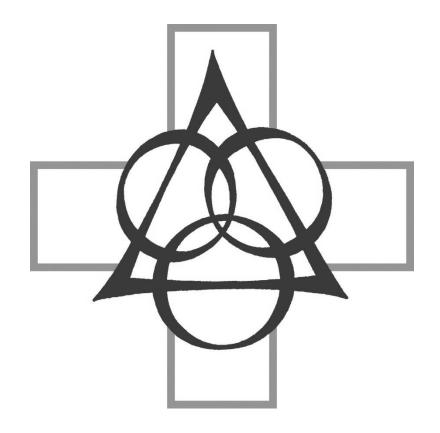
The Lutheran Church of the Savior

A Community of Faith: Centered in Christ – Called to Serve



Order of Worship

June 4, 2023 10:45 AM

The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730 church@lcsavior.org 781-275-6013 https://www.lcsavior.org

Introit

Liturgical Text; Psalm 16:8–11

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity.

Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mercy to us.

I have set the LORD always before me;

because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.

For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.

You make known to me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Communion Theology and Practice

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is intended for those:

- · who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God,
- who have faith in Jesus Christ as God the Son in the flesh and their personal Savior from sin, death, and the devil;
- who believe that they have sin that needs forgiving, hurt that needs healing, and faith that needs strengthening;
- who are committed to amending their sinful ways; and
- who believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of the risen Christ, together with the forgiveness of all their sins.

If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service.

Thank you.

The Holy Trinity

Divine Service

Invocation

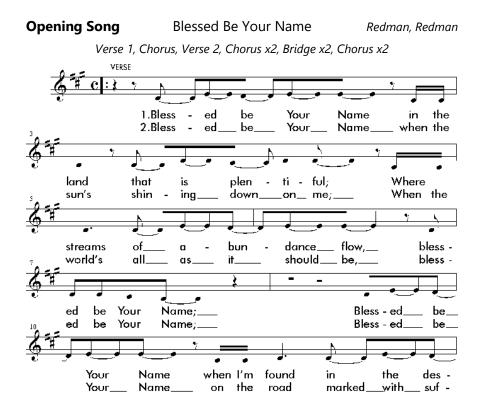
- P This is the day the Lord has made;
- Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Psalm 118:24

- P In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Matthew 28:19

C Amen.



continued on next page



Prayer of Confession

- P Holy Lord, as we stand in your presence, we are aware of our sins of thought, word, and action.
- **©** We have not always lived our lives according to your will.
- P We have often failed to live up to your expectations.
- **©** We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
- P But we know your promise, that if we confess our sins,
- you will hear our cry, and grant us your forgiveness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O Lord, hear us now, as we confess our sins to You.
- 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 Jesus has carried our sins to His own death. His sacrifice is complete and full it is finished! The victory is won! 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.
- **G** Amen.

Kyrie

- P Lord, have mercy upon us.
- Christ, have mercy upon us.
- P Lord, have mercy upon us.

Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus, Bridge x2, Chorus, Chorus 2 Verse 1 1. Our Fath - er ev - er - last - ing the all - are - a - ting___One. God might y. Through Your Ho - ly Spir - it con - ceiv - ing Christ the_ __ Son, Chorus 🖇 Je-sus Our Sav I be-lieve in God our ior. Fath - er. 7 I be-lieve in Christ the Son. I be-lieve in the Ho - ly Spir - it_ God is three l be-lieve in the re - sur - rec - tion,__ in. one. 2nd X to Coda () a - gain. that will For be - lieve we rise the (4)Verse 2 name of 2. Our judge and Je - sus. our de - fen - der suf-fered and cru - ci fied. For-give-ness is in_ ____ You. in - to dark - ness You rose in - glo - ri - ous___ light. Des - cend - ed Bridge P.S. al Coda 🕀 CODA 🕀 For-ev-er seat-ed high. name of Je - sus. l be - lieve in You. I be - lieve You rose_a - gain.__ I be - lieve that Je - sus Christ is Lord...



Prayer

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.

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

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

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

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

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²¹So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²And God

blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. ²⁵And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

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

²⁸And 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 heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens 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. ³¹And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

¹Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ²And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

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."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel *Matthew 28:16–20*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

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

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.



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Sermon



The Athanasian Creed: The Church's Confession of the Holy Trinity

Early in the fourth century, a new teaching appeared which claimed that Jesus was not true God. Arius, the north African priest who first proposed this theory, was extremely persuasive, and soon the controversy was so widespread that a church council was called to settle the matter. Out of that meeting in A.D. 325 came the Nicene Creed, which clearly confesses Jesus to be true God. That creed, which was expanded in A.D. 381 in order to defend the divinity of the Holy Spirit, is still widely used today as a confession of the triune faith.

Despite the clarity of the Nicene Creed, the controversy continued for some time. Toward the end of the fifth century, another creed was written that marveled at the mystery of the Trinity in a way that no creed had ever done. Though attributed to Athanasius, a fourth-century opponent of Arius, this anonymous creed clearly came at a later stage in the debate.

The Athanasian Creed proclaims that its teachings concerning the Holy Trinity and our Lord's incarnation are the catholic *(that is, the universal, Christian) faith. In other words, this is what the true church of all times and all places has confessed. More than 15 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.

- L Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic* faith.
- Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.
- **I** 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.
- **L** 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.
- L 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;
- L the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;
- **1** the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.

- L 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 Almighties, but one Almighty.
- L So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
- and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.
- L So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
- and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.
- L 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.
- **©** 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.
- L 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;
- L 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.
- **L** But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 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.

- L 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:
- perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;
- **L** equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
- Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:
- one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
- one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.
- For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ.
- who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,
- 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.
- At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.
- L And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.



Prayers of the Church Family and the Lord's Prayer

P Holy, holy, Lord of Sabaoth, we bless Your name. You have called us out of darkness into Your marvelous light. Guard Your Church, purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Keep her in the true faith, without error, schism or compromise, until that day when You welcome her home as Your spotless Bride.

Response after each petition

- P Lord, in your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
- C Amen.
- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

Blessing

- The grace of our Lord → Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C Amen.





Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Resources for Meditation this Week

THE HOLY TRINITY

21 May 2023

Readings

Genesis 1:1—2:4a Acts 2:14a, 22–36 Matthew 28:16–20

The Holy Triune God Recreates Us in the Image and Likeness of Christ Jesus

The holy Triune God "created the heavens and the earth," and "behold, it was very good" (Gen. 1:1, 31). However, after Adam and Eve fell into sin and plunged God's good creation into decay and death, the Son of God would be "delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God" to be "crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men" (Acts 2:23). As Jesus "received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:33), He also raises up all the baptized and pours out the Spirit upon them through the preaching of His Gospel. He sends out His apostles to "make disciples of all nations" by "baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," and "teaching them to observe all that [He has] commanded" (Matt. 28:19–20). Through such baptizing and teaching — Gospel and Sacraments — the holy Triune God recreates us in the image and likeness of His incarnate Son, Jesus, the Christ, and behold, it is "very good" (Gen. 1:31).



Readings

Hosea 5:15–6:6 Romans 4:13–25 Matthew 9:9–13

Jesus Calls Sinners to Repentance and Newness of Life in Accordance with His Mercy

In calling Matthew the tax collector to follow Him, Jesus demonstrates that He has come "not to call the righteous, but sinners" (Matt. 9:9, 13). As a good physician, He comes not to confirm them in their sins, but to heal them with His grace, calling them to repentance, faith and newness of life (Matt. 9:12). He puts them to death by the preaching of His Law, in order to raise them with His Gospel, to live before Him in the righteousness of His resurrection (Hos. 6:1–2, 5). It is in this way that God "gives life to the dead," that is, through faith in Jesus, "who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification" (Rom. 4:17, 24–25). Thus, sinners from all nations are called to share the same faith as Abraham, the father of all who trust in Jesus (Rom. 4:16–18). And as our Lord in mercy thus welcomes us poor sinners to recline at the table in His house, so does He "desire steadfast love and not sacrifice" (Matt. 9:10, 13; Hos. 6:6), that we should have mercy on our neighbors and forgive their sins against us for Jesus' sake.

