

# HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

May 22, 2016

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

**AS WE BEGIN.....** The Sunday after Pentecost is always The Holy Trinity. As we consider the Trinity, we do not attempt to define or explain God but confess what He has revealed to us in Scripture. He is one God in three persons. His self-disclosure reveals Himself as the God who saves. His delight is in us even though the cost of loving us means offering up His Son on the cross. This is the heart of God's self-revelation—the Father's saving will and purpose is fulfilled by the Son even to death, and the Spirit reveals this to us so that we might know and believe in Him and be saved. God's wisdom is not theoretical but practical—for us and our salvation. This is His delight, and from this we learn to delight in what He has done!

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

P: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## PRAISE SONG "Red Book" 78

## How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;  
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!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And 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;  
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!

And 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;  
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!

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!"  
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!

#### **ATHANASIAN CREED (Part 1)**

- P: Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the Christian faith.  
C: **Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.**  
P: And the Christian faith is this,  
C: **that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.**  
P: For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.  
C: **But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.**  
P: Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:  
C: **the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;**  
P: the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;  
C: **the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.**  
P: And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,  
C: **just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.**  
P: In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;  
C: **and yet there are not three Almighty's, but one Almighty.**  
P: So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;  
C: **and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**  
P: So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;  
C: **and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray.....Almighty God our Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, renewing and fulfilling creation by your eternal Spirit, and revealing your glory through our Lord, Jesus Christ: Cleanse us from doubt and fear, and enable us to worship you, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, living and reigning, now and forever.

C: Amen

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Today is The Holy Trinity, the first Sunday after Pentecost. We begin the nonfestival half of the Church Year by the confession of the mystery of one God in the three persons of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In the Old Testament Reading from Proverbs, we hear wisdom personified and the delight of God in the children of man. In the Epistle from Acts, we hear part of the Pentecost sermon of Peter attesting to the revelation of Jesus as both Lord and Christ. In the Gospel according to St. John, we hear Jesus defend Himself against His accusers and lay claim to being God.

## FIRST LESSON: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 *The delight of God in the children of man.*

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."

## SECOND LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 22-36 *Jesus is both Lord and Christ*

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 abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we 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.”

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

### CHORAL ANTHEM

### Holy and Mighty

By Pepper Choplin

## GOSPEL: John 8:48-59 *Jesus defends himself against his accusers*

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.

## SERMON SONG “Green Book” 165

## Holy, Holy, Holy

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!

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.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy' there is none beside thee,  
Perfect in pow'r in love and purity.

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!

## SERMON

## It is a Mysterious Thing

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY Music

## ATHANASIAN CREED (Part 2)

- P: 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 Christian faith to say that there are three Gods or Lords.
- C: The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.**
- P: The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.
- C: The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.**
- P: Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.
- C: And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;**
- P: 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.
- C: Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.**
- P: But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- C: 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.**
- P: 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:
- C: perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;**
- P: equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
- C: Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:**
- P: one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
- C: one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.**
- P: For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
- C: who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,**

- P: 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.
- C: **At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.**
- P: And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- C: **This is the Christian faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.**

#### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

After each portion of the prayers, these words are spoken:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **CLOSING SONG "Green Book" 554      This is My Father's World**

This is my Father's world, And to my list'ning ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings The music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise;  
The morning light, the lily white, Declare their maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world; He shines in all that's fair.  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass; He speaks to me ev'ry where.

This is my Father's world; Oh, let me not forget  
That, though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world, why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is king, let the heavens ring; God reigns, let the earth be glad!

#### **BENEDICTION**

#### **DISMISSAL**