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.

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able and to face the baptismal font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, I one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Righteous God, we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Please remain standing and turn to face the altar as you are able.



GREETING

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)



CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 139)

Music and lyrics on following page





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.

(ELW p. 142)

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1--2:4a (Jeri Wartena)

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.

A reading from Genesis.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then 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 a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky 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. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. 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 dome of the sky 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 dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon 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 bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God 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 of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind 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."

²⁷So God created humankind in his image,

in the image of God he created them;

male and female he created them.

²⁸God 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." ²⁹God 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. ³⁰And 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. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 8 (Jeri Wartena)

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

²you 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.

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,

human beings that you should care for them?

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

⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands;

you have put all things under their feet:

⁷all 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.

^oO LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 (Jeri Wartena)

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.

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

[Paul writes:] ¹¹Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

KIDS' MESSAGE (Jeri Wartena)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to welcome the Gospel.



GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them to baptize and teach all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When 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, ²⁰and 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.**

Please be seated

SERMON (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able

HYMN OF THE DAY Come, Join the Dance of Trinity (ELW 412)



CREED

Let us join with Lutheran Christians throughout the world this Holy Trinity Sunday and confess our shared faith using the words of the Athanasian Creed.

To be read in three parts: P = Pastor, R = Right side L = Left side

P: 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.

ALL: Now this is the catholic faith:

- P: We worship one God in trinity and the Trinity in unity,
- R: neither confusing the persons
- L: nor dividing the divine being.

P: For the Father is one person,

R: the Son is another,

L: and the Spirit is still another.

- P: But the deity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one,
- R: equal in glory,
- L: coeternal in majesty.
- P: What the Father is,
- R: the Son is,
- L: and so is the Holy Spirit.
- P: Uncreated is the Father;
- R: uncreated is the Son;
- L: uncreated is the Spirit.
- P: The Father is infinite;
- R: the Son is infinite;
- L: the Holy Spirit is infinite.
- P: Eternal is the Father;
- R: eternal is the Son;
- L: eternal is the Spirit:
- P: And yet there are not three eternal beings,

R: but one who is eternal;

- P: as there are not three uncreated and unlimited beings,
- L: but one who is uncreated and unlimited.
- P: Almighty is the Father;

R: almighty is the Son;

- L: almighty is the Spirit:
- P: And yet there are not three almighty beings,
- R: but one who is almighty.
- P: Thus the Father is God;
- R: the Son is God;
- L: the Holy Spirit is God:
- P: And yet there are not three gods,
- L: but one God.
- P: Thus the Father is Lord;
- R: the Son is Lord;
- L: the Holy Spirit is Lord:
- P: And yet there are not three lords,

R: but one Lord.

- P: As Christian truth compels us to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord,
- L: so catholic religion forbids us to say that there are three gods or lords.
- P: The Father was neither made nor created nor begotten;
- R: the Son was neither made nor created, but was alone begotten of the Father;
- L: the Spirit was neither made nor created, but is proceeding from the Father and the Son.
- P: Thus there is one Father, not three fathers;

R: one Son, not three sons;

L: one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.

- P: And in this Trinity,
- R: no one is before or after,
- L: greater or less than the other;
- P: but all three persons are in themselves, coeternal and coequal;

R: and so we must worship the Trinity in unity

- L: and the one God in three persons.
- P: Whoever wants to be saved should think thus about the Trinity. [pause] It is necessary for eternal salvation that one also faithfully believe that our Lord Jesus became flesh.

ALL: For this is the true faith that we believe and confess: That our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.

- R: He is God, begotten before all worlds from the being of the Father,
- L: and he is man, born in the world from the being of his mother-
- R: existing fully as God, and fully as man with a rational soul and a human body;
- L: equal to the Father in divinity,
- **R:** subordinate to the Father in humanity.
- L: Although he is God and man,
- R: he is not divided, but is one Christ.
- L: He is united because God has taken humanity into himself;
- R: he does not transform deity into humanity.
- L: He is completely one in the unity of his person, without confusing his natures.
- R: For as the rational soul and body are one person,
- L: so the one Christ is God and man.
- R: He suffered death for our salvation.
- L: He descended into hell and rose again from the dead.
- R: He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- L: He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
- R: At his coming all people shall rise bodily to give an account of their own deeds.
- L: Those who have done good will enter eternal life, those who have done evil will enter eternal fire.

ALL: This is the catholic faith.

Pastor: One cannot be saved without believing this firmly and faithfully.

Please be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

Holy three, holy one, you call the church to make disciples of all nations. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel and direct all the baptized into lives of humble service. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy three, holy one, you spoke creation into being and called it good. Protect lands and waters threatened by human misuse and sustain living creatures of every kind: wild animals, birds, fish, and every creeping thing. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you have given humankind authority over the earth. Raise up leaders who listen earnestly, speak honestly, and govern thoughtfully. Heal divisions between nations, that we might agree with one another and live in peace. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you promise to be with us always, to the end of the age. Surround those most in need of your healing presence: any who are lonely, all who are grieving, and those who are sick. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy three, holy one, you set the earth on its axis, and we experience the seasons. Strengthen those enduring challenges this summer: those who suffer in the heat, parents overwhelmed by childcare responsibilities, and children experiencing food insecurity outside of school. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you give rest when our work is done. We give thanks for all the saints who now rest in you, confident in the promise of resurrection life in the age to come. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Prayer requests provided by congregation members to be added here by reader.

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us. Thank you so much for your continued support.

OFFERING SONG

Let the Vineyards be Fruitful (ELW 184)



OFFERING PRAYER

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one. 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.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,

so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using the language of our hearts. 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

> All are welcome to join in our communion celebration. Please follow the directions of Pastor Bruce and the ushers.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION

(ELW 207)



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. Amen.

SENDING SONG

Go to the World

ld (ACS 991)



Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After **brief announcements** related to the ministry of Bethel are shared from the podium **microphone**, the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest. Thanks be to God.

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