

The leader may address the assembly with these or similar words.

Dear Friends:

Life presents us with various significant milestones that set the stage for the next phase in our earthly journey. Graduation from high school is one of these milestones. Today we wish to honor those who are moving through this special time of accomplishment, transition, and change, and to show them that we, their community of faith, stand with them as fellow believers in Jesus Christ.

Graduates may be introduced by the leader or may introduce themselves.

The leader addresses the graduates and the assembly.

At this time of celebration and transition, hear these words from Holy Scripture.

Jeremiah 29:11-14a

¹¹ For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹² Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³ When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, ¹⁴ I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

The leader continues with these or similar words.

Dear graduates:

At this special time in your life we are eager to show you how delighted we are that you have reached this milestone in your life. As fellow members of this community of faith we rejoice with you and want you to know of our pride and excitement as you move from this accomplishment into the next phase of your life. We also want you to know that wherever you go and whatever you do, you are going forward with our prayers for God's continued guidance, power, protection, and strength.

Parents and guardians may join the graduates. Families may join hands as the leader prays for God's blessing with these or similar words.

O Lord Jesus Christ, when you welcomed the children your invitation included each one of us. Your guiding hand has continually been upon Katelin and Jack. You have sustained them. You have shared in their laughter and wiped away their tears. In times of confusion you have offered direction. In times of sorrow you have offered hope. In times of doubt your Holy Spirit has lifted them up. Grant, O Savior, to each of these graduates the knowledge of your continued presence as they go forth into the future. Guide their steps. Hold them in the hollow of your hand. Bless them and keep them now and forever. **Amen.**

The leader addresses the assembly.

Members and friends of Holy Trinity, will you promise to keep these graduates and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they go forth into the future?

We will.

Will you, as fellow believers in Jesus Christ, promise to help Katelin and Jack as need and opportunity arise?

We will.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless your servants with many achievements. We give thanks especially today for the milestones that these graduates have attained. As they begin new phases of their lives, may they know your love in all they encounter.

Bless the parents, grandparents, and other family members who have raised these students, and nourished them in Christian faith. Give them strength in your holy presence, and give them many joyful reunions with those who are leaving home to go far away, and those staying close by. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Presentation of Bibles

Parents and guardians may place a hand on the shoulder or head of their child as they join the congregation in praying for God's blessing with these words.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

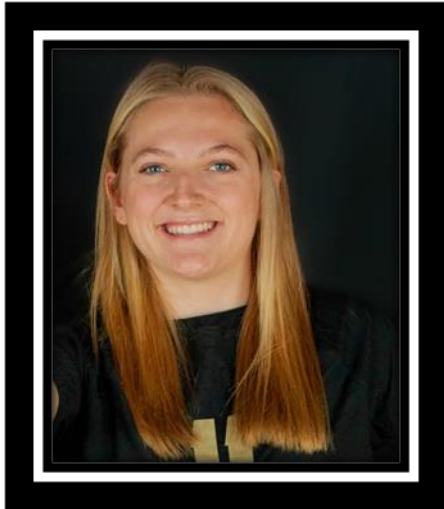
May the Lord watch over you and keep you safe.

May the Lord guide your every step.

May you always know of our unending love for you.

Amen.

OUR GRADUATES



Katelin Bethany Passow will be graduating from Pendleton High School where she participated in Varsity Golf, JV Soccer, Varsity Soccer and received An Athletic Academic Award. She was a member of the Captains Club and the National Honor Society. Katelin will be attending the University of South Carolina in Aiken in the fall, pursuing a degree in Physical Therapy.



John Matthew Roehrs (Jack) will be graduating from T.L. Hanna High School where he played JV and Varsity Football. He plans to attend Tri-County Technical College in Anderson to study Power Lineman procedures.

BLESSING OF GRADUATES



May 5, 2024

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Anderson, South Carolina**