

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church
1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

May 30th, 2021

8:30 & 10:15 a.m. Services

Trinity Sunday

Introduction for the Day: When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

Trinity Sunday, which is traditionally celebrated one week after Pentecost, marks the acknowledgment that all three persons of the Trinity exist together from eternity to eternity. Whereas other special services, such as Christmas, Good Friday, and Pentecost, are tied to specific events, this celebration is linked with a doctrine, which is itself a summary of scriptural teaching about God's being.

Prelude

Welcome to Worship

Gathering

(Please stand as you are able)

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord, all you nations.

Extol God, all you peoples!

Triune God, you have called us to live in unity with each other and with our brothers and sisters around the world. Help us to sense that our love for Jesus binds us together. May our worship today be a witness to the kind of unity that comes only through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, †the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

Gathering Song

#413 Holy, Holy, Holy [Stanzas 1 & 4]

Please meditate on the hymn text.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our songs shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

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!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt. Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876. Tune: Nicaea, Irr.

Opening Litany for Trinity Sunday

God the Creator, you made all that we see and experience, vast spaces of the universe, the earth, and all that is in it.

Come now into this world. Continue to create new life. Help us care for all you have created.

God the Redeemer, born as a babe in Bethlehem, you came to show us the way of salvation through your death on the cross and your resurrection from the grave.

Come to us now through your Word and Holy Communion, that we might taste and see again the salvation you won for our sake.

God the Sustainer, you came into the world in the flames of Pentecost to inspire your disciples to preach the Good News to all people.

Come to us now to spark our faith. Inspire us to speak your Word to the world.

Apostolic Greeting for Trinity Sunday

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of God's glory. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. 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.**

Word

(Please be seated)

First Reading

Isaiah 6:1-8

This reading narrates Isaiah's vision of the Lord surrounded by angels. They sing "Holy, holy, holy," a song the church sings at the beginning of the great thanksgiving. This liturgical text invites the church and all creation to sing in praise of God's glory. That glory is God's mercy toward sinners.

A reading from Isaiah, Chapter 6.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then 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!"

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 29, Read Responsively

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. (Ps. 29:2)

Let us read responsively from Psalm 29.

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon; **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.** The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 8:12-17

In describing the new life of faith, Paul refers to all three persons of the Trinity: the Spirit leads us to recognize that we are children of God the Father and joint heirs with Christ the Son.

A reading from Romans, Chapter 8.

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

#885 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Please meditate on the hymn text.

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711. Tune: Old Hundredth, LM Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel

John 3:1-17

Jesus' miracles prompt Nicodemus to visit him in secrecy. Jesus tells him about being born of the Spirit and about the Son who has been sent by God to save.

The holy gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.

Glory to You O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?”

Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Sheila Rawn

Hymn of the Day

#414 Holy God We Praise Your Name [Stanzas 1 & 4]

Please meditate on the hymn text.

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 in your reign.

*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.*

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900. Tune: Grosses Gott, 78 78 77. Music: *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774.

(Please stand as you are able)

Profession of Faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he
descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right
hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Prayer of Intercession

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

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

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

Amen.

Memorial Day Remembrance *[from the ELW Prayer book for the armed services]*

Eternal God, we give thanks for all those who have shown the greatest love by laying
down their lives for others.

**We thank you for those in our military throughout history who have sacrificed their
lives for their fellow citizens, and for us who came after.**

As we remember their service, keep us mindful of all those for whom this day is a
burden.

**Send your Holy Spirit of comfort to them. Be present with all women and men who
serve in our military today.**

Let them live for the peace known only from you.

Help us to be worthy of their legacy and keep us mindful of their service.

That in and through all things we may live our lives in praise and thanksgiving to you.

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Meal

(Please be seated)

Musical Offering

8:30

Amazing Grace, arr. Phillip Keveren
Melissa Mann, Violin

11:00

Come, Christians Join to Ring, Jason Krug
Bells Angels

(Please stand as you are able)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. You give us all things, O Holy Trinity, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal.

Your Spirit fills our hearts and minds. We are thankful for your creating power.

Use our gifts to spread your love, O eternal Trinity. Amen.

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. We share your one bread and body with all Christians, everywhere. Make us one, one in you. Come, eat, and be satisfied.

(Please be seated)

Please take your belongings with you to communion.

Communion Hymn

#415 Father Most Holy [Stanza 1]

Please meditate on the hymn text.

Father most holy, merciful, and tender;

Jesus, our Savior, with the Father reigning;

Spirit of comfort, advocate, defender, light never waning.

Text: Latin Hymn, 10th Cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt. Text © copyright Oxford University Press. Used with permission. OneLicense.net A-703603. Music: Paris *Antiphoner*, 1681. Tune: *Christe Sanctorum* 11 11 11 5.