
June 11, 2017 - Holy Trinity Sunday

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

AS WE GATHER...Today the Church celebrates Trinity Sunday. It is a day to bask in the wonder of knowing the triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—who has been revealed to us in the Scriptures. While we often think about the three persons of the Trinity having their own areas of expertise (The Father creates, the Son redeems, the Spirit sanctifies), the readings for today focus on how the three persons of the Trinity work together in every task.

RINGING OF THE BELL...After the ringing of the bell, we take a moment *in silence* to prepare our hearts and minds for today's worship.

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 114

"Jesus Loves Me"

1. Jesus loves me -
this I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong -
They are weak, but He is strong.

Refrain Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me -
loves me still, Though I'm very weak and ill;
That I might from sin be free,
Bled and died upon the tree.

Refrain Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

3. Jesus loves me -
He who died, Heaven's gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin,
Let His little child come in!

Refrain Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

4. Jesus loves me -
He will stay Close beside me all the way,
Though hast bled and died for me,
I will henceforth live for the.

Refrain Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

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 Almightyies, 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.

FIRST LESSON: [Genesis 1:1-2:4a](#) *Our triune God creates the heavens and the earth.*

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 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. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

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

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

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. 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. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

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

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." 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. And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. 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. 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.

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."

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

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." 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. 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. 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. 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. 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.

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.

SECOND LESSON: [Acts 2:14a, 22-36](#) *Peter's Pentecost message focuses on Jesus.*

But 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.

"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."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rob Schulze

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus sends His disciples to make disciples.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

SERMON 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!

SERMON

"Finishing Well"

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

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

P: Lord God, You have graciously revealed Yourself to us as one God in three Divine Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We thank You for the gift of the Creeds that teach us to confess You, our Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier. Let us never cease to confess this faith in the Holy Trinity, giving glory always to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving heavenly Father, look with favor upon the mission fields here and abroad. Let new congregations take root and flourish, that through them the Spirit may bring the lost to the joy of faith in Christ. Be with all missionaries and their families, sustaining them in challenging times. Help us to support them with our prayers and in sharing those gifts You have poured out for us in abundance. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Merciful Father, send Your Spirit of comfort to all who are suffering physical or mental illness, those who are grieving, lonely or heavy hearted [*especially*]. Restore health where You see fit, remember them in Your mercy, and give them patience in their tribulation. Remind them of the goodness of Your grace and Your ever-abiding faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, You provide schools and teachers for faithful instruction and dedicated learning. Receive our thanks for the knowledge gained by those who are now graduating. We remember today especially Casey, Clark, Justin, Kai, and Noah. As they continue to learn and grow, grant them Your Holy Spirit that their talents and abilities may be used for Your glory and as a blessing to others, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL ANTHEM "Hold On to the Rock" *By Pepper Choplin*

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL