PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN: ♫“GLORY BE TO GOD THE FATHER” ♫ LSB 506

1  Glory be to God the Father,
    Glory be to God the Son,
    Glory be to God the Spirit:
    Great Jehovah, Three in One!
    Glory, glory
    While eternal ages run!

2  Glory be to Him who loved us,
    Washed us from each spot and stain;
    Glory be to Him who bought us,
    Made us kings with Him to reign!
    Glory, glory
    To the Lamb that once was slain!

3  Glory to the King of angels,
    Glory to the Church’s King,
    Glory to the King of nations;
    Heav’n and earth, your praises bring!
    Glory, glory
    To the King of glory sing!

4  Glory, blessing, praise eternal!
    Thus the choir of angels sings;
    Honor, riches, pow’r, dominion!
    Thus its praise creation brings.
    Glory, glory,
    Glory to the King of kings!

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89 Text: Public domain

Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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.

Amen.

INTROIT

PSALM 16:8–11

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity. Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mercy to us. I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

GLORIA PATRI

♫ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

KYRIE

♫ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

♫ Glory be to God on high and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

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.

♫ Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice? On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud: “To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the children of man. . . .

“The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of old. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth, before he had made the earth with its fields, or the first of the dust of the world. When he established the heavens, I was there; when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master workman, and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the children of man.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart, the word of faith that we proclaim. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

SECOND READING

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

“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.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.
The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

The Jews answered [Jesus], “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Church’s Confession of the Holy Trinity

Early in the fourth century, a new teaching appeared which claimed that Jesus was not true God. Arius, the north African priest who first proposed this theory, was extremely persuasive, and soon the controversy was so widespread that a church council was called to settle the matter. Out of that meeting in A.D. 325 came the Nicene Creed, which clearly confesses Jesus to be true God. That creed, which was expanded in A.D. 381 in order to defend the divinity of the Holy Spirit, is still widely used today as a confession of the triune faith.

Despite the clarity of the Nicene Creed, the controversy continued for some time. Toward the end of the fifth century, another creed was written that marveled at the mystery of the Trinity in a way that no creed had ever done. Though attributed to Athanasius, a fourth-century opponent of Arius, this anonymous creed clearly came at a later stage in the debate.

The Athanasian Creed proclaims that its teachings concerning the Holy Trinity and our Lord’s incarnation are the catholic faith. In other words, this is what the true church of all times and all places has confessed. More than 15 centuries later, the church continues to confess this truth, confident that the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has given himself for our salvation.

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

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

And the catholic faith is this,

That we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.

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

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

Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:
The Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;
The Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;
The Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.
And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,
Just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.
And yet there are not three Almighties, but one Almighty.
And yet there are not three Gods, but one God.
And yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.
And yet there are not three Almighties, but one Almighty.
So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
So also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.
The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.
The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.
The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.
Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.
And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;
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 worshiped.
Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.
But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
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.
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:
Perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;
equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:
One, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.
For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
Who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,
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.
At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.
And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.

*universal, Christian

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CATECHETICAL VERSE
The Sacrament of The Altar
What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: “forgiveness of sins.”

Sit

SERMON HYMN: ♫“COME, HOLY GHOST, CREATOR BLEST”  LSB 498

1 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,  And make our hearts Your place of rest;  Come with Your grace and heav’nly aid,  And fill the hearts which You have made.

2 To You, the Counselor, we cry,  To You, the gift of God Most High;  The fount of life, the fire of love,  The soul’s anointing from above.

3 In You, with graces sevenfold,  We God’s almighty hand behold  While You with tongues of fire proclaim  To all the world His holy name.

4 Your light to ev’ry thought impart,  And shed Your love in ev’ry heart;  The weakness of our mortal state  With deathless might invigorate.

5 Drive far away our wily foe,  And Your abiding peace bestow;  With You as our protecting guide,  No evil can with us abide.

6 Teach us to know the Father, Son,  And You, from both, as Three in One  That we Your name may ever bless  And in our lives the truth confess.
Praise we the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, with them One,
And may the Son on us bestow
The gifts that from the Spirit flow!

SERMON: “ARE YOU ALONE?”
By Pastor John Schmidt

ARE YOU ALONE?

Read Genesis 1 & 2. What does Genesis 2:18 tell us?
Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

Read 1 Peter 5:7. What does this have to say to us when we are feeling alone?
Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Read Matthew 28:20. What does this have to say concerning our feelings of being lonely?
And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Remembering God’s love for you, His care for you, what might you do the next time the cloud of loneliness comes into your life?

Are you alone?

When do you feel alone?
_ at home
_ on a long business trip
_ at an airport
_ at work or school
_ with a particular person
_ at a social gathering where you know few others

Others:

Do you feel uncomfortable when you feel lonely? Why?

Today is Trinity Sunday and we will want to look at the Trinity. When you think of the Father what is His work?

What is the work of Jesus Christ, God’s only Son?

What is the work of the Holy Spirit?
Our Epistle this morning finds Peter addressing the crowd and talks of the work of the Trinity. What does the passage say about?

  the Father:

  the Son:

  the Holy Spirit:

How does this compare with what comes to mind when we think of the work of each person of the Trinity?

Our Gospel lesson records Christ’s words prior to His crucifixion. What does He say concerning?

  the Father

  the Son

  the Spirit

Sin has caused a break, a separation from what we once were. Satan twists the truth to His way of thinking and tries to trick us into believing it. He uses thoughts such as:

- As long as no one finds out what I’m really like I won’t be lonely.
- If I pretend I’m not lonely then my loneliness will go away.
- As long as my relationships don’t change I won’t be lonely.
- If I’m successful I won’t be lonely.
- If I please others then I won’t be lonely.

How often have we not been tricked by such lies?

What comfort do we have in knowing the Trinity?

**Stand**

♫ The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
♫ Amen.

**OFFERTORY**

♫ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

**Sit**

**OFFERING**
As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.

**OFFERING HYMN: ♫“WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN”**  
LSB 781 V. 1–2

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!

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Sit

**HYMN: ♫“ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE”**  
LSB 717

1. Eternal Father, strong to save,  
   Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
   Who bidd’st the mighty ocean deep  
   Its own appointed limits keep:  
   O hear us when we cry to Thee  
   For those in peril on the sea.

2. O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain,  
   O’er which our traffic runs amain  
   By mountain pass or valley low;  
   Wherever, Lord, Thy people go,  
   Protect them by Thy guarding hand  
   From ev’ry peril on the land.

3. O Spirit, whom the Father sent  
   To spread abroad the firmament;  
   O Wind of heaven, by Thy might  
   Save all who dare the eagle’s flight,  
   And keep them by Thy watchful care  
   From ev’ry peril in the air.

4. O Trinity of love and pow’r,  
   Our people shield in danger’s hour;  
   From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
   Protect them wheresoe’er they go;  
   Thus evermore shall rise to Thee  
   Glad praise from air and land and sea.

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Stand
Collect

♫ Amen

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

♫ Amen, amen, amen.

Closing Hymn: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"  

1 Immortal, invisible,  
   God only wise,  
   In light inaccessible  
   hid from our eyes,  
   Most blessèd, most glorious,  
   the Ancient of Days,  
   Almighty, victorious,  
   Thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting,  
   and silent as light,  
   Nor wanting, nor wasting,  
   Thou rulest in might;  
   Thy justice like mountains  
   high soaring above  
   Thy clouds which are fountains  
   of goodness and love.

3 To all life Thou givest—  
   to both great and small—  
   In all life Thou livest,  
   the true Life of all;  
   We blossom and flourish  
   as leaves on the tree  
   And wither and perish—  
   but naught changes Thee.

4 Great Father of glory,  
   pure Father of light,  
   Thine angels adore Thee,  
   all veiling their sight;  
   All laud we would render:  
   O help us to see  
   'Tis only the splendor  
   of light that hides Thee.

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Silent Prayer

Announcements

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