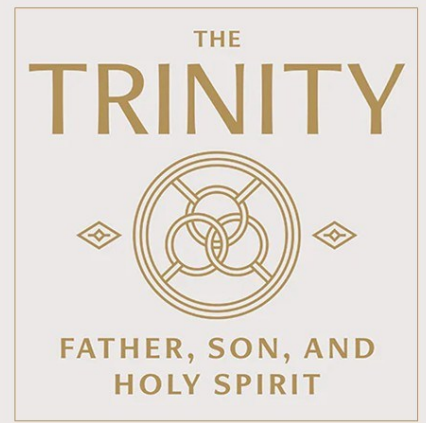
is not his e - qual.  
 the field for - ev - er.  
 tle word can fell him.  
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Text: tr. Composite Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546 Text and tune: Public domain

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO SERVE

Organ:	Katie Cobert and Eli Schroeder	
Song Leaders:	Sat: Alex Barrows	Sun: Linda Tobin
Camera:	Sat: John Wollenburg	Sun: Bruce Hunt
PowerPoint:	Sat: Deb Wollenburg	Sun: Emma Schroeder
Lay Assistant:	Sat: Ken Brown	Sun: Jim Barrows

**HOLY HOLY  
HOLY**



**SERMON SERIES FOR MAY**

- MAY 9-10**      **THE LOVE OF THE FATHER**  
MOTHER'S DAY - 1<sup>ST</sup> JOHN 3
- MAY 16-17**    **THE GRACE OF THE SON**  
ASCENSION SUNDAY – EPHESIANS 1
- MAY 23-24**    **THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE SPIRIT**  
PENTECOST – ACTS 2
- MAY 30-31**    **HOLY HOLY HOLY**  
TRINITY SUNDAY – MATTHEW 28