

Holy Trinity Sunday

June 4, 2023

9:00 am

Prelude

Welcome

In today's gospel, Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Though the word "trinity" is not found in the scriptures. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith. Together, we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ, who declares is with us always through the Holy Spirit. Today, we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

Announcements

Invocation, Confession and Absolution

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Righteous God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: ELW #413 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

- 1 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!**
- 2 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.**
- 3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.**
- 4 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!**

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Apostolic Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Readings & Psalm

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:4 *The creation of the heavens and the earth*

At the beginning of time, God the Creator, God the powerful Word, and God the life-giving Spirit form the earth and all its inhabitants. God sees that all this created work is good and then rests on the seventh day.

1 In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2 the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

6 And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." 7 So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. 8 God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

9 And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. 10 God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. 11 Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. 12 The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, 15 and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. 16 God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. 17 God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

20 And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." 21 So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters

swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." 23 And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

24 And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. 25 God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

27 So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." 29 God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. 30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. 31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. 2 And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. 3 So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. 4a These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Psalm Reading: Psalm 8 *How majestic is your name in all the earth!*

1 O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

2 you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

4 what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?

5 Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

6 You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:

7 all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

8 the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

9 O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 *Paul's farewell to the church at Corinth*

Paul closes a challenging letter to the Corinthians with an appeal to Christian fellowship grounded in the triune harmony of Christ's grace, God's love, and the Spirit's partnership.

[Paul writes:] 11 Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. 12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

13 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; God's glory fills the whole earth.

Alleluia. (Isa.6:3)

The Holy Gospel according to the book of Matthew, beginning with Twenty-eighth Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20 *Living in the community of the Trinity*

After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them to baptize and teach all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Sermon

Leader: Let us affirm our faith together.

Women: We believe that God creates all things, renews all things and celebrates all things.

Men: We believe the earth is a sanctuary, a sacred place filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with our neighbor.

Women: We believe that God became flesh and blood, became a piece of earth, a human being called Jesus Christ, who lived and spoke among us, who suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation.

Men: We believe that the Risen Jesus is the Christ at the core of creation reconciling all things to God renewing all of creation and filling the world with his grace.

Women: We believe the Holy Spirit renews life in creation, groans in empathy with a suffering creation, and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.

Men: We believe that with Christ we will rise and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation for all eternity.

All: This is most certainly true. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: ELW #414 "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

- 1. Holy God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we bow before you. All on earth your scepter claim, all in heav'n above adore you. Infinite your vast domain, everlasting is your reign.**
- 2. 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!"**
- 3. Lo, the apostolic train join your sacred name to hallow; prophets swell the glad refrain, and the white robed martyrs follow; and from morn to set of sun, through the church the son goes on.**
- 4. Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name you, though in essence only one; undivided God we claim you, and adoring, bend the knee while we own the mystery.**

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Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering and Offering Prayer

God of field and forest, sea and sky. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

Invitation to Communion

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat and drink what is good.

Communion Hymn: ELW #491 "Come, Let Us Eat"

- 1. Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread, come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread. Our Lord's body let us take together, our Lord's body let us take together.**
- 2. Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured. Jesus' blood poured let us drink together, Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.**
- 3. In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest, in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest. In the presence of our Lord we gather, in the presence of our Lord we gather.**
- 4. Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word, rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word. Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom, Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.**

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Communion Blessing and Prayer after Communion

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

May our Gracious God who raised his Son Jesus on Easter morning: Bless you and keep you. May he make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May he look upon you with favor and ☩ give you his eternal peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: ELW #824 "This is my Father's World"

- 1. This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.**

2. This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise, the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise. This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the rustling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me everywhere.

3. This is my Father's world; oh let me not forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad? The Lord is king, let the heavens ring! God reigns, let earth be glad!

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve his creation. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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