



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS)
Central Illinois District (CID)

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(Announcements & Calendars can be found @ our Web Site:
www.trinitylutherantaylorville.org)

Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Taylorville

Or: Trinity Lutheran Church Taylorville Illinois

lcms.org cidlcms.org

Pastor: Rev. Rodney Blomquist (217) 824-4705

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Worship:

Saturday: 6:15 p.m.

Sunday: 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. *(Located in the church basement)*

Sunday Morning Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Class: 10:45 a.m.

Office Hours:

Monday: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.;

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; *(12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Lunch)*

Friday, 9 a.m. – Noon

FROM THE PASTOR P. 2

FROM OUR DISTRICT (CID) “Pass This On” P. 4

WORSHIP FOLDER *with children and adult activities, P.4*
(Coloring page P.27)

MESSAGE “Now We Know for Certain” P.15

& ANNOUNCEMENTS *go to our website:*

www.trinitylutherantaylorville.org

You will find a Sunday School Lesson and Bible Study for this Sunday at this site also.

From the Pastor:

Grace, mercy and peace to you all from God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

I pray that you all are well and safe. Continue practicing patience during this confusing time. Keep watch and stay in contact with family, friends and fellow workers. Simply stay busy doing that which is good and pleasing in the sight of God.

I am including activities and learning suggestions for you and your children of all ages. I hope this will deepen your appreciation and understand of the Divine Service.

For younger children

Word Search [underline or highlight]: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

5th graders and older: Mark the service with directional arrows [↗] as to show what direction the interaction between God, us and each other is taking place.

The coloring page can be saved in Paint 3D for your children and you to color on the computer screen.

Also, have those who can read, answer the questions found throughout the Divine Service.

For older children especially those who are in or have in the past studied Luther's Small Catechism

Where is this found in the Luther's Small Catechism? Put *LSC* in the margin and the section [*Ten Commandments, Creed, Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Office of the Keys, or the Lord's Supper*] of the catechism where this teaching can be found. [*ex: LSC-Baptism*]

Adults/parents

You may find this helpful to do the above also, even the drawing and coloring. For the youngest of your children, draw a cross or a picture, if your talent so allows, anywhere in the Divine Service and let your little ones color them. Another exercise you can do is to journal your thoughts on the Word and the following service. Each day read through a section and journal your thoughts and/or insights you may have. If you know to insert and use "Text Box" that is a good way to do it. You may also go to "References" and use "Foot Note" to record your thoughts or insight.

God bless, keep and increase your faith in Christ as you now read, mark and inwardly digest His Word.

WORSHIP FOLDER THE HOLY TRINITY Crowned in Glory and Honor June 6 & 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.

In preparation for Trinity Sunday – June 7, 2020

[CID “Pass This On” (PTO) messages. Each will point to the following Sunday’s church service by making reference to one or more of the Series A lessons in the LSB three-year lectionary.]

Imagine a car that belches out smoke whenever it starts up. You have probably seen such a car. Maybe you have owned such a car.

It seems clear: something is amiss. All that smoke shows that something is wrong. Yet no one would see the smoke and draw the conclusion that the car has no designer or no builder. Cars don’t just pop up by themselves, even if they don’t fire on all cylinders. Someone made the car in the first place, no doubt, but something has gone wrong.

There are a lot of things wrong in this world. Coronavirus forms just the most recent example. Nature is filled with instances of cruelty. There is disappointment, disease, and death.

That doesn’t mean that this world has no Creator, though. It means something has indeed gone wrong, dreadfully wrong.

The Bible begins by saying that God made the entire creation, with human beings at the pinnacle. He made it like a house for people to live in and care for. He made it all good, very good. Our first parents rebelled against God. They fell into sin, and the wage that sin pays is death.

Yet God did not stop at that. Although He ceased creating new things for this world, He sent His own coequal and coeternal Son to become Man and give His life in payment for all human sin. Then God raised this One, Jesus of Nazareth, from the dead. In Jesus is life – life as it was meant to be, life with God.

The Spirit of God was there at Creation. Now He takes people who are sick unto death with sin and makes them a new creation.

This Sunday, in our church service, we will hear of this great Creator and Re-creator God.

Order of Divine Service IV LSB 203

Opening Hymn *“My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker”* **LSB 820**

1 My soul, now praise your Maker!

Let all within me bless His name
Who makes you full partaker
Of mercies more than you dare claim.
Forget Him not whose meekness
Still bears with all your sin,
Who heals your ev'ry weakness,
Renews your life within;
Whose grace and care are endless
And saved you through the past;
Who leaves no suff'rer friendless
But rights the wronged at last.

2 He offers all His treasure
Of justice, truth, and righteousness,
His love beyond all measure,
His yearning pity o'er distress;
Nor treats us as we merit
But sets His anger by.
The poor and contrite spirit
Finds His compassion nigh;
And high as heav'n above us,
As dawn from close of day,
So far, since He has loved us,
He puts our sins away.

3 For as a tender father
Has pity on his children here,
God in His arms will gather
All who are His in childlike fear.
He knows how frail our powers,
Who but from dust are made.
We flourish like the flowers,
And even so we fade;
The wind but through them passes,
And all their bloom is o'er.

We wither like the grasses;
Our place knows us no more.

4 His grace remains forever,
And children's children yet shall prove
That God forsakes them never
Who in true fear shall seek His love.
In heav'n is fixed His dwelling,
His rule is over all;
O hosts with might excelling,
With praise before Him fall.
Praise Him forever reigning,
All you who hear His Word—
Our life and all sustaining.
My soul, O praise the Lord!

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The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a

sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

In whose name are we baptized? [Underline or highlight the answer][Hint: it is the first thing the Pastor says.]

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Introit *Ps. 16:8–11; antiphon: Liturgical Text*

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided | Unity.*

Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mer- | cy to us.

I have set the LORD always be- | fore me;*

because he is at my right hand, I shall not be | shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being re- | joices;*

my flesh also | dwells secure.

For you will not abandon my soul | to Sheol,*

or let your holy one see cor- | ruption.

You make known to me the | path of life;*

in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided | Unity.*

Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mer- | cy to us.

What will we find in the presence of the Lord? [Underline or highlight the answer]

Kyrie *LSB 204*

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

A For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind,

For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith,

For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all,

For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth,

For those who labor, those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel,

For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison,

For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them,

For these and for all our needs of body and soul,

Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 204*

C 1 **To God on high be glory**

And peace to all the earth;

Goodwill from God in heaven

Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!

We praise and bless You, Father;

Your holy name, we sing—

Our thanks for Your great glory,

Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 **To You, O sole-begotten,**

**The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—**

**3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Collect of the Day

P 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.

C **Amen.**

*Who lives and reigns now and forever? [Underline or
Highlight the answer.]*

Old Testament Reading *Genesis 1:1—2:4a (The Creation)*

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. [2] 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.

[3] And 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. [5] God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

[6] And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." [7] 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. [8] And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

[9] 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. [10] God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

[11] 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. [12] 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. [13] And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

[14] 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, [15] and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. [16] 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. [17] And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, [18] to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. [19] And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

[20] 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." [21] 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. [22] And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the

waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." [23] And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

[24] 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. [25] 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.

[26] 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."

[27] So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

[28] 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." [29] 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. [30] 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. [31] 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. [2] 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. [3] 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.

[4] 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*What did God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit create?
[Underline or Highlight the answer.]*

Psalm *Psalm 8 (antiphon: v. 9)*

¹O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in | all the earth!*

You have set your glory above the | heavens.
²Out of the mouth of babes and infants,
you have established strength because | of your foes,*
to still the enemy and the a- | venger.

³When I look at your heavens, the work of your | fingers,*
the moon and the stars, which you have | set in place,
⁴what is man that you are mind- | ful of him,*
and the son of man that you | care for him?

⁵Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly | beings*
and crowned him with glory and | honor.

⁶You have given him dominion over the works | of your hands;*
you have put all things under | his feet,
⁷all sheep and | oxen,*
and also the beasts | of the field,
⁸the birds of the heavens, and the fish | of the sea,*
whatever passes along the paths | of the seas.

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

*Whom is given strength to speak against God's enemies?
[Underline or Highlight the answer.]*

Second Reading *Acts 2:14a, 22–36*

¹⁴But 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.
²²“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—²³this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and

foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ ²⁹“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. ³⁰Being 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, ³¹he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³Being 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. ³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, “The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, ³⁵until I make your enemies your footstool.’ ³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Whom did God make Lord and Christ? [Underline or Highlight the answer.]

Alleluia and Verse

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

C **These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Holy Gospel *Matthew 28:16–20*

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when 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, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

What are we to do until Christ returns? [Underline or Highlight the answer.]

*Throughout the rest of the Divine Service place a
△ triangle beside the names referring to God.]*

Hymn of the Day “*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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Sermon *Based on Acts 2:14a, 22–36*

Title:

“Now We Know for Certain”

Introduction:

Peter is preaching to devote men who have gather in Jerusalem for the festival of Pentecost. He is speaking to them about Jesus and how He is the promised Messiah.

To help us understand this, I going to refer us to a television game show called, “The Masked Singer.” I have only seen a couple of the “unmasking.” The premise of the show is that throughout the season, clues are given for each masked singer. When the time comes to unmask the singer, the celebrity judges attempt to guess who the masked singer is. Most often from what I can gather is that they are surprised and totally unaware of the identity of the singer. But now they know for certain who the artist is.

I. God delivered Him up according to His definite plan and foreknowledge

The Old Testament is filled with information about the Messiah, the Christ-the Anointed One. It does not reveal who the Messiah, the Christ-the Anointed One is. That would be done later.

Yet, what is recorded for us is this. This Messiah, the Christ-the Anointed One will be the Savior of the world. He will take the place of the people and sacrifice Himself as atonement for the sins of the world. Listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 53

[3] He was despised and rejected by men;
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

[4] Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

[5] But he was wounded for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his stripes we are healed.
[10] Yet it was ***the will of the Lord*** [*emphases added*] to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

Peter reveals what the people were looking for, a Messiah that would come and deliver God's people. And it was God's will that the Messiah, the Christ-the Anointed one would be crucified just as Jesus was.

These are not clues. These are prophecies by which we will be able to identify among all the crucified people in history, that this one crucified was the Savior of the world. And that He would be the only one crucified that would rise from the dead three days later.

II. God exalted Him to His right hand

Peter goes on to use the words of the Prophet-King, David. Peter points out that David is not talking about himself. This is evident in that David died, returned to the dust and his grave was still there at this time.

The king that would sit on the throne of David would not return to the dust. Instead, He would be raised by the Father and then seated by the Father at the Father's right hand. Jesus is the only one to be raised from the dead and then ascend into heaven. This happened only ten days earlier.

Anyone can claim anyone to be the Messiah. The proof of the matter is do they fulfill the prophecies about the Messiah in the Old Testament? There is the pouring out of the Holy Spirit that these people witnessed; the reminder that 50 days before this Jesus was crucified; the fact that there were over 500 people in the area that had seen Jesus alive rules out now and then that no one else could and be the Lord and the Christ. Jesus

alone fulfills Scriptures.

Conclusion:

Peter announces Jesus to be the Messiah, the Christ-the Anointed One. God the Father has revealed the savior of the world and it is His Son, Jesus.

In these last and uncertain times, Jesus being the Messiah, the Christ-the Anointed One is a certainty. We can know for sure that the Father has made this Jesus both Lord and Christ. And the peace which this gives is that while everything seems to out of control, our King who sits at the hand of the Father has control over all things. All authority has been given to Him.

There is a limit to what we will face and even suffer. This King will return. We do not have to guess and try to figure out who or when. We have the peace and assurance. Jesus is Lord and Christ. We can be certain of that.

T AMEN T

Athanasian Creed *LSB 319*

- C 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.

In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;

and yet there are not three Almighty's, but one Almighty.

So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;

and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.

So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;

and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.

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.

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.

Prayer of the Church

Almighty and eternal God, worthy to be held in reverence by all people everywhere, we give You humble and sincere thanks for the innumerable blessings that You have bestowed on us without any merit or worthiness on our part.

We praise You especially for preserving for us Your saving Word and the holy Sacraments. Grant and preserve to Your holy Church throughout the world purity of doctrine, and provide faithful pastors to preach Your Word with power. Help all who hear the Word rightly to understand and truly to believe it. Send laborers into Your harvest, and open the door of faith to those who do not know You. In mercy, bring to repentance the enemies of Your Church, and grant them amendment of life. Protect and defend Your Church in all tribulation and danger. Strengthen us and all fellow Christians to set our hope fully on the grace revealed in Christ, and help us to fight the good fight of faith that in the end we may receive the salvation of our souls.

Bestow Your grace on all nations of the earth. Bless especially our country, its inhabitants, and all who are in authority. Let Your glory dwell in our land that mercy and truth, righteousness and peace may abound in all places. We commend to You the care of our schools so that our children may grow in useful knowledge and Christian virtue and thus bring forth wholesome fruits of life.

Graciously defend us from all calamity by fire and water, from war and pestilence, from scarcity and famine, and from every other evil. Protect and prosper all who labor in their rightful callings, and let all useful arts flourish among us. Be the God and Father of the lonely and the forsaken, the helper of the sick and needy, the comforter of the distressed and those who sorrow.

Accept, we implore You, our bodies and souls, our hearts and minds, our talents and powers, together with the offerings we bring before You as our humble service.

Grant Your Holy Spirit to those who come to the Lord's Table this day that they may receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ in sincere repentance and firm faith and to their abundant blessing.

As we are strangers and pilgrims on earth, help us by true faith and a godly life to prepare for the world to come, doing the work You have given us to do while it is day, before the night comes when no one can work. And when our last hour comes, support us by Your power, and receive us into Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Offering Hymn "O God of God, O Light of Light" *LSB 810 st. 1*

1 O God of God, O Light of Light,
O Prince of Peace and King of kings:
To you in heaven's glory bright
The song of praise forever rings.
To Him who sits upon the throne,
The Lamb once slain but raised again,
Be all the glory He has won,
All thanks and praise! Amen, amen.

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Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

**C 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.**

Hymns

“They 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!

“How Great Thou Art” **LSB 801**

- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed; Refrain
- ref Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
- 2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; Refrain
- 3 But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; Refrain
- 4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” Refrain

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“All Glory Be to God Alone” **LSB 948**

- 1 All glory be to God alone,
Forevermore the highest one,
Who did our sinful race befriend
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among us may His gracious will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

2 We praise You, God; Your name we bless
And worship You in humbleness;
From day to day we glorify
The everlasting God on high.
Of Your great glory do we sing,
And to Your throne our thanks we bring.

3 Lord God, our King on heaven's throne,
Our Father, the Almighty One.
O Lord, the sole-begotten One,
Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,
True God from all eternity,
O Lamb of God, to You we flee.

4 You take the whole world's sin away;
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
You take the whole world's sin away;
O Lord, receive our prayer this day.
From God's right hand Your mercy send,
To all the world Your grace extend.

5 You only are the Holy One
And over all are Lord alone.
O Jesus Christ, we glorify
You and the Spirit, Lord Most High;
With Him You evermore shall be
One in the Father's majesty.

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Nunc Dimittis LSB 211

C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:

A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.

- 2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

Collect for the Word

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus *LSB 212*

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P 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 T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn LSB 805 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

1 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

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