

Epiphany Lutheran Church - Interim Pastor Peter Lisinski (647-395-7649)

The Holy Trinity

Holy Communion Setting Three Page 138

Sunday, May 31, 2026

Introduction to the day

Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

FIRST WORD – 1 Peter 2:9: "You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's own, called out of darkness into his marvelous light."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, June 7: Service of the Word 12:00

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Dear Christian Friends, on this day, and indeed whenever we worship – in the public assembly of the church, or in the prayerful solitude of private devotion – we are one communion of saints, united by the sacrament of baptism, which incorporates us into the risen life of God's only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our crucified Saviour and Lord.

C: By water and God's word we are reborn children of God, heirs of God's salvation, now and forever.

Let us affirm the apostolic faith, once delivered to the saints in times past, now entrusted to future saints by the church's ministry of worship and mission proclaiming the good news of God's salvation. Sisters and brothers in Christ:

Do you renounce the cosmic forces of sin and evil that oppose God?

We renounce them.

P: Do you renounce their temptations of fear, hatred and hostility which distort God's word, divide the world, despoil creation, and disfigure the divine image within all people?

We renounce them.

P: Do you renounce self-centred pursuit of power, privilege and pleasure that lead us astray from the promises of God's providence?

We renounce them.

P: Baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we are marked by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, grafted into the true life-giving vine of God's covenant love, and made inheritors of God's salvation together with all God's saints.

God has named us; Christ has redeemed us; God's Holy Spirit dwells within us, today and always.

GATHERING SONG *I Bind unto Myself Today (ELW 450 vv 1,2,5)*

1 I bind unto myself today
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three.

2 I bind this day to me forever,
by pow'r of faith, Christ's incarnation,
his baptism in the Jordan River,
his cross of death for my salvation,
his bursting from the spiced tomb,
his riding up the heav'nly way,
his coming at the day of doom,
I bind unto myself today.

5 I bind unto myself the name,
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three,
of whom all nature has creation,
eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation;
salvation is of Christ the Lord!

GREETING (ELW p. 138)

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

KYRIE (ELW p.138)

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 mer - cy.

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 mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE - *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* (ELW 413)

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!

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!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: **Genesis 1:14, 26-31a**

At the beginning of time, God the Creator, God the powerful Word, and God the life-giving Spirit form the earth and all its inhabitants. God sees that all this created work is good and then rests on the seventh day.

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷ So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸ 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 air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹ God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air 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. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: **Psalms 8**

O Lord our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

² **you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴ **what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵ Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶ **You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷ all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸ **the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

⁹ O Lord our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Paul closes a challenging letter to the Corinthians with an appeal to Christian fellowship grounded in the triune harmony of Christ's grace, God's love, and the Spirit's partnership.

[Paul writes:] ¹¹ 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. ¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³ 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW Hymn 172)

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.
Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL: 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. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ 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 ²⁰ 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.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Christ, You Heart, Compassionate* (ELW 722)

1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev'ry human pain.
Its beating was the pulse of God;
its breadth, God's vast domain.
The heart of God, the heart of Christ
combined in perfect rhyme
to write God's love in human deeds,
eternity in time.

2 As once you welcomed those cast down
and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another's pain
as though it were our own.

3 O Christ, create new hearts in us
that beat in time with yours,
that, joined by faith with your great heart,
become love's open doors.
We are your body, risen Christ;
our hearts, our hands we yield
that through our life and ministry
your love may be revealed.

4 O Love that made the distant stars,
yet marks the sparrow's fall,
whose arms stretched wide upon a cross
embrace and bear us all:
come, make your church a servant church
that walks your servant ways,

whose deeds of love rise up to you,
a sacrifice of praise!

RESPONSIVE ATHANASIAN CREED

We worship one God in the Holy Trinity;

We worship the Trinity in unity.

We do not confuse the three distinct persons of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, nor divide the one divine being.

There are not three divine beings, but one who is eternal.

All three persons are eternal and equal;

Yet all three are but one Lord.

True Christian faith believes and teaches that God's Son, became truly and fully human in Jesus Christ.

We believe in Jesus Christ, fully God and fully human.

We believe that he is equal to God the Father in divinity, yet subordinate to the Father in humility.

He suffered death for our salvation, 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 account of their deeds.

This is the true Christian faith, by which all who believe firmly and live faithfully will be saved.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered together in the name of our triune God, let us pray for the church and people of all faiths, or of none, in all nations.

A brief silence.

Holy God, we are in awe of your creative work. Continue that work in your church, making us a new creation that proclaims your presence and love. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Creator God, nature reveals your power and glory. Protect water sources, vegetation, and wildlife as reminders of who you are. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Redeemer God, you call us to pray for those in authority. Guide our leaders to pursue the work of fostering peace and community. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Sustaining God, you are mindful of your people in every circumstance. Heal those who are sick. Provide for all who hunger. Protect all young children, in the church, in our community and around the world. Comfort any enduring hardship, especially those near and dear to us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Loving God, we give thanks for those who have died and claimed your baptismal promises especially those we have known and loved personally. Nurture our faith by their example, and strengthen us to live in communion with yourself, as they did. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Almighty, gracious and merciful God, trusting in your promise to answer our prayers, spoken and unspoken, according to your righteous will, we commend all our needs to your care and compassion, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

PEACE (ELW p. 143)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(Let us share a sign of God's peace)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING - Hymn: *Praise and Thanksgiving* (ELW 689)

1 Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

2 God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,
harvesting, milling for daily bread.

3 Father, providing food for your children,
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share
one with another, so that, rejoicing
with us, all others may know your care.

4 Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,
freely confessing your gracious hand.
Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;
your love sustaining showers the land.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 144)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

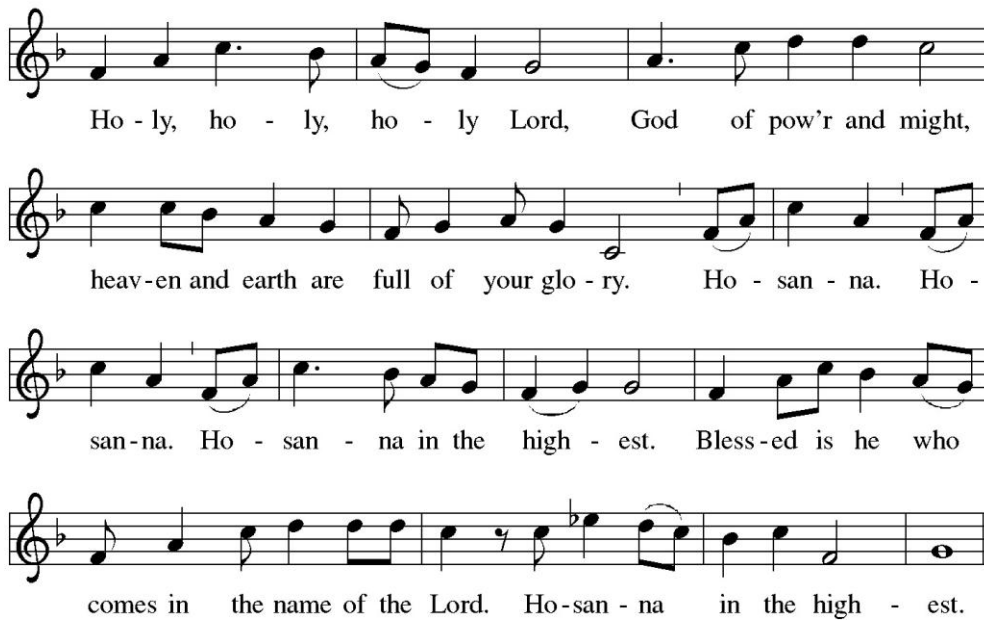
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God.
You reveal your glory
as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:
equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God,
ever to be adored in your eternal glory.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE – (Form VI, ELW page 66)

God our Father, you freely gave your eternally-begotten Son, to redeem your estranged children from the grip of sin and death, and to liberate your good creation from bondage to the idolatry of self-serving power and self-centred pride. In the divine humanity of Jesus Christ, Son of Mary, you entered our mortal world to confront the cosmic forces of greed, violence, and corruption that conspired to crucify him.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

By his resurrection on the third day, you have overcome our alienation from yourself and isolation from one another. By your Holy Spirit, intercede for your church when our faith falters and our voices fall silent before the tyranny of evil. Fulfill the promise of your infinite love and gather us into your eternal life of love, truth and peace beyond death and grave, in the holy communion of all your saints at worship in the immortal light of your grace and glory.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 145)

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.**

RESPONSIVE LITURGY FOR VIRTUAL HOLY COMMUNION

P: When we gather in the name of Jesus, he is here among us. (Matthew 18:20)

C: *Jesus Christ is with us now and always, to the end of time.* (Matthew 28:16)

P: When we are separated in body, we remain united in heart, mind and will.

C: *We are one in the Spirit; Christ is truly with us in the sacrament of bread and wine.*

P: Sisters and brothers with us in spirit: For the remembrance of Jesus,
take and eat the Body of Christ, given for you.

P: Brothers and sisters with us in spirit: For the remembrance of Jesus,
take and drink the blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 146)

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God and Father, that by this holy sacrament you restore us to wholeness of body, mind and soul. By your Holy Spirit, bring us to fullness of eternal life in the holy communion of your infinite love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* (ELW 836)

1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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