

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
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Trinity SUNDAY

"Very truly, I tell you,
we speak of what we
know and testify to what
we have seen."

John 3:11, NRSV

10:45 a.m. Sunday, May 30, 2021
Sermon: "Love Story of the Holy Trinity" John 3:1-17



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- A Family to Whom You Belong -
Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

THE HOLY TRINITY

10:45 a.m. Sunday, May 30, 2021

Servants of God's House Today:

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu **DCE Intern:** Grace Wolfgram

Praise Team Accompanist: Doris Hill

Ushers: Tim Draube Team

Missionaries: Charles Cortwright, Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf,
Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump, Rev. Paul Flo

Reader: Frank Tenuta

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

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.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP 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. Amen.

Worship Service

(The congregation is invited to respond in the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

The Wave of Fellowship

The Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Song

"Above All "

*Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things,
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man; You were here before the world began.*

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, above all wonders the world has ever known,

Above all wealth and treasure of the earth; there's no way to measure what You're worth.

Crucified and laid behind a stone, You lived to die rejected and alone.

Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me above all.

(repeat)

Oh, You were crucified and laid behind a stone, You lived to die rejected and alone.

Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me above all.

Like a rose trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me above all.

(Words & music by Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloche, Integrity's Hosanna! Music, used by permission CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

Athanasian Creed *Part 1*

P: Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic 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.

Announcement of the Day

P: Today is Holy Trinity, the First Sunday after Pentecost. The festival half of the Church Year, which has confessed the saving events in the life of our Lord, now gives way to that part of the Church Year in which we hear His teaching.

From the Old Testament Reading from Isaiah, we witness a glimpse of the glory of the Lord, the God of Sabaoth, whose power is chiefly known in showing mercy. In the Epistle from the Acts of the Apostles, we hear another part of the Pentecost sermon of Peter attesting to the revelation of Jesus as both Lord and Christ. In the Gospel according to John, we hear Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus and within this we hear the most beloved and familiar verse of Scripture.

First Lesson Isaiah 6:1-8 (We have seen the Lord of hosts.)

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.”

Second Lesson

Acts 2:14a, 22-36

(Let all know that God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.)

¹⁴But Peter, 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.”

(Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel)

Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

(For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son.)

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[Jesus said:] “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.

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.

Children's Message

The Song of Instruction "How Great Is Our God "

Verse 1

The splendor of the King, Clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

Chorus: How great is our God! Sing with me, How great is our God!
And all will see How great, how great is our God!

Verse 2

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The God head, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb. (chorus)

Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!
Name above all names, worthy of all praise. My heart will sing: How great is our God!

(Chorus 3 times)

(Words & music by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves & Ed Cash, 2004 worship together, Six Steps Music, used by permission, CCLI # 11440148 and 20162974)

The Word "Love Story of the Holy Trinity" John 3:1-17

Athanasian Creed 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.**

WE WORSHIP GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.
Please place your offerings in the box upfront.

To our guest: Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please put your **Welcome Card** in the box at the back of the church.

Luke 19: 1-8—And there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich...And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold."

Offertory "Word of God Speak"

I'm finding myself at a loss for words,
And the funny thing is, it's okay.
The last thing I need is to be heard,
But to hear what You say. (chorus)

(chorus)
Word of God, speak
Would you pour down like rain,
Washing my eyes to see shout Your majesty,
To be still and know that You're in this place?
Please let me stay and rest in Your holiness?
Word of God, speak.

I'm finding myself in the midst of You,
Beyond the music, beyond the noise.
All that I need, is to be with You,
And in the quiet, I hear Your voice. (chorus)

(2002 Wordspring Music & Songs from the Indigo Room, Simpleville Music, INC. used by permission, CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

The Prayer of the Church

Athanasian Creed 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.

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

The Going Out Song "God Of Wonders"

Lord of all creation of water, earth and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle Glory to the Lord on high
God of wonders beyond our galaxy; You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty; You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.

Early in the morning I will celebrate the light
And when I stumble in the darkness I will call Your name by night.

God of wonders beyond our galaxy; You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty; You are holy, holy
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

God of wonders beyond our galaxy; You are Holy, Holy,
The universe declares Your majesty; You are Holy, Holy
Precious Lord, reveal Your heart to me; Father, hold me, hold me
The universe declares Your majesty; You are holy, holy, holy, holy
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

(Words & music by Marc Byrd & Steve Hindalong, 2000 Storm Boy Music & New Spring Publishing, Inc. & Never Say Never Songs, CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)

Worship Services Traditional (Sat., 6:00 p.m. & Sun., 8:15 a.m.)
Contemporary Service (10:45 a.m.)

Youth & Adult Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.

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Love Story of the Holy Trinity

Text: John 3:1–17

Date: 05/30/21

Verse to remember:

“God loved the world in this way, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

Points to Ponder:

1. God “SO” love the world. What does “SO” mean?

2. What is the teaching of Trinity?

3. God loved the world in this way:

◆ Father

◆ Son

◆ Holy Spirit