

HOLY TRINITY

The Great I AM
May 25 & 26, 2013

AS WE GATHER

Our readings for today refer to important truths about Jesus . . . He is the Son of the Father from eternity (*John 8:54-55*) and He is Himself, God (*John 8:58*). Jesus was sent by the Father to give us life. He says that anybody who keeps His Word will never see death. This "keeping" first involves the gift of faith that clings to Christ's gracious promise of salvation. This "keeping" also involves the result of the gift of salvation by a life that shows our identity as redeemed Christians. Let others see the fruits of the faith in you, that they may learn of your hope in Christ Jesus the Savior. By hearing the Gospel, may they be brought to eternal life through our one God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

WELCOME

“They devoted themselves to the Apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

+ PREPARATION +

(Rise)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #507 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, Perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

EXHORTATION 1 John 1:8-9

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN #802 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” Stanza 1
Immortal, invisible, God only wise. In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

ATHANASIAN CREED *Part I*

Pastor: The Confession of Faith traditionally used in Christian churches around the world on Trinity Sunday is the Athanasian Creed. The Athanasian Creed focuses on the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and on the doctrine of Jesus Christ, our Savior. We read responsively a portion of the creed as indicated in our service folder. 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. And the catholic faith is this,

People: that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.

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

People: But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.

(Rise) **HOLY GOSPEL** John 8:48-59 (*Before Abraham Was, I Am*) The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?" "I am not possessed by a demon," said Jesus, "but I honor my Father and you dishonor me. I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." At this the Jews exclaimed, "Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that if anyone keeps your word, he will never taste death. Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?" Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad." "You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!" "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

HYMN #802 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" Stanza 3

To all life Thou givest – to both great and small --
In all life Thou livest, the true Live of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish – but naught changes Thee.

ATHANASIAN CREED *Part III*

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:

People: 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.

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

People: one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;

Pastor: one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #940 "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" Stanzas 1,2,5

Holy God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heav'n above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.

(5)

Hark! The glad celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim, In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy Lord!

Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;
Though in essence only one, Undivided God we claim Thee
And, adoring bend the knee While we own the mystery.

SERMON

"The Holy Trinity"

John 8:48-59

- Hands full of rocks
- A possessed Samaritan
- Who do you think you are?
- With one great ego

(Rise)

ATHANASIAN CREED *Part IV*

Pastor: For as the rational soul and flesh is one man,

People: so God and man is one Christ, 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.

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

(Be seated)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, please sign our attendance book located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pastor: . . . ever one God, world without end.

People: Amen.

8:00 & 10:30 THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

(6)

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

HYMN #504 “Father Most Holy”

Father most holy, merciful, and tender; Jesus, our Savior, with the Father reigning;
Spirit of comfort, advocate, defender, Light never waning;

Trinity blessed, unity unshaken, Goodness unbounded, very God of heaven,
Light of the angels, joy of those forsaken, Hope of all living,

Maker of all things, all Thy creatures praise Thee;
All for Thy worship were and are created;

Now, as we also worship Thee devoutly, Hear Thou our voices.

Lord God Almighty, unto Thee be glory, One in three persons, over all exalted!
Glory we offer, praise Thee and adore Thee, Now and forever.

HYMN #876 “O Blessed, Holy Trinity”

O blessed, holy Trinity, Divine, eternal Unity,

O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, This day Your name be upper-most.

My soul and body keep from harm, And over all extend Your arm;
Let Satan cause me no distress Nor bring me shame and wretchedness.

The Father’s love shield me this day; The Son’s pure wisdom cheer my way;
The Holy Spirit’s joy and light Drive from my heart the shades of night.

My Maker, hold me in Your hand; O Christ, forgiven let me stand;
Blest Comforter, do not depart; With faith and love enrich my heart.

Lord, bless and keep me as Your own; Lord, look in kindness from Your throne;
Lord, shine un failing peace on me By grace surrounded; set me free.

HYMN #643 “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

Sent forth by God’s blessing, Our true faith confessing,

(7)

The people of God from His dwelling take leave. The Supper is ended.

O now be extended The fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all. His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving To God ever living,
The tasks of our ev’ry day life we will face. Our faith ever sharing,
In love ever caring, Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise) **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Pastor: 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 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.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you; the LORD look on you in favor and + give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #506 “Glory Be To God The Father”

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory While eternal ages run!

Glory be to Him who love us, Washed us from each spot and stain;
Glory be to Him who bought us, Made us kings with him to reign!
Glory, glory To the Lamb that once was slain!

Glory to the King of angels, Glory to the Church’s King,
Glory to the King of nations; Heav’n and earth, your praises bring!
Glory, glory To the King of glory sing!

Glory, blessing, praise eternal! Thus the choir of angels sings;
Honor, riches, pow’r, dominion! Thus its praise creation brings.
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings!

(8)