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THE HOLY TRINITY

Crowned in Glory and Honor
June 7, 2020



AS WE GATHER

The feast of the Holy Trinity is about the one true God who has revealed Himself in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. But the feast is not about God alone. As the Trinity, He is, of course, never alone even in Himself. But also in His creation, even the pinnacle of His work, man, is not to be alone. Male and female He created them. But even greater than this relationship is man's relationship with God. Created "in His image," we are never to be alone but find our identity in fellowship with God. Without Him, we are incomplete. The image of God means to possess God's righteousness. The "righteousness" of God means everything working together like God intended. That includes a relationship with Him. Though we lost that righteousness by our sin, choosing to be alone without God, God still took into Himself our very human nature in the person of the Son of God, Jesus. By His innocent life and His substitutionary suffering and death, all who repent and are baptized into Him are restored in righteousness. With Christ and in Him, we, too, are crowned in glory and honor. All praise to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

HYMN

"In Thee Is Gladness" LSB 818

- 1 **In Thee is gladness
Amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By Thee are given
The gifts of heaven,
Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest,
Our bonds Thou breakest;
Who trusts Thee surely
Has built securely;
He stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining
To see Thy shining,
Dying or living
To Thee are cleaving;
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!**

- 2 **Since He is ours,
We fear no powers,
Not of earth nor sin nor death.
He sees and blesses
In worst distresses;
He can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story
Tell of His glory
With hearts and voices;
All heav'n rejoices
In Him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness,
Triumph o'er sadness,**

Love Him and praise Him
And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

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✘ PREPARATION ✘

INVOCATION

Vicar: In the name of the Father and the ✘ Son and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

LSB 820:1

Vicar: My soul, now praise your Maker!

People: **Let all within me bless His name.**

Vicar: Forget Him not whose meekness Still bears with all your sin.

People: **Who leaves no suff'rer friendless But rights the wronged at last.**

CONFESSION

LSB 820:2

Vicar: Let us confess our waywardness and sin in order that we may rise to newness of life by faith, that we may be His own and live under Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

People: **O God, our Creator and Redeemer, hear our pleas for mercy. We have turned away from You and rebelled against You by going our own way. Because of our sin, we have discovered it is not good for us to be alone, without You. For the sake of the glory and honor of the salvation won for us in Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, forgive us and restore in us the image of Your own life and love. Amen.**

Vicar: God offers all His treasure Of justice, truth, and righteousness, His love beyond all measure. And high as heaven above us, So far, since He has loved us, He puts our sins away.

DECLARATION OF GRACE

Vicar: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

People: Amen.

✘ WORD ✘

HYMN OF PRAISE

"We Believe"

**In this time of desperation
When all we know is doubt and fear
There is only one foundation
We believe we believe
In this broken generation
When all is dark You help us see
There is only one salvation
We believe we believe**

**We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again (We believe)**

**So let our faith be more than anthems
Greater than the songs we sing
In our weakness and temptations
We believe we believe
We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life**

**We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again (We believe)**

**Let the lost be found and the dead be raised
In the here and now let love invade
Let the church live loud our God will save
We believe we believe**

**And the gates of hell will not prevail
For the pow'r of God has torn the veil
Now we know Your love will never fail
We believe we believe**

**We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again (We believe)
He's coming back again
He's coming back again
We believe we believe**

SALUTATION

Vicar: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Vicar: 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.

People: **Amen.**

CREED

Athanasian Creed, Part 1

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

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

Vicar: And the catholic faith is this,

People: **that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.**

Vicar: For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.
People: But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.

Vicar: Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:
People: the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;
Vicar: the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;
People: the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.

Vicar: And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,
People: just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinities, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.

Vicar: In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;
People: and yet there are not three Almightyies, but one Almighty.

Vicar: So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
People: and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.

Vicar: So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
People: and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.

Vicar: 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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 1:1–2:4a

(The beginning)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The 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. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." And 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. And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. And 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. The 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. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And 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, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." So 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. And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And 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. And 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. Then 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." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And 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." And 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. And 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. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And 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. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Psalms 145:3, 5b, 6b

Vicar: Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,

People: and His greatness is unsearchable.

Vicar: On Your wondrous works, I will meditate,

People: and I will declare Your greatness.

SECOND READING

Acts 2:14a, 22–36

(Jesus, both Lord and Messiah)

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. “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— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ “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. Being 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, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being 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. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, “The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.” Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Vicar: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

VERSE

Isaiah 6:3b

Alleluia. Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory! Alleluia.

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:16–20

(The Great Commission)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED

Athanasian Creed, Part 2

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

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

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

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

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

People: 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 worshipped.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Thy Strong Word” LSB 578

**1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**

**2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**

**3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**

**4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu’ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**

**5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,**

Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

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SERMON

“Does the Trinity Make Sense”
Matthew 28:19-20

CREED

Athanasian Creed, Part 3

Vicar: But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: 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.

Vicar: 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:

People: perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;

Vicar: equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.

People: Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:

Vicar: one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;

People: one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.

Vicar: For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,

People: who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,

Vicar: 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.

People: At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.

Vicar: And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.

People: This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

We Give Thee But Thine own LSB 781

1 We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

2 May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give!

3 Oh, hearts are bruised and dead,
And homes are bare and cold,
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled
Are straying from the fold.

4 To comfort and to bless,
To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless
Is angels' work below.

5 The captive to release,
To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace,
It is a Christ-like thing.

6 And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Vicar: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

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.

BENEDICTION

Vicar: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: Amen.

HYMN

“Holy, Holy, Holy” LSB 507

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

**3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.**

**4 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!**

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