



The Holy Trinity

Joy in Christ Lutheran Church
Rev. Julie Wesley

The assembly rises in body or in spirit.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: **Glory to you forever!**

Speaker, Word, and Breath of Life: **Glory to you forever!**

Font of Blessing, Living Water, Flowing River: **Glory to you forever!**

Compassionate Mother, Beloved Child, Life-Giving Womb:
Glory to you forever!

Sun, Light, and Burning Ray: **Glory to you forever!**

Giver, Gift, and Giving: **Glory to you forever!**

Lover, Beloved, and Love itself: **Glory to you forever!**

Rock, Cornerstone, and Temple: **Glory to you forever!**

Consuming Fire, Dividing Sword, Overpowering Storm: **Glory to you forever!**

Rainbow of Promise, Ark of Salvation, Dove of Peace: **Glory to you forever!**

God who was, God who is, God who is to come: **Glory to you forever!**

Almighty and ever-living God,
you have given us grace, by our confession of faith,
to acknowledge and worship your triune name
in the majesty of your unity.
Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship,
and bring us at last to see you in your eternal glory,
one God, now and forever. **Amen!**

GATHERING HYMN (*refer to the hymn board for the hymn number*)

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.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

We commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you,

through Christ our Lord. To you, O Lord.

(ELW p.148) Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

Genesis 1:1-2:4a (not printed)

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 8

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

You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

what are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

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

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

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

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

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly rises in body or in spirit.

(ELW p. 151) **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly rises in body or in spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY *(refer to the hymn board for the hymn number)*

With the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Athanasian Creed:

Whoever wants to be saved should above all cling to the catholic faith.

Whoever does not guard it whole and inviolable will doubtless perish eternally.

Now this is the catholic faith:

We worship one God in trinity and the Trinity in unity,

neither confusing the persons nor dividing the divine being.

For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Spirit is still another.

But the deity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one, equal in glory, coeternal in majesty.

What the Father is, the Son is, and so is the Holy Spirit.

Uncreated is the Father; uncreated is the Son; uncreated is the Spirit.
The Father is infinite; the Son is infinite; the Holy Spirit is infinite.

Eternal is the Father; eternal is the Son; eternal is the Spirit:
And yet there are not three eternal beings, but one who is eternal;
as there are not three uncreated and unlimited beings, but one who is uncreated and unlimited.

Almighty is the Father; almighty is the Son; almighty is the Spirit:
And yet there are not three almighty beings, but one who is almighty.

Thus the Father is God; the Son is God; the Holy Spirit is God:
And yet there are not three gods, but one God.

Thus the Father is Lord; the Son is Lord; the Holy Spirit is Lord:
And yet there are not three lords, but one Lord.

As Christian truth compels us to acknowledge
each distinct person as God and Lord,
so catholic religion forbids us
to say that there are three gods or lords.

The Father was neither made nor created nor begotten;
the Son was neither made nor created, but was alone begotten of the Father;
the Spirit was neither made nor created,
but is proceeding from the Father and the Son.

Thus there is one Father, not three fathers;
one Son, not three sons; one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.
And in this Trinity, no one is before or after,
greater or less than the other;
but all three persons are in themselves, coeternal and coequal;
and so we must worship the Trinity in unity and the one God in three persons.

Whoever wants to be saved should think thus about the Trinity.
It is necessary for eternal salvation that one also faithfully believe
that our Lord Jesus became flesh.

For this is the true faith that we believe and confess:

That our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.

He is God, begotten before all worlds from the being of the Father,
and he is man, born in the world from the being of his mother—
existing fully as God, and fully as man with a rational soul and a human body;
equal to the Father in divinity, subordinate to the Father in humanity.

Although he is God and man, he is not divided, but is one Christ.

He is united because God has taken humanity into himself;

he does not transform deity into humanity.

He is completely one in the unity of his person, without confusing his natures.

For as the rational soul and body are one person, so the one Christ is God and man.

He suffered death for our salvation.

He descended into hell and rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

At his coming all people shall rise bodily to give an account of their own deeds.

Those who have done good will enter eternal life,

those who have done evil will enter eternal fire.

This is the catholic faith. One cannot be saved without believing this firmly and faithfully.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

We bind ourselves, O God, today, to the strong name of the Trinity.

And we name you: Three in One, One in Three; and claim our place in your community of love.

We are embraced, loving God, in the community that is the heart not just of our church, but also in the community that is the very heart of who you are:

Three in One; Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of life. Within that great love, we are held and treasured.

Three in One, One in Three: **be with us, within us, behind us, before us.**

We pray for our hurting world: that war-makers will find peace; that the hungry will find food; that refugees will find shelter; that injustice will be answered with all that is right and good. Make us instruments of your healing.

Three in One, One in Three: **be with us, within us, behind us, before us.**

We pray for all who suffer. For those we love dearly. For those we barely know. For those whose suffering we have ignored. Be present in the healing touch of all hands that help the sick and suffering. And send your Spirit to comfort and protect all who need you, *especially*...and those we now name aloud or in our hearts.

Three in One, One in Three: **be with us, within us, behind us, before us.**

We pray for all who struggle. For those who cannot see a way through broken relationships, difficult financial realities, emotional darkness, and deep, deep loneliness. May you be found even in the most hopeless places. May those who struggle find your people, too, in those places, bringing good news and hope to all who are longing for something new.

Three in One, One in Three: **be with us, within us, behind us, before us.**

We pray for all who are joyful. We rejoice at the promise of new life, and old lives made new. We celebrate the movement through milestones: births, graduations, new jobs, new relationships, the promise of something wonderful. We remember those moments of blessing in our own lives. We thank you for the opportunity to use our lives to your glory and to live lives that are full and worthy of your calling.

Three in One, One in Three: **be with us, within us, behind us, before us.**

We bind ourselves, O God, today, to the strong name of the Trinity.

And we name you: Three in One, One in Three; and claim our place in your community of love. Be with us, within us, behind us, and before us now and forever more. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

The work of this congregation is made possible by individuals like you. Because the church receives no outside operating support, your generosity truly sustains our mission and ministries. Your tax-deductible offering gift will be received with joy and thanksgiving in any of the following ways:



*As the plate is passed. • By scanning the QR code at the right. • By mail at a later time
Thank you for your generosity.*

To use the QR code, open your cell phone or tablet camera and hold it over the shape. Tap the link or small box that appears and you will be taken to our secure donation page.

The assembly rises in body or in spirit.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING *(refer to the hymn board for the hymn number)*

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Triune God, let us pray as we are taught:.

**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.**

 (ELW 207)

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN (*refer to the hymn board for the hymn number*)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

