The Divine Service The Holy Trinity May 30, 2021



AS WE GATHER

On this Holy Trinity Sunday, we do not so much explain God as confess Him. We testify to Him who has revealed Himself to us. To the mind in search of reasonable answers, God will always be a question or riddle to be solved. But to the empty heart, the Holy Spirit leads us to see with faith the God whose majesty has worked for our salvation and whose mercy has rescued us sinners from sin and the grave. Like Nicodemus of old, we want to know how, yet our Lord gives us not the how, but the who; not the explanation, but the mystery of mercy big enough to save us. We come today confessing with our fathers in faith the Athanasian Creed, singing "Holy, Holy, Holy," and rejoicing in the God who is bigger than we are, but who becomes one of us to save us.

CALL TO WORSHIP/CHECK IN

WORDS OF WELCOME/THEME OF THE DAY

Invocation

Pastor:

In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People:

Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor:

We are gathered to celebrate and embrace God, our Father, who created us; His Son, who poured out His life to save us, and the Holy Spirit who

works in and with us to open the door of faith.

People:

Come, Holy Spirit, open our hearts to your power and guidance.

Pastor:

Filled with the Holy Spirit's power, we come before our great God,

admitting we sin in thought, word, and deed as we betray the Spirit's gift

to us.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Pastor:

Father,

People:

We confess that many times we live spiritually empty lives and ignore

your Spirit's power. You call, gather, strengthen, enlighten and

comfort us, and yet we fail to embrace these blessings. Rekindle in us the flame of your Spirit, breathe on us your life-giving Spirit, and

empower our lives for your service.

Pastor:

In the church, the Spirit daily and richly forgives the sins of those who repent and believe the Gospel. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy

Spirit.

People:

Amen.

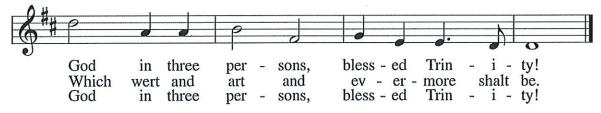
PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Holy, Holy, Holy" LSB 507, verses 1,2,4





Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee; Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea; All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.





GREETING

Pastor:

The Lord be with you.

People:

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor:

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us stead fast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

People:

Amen.



THE OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 6:1-8

Reader:

6 In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" ⁴ And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" ⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." ⁸ And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

Reader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Reader:

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: ²² "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴ God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵ For David says concerning him," 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. ²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. ²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence." ²⁹ "Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, 31 he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³ Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, ³⁵ until I make your enemies your footstool." ³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Reader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL John 3:1-17

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the third chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

3 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The windblows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? 11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16 "For God so loved the world, 11 that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.



HYMN OF THE DAY "Alleluia! Let Praises Ring" LSB 822



"Prisoners of Hope"

Pastor Jim Tino

ATHANASIAN CREED

SERMON

Pastor: Today we are marveling at the grace of God in paying attention to us and

saving us, although we are a seemingly insignificant part of His creation. The grace of God is also apparent as the Church has sought to confess the witness of Scripture. As we cannot comprehend the vastness of space, so we

cannot understand God's nature as three persons in one Godhead. As you profess truths about our majestic God, I will follow with the offsetting

realities that also must be true. We cannot explain God; we can only confess

our faith within the limits of human understanding.

Pastor: Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith.

Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish

eternally.

People: And the catholic faith is this, that we worship one God in Trinity and

Trinity in Unity,

Pastor: neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.

People: For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is

another.

Pastor: But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one:

the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.

People: Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:

Pastor: the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated; the

Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite; the Father eternal,

the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.

People: And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,

Pastor: just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated

and one Infinite.

People: In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy

Spirit almighty;

Pastor: and yet there are not three Almighties, but one Almighty.

People: So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God; and yet

there are not three Gods, but one God. So the Father is Lord, the Son is

Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;

Pastor:

and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord. Just as we are compelled by The Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.

People:

The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone. The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone. The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.

Pastor:

Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits. And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another; but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.

People:

Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.

Pastor:

But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People:

Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.

Pastor:

He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages; and He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age: perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh; equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.

People:

Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:

Pastor:

one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God; one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person. For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,

People:

who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead, ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the living and the dead. At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds. And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.

Pastor:

This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Petitions end, "Lord in your mercy" Congregation responds, "Hear Our Prayer"

GATHERING OF GIFTS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor:

Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People:

Amen.

A word about Holy Communion: We welcome to the Lord's Table all baptized Christians who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in this sacrament and believe that in this eating and drinking, we receive the forgiveness of sins and the power to amend our sinful lives. Children who have not yet been instructed may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over the chest thus indicating they will not receive the elements.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand as you are able.

PREFACE

Pastor:

The Lord be with you.

People:

And also with you.

Pastor:

Lift up your hearts.

People:

We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People:

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS



☐ Ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.





THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor:

Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PEACE OF THE LORD

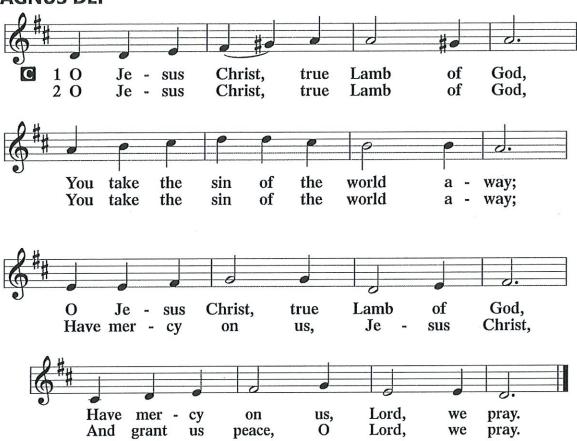
Pastor:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People:

And also with you.





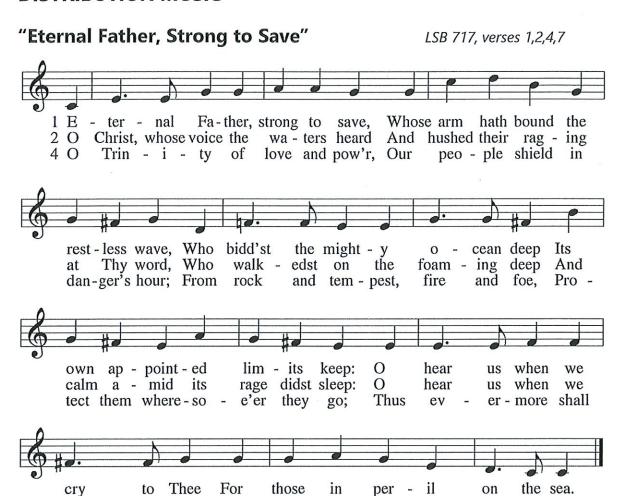
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we

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC



7 Eternal Father, Lord of Hosts,
Watch o'er all those who guard our coasts.
Protect them from the raging seas,
And give them light and life and peace.
Grant them from thy great throne above
The shield and shelter of thy love.

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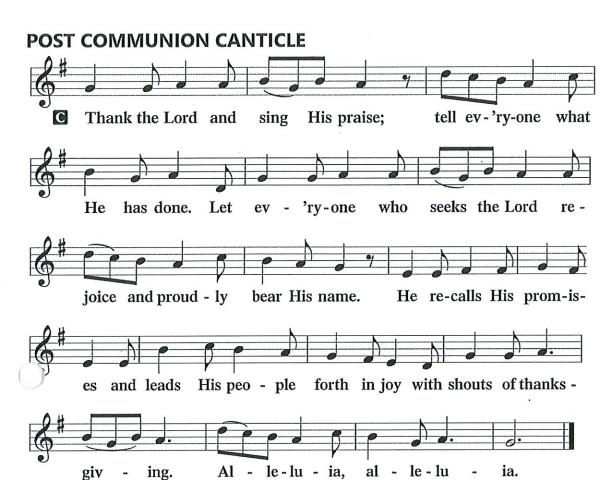
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POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL HYMN



DISMISSAL

Pastor:

Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

People:

Disciples making disciples.

Pastor:

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God!

