Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry June 4, 2023 – Holy Trinity

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INTRODUCTION

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.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + 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.



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

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.**

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.

Amen

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1--2:4a

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.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

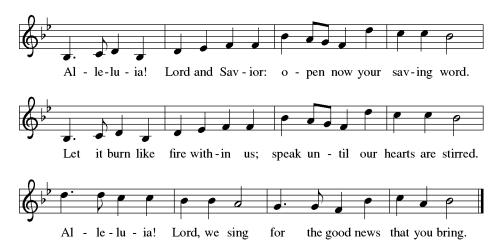
[Paul writes:] ¹¹Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

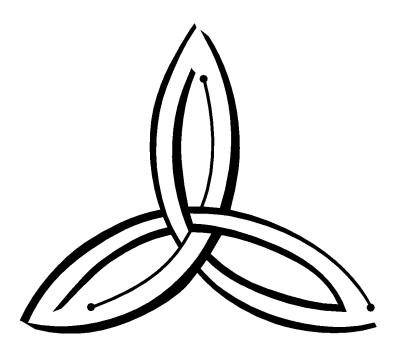
¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

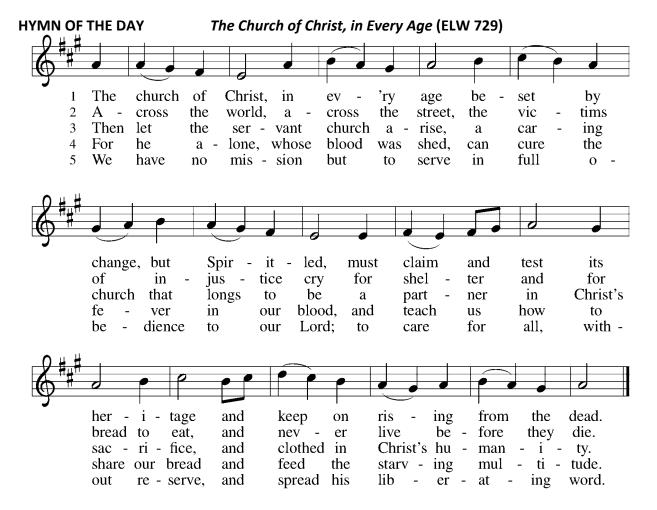
¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them 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.

SERMON





Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their needs.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Mold us, fill us, and use us to speak the glorious message of our oneness in Christ. Inflame our hearts with love and inspire us to serve all humankind. Make us joyful messengers of the Good News and lead us to forgive, work for justice, and show mercy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Spirit of Christ, Earth has many languages, but we are all children of God and heirs of God's peace. Grant wisdom and courage to the world's leaders so they will end war, revenge, and oppression. Instead, lead them to seek reconciliation and compromise. Watch over anyone who lives in fear of violence. Keep safe all refugees and those in the military. Bring healing to our broken world. Help us to see You in every person and be peacemakers in Your world. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit, we are blessed to have family and friends who love, support, teach, and care for us. We pray for those who are lonely and feel unloved, may they find friendship and family. Grant discernment to each of us to identify and fully use our talents and guide those who are searching for jobs. Bless all pastors, priests, bishops, and lay church leaders. We also rejoice with those who are celebrating anniversaries, birthdays, and other happy occasions. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of Creation, Genesis describes You forming light, the universe, earth, water, all living things, and us. You said that everything was good. Teach us to have the same respect, caring, and stewardship of Your amazing world, so we will use its resources wisely and preserve it for future generations. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Spirit of Healing, bring wholeness and hope to those who are ill in mind, body, or spirit. Lovingly embrace our elderly loved ones and shut-ins. Bless anyone dealing with long-term diagnoses, such as addiction, depression, or dementia. Bring wisdom to those who search for cures and bless all doctors, nurses, and caregivers. We pray for calmness knowing that Jesus understands our suffering and said, "Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of mercy, you hear all our prayers. Listen now as we offer other prayers, either silently or aloud.....Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

O Comforter, we give thanks for the lives of those who have passed away and pray for all to whom death draws near. Console their family and friends who mourn. Bring them peace and hope in the days of grief ahead. Strengthen us all with the promise of eternal life. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

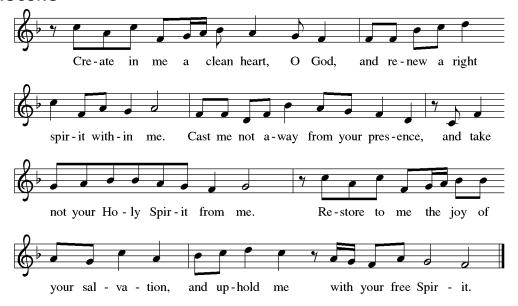
The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING - THANK YOU! YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR MINISTRY POSSIBLE.

Giving is easy online through our website at https://www.clcathens.org/give
There you will also find instructions for how you can text to give or by downloading our church app!

OFFERTORY

OFFERING SONG



Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

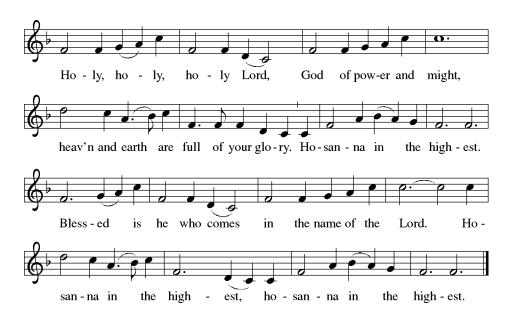
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God,

ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

AGNUS DEI



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.

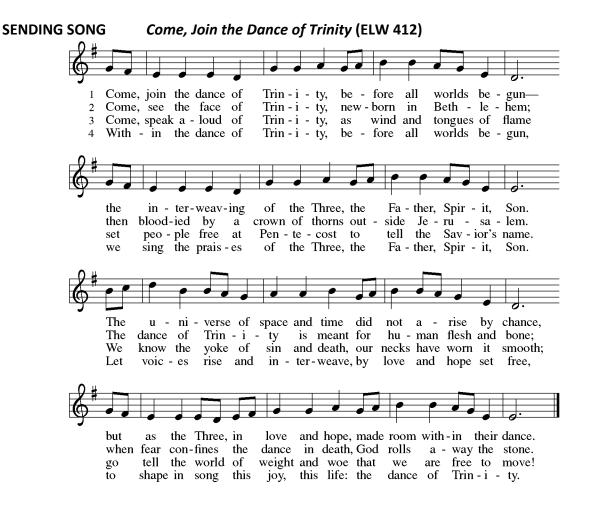
ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

Amen.





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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING TODAY: Presider: Bob Cochran; Preacher: Mike Cleland; Organist: George Weckman; Asst/Lector: Susan Urano; Livestream: Marilyn Shealy; Greeter: Nick Claussen; Ushers: John Deno, Rod Sauer; Time with Children: Jana Hovland; Acolyte: Meena Juedes