



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

May 27, 2018

As We Gather...

You may be surprised that the word Trinity never appears in the Bible. This does not mean, however, that the doctrine, or teaching, of the Trinity is wrong. While the word Trinity is not seen in Scripture, we certainly see the work of the Trinity there. From creation to today's Old Testament Reading, from Jesus' Baptism to His Great Commission, we see the Trinity at work time and time again. On this Holy Trinity Sunday, we celebrate that our Lord is the triune God—one God in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We try to put this mystery of the Trinity into human words through song and in creeds, but we recognize that mere words fall short of describing our truly awesome God. In awe and wonder of the Holy Trinity, we simply join with the seraphim in singing, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Service of the Word on page 38 in the front of the hymnal

OPENING HYMN

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

Hymn 195

M: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

ATHANASIAN CREED

M: The Athanasian Creed declares that its teachings concerning the Holy Trinity and our Lord's incarnation are "the true Christian faith." In other words, this is what the true Church of all times and all places has confessed. More than fifteen centuries later, the Church continues to confess this truth, confident that the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has given Himself for our salvation.

LUKE GALLESKE RECITES THE ATHANASIAN CREED ON PAGE 132

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

♪ **Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Blessed are they who take refuge in him. Your Word,
O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your
faithfulness continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the
Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God and Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, filling and renewing all creation by your eternal Spirit, and manifesting your saving grace through our Lord Jesus Christ: in mercy cleanse our hearts and lips that, free from doubt and fear, we may ever worship you, one true immortal God, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, living and reigning, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 6:1-8

In bringing us into his kingdom the Holy Trinity employs both the law and the gospel.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.” At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.” Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

PSALM 150

Page 122 in the front of the hymnal

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:14-17

The triune God brings us and keeps us in the kingdom.

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

VERSE OF THE DAY

♪ **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
These words are written that we may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:1-17

Faith in the divine mystery of the Holy Trinity is a miracle beyond all other miraculous signs and wonders.

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.” In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.” “How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!” Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: ♪Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest”

Hymn 177

SERMON

Romans 8:14-17

Marvel at the Mystery

We are led by the Spirit; Loved by the Father; Heir’s with God’s Son

THE GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Triune God, you are the one eternal God, whose name we praise forever. We could not have known you, our only Savior, if you had not revealed yourself to us as Father, Son, and Spirit—three persons, yet one God. Remove from us all unbelief, and grant us humble faith as we contemplate this high and holy mystery. Scatter all those who are wise in their own conceits, and give us a simple, childlike trust to worship you as Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity.

God our Father, whatever good is in us, whatever good things we have, and whatever good we do comes from you alone. In you we live and move and have our being. Open our eyes to see the gifts you shower down on us daily—purely out of your own fatherly love and care.

Lord Jesus our Savior, you came into our world to make the Father known to us; you joined yourself to us by taking on our humanity; you brought us back to God by shedding your blood. In love you walked the way of suffering and bore alone the wrath of God, the wrath that we by our sins deserved. Help us believe that all you did, all you suffered, and all you endured you did for us, to rescue us and set us free. In the bright new hope of your resurrection, teach us to offer our lives each day in praise to God and in love to our neighbor.

Creator Spirit, you have opened our eyes by the bright light of your Word; you have burst through our deafness with the clear sound of your voice in the Scriptures; you have breathed into us new life by the power of the gospel. Through Word and sacrament, help us grow in understanding the breadth and depth and height of the love of God. Make us firm in our resolve to do battle with our sin. In every weakness be our strength, that we may show ourselves to be God’s true children: faithful in prayer, constant in hope, and fervent in love.

O Holy Trinity, you are the God of glory, the God of grace, the God of every comfort. From you and through you and to you are all things. We rejoice to call you Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and so to praise your holy name forever.

C: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SERMON HYMN

“Come, Now, Almighty King”

Hymn 193

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✕ give you peace.

C: ♪ **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices”

Hymn 194

ORGANIST

David Koepsell

GREETERS

7:45 ~ Ruth Schultz

10:00 ~ DuWayne & Marilyn Zamzow