

THE HOLY TRINITY

Growing in Faith
May 26 & 27, 2018
5:00pm & 8:00am

AS WE GATHER

The Festival of the Holy Trinity gives us an opportunity to stretch our faith. At its center is a careful delineation of doctrine. At the heart of the liturgy is the Athanasian Creed, which is challenging not only for its length but for its content as well. As he writes to Titus, Paul has special words of encouragement, writing, "But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine" (Titus 2:1). Through the Lessons we hear and the Creed we speak, we faithfully join in expressing the doctrine that is our heritage.

WELCOME

MILITARY BIBLE STICKS – Brief Video

MINISTRY MOMENT – Janet Johnson, Divine Connections

"[Jesus said,] The Helper, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things
and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."
(John 14:26)

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 & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;

People: the whole earth is full of His glory!

Pastor: Do not forsake me, O LORD! O my God, be not far from me!

People: Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

Pastor: Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;

People: let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!

Pastor: Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,

People: and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,

People: from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us with true hearts confess together that we, through sinful thoughts, careless words, and loveless deeds, have transgressed God's righteous Law and deserve His punishment now and eternally.

✠ WORD ✠

People: Almighty God, merciful Father, we acknowledge our sinful nature and repent of our sins in thought and in word and in deed. For the sake of Jesus, grant us your forgiveness so that, as your redeemed people, we be fit places for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and serve you in time and in eternity.

Pastor: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #584 “Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing”

Faith and truth and life bestowing, Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing, Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving, Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving, Shallow earth or stony ground.
May the Spirit’s pow’r unceasing Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing, Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in scripture, song, and story, Savior, may Your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold Your glory Give us ears to hear Your Word.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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 steadfast 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.

(Be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 6:1–8* (The prophet Isaiah is given a vision of the Lord.) 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. 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. And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!” And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. 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!” Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.” 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.”

EPISTLE *Acts 2:14a, 22–36* (Peter attests to the resurrection of Jesus.) But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “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— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. 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; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ “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. 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, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. 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. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, “The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.” Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

CHOIR ANTHEM (8:00)*“Deep Waters”*

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 3:1-17* (The love of God is shown to the world in Jesus.)

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 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.” Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” 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?” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows 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.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? 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. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 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.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**SERMON 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!

SERMON*“Nick at Night”***John 3:1-17**

(Rise)

ATHANASIAN CREED *(in unison)**Page 319 Verses 1-19*

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, that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance. For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another. But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.

Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit; 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.

And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal, just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.

In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty; and yet there are not three Almightyies, but one Almighty.

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; 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.

(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. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray: O eternal and unchangeable God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — with angels and archangels we laud and magnify your holy name.

People: Accept our praise this day for creating us, preserving us, redeeming us and delivering to us your forgiveness and salvation.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, the Holy Christian Church throughout the world praises you and acknowledges you to be the Lord. Renew the zeal of all congregations in proclaiming the true and eternal wisdom revealed in your Word.

People: Graciously bless the proclamation of pastors, missionaries, teachers and all your people, that many more will be saved and join the Holy Christian Church in praising your great glory.

Pastor: Lord of the Church, you have established the Office of the Ministry so that we may obtain saving faith in you, and you have provided other workers in the Kingdom to support that Gospel proclamation.

People: Send forth faithful pastors to preach your Gospel, and raise up teachers, deaconesses and other full-time church workers for the expansion of your eternal Kingdom.

Pastor: Almighty God, you bless the earth to make it fruitful, bringing forth in abundance whatever is needed for the support of our lives. Prosper the work of farmers and all those who labor to bring food to our table.

People: Grant seasonable weather, that they may plant and harvest the fruits of the earth in abundance and proclaim your goodness with thanksgiving.

Pastor: Lord of the nations, calm the troubled areas of conflict among the nations. Remove threats of terror and anarchy that plague our world. Defeat the plans of all those who would stir up violence and strife, and bring to nothing those who delight in war and bloodshed. On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember with thanksgiving all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our nation and our freedoms.

People: Protect all military personnel as they work to achieve an end to worldly conflict, especially Cross, Connor, Halie, Christopher, Graham, Steven, Eric, Jon, Ryan and Richard. Sustain them in their time away from family, and guide them to serve with honesty and integrity.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, you promise to be with us always. Comfort those who grieve, especially the family and friends of Donna Strigenz. Fill them with hope and peace through faith in Christ. Visit those who are in any type of distress with the assurance that you abide with them even in their infirmities. We pray for those among us who are sick, homebound or undergoing tests and treatment, especially Carol, Anita, Cindy, Pastor Bender, Junie, Carlene, RoseMarie, Nancy, Sue, Janet, Dolores, Pat, Cliff, Shirley, Gladys, Pat, Herb, Matthew, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Jack, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard and Sarah.

People: In the midst of their illnesses and afflictions, strengthen their faith so that they may bear any hardship in patience and trust until you grant them deliverance, peace and healing.

Pastor: Lord God our Father, you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety throughout the days of their pilgrimage, you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea, and by a star you led the Wise Men to the infant Jesus. Continue to protect and guide your people who travel.

People: Especially protect those who travel during this holiday weekend, either to visit family and friends or to enjoy the beauty of your creation. Make their ways safe and their homecomings joyful.

Pastor: Almighty God, at the beginning of time you said that it was not good for the man to be alone, and so you created woman and instituted holy marriage. Bless Skyler and Sarah as they are united in marriage this weekend, and bless Tim and Dawn who are celebrating their 4th wedding anniversary.

People: Bless them and all Christian couples to live together in holy love all their days.

Pastor: Dear Savior, in the Sacrament of the Altar you reveal your glory in and under bread and wine. Grant that we who approach your altar may eat and drink in repentance over sin and in joyful recognition of your forgiving presence.

People: Strengthen our faith, increase our love and hope, and assure us a place at your heavenly table in the life of the world to come.

Pastor: Father of infinite majesty, hear our prayers for the sake of your adorable, true and only Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

THEME CELEBRATION "Growing in Faith"

Pastor: The weeks of Trinity and the Sundays after Pentecost are a time to grow as God's people. Today, we rejoice that our Lord has called us to grow in faith. Luke records that the disciples responded to the teachings of Jesus with a simple request: "Increase our faith!" Through the words of the next hymn, written in England in the nineteenth century, we pray for a faith that continues to grow throughout our lives.

HYMN "Oh, for a Faith That Will Not Shrink" Tune: TLH 396

Oh, for a faith that will not shrink Though pressed by many_a foe;
That will not tremble on the brink Of poverty or woe;
That will not murmur nor complain Beneath the chast'ning rod,
But in the hour of grief or pain Can lean upon its God.
Lord, give us such a faith as this; And then, whate'er may come,
We'll taste e'en now the hallowed bliss Of an eternal home.

Text: William H. Bathurst, 1796-1877. Public domain

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI tune: Beach Spring

Lamb of God, who pardons sinners, Show us mercy, show us grace.
Lamb of God, whose promise lingers, Grant Your peace in ev'ry place.
Lamb of God, the world is broken. It is filled with scattered souls.
Fill us with the words You've spoken, Reconcile and make us whole.

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(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 #794 "The Lord, My God, Be Praised"

The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heaven;
My maker, who to me Has soul and body given;
My Father, who will shield And keep me day by day
And make each moment yield New blessings on my way.

The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heaven;
The Father's own dear Son, whose life for me was given,
Who for my sin atoned With His most precious blood
And give to me by faith The highest heav'nly good.

The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heaven,
The Spirit, whom the Son In love to me has given.
His grace revives my heart And gives my spirit pow'r,
Help, comfort, and support In sorrow's gloomy hour.

The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the everliving,
To whom the heav'nly host Their laud and praise are giving.
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,
God Father, God the Son, And God the Holy Ghost.

HYMN #791 "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth-tell ; Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make.
We are His folk, He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise; Approach with joy His courts unto.
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good; His mercy is forever sure.
His truth at all times firmly stood And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore.

HYMN #631 “Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav’n;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv’n.

This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heav’nly table spread for me;
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.

I have no help but Thine;
nor do I need Another arm but Thine to lean upon.
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
The blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord, my God.

Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb’s great marriage feast of bliss and love.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray, God, the gracious giver of all blessings, we thank you for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are truly members of His Body, the Church. Sanctify us by the working of your Holy Spirit that we continue in this faith and fellowship and do the good works which you desire us to do; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, to whom, with you and the same Spirit, be all honor and glory, forever and ever.

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 upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #692 “Praise to You and Adoration”

Praise to You and adoration, Blessed Jesus, Son of God,
Who, to serve Your own creation, Came to share our flesh and blood.
Guide me that I never may From Your fold or pastures stray,
But with zeal and joy exceeding Follow where Your steps are leading.

Hold me ever in Your keeping; Comfort me in pain and strife.
In my laughter and my weeping Be with me throughout my life.
Give me greater love for You, And my faith and hope renew
In Your birth, Your life, and passion, In Your death and resurrection.

Preacher & Liturgist Saturday

Liturgist Sunday

Lectors

Acolytes

Children’s Message

Organist

Choir Director

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Pastor Harold Bender

Melissa Leon, Dalen Heinzen

Emma Harper, Lillia Carson

Laurel Privatt

Michelle Prince

Nancy Hoelke