



Preparation for Worship:

May God enable us all to learn and follow his ways.
Quietness within should be our prayer.

Please stand as you are able **Bold Items read in unison*

GATHERING We come together to worship God

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation/Call to Worship: **For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.** (Isaiah 44:3)

Opening Prayer

* Opening Hymn – *Holy, Holy, Holy* Red **#134**

Confession of Sin: **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Therefore, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ’s sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Response:(sung, #129, v.2) **Speak Thy pard’ning grace to me, Set the burdened sinner free; Lead me to the Lamb of God; Wash me in His precious blood.**

Declaration of Grace

Prayers of the Church (P: Lord in Your mercy C: **Hear our prayer.**)

WORD We seek guidance from God’s Word

- Genesis 1:1-25 Old Testament
- Psalms 8 Responsive Reading
- * Matthew 3:13-17 * Gospel

* Confession of Faith (Article I of the Augsburg Confession): **We unanimously hold and teach, that there is one divine essence, which is called and which is truly God, and that there are three persons in this one divine essence, equal in power and alike eternal: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. All three are one divine essence, eternal, without division, without end, of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness, one creator and preserver of all things visible and invisible. Amen.**

* Gloria Patri: (sung, p. 4) **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, Amen.**

*Offertory (sung, p. 33 for melody) **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

Children’s Sermon

Hymn – *Praise Ye the Father* Red **#136**

Sermon Text: Genesis 1:26-2:3

Sermon – Created in God’s Image Pastor Barry Nelson

SENDING We go out to live in & share God’s Word

* Closing Hymn – *Print Thine Image, Pure and Holy* Red **#255**

* 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.**

* Benediction & Doxology: (sung, p. 24 for melody) **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Dismissal L: Go in Peace, and Serve the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

An Unusual Answer to a Mother’s Prayer

Linda Jo Peters of Terre Haute, Indiana, felt her “worry button” get pushed when her daughter, Esther, called from college with an unexpected plan. Esther explained she wanted to go camping alone in a park in southern Illinois. She needed quiet time to think and asked her mother for Bible verses to read as she prayed about her future.

Linda knew Esther felt strongly about going, even if it made her uneasy. After the call ended, Linda dropped to her knees and began what she later called “a dialogue with God.” She closed her prayer with a simple surrender: “I guess you want me on my knees that weekend.”

And that is exactly where she stayed.

The morning after Esther’s first night at camp, she called home. She was safe, she said, and no one had come near her tent. All night long, however, a skunk had wandered nearby, circling the campsite.

Later, Linda reflected on the moment with quiet confidence. “There was no way anyone with evil intent would have approached Esther’s tent,” she wrote, “while the power of prayer, in the form of a black-and-white critter, was circling it.”

This Week in the Parish - May 31 – June 7

WEDNESDAY 7:30 pm Hope Council
SUNDAY 9:00 am Worship at First American with Holy Communion
10:00 am Donut & Coffee Fellowship at Hope
10:45 am Worship at Hope with Holy Communion

Rejoicing in your presence & gifts – May 24, 2026

First American: General—\$1070. Benevolence—\$50. Budget per Sun—\$2068.

Welcome to this service of worship; God himself is with us! Let us now adore him! We welcome every worshiper today. May the Holy Spirit fill your hearts to praise the Lord. Praise to the Father! Praise to the Son! Praise to the Holy Spirit! God, three in One. Please be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Barry and sign our guest register as you leave.

Prayer in our corporate worship service is very important. To maintain a current prayer list, requests for non-members will be in the bulletin for three weeks. For additional time, please send an update to Pastor Barry. New additions will be underlined, and those scheduled to come off will be in italics.

Health Needs of our Members: Mike Fechner. Allan Hale. Dawsyn Johnston. Robert Kurtz. Norma Mogck. Sue Neumeister. Tammy Ziegler.

Health Needs: Andrew Bitterman. Mike Brezina (Tripp Community). Karalin Lyons (cousin of Katy Brock). *Renee Marsh* (Tripp community). Marlin Nuss (father of Jodi Fuerst).

Sympathy: Prayers of comfort for the family & friends of Richard Jones (father of Melissa Schmidt), *Sharon Ulmer* (former Hope member) and *Dennis Ziebart* (uncle of Craig Hauser).

Birthdays: 2 Cady Bitterman. 4 Cindy Batterman.

Anniversaries: 31 Dave & Mary Bitterman. 3 Brice & Hannah Caery, John & Sherry Friman, Trevor & Emily Shipp. 5 Jon & Kristie Bueber, Scott & Jaymie Tegethoff.

AFLC Churches: Peace Free Lutheran, Canal Winchester, OH; Trinity Bergen Lutheran, Starkweather, ND.

Mission: Union Gospel Mission in Sioux Falls



Hope Sunday School will be hosting a time of donuts, coffee, and fellowship at 10 am before the worship service on June 7th at Hope. The freewill offering will benefit Operation Christmas Child.

A real friend is one who walks in, when the rest of the world walks out.

—Walter Winchell

Tripp-Delmont Parish + Association of Free Lutheran Churches
Pastor Barry Nelson

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Today's Readings

May 31, 2026

Trinity Sunday

Old Testament

Genesis 1:1-25 (abridged)

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day. ⁶ And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." ⁷ ... And it was so. ⁸ God called the vault "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day. ⁹ And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ ... And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. ¹² ... And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day. ¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷ ... And God saw that it was good. ¹⁸ And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day. ¹⁹ And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky." ²⁰ ... And God saw that it was good. ²¹ God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." ²² And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day. ²³ And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. ²⁴ ... And God saw that it was good.

Psalm 8

¹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory in the heavens.

² **Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.**

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴ **what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?**

⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶ **You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:**

⁷ all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,

⁸ **the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.**

⁹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

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

Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. ¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. ¹⁶ As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

** Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. * C: Praise to You, O Christ.*

Sermon Text

Genesis 1:26—2:3

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." ²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. ² Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. ² By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Lessons – June 7, 2026 Old Testament – Hosea 6:1-6 Psalm 119:65-72

Epistle – Romans 4:13-25 Gospel – Matthew 9:9-13

Tripp Community Vacation Bible School



A Community VBS sponsored by:
First American Lutheran Church, Friedens Reformed Church
and Hope Lutheran Church
Held at Friedens Reformed Church – Tripp

June 15 - 19, 2026

Monday 8:15am-12:00pm

Tuesday – Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm

Closing Program:

Friday, June 19 at 7:30pm



Register Online!

Use QR code or go to
www.fahope.org/vbs

*The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.*

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters. –Psalm 23: 1-2

The boards with the **donation slips** are in the narthex. Needed items include: cookies, plates, cups and ice cream/root beer for the floats following Friday's program.

Volunteers are still needed! If you could help out even a day or two, contact Pastor Barry or Kyrie Nelson.

Genesis 1:26-2:3

"Created in God's Image"

May 31, 2026

1. Created to Be Fruitful

2. Created to Rule

3. Created to Rest