

THE HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY, MAY 30, 2021 11:00 AM

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LOVED BY CHRIST
SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Word of Life Lutheran School

ASCENSION LOCATION

5:00 pm Saturdays & 8:15 am Sundays (Traditional Music)
11:00 am Sundays (Contemporary Music)
9:45 am Sundays (Sunday School and Bible Class)

CFNA PEACE CENTER LOCATION

10:00 am 2nd through 5th Sundays (Nepali Fellowship)

THE HOLY TRINITY

MAY 30, 2021 11:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

The Sunday following Pentecost is always Holy Trinity. On this day we are confronted with who God is through what God does. He is the mighty God, the One in Three, before whom we sing “Holy, Holy, Holy.” He is also the Christ, the Savior who comes in flesh to redeem His fallen creation and restore the lost to Himself. He is also the Spirit who blows when and where He wills but breathes life into those dead in trespasses and sin and bestows faith where fear once lived. It all is expressed in the God who so loved the world—the most familiar and beloved Bible passage. Here, in this Gospel in a nutshell, is the triune God at work for us and our salvation.

PRELUDE:

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

OPENING SONG: OUR GOD SAVES

Brown/Baloché

In the Name of the Father, in the Name of the Son, in the Name of the Spirit, Lord we come;
We're gather'd together to lift up Your Name, to call on our Savior, to fall on Your grace;
Hear the joyful sound of our offering as Your saints bow down, as Your people sing;
We will rise with You, lifted on Your wings, and the world will see that . . .

Our God saves, Our God saves; There is hope, in Your Name;
Mourning turns to songs of praise; Our God saves, Our God saves. REPEAT SONG

Our God saves.

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(Please Stand)

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

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

Silence for meditation and reflection.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **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.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

(or)

A In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)

ATHANASIAN CREED

Part 1

P Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic (universal) faith.

C **Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.**

P And the catholic faith is this,

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

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

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

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

C **the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;**

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

C **the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.**

P And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,

C **just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinities, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.**

P In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;

C **and yet there are not three Almighty's, but one Almighty.**

P So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;

C **and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**

- P** So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
C **and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.**

Part 2

- P** 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.
C **The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.**

- P** The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.
C **The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.**

- P** Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.

- C** **And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;**

- P** 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.

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

Part 3

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

- C** **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.**

- P** 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:

- C** **perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;**

- P** equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.

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

- P** one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;

- C** **one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.**

- P** For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,

- C** **who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,**

- P** 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.

- C** **At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.**

- P** And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.

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

(Please Stand)

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)

✠ **WORD** ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 6:1–8

¹In 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. ²Above 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. ³And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵And 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!”

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

⁸And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Acts 2:14a, 22–36

¹⁴Peter, 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—

²³this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;
²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
my flesh also will dwell in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One see corruption.

²⁸You 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. ³⁰Being 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, ³¹he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³Being 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. ³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

"The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,

³⁵until I make your enemies your footstool.'

³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

HOLY GOSPEL

John 3:1-17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This 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." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus 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?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The 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."

⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, 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. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please Be Seated)

SONG OF THE DAY: CORNERSTONE

Mote/Liljero/Myrin/Morgan/Batchelder-Bradbury

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name REPEAT

CHORUS: Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil CHORUS

He is Lord Lord of all CHORUS

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne

Faultless stand before the throne
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SERMON

(Please Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Blessed be the kingdom of our God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

C **Blessed be His kingdom, now and forever, to the end of all the ages!**

P Grant to us grace, O Lord, that we trust in You and confess without fear the name of the triune God with which we were marked in Baptism. God in three persons,

C **blessed Trinity.**

P Grant to us grace, O Lord, that missionaries far and near be protected by Your power and blessed in their service so that many may hear, and hearing, believe in Your name. God in three persons,

C **blessed Trinity.**

P Grant to us grace, O Lord, that those who suffer afflictions of body and mind be delivered according to Your will, sustained by Your presence, and delivered to everlasting life, [*especially . . . and those we name in our hearts . . .*]. God in three persons,

C **blessed Trinity.**

P Grant to us grace, O Lord, that knowing Your goodness in creation, we use Your gifts wisely and for the benefit of all people and bring to You the tithes and offerings of a grateful heart. God in three persons,

C **blessed Trinity.**

P Grant to us grace, O Lord, on this Memorial Day weekend to remember fallen men and women in the Armed Forces of our land. Guide us toward a harmonious existence as we honor those who were willing to give up their lives that we may gather here today freely. On this Memorial Day weekend, we pray for peace and thank you for those who gave their all. God in three persons,

C **blessed Trinity.**


P Blessed be the kingdom of our God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

C **Blessed be His kingdom, now and forever, to the end of all the ages! Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)

OFFERTORY: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

LSB 507 st. 3



3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.

Text and tune: Public domain

OFFERING

Due to COVID-19 we will not be passing an offering plate. Please place gifts and offerings in the wooden box in the narthex. You can also give online as a one-time gift or reoccurring donation. Simply click "Online Giving" at www.ascensionstl.com.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink. If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper.

How should we each examine ourselves before coming to Holy Communion?

- 1. Be aware of our sins and be sorry for them*
- 2. Believe in our Savior, Jesus Christ, and in His words in the Sacrament*
- 3. Intend, by the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as God's forgiven people walking in newness of life*

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LORD'S PRAYER

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

C **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.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

(Please be Seated)

‡ DISTRIBUTION SONGS ‡

SONG: DEATH WAS ARRESTED

Adam Kersh/Paul Taylor Smith

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin
Lost without hope with no place to begin
Your love made a way to let mercy come in
When death was arrested and my life began

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains
My orphan heart was given a name
My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance
When death was arrested and my life began

CHORUS: Oh Your grace so free washes over me
You have made me new now life begins with You
It's Your endless love pouring down on us
You have made us new now life begins with You

Released from my chains I'm a pris'ner no more
My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore
He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend
When death was arrested and my life began CHORUS

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand
That's when death was arrested and my life began CHORUS

Oh we're free free forever we're free
Come join the song of all the redeemed
Yes we're free free forever amen
When death was arrested and my life began REPEAT BRIDGE

When death was arrested and my life began.
When death was arrested and my life began

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SONG: MIGHTY TO SAVE

Fielding/Morgan

Everyone needs compassion. Love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me.
Everyone needs forgiveness. The kindness of a Savior, the hope of nations.

Savior, He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of salvation.
He rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave.

So take me as You find me. All my fears and failures. Fill my life again.
I give my life to follow. Everything I believe in, now I surrender. CHORUS

BRIDGE Shine your light and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

Jesus, Shine your light and let the whole world see.

We're singing for the glory of the risen King. CHORUS, BRIDGE

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(Please Stand)

DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

A We are people loved by Christ;

C **Sharing Christ's love.**

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

BENEDICTION

P 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.

C Amen.

CLOSING SONG: THE LAMB HAS OVERCOME

Morton

The Lamb has overcome (2X)

The battle's done

And the victory is won

For the Lamb has overcome

No grave could hold him down (2X)

Up from the ground

He is risen was the sound

No grave could hold him down

CHORUS

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain

Glory be unto his name

(REPEAT)

At God's right hand is he (2X)

Our Perfect Plea

How he lives to intercede

At God's right hand is he

The day is drawing near (2X)

He shall appear

And will wipe away each tear

The day is drawing near

CHORUS

The Lamb has overcome (2X)

The battle's done

And the victory is won

For the Lamb has overcome

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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