



THE FESTIVAL OF HOLY TRINITY

MAY 26, 2024 ✠ 8:00 AND 10:15 AM

50 PRINCE OF PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- * Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- * The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as your comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- * We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- * If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!

A NOTE ABOUT HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

Today we consider the mystery that no human mind can fully comprehend: There is only one God, but He reveals Himself as three distinct persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. To guide us in speaking what the Scriptures say about the Triune God, we use a portion of the Athanasian Creed to confess the Faith today.

A word about the Athanasian Creed: Early in the fourth century, a north African pastor named Arius began teaching that Jesus Christ was not truly God from all eternity. The Church responded decisively in AD 325 with a statement of faith (The Nicene Creed), which confessed that Jesus is, in fact, true God. Toward the end of the fifth century, another creed was written that delved further into the mystery of the Trinity, the Athanasian Creed.

The Athanasian Creed declares that its teachings concerning the Holy Trinity and our Lord's incarnation are "the catholic faith." (The word "catholic" does not refer to the Roman Catholic Church here. It is an adjective which means "universal" or "one".) In other words, this is what the true and universal Christian Church of all times and all places has confessed. More than fifteen centuries later, the Church continues to confess that the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has given Himself for our salvation.

NEXT SUNDAY BEGINS THE SUMMER SCHEDULE:

ONE SUNDAY SERVICE - 9:00 AM

FAMILY BIBLE HOUR - 10:15-11:00 AM

THE DIVINE SERVICE

☞ *The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD type**.*
Hymns not printed in this service folder are found in the blue hymnals in each pew. ☞

Hymn | 484 stanzas 1-3 Oh, That I Had A Thousand Voices

Invocation

Please stand at the minister's direction if you are able

In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Matthew 28:19

Confession and Absolution

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:8

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:9

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

silence for reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Hymn | Oh, That I Had A Thousand Voices (484 stanzas 4-5)

**Glory and praise, still onward reaching,
be yours, O Spirit of all grace,
whose holy pow'r and faithful teaching
give me among your saints a place.
Whatever good by me is done
is worked by grace divine alone.**

**Shall I not then be filled with gladness?
Shall I not praise you evermore
and triumph over fear and sadness,
although my cup of woe runs o'er?
Though heav'n and earth shall disappear,
your endless love is ever near.**

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

Be seated.

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading

Isaiah 6:1-8

The triune God delivers Isaiah from guilt and sin and offers Isaiah lofty purpose.

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple.

²Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

⁵“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.”

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”

⁸Then 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!”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn | 480 Sing Praise to Our Creator

Second Reading

Romans 8:12-17

—The triune God gifts us the right to speak to our Father, the comfort of our Brother, and the indwelling of the Spirit.

¹²Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you

received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

The Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

Jesus teaches a Pharisee named Nicodemus about the kingdom of the triune God, who rules in the heart of all those who are born again.

¹Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

³Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

⁴“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The 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.”

⁹“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶For 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. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day | 586 stanzas 1-5 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest

Sermon

Please stand

Athanasian Creed (1st part)

This creed is named for St. Athanasius, a staunch defender of the Christian faith in the fourth century. It was written over a century after the death of Athanasius to combat two errors that undermined key scriptural teachings. One error denied that God’s Son and the Holy Spirit are of one being with the Father. The other error denied that Jesus Christ is true God and true man in one person. The Athanasian Creed continues to serve the Christian Church as a standard of the truth. It declares that whoever rejects the doctrine of the Trinity and the doctrine of Christ is without the saving faith. We confess the first part concerning the Trinity today.

Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic¹ faith.

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

¹ catholic = an adjective that means “universal” (The word “catholic” does not refer to the Roman Catholic Church here.)

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 Almighty's, but
one Almighty.**

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

Be seated.

Prayer of the Church

In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That we may be strengthened by the
revelation of the One, true God: Father, Son
and Holy Spirit — in whom we have been
baptized, and by whose grace we live and
move and have our being; let us pray to the
Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may be renewed in faith and zeal
by the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who took our humanity into Himself in
order to bear our sin, suffer our death,
reconcile us to the Father and restore us to
everlasting life; and that, through faith in

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 faith
to say that there are three Gods or Lords.**

The Father is not made nor created nor
begotten by anyone.

The Son is neither made nor created, but
begotten of the Father alone.

The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son,
neither made nor created nor begotten, but
proceeding.

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

And in this Trinity none is before or after
another; none is greater or less than another;
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.

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

Him and His promises of mercy, we may be
given courage to stand before Him on the
Last Day clothed in His righteousness,
innocence and blessedness; let us pray to
the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

That by His Word and Spirit we may be
defended against every form of false
teaching, pluralism and worldly wisdom,
which would compromise our faithful
confession of the one true God, weaken our
faith in Him who alone is the Way, the Truth
and the Life, and thereby imperil our
salvation; let us pray to the Lord: **Lord,
have mercy.**

That the Lord of mercy would show His kindness to the sick, that He would preserve them in the true faith while they suffer from their afflictions, and that, according to His good and gracious will, He would give them either speedy restoration to health or grace to live faithfully and peacefully under their crosses; let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Special intercessions may be inserted here.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Him who gave Himself for us, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. O blessed Trinity, glory to You! **Amen**

Offering



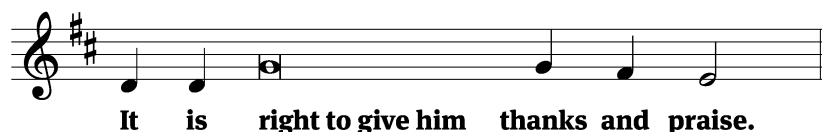
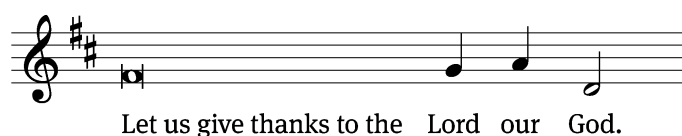
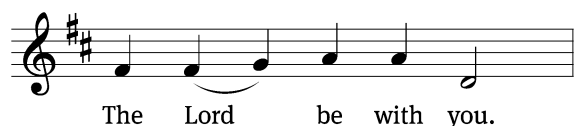
Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.

There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give in that way.

*To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to **(833) 693-7056**. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.*

THE SACRAMENT

Stand



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns forever in perfect unity with you and the Holy Spirit as one God and one Lord.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,
heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

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.

The Words of Our Lord Jesus

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us, grant us peace.

Be seated

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS

Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's

faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

*Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!***

Hymn | 483 Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymn | 481 Alleluia! Let Praises Ring

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting.
Your ✚ sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 118:1

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

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 with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn stanzas | Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest (586, stanzas 6-7)

**Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and you, from both, as Three in One
that we your name may ever bless
and in our lives the truth confess.**

**Praise we the Father and the Son
and Holy Spirit, with them One,
and may the Son on us bestow
the gifts that from the Spirit flow!**



Thank you to Sarah Boettcher for accompanying our worship with music this morning!

Memorial Day is the most solemn of our national holidays. The solemn tribute began in 1866 when three Christian women from Columbus, Mississippi, decorated the graves of Confederate soldiers there and at the same time laid flowers on the graves of the Union soldiers buried in the cemetery. At the insistence of his wife, General John Logan, then Army Chief of Staff, issued an official order shortly thereafter proclaiming Memorial Day an annual day of remembrance for our nation's war dead.

From the days of the Revolution, through the struggles of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, the Korean War, Vietnam, the first Gulf War and the present War on Terror, the strength of our nation is in the spirit of its men and women who fought and died for a nation determined to know its ancient liberty. 4,435 combat deaths in the Revolutionary War, 2,260 in the War of 1812, 1,733 in the Mexican War, 140,415 on the Union side in the Civil War, 74,524 on the Confederate, 385 in the Spanish-American War, 53,513 in World War I, 292,131 in World War II, 33,667 in the Korea War, 47,393 in the Vietnam War and 148 in the Persian Gulf War. Over 4,410 have died as a direct result of hostile action in Iraq since March 19, 2003, with 2,184 more in Afghanistan. The loss of life to American military men and women in all of our nation's wars exceeds 1,340,000.

On the first few days after D-Day in June 1944, 6,603 Americans died in combat; 4,000 alone on the first day. Iwo Jima, lying midway between Guam and Japan, is less than five miles long. On that island, a detachment of Japanese troops were ordered to dig in the mountain fortress and to die to the last man. The assault on Iwo Jima was the

fiercest landing fight the world has ever seen. The Japanese kept up an incessant rain of death upon the attacking American troops on the beaches. Navy and Marine casualties exceeded 22,000; the Japanese counted more than 20,000 dead.

On the sacred soil of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the battlefield was a sea of carnage. In three days of fighting, Confederate losses were 3,900 killed, and 24,000 wounded and missing; Union losses were 3,100 killed, and 20,000 wounded or missing. Those soldiers listed as missing simply vanished, ground up in battle disappearing into the soil. In November 1863, several months after the battle of Gettysburg, its military cemetery was dedicated, at which President Lincoln gave his Gettysburg Address. There are 120 national military cemeteries in our nation. From Arlington on the Potomac to the Golden Gate, from St. Augustine in Florida to Sitka, Alaska, as well as on many other burial grounds elsewhere around the world. The war cemeteries in Normandy hold the remains of 9,386 American soldiers. On hallowed soil, as in the hearts of the American people, the memory of these gallant men and women, who made the supreme sacrifice, is enshrined forever. In a letter written by President Lincoln to Mrs. Bixby, who lost five sons in the Civil War, the President wrote: "May our Heavenly Father assuage the anguish of your bereavement and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom."

On this Memorial Day, we must not mourn that these men and women died, but rather, we must thank God that such as they lived!

Article by Michael Avramovich, found at: <http://touchstonemag.com>

GOD IN THREE PERSONS, BLESSED TRINITY

In the first half of the Church Year (Advent through Pentecost) we look at the life of Christ—his birth, ministry, death, resurrection, ascension, and the sending of the Holy Spirit.

In the second half of the year, we look at the teachings of Christ. We begin by looking at one of the most mind-blowing truths: that God is triune. Already in the very first chapter of the Bible we read, “Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image...” (Genesis 1:26). Note the singular “God” and the plural “us.”

Scripture teaches us that there is only one God but that he exists as three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is triune (three-in-one). This teaching is not some logical exercise or philosophical excursion. The doctrine of the Trinity is central to our salvation. The triune God is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Lose this doctrine, and as the Athanasian Creed says, you lose it all.

A Jesus who is less than God is also less than a Savior. So often, when life gets hard, we get frustrated. We don’t understand how God is working always for our good. But the doctrine of the Trinity teaches us we cannot even comprehend God’s existence. How then, could we ever comprehend all his workings? On this Holy Trinity Sunday, let it be enough to know that all three persons—Father, Son, and Spirit—love us with an everlasting love.

ONE OF THE HARDEST THINGS IN LIFE IS TO LET GO OF OLD HURTS. WE OFTEN SAY, OR AT LEAST THINK: “WHAT YOU DID TO ME AND MY FAMILY, MY ANCESTORS, OR MY FRIENDS I CANNOT FORGET OR FORGIVE. [...] ONE DAY YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY FOR IT.”

SOMETIMES OUR MEMORIES ARE DECADES, EVEN CENTURIES, OLD AND KEEP ASKING FOR REVENGE.

HOLDING PEOPLE’S FAULTS AGAINST THEM OFTEN CREATES AN IMPENETRABLE WALL. BUT LISTEN TO PAUL: “FOR ANYONE WHO IS IN CHRIST, THERE IS A NEW CREATION: THE OLD ORDER IS GONE AND A NEW BEING IS THERE TO SEE. IT IS ALL GOD’S WORK”

(2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-18). INDEED, WE CANNOT LET GO OF OLD HURTS, BUT GOD CAN. PAUL SAYS: “GOD WAS IN CHRIST RECONCILING THE WORLD TO HIMSELF, NOT HOLDING ANYONE’S FAULT AGAINST THEM” (2 CORINTHIANS 5:19). IT IS GOD’S

WORK, BUT WE ARE GOD’S MINISTERS, BECAUSE THE GOD WHO RECONCILED THE WORLD TO GOD ENTRUSTED TO US “THE MESSAGE OF RECONCILIATION”

(2 CORINTHIANS 5:19). THIS MESSAGE CALLS US TO LET GO OF OLD HURTS IN THE NAME OF GOD. IT IS THE MESSAGE OUR WORLD MOST NEEDS TO HEAR.

HENRI NOUWEN