

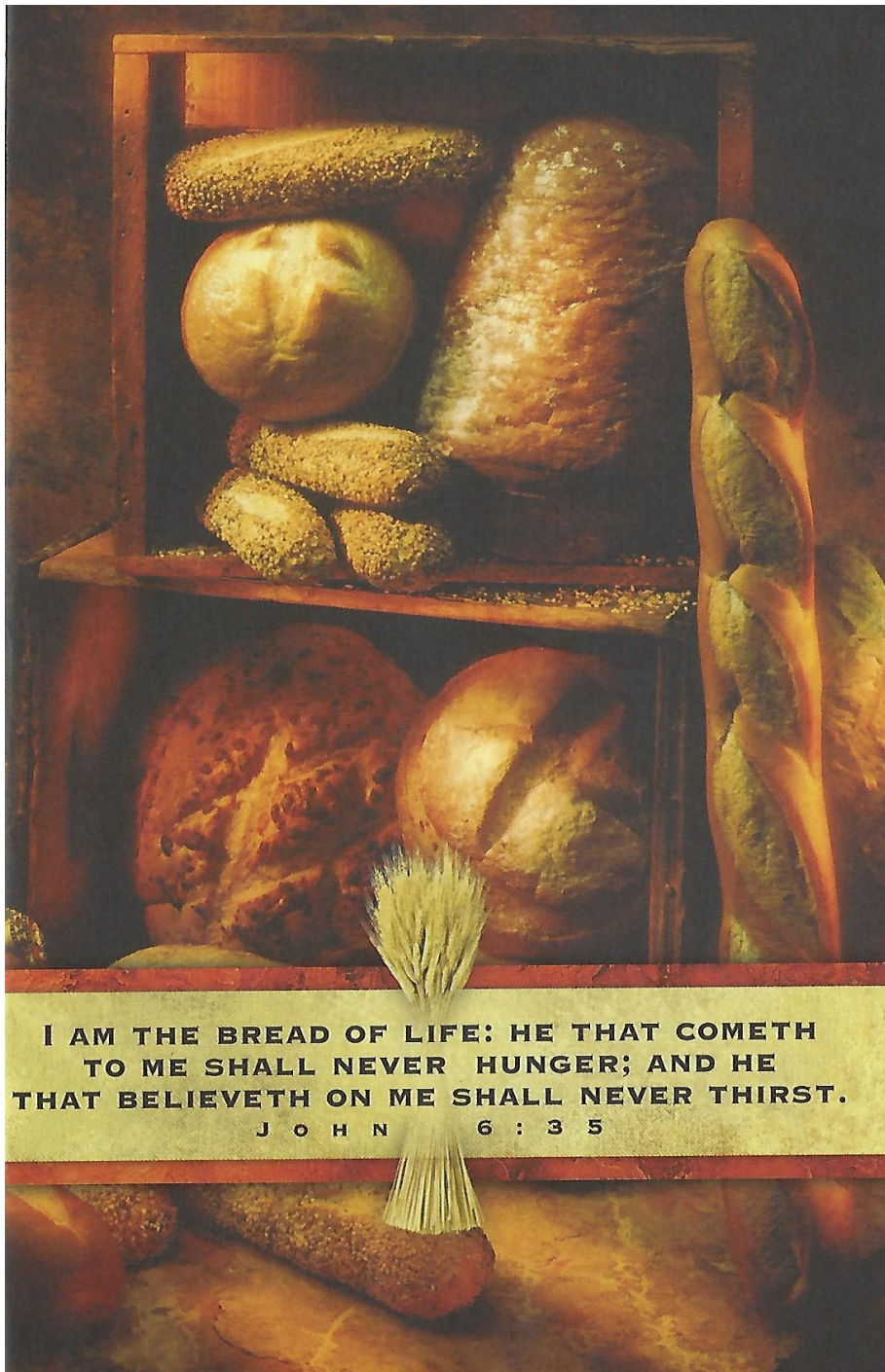
## Welcome to Trinity

### #24 The Minister's Personal Qualifications: A Married Man?

But you must pay no attention to the pope, who bars any married man from being called to such an office....

Second, who taught or decreed this, that we must keep it? St. Paul says (they say) in Ephesians 4 [5:31–32] that husband and wife are a great sacrament. I say, “Yes, in Christ and the church.” My dear man, can you gather from these words of St. Paul that marriage is the kind of a sacrament of which they speak? He says that husband and wife are one body, which is a great sacrament. Then he interprets himself, saying, “I speak of Christ and the church, not of husband and wife.” But they say that he is speaking of husband and wife. Paul envisages Christ and the church as a great sacrament or “mystery”; so they say that husband and wife are a great sacrament. Why then do they regard it as virtually the least of the sacraments, indeed, as sheer impurity and sin, in which one cannot serve God? Moreover, can you also deduce from St. Paul’s words that men and women in bigamous marriages are not husband and wife or one body? If they are one body, why then are they not a sacrament of Christ and the church? After all, St. Paul is speaking generally about husbands and wives who become one body, whether they were single or widowed before, and calls them a sacrament (as you understand “sacrament”). Whence then are you so clever as to differentiate in marriage, taking only the single marriage as a sacrament of Christ and the church—that is, the marriage of a man with a virgin—and excluding all others? Who ordered you to martyr and force St. Paul’s words in this manner?...

Therefore do not worry (as was said) about the papists’ talk concerning the personal qualifications for an ecclesiastical office, for these asses do not understand St. Paul’s words, nor do they know what St. Paul’s language calls a sacrament. He says [Eph. 5:31–32] that Christ and the church are a sacrament, that is, Christ and the church are one body, as husband and wife are, and that this is a great mystery, to be apprehended by faith. It is not visible or tangible; therefore it is a sacrament, that is, something secret, a mystery, invisible, hidden. But since not only virginal but also widowed people entering matrimony are one body, every marriage is a figure or symbol of this great



sacrament or mystery in Christ and the church. St. Paul speaks of neither virgins nor widows; he speaks of marriage, in which husband and wife are one body. Now wherever you find these offices or officers, you may be assured that the holy Christian people are there; for the church cannot be without these bishops, pastors, preachers, priests; and conversely, they cannot be without the church. Both must be together. (Luther's Works, v.41, p.156, 158-159, 163-164)

### Service Sign-Up

The Triune God has established His church to be a dispensary of the Word and Sacraments. The medicine of immortality and the bread of life are essential for life. "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Dt 8:3, Mt 4:4).

In order to abide by recent government guidelines, we ask that you sign up for which services you can attend. At this time each service is allowed to have 9 people in attendance. Please text, email, or call the church and reserve a time to attend. As always, Pastor Henson is available for visits at church or in your home.

### Weekly Calendar

TODAY --Divine Service, 9:00-9:15 AM,  
--Divine Service, 9:20-9:35AM,  
--Divine Service, 9:40-9:55 AM  
--Divine Service, 10:00-10:15 AM

*And for those who show up still thinking we have service at the normal time, I will have a **Divine Service at 10:20-10:35 AM***

*-Learn-by-Heart Recitation of Lord's Supper*

WEDNESDAY **-Divine Service on The Annunciation, 10:30 AM**  
-Private Confession & Absolution, 10:30- 11:00 AM  
-Learn-by-Heart, 6:30 PM  
**-Catechetical Service, 7 – 7:40 PM**

SATURDAY -Private Confession & Absolution, 8:00-8:30 PM

NEXT --JUDICA ("Vindicate me...")

SUNDAY --Children and Adult Bible Studies, 9 AM

--Divine Service, 9:00-9:15 AM,  
--Divine Service, 9:20-9:35AM,  
--Divine Service, 9:40-9:55 AM  
--Divine Service, 10:00-10:15 AM

*-Learn-by-Heart Certificate for Lord's Supper*

### The Lord's Supper

**Trinity Lutheran Church** observes the Scriptural practice (*Eph 4:3, 2 John 1:10-11*) of communing only with those for whom their public profession of faith (congregational membership) is in agreement with God's Word and the correct exposition of Holy Scripture as found in the Book of Concord (1580). All who desire to receive Christ's Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins **are asked to speak with Pastor Henson before coming forward to commune.**

Trinity Lutheran Church is served by pastors who are members of **the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America(Eldona.org).**

--Those who are members of Eldona-affiliated congregations are welcome to commune after announcing to Pastor Henson.

--Those who are not members of Eldona-affiliated congregations will need to set up an appointment with Pastor Henson to discuss their public church membership.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Trinity Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but **His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another.** Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until He comes.

Those who are not yet invited to receive the Sacrament are encouraged to meditate on God's Word in the distribution hymns and pray for the day when our divisions will have ceased.

### Assistants

Elder – Daniel Byrne (922-3556)

Organist – LeeAnn Byrne

Altar Guild – Claire Stretch

Church Cleaning –Mar 29 Kenner, Apr 5/12 Kemp