



JOY

Lutheran Church

Bringing Joy to the Heart of Rockwall...

The 'Joyful Noise' Newsletter –May 29, 2026

"Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!" (Psalm 100:1)

302 N. Goliad Street • Rockwall, Texas • (214) 716-7539 • www.joylutheranchurch.org

WHY TRINITY SUNDAY?

This week we celebrate Holy Trinity Sunday. This ancient festival, celebrated since the 10th century, acknowledges the gracious gift of God's threefold presence in the life of His Church. We'll explore how this doctrine developed and why Luther taught that: *"We should stay with the true, ancient belief that there are three persons – Father, Son and Holy Ghost – in the eternal Godhead. This is the most sublime and the first article of Christian faith."* (Martin Luther, Sermon, 1538) Holy Trinity Sunday officially marks the end of the "festival half" of the church year (which celebrates specific saving events) and transitions the congregation into the long teaching season of Pentecost.

White is the liturgical color for this Sunday, reflecting the purity and majesty of the Triune God. Holy Trinity Sunday is unique among the festivals of the Church Year because it does not commemorate a saving event or a person in salvation history. Instead, it rejoices in the self-revelation and character of the one true God Himself – not merely in the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, but in the Holy Triune God and His mercy toward us. What of the charge that this doctrine wasn't fully developed until the third century? Even though the term is post-biblical, the *concept* is not! It stands in continuity – not conflict – with biblical revelation, for the Scriptural picture of God is implicitly Trinitarian; but when false doctrines crept in, the church responded by making *explicit* what was always *implicit*. Some also charge that this teaching needlessly complicates the Faith and makes Christianity hard to understand. One of the greatest apologists in the last century answered this charge in grand style. *"If Christianity was something we were making up, of course we could make it easier. But it is not. We cannot compete, in simplicity, with people who are inventing religions. How could we? We are dealing with Fact. Of course, anyone can be simple if he has no facts to bother about."* C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

The hymn *Lord Jesus Christ Be Present Now* (LBW 253) is a fitting prayer as we prepare our hearts for this coming Sunday.

1 Lord Jesus Christ, be present now, Our hearts in true devotion bow,
Thy Spirit send with light divine, And let thy truth within us shine.

2 Unseal our lips to sing thy praise, Our souls to thee in worship raise,
Our faith increase, our minds enlight, That we may know thy name aright.

3 Until we join the hosts that cry, "Thou holy art, O Lord Most High!"
And 'mid the light of that blest place Shall gaze upon thee face to face.

4 All glory to the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To thee, O blessed Trinity, Be praise throughout eternity!

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THIS COMING SUNDAY -

First Reading- Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Second Reading- Acts 2:14a, 22-36

Responsive Reading- Psalm 8:1-9

Gospel- Matthew 28:16-20

JOY'S ARTISTS GATHERING

Enjoy painting or crafts? Looking for a great place to get together to use (or develop) your talent among friends? This informal gathering meets on Tuesdays from 10:00 to 2:00 in the fellowship hall. We bring our own lunch and eat together at noon.



Ladies Bunco from this past Wednesday Evening!



Save These DATES

- Artist's Gathering - Tuesday, June 2nd from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- Young at Heart Luncheon - Wednesday, June 10th at 11:45 am at Sammy Lou's in Rowlett.
- Joy Council Meeting - Wednesday, June 10th at 6:00 pm.
- The Greater Rockwall Youth Symphony Concert at Joy, June 13th at 11:15 am.
- Artist's Gathering - Tuesday, June 16th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- Family Movie Night - Friday, June 19th at 6:45 pm. -Jumanji & Raising Cane's Chicken Tenders!
- Artist's Gathering - Tuesday, June 23rd from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- Ladies Bunco Night - Wednesday, June 24th at 6:30 pm.
- Men's Fellowship - Wednesday, June 24th at 6:30 pm.
- Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, June 28th.



Joy will host the Greater Rockwall Youth Symphony Summer Music Camp in our building. This is a one-week, full-day intensive held June 8-13 from 9:00 to 4:30. Students ages 7-18 participate in a structured, enriching environment designed to support musical growth, teamwork, and leadership. Open to students from multiple districts and homeschool communities, the camp provides ensemble training, sectionals, musicianship development, and mentorship throughout the week.

The week will conclude with two student performances on June 13. The students will perform a special morning concert (starting at 11:15) free of charge for members of Joy and their families, followed by an evening community concert at the local community center.

During the week, we will need a few volunteers from Joy to open up at 8:45 in the morning, lock up at 4:30 in the afternoon and to be available during the day if needed. If you would like to volunteer to help with this activity, please let Sharon Johnson know as soon as possible.

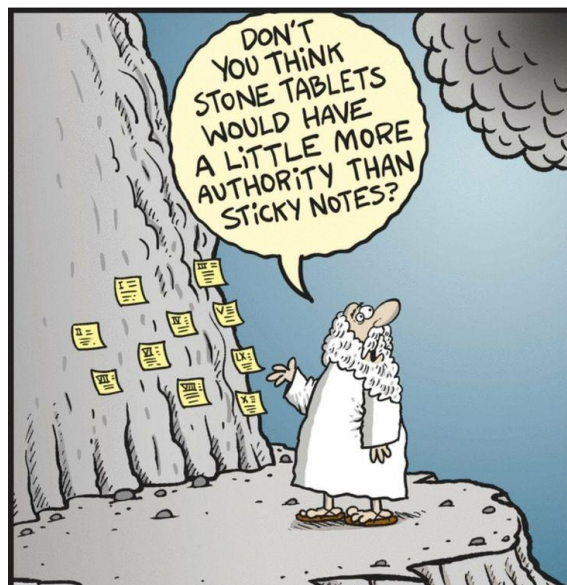


Inez, Collin, Patty, Tommy & Laurie, Fred, Sam & Sally, Dianna, Isaiah & Jazmin, Janet, Weston, Devin, Dax, Mary Kay & Mike, Brian & Kelli, Joanne, Linn, Annette & Charles, and our armed forces near and far.

Sign-up Sheets are on the **BLESSINGS BOARD** in the Fellowship Hall. Please review these opportunities and see where God may be leading you to serve our church family. We are especially in need of a volunteer to help record our service. If you are willing to help in this area one week per month, please talk to the pastor.



And now for something completely different...



"A joyful heart is good medicine, but depression drains one's strength."

(Proverbs 17:22, God's Word Translation)

Joy Lutheran Church Library Book Review:

Siang-Yang Tan & John Ortberg

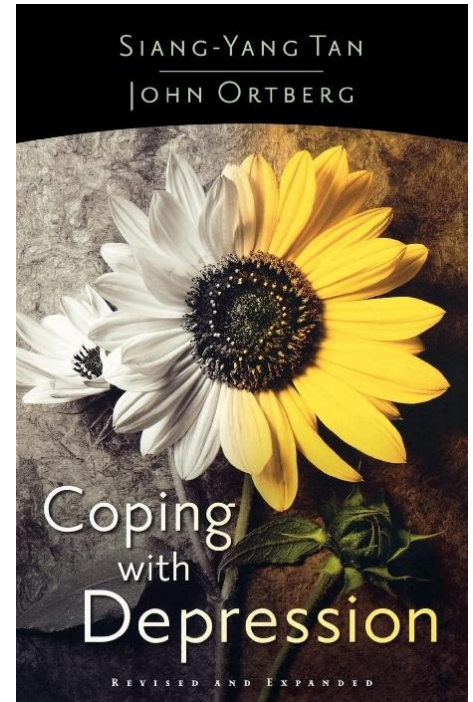
Coping With Depression

Audience: Recommended for 16 years and older.

Nineteen million Americans suffer from depression each year

It can strike anyone, and being a Christian does not exempt you. But help is here.

Understanding the ABCs of emotional life-Affect, Behavior, and Cognition-can shed light on the causes of depression. In this revised and updated edition of *Coping with Depression*, the authors look carefully at the ABCs, showing how your thoughts affect the way you feel and describing how each dimension is linked with depression. They balance the spiritual dimension of approaching depression with the most recent scientific research and offer highly practical and proven strategies for coping.



If you suffer from depression or know someone who does, you will find encouragement and help in this reassuring book.

"Tan and Ortberg educate and edify. They build on state-of-the-science understanding, state-of-the-treatment tips from therapy, and state-of-the-spirit nurture of the whole person. The result: an educational and uplifting book to guide people out of depression."-Everett L. Worthington Jr., Ph.D., chair of psychology, Virginia Commonwealth University

"Coping with Depression is a spiritually sensitive, scientifically informed, and highly practical resource for people struggling with depression and those who would seek to understand and help them."-Stanton L. Jones, Ph.D., provost, Wheaton College

Siang-Yang Tan (Ph.D., McGill University) is a graduate professor of psychology at Fuller Theological Seminary. He also serves as senior pastor of First Evangelical Church of Glendale.

John Ortberg (M.Div., Ph.D., Fuller Theological Seminary) served as a pastor at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church and author of *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat* and *Everybody's Normal Till You Get to Know Them*.

