Opening Hymn - # 235 - Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him
(Please stand to sing the final stanza)

Invocation
M: In the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen. (spoken)

Dialogue of Promises
M: Gracious Father, for centuries you promised a Savior who would crush the head of Satan. You revived Adam and Eve with this promise. You uttered it again to the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You announced it from the mountaintops through your prophets Moses, Isaiah, David, and others. When your time was right, you fulfilled your promise through your Son, Jesus Christ. We stand here today as spiritual benefactors of the forgiveness you promised and accomplished through Christ.
C: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.
M: Almighty God, together with your Son you promised to send the Holy Spirit – the comforter and counselor. On Pentecost you vividly displayed the keeping of that promise. Today you continue to keep this promise as you send your Holy Spirit to our hearts to do his work through Word and Sacraments administered in this congregation.
C: The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice.
M: Eternal God, we are attacked on every side. Our flesh tempts us from within, the world tempts us from without, and the devil schemes with both. We have come to realize that we cannot rely on the things of this world for lasting security against the assaults of Satan. We would fall into despair if not for your promise that your Word will last forever. We can rely on your Word because your promises in Christ will last forever. This, Lord, is our strength today as we face the challenges of being twenty-first century confessional Lutherans.

C: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.
M: Merciful Lord, your fulfilled promises give us strength and hope today. When your Church has struggled, your grace has prevailed, always leaving a remnant sheltered by your love. When your people have faced times of testing, you have shown us your love by using those times to draw us closer to you.

C: Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.
M: Let this be the time, O Lord, when you renew us again by Word and Sacrament, when you reform our hearts and minds, and when you restore to us the joy of fellowship and service. Grant to us in this age and in this place the courage of the apostles, the steadfastness of the reformers, and the dedication of the fathers of our churches in the past.

C: May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us.
M: Let this be a time, O Lord, of confession and repentance. For Jesus’ sake forgive us whenever we love ourselves more than you and serve ourselves instead of your people. Forgive us for the apathy that harms our faith and hinders our work. Rid us of indifference for public worship and continued growth, and destroy every thought that harms the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace.

C: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
M: Let this be the time, O Lord, when we recommit ourselves to the ministry of the gospel of your Son. Let us find joy in our unity, zeal for our work, and if it is your will, success in our labor. And give us faith, O Lord, to take up the trumpet none can silence or mistake and grant us courage to proclaim once more for all the world to hear: The feast is ready! Come to the feast!
C: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.

Hymn - # 566 - We All Are One in Mission
Prayer of the Day
M: Gracious Lord, you have made us your own dear children through faith in Christ Jesus. In your mercy you have brought us together in this church. We praise you that your Word is still proclaimed among us. We thank you that the message of forgiveness and eternal life in Jesus Christ is still our central teaching. We glorify you for the mission you have given us: to reach the lost and strengthen the saved. Today we ask you to send the Holy Spirit and rekindle in us our zeal for the work you have given us, that more people may come to trust in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen. (spoken)

First Lesson:  Deuteronomy 4:1-10
Psalm 78 (page 95)

Second Lesson:  1 Peter 1:3-9

Choir and Sunday School Song – Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Gospel:  John 8:31-36

Hymn - # 622 – For Many Years, O God of Grace

Sermon:  Exodus 20:24b
THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BLESS US
1. A promise made
2. A promise fulfilled

Hymn - # 623 – God the Father, Son, and Spirit

Offering

Prayer
M: Gracious Lord God, as we pause this day to recall your blessings to our congregation, we are filled with humble gratitude:
C: We give thanks to your gracious name.

Page 4
M: Through Jesus’ death and resurrection, you freed us from the guilt of sin, the fear of death and the slavery of Satan:
C: Help us to always trust in Jesus as our only Savior from sin and hope of heaven.
M: You have given us your Word so that we might know you as a loving God and know for certain we will live in your love eternally:
C: Help us to faithfully cling to your truth and to freely share that truth with others.
M: You have given us your Sacraments of baptism and holy communion to create and strengthen faith in our hearts and assure us that our sins are forgiven – fully, freely, and forever:
C: Help us to treasure these gifts and use them often for our comfort.
M: Through your Word you have given blessings to couples at weddings and comfort to family and friends at funerals:
C: Help us be faithful to you and to one another for as long as we live.
M: You have given us faithful pastors and Sunday School teachers to impart your Word of promise:
C: Help us to honor them as your representatives.
M: You have given us numerous opportunities to grow in our Christian faith and life through worship services, Sunday School, and Bible studies:
C: Help us to show our appreciation by making good use of them, for ourselves and for our children.
M: You have given us dedicated organists, choir members, councilmen, organizational leaders, and countless volunteers who have given of their time and talents to serve your kingdom:
C: Help us to want, not so much to be served, as to serve and to give ourselves to your glory.
M: With your assurance of sins forgiven and the promise of life in heaven, you have given us a purpose for living and hope in dying:
C: Help us to be eager to live for your glory, to serve you, and to share the gospel for you.
M: Through war and peace, recession and prosperity, you have given us faith to meet every obstacle:
C: Help us to trust you to always see us through every challenge you set before us.
M: For 125 years you have given us the privilege of sharing your
gospel in this community:
C: Until we are privileged to join all the saints who from their labors rest, help us to do all we can to share your Word of salvation.

M: Lord, we pray as your Son taught us:
All: The Lord's Prayer

Sunday School Song – Pass It On

Blessing
M: 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.
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn - # 332 - Go My Children, With My Blessing
   vv 1-2 – choir
   vv 3-4 – congregation

Organist: David Bilitz  Guitarist: Pastor Bilitz

HEARING GOD'S WORD
Trinity: 51  St. John's: 62

OFFERINGS TO OUR LORD
Trinity: $575.00  St. John's: $1,094.00

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE
Sunday: 9:30 AM – Choir Practice – Trinity
   9:45 AM – Sunday School Practice - Trinity
   10:00 AM – Joint Worship Service at Trinity:
      125th Anniversary Celebration
      Followed by Potluck Meal
Tuesday: 7:30 PM – Bible Study at Trinity
Thursday: 7:00 PM – Worship with Holy Communion – Trinity
Next Sunday: 8:30 AM – Worship with Holy Communion -Trinity
   10:00 AM – Worship with Holy Communion - St. John’s
   2:00 PM – MVLHS Graduation, New Ulm

Announcements:
You are all invited to our potluck meal following our service. We thank everyone who brought food and served it.

Thanks to our Sunday Schools and choir for their songs of praise.

Our morning Bible Studies will not meet today nor on Tuesday. They will resume on May 27th and 29th.

It pleased our almighty Lord to call to Himself this past Tuesday our brother, John Lienke (101). He was given a Christian funeral yesterday at St. John’s. May those who mourn his death find comfort and hope in Jesus, who is the Resurrection and the Life. We thank John’s family for the flowers at St. John’s.

Our Tuesday evening Bible Study will be held at Trinity at 7:30 pm. We are studying Timely Topics/Timeless Truths. This week: Secret Baptism: A Grandparent’s Right – or Wrong?

If you plan to be out of town for Memorial Weekend, why not join us at Trinity’s Thursday night service? They begin this week at 7:00 pm. The service will be the same as the up-coming Sunday’s.

Holy Communion will be offered in our services next week.

May calendars, our Synod’s new Forward in Christ magazines and new Meditations, a good daily devotional booklet, are available. There are also large print copies of the Meditations.

Hot Lunch Coordinator/Supervisor for the Mt. Olive Christian Day School will be needed for the 2018-19 school year to prepare and serve lunches. Please contact Principal Rude if you are interested, call 507-345-7927.

Prayer List: the family of John Lienke
Brief History of Trinity
- services were conducted from 1870-1892 by itinerant (traveling) missionaries: K. F. Schulze and H. Sprengler
- first services were conducted in private homes and schoolhouses
- during the 1880's, the Pastors from St. Clair also served Trinity
- the church was formally organized on February 24, 1892
- the original church was built in 1892 for $2,000
- this church was destroyed by fire on March 28, 1958 (only the bell survived – it is still used today)
- the present church was dedicated on April 26, 1959
- the original parsonage was used from 1913-1959
- Ladies Aid Society began in early 1900's; it dissolved in 1920's; the Dorcas Society began in 1930 to present day
- all services were conducted in German until 1913; from 1913-1920, English was used once/month; 1920-1942, services equally divided between German and English; 1942-present, all services in English
- a dual parish with St. John's-Alma City 1958-1988; 2001-present
- addition of Sunday School rooms in 1970
- new organ purchased in 1959; it was replaced with digital organ in 1997
- updates to building include windows, roof, parking lot

- Pastors who have served Trinity:
  - C. Reyntout, 1880-1882
  - Theodor Schroeder, 1885-1888
  - A. L. Gresens, 1888-1891
  - A. J. Dysterheft, 1891-1905
  - Emil John, 1905-1912
  - William Nickels, 1913-1920
  - H. Atrops, 1921-1922
  - Herman Kuether, 1922-1929
  - O. K. Netzke, 1930-1947
  - M. F. Eibs, 1947-1951
  - Theodor Bauer, 1951-1928
  - E. F. Vomhof, 1958-1964
  - Del Begalka, 1965-1969
  - Roderick Luebchow, 1970-1972
  - Alfred Jannusch, 1973-1978
  - Burgess Huehn, 1979-1987
  - Charles Raasch, 1988-1993
  - Dennis Reichow, 1993-2000
  - Keith Bilitz, 2001-present

We thank and praise God for allowing us to preach and teach his Gospel here at Trinity Lutheran Church for over 125 years. May our Lord continue to show his love to our congregation, and may we as his children, continue to grow in his love and speak his Truth in love for the next 125 years.