

## TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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(A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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**Holy Trinity**

**May 30, 2021**

Today the Christian church celebrates "Holy Trinity" Sunday. Certainly, the Bible's teaching about our God challenges our human understanding. On the one hand, the Bible clearly teaches, "*The LORD our God, the LORD is one*" (Deuteronomy 6:4). Yet, our One God consists of three persons, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus expressed this truth about the Trinity in His Great Commission when He commanded His believers: "*Therefore go and gather disciples from all nations by baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and by teaching them to keep all the instructions I have given you*" (Matthew 28:19-20).

Traditionally on this day, we confess our faith in the Holy Trinity using the words of the Athanasian Creed. The Christian Church confesses this creed to combat two errors in particular (still prevalent today): 1) the denial that God's Son and the Holy Spirit are of One Being or Godhead with the Father; 2) the denial that Jesus Christ is true God and true man in one person.

Although faithful Christians penned this timely confession generations ago, the truths confessed in this creed still remain necessary for upholding the foundational and necessary truth to our Christian faith. That's why this creed concludes with these words: "This is the true Christian faith. Whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved."

Order of Worship: ELH Page 109, "*Matins*."

Hymns: 37, 15, 403, 25

### THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

*Old Testament: Isaiah 6:1-8.* When the Lord called Isaiah to be His prophet, the Lord gave Isaiah a glimpse of heaven. He saw the holy Lord seated on His throne, surrounded by praising angels. This beatific vision troubled Isaiah because he realized his unworthiness as a sinner. Yet, the LORD assured Isaiah his sin had been atoned. Isaiah then, in joy of the forgiveness of sins, accepted the Lord's call to be His prophet.

*Psalms of the Day: Psalm 150.* As this psalm closes the "Book of the Psalter," joyful songs and hymns of praise remain the fitting response of the Christian heart to God's gift of Himself to us in His word and sacraments.

*(Supplement).*

*Epistle: Romans 8:14-17.* The love called for in the law is not, indeed by definition cannot be, slavishly rendered. For it is a love produced by God Himself through the word of the Spirit. The Spirit made us children of the Father and heirs with the Son, who won us by His saving work.

*Verse of the Day:* Alleluia. Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Armies! The whole earth is full of his glory. Alleluia. (Isaiah 6:3b, EHV)

*Gospel: John 3:1-17.* Not sinful flesh, not human reason, but our God alone with His might and glorious gospel in the word and sacrament can bring us to faith and to the love for God that flows from faith. For who could believe it of himself that God loved us enough to give His Son? Brought by the miracle of the gospel to believe it, we love Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who saved us from eternal judgment for eternal blessedness.

*Sermon: Romans 8:14-17*

*Theme - "Find Comfort In Your Christian IRA"*

Points to ponder from the day's Scripture readings:

- Old Testament: Review what Isaiah saw. What was Isaiah's initial reaction and later response to this divine encounter?
- Old Testament: How did the LORD assure Isaiah of his personal forgiveness and demonstrate he was called to speak God's word?
- Old Testament: Where is evidence of our Triune God in the praise of the angels (seraphim)?
- Epistle: Instead of being "*slaves to sin*," what does Paul say we are by God's grace?
- Epistle: Where are references to each person of the Trinity in this section?
- Gospel: Why can we rightly call and describe verse 16 as the "gospel in a nutshell?"
- Gospel: Where is evidence of the Trinity in this lesson?

### Announcements:

+ Bible Class...is every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. Please join us for our continued study of the Book of Psalms!

**Isaiah 6:1-8** – In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each one had six wings. With two they covered their faces. With two they covered their feet. With two they flew. One called to another and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of Armies! The whole earth is full of his glory! The foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of the one who called, and the temple was filled with smoke. Then I said, "I am doomed! I am ruined, because I am a man with unclean lips, and I dwell among a people with unclean lips, and because my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of Armies!" Then one of the seraphim flew to me, carrying a glowing coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth with the coal and said, "Look, this has touched your lips, so your guilt is taken away, and your sin is forgiven." Then I heard the Lord's voice, saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am. Send me!" (EHV™)

**Romans 8:14-17** – Indeed, those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery so that you are afraid again, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we call out, “Abba, Father!” The Spirit himself joins our spirit in testifying that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, we are also heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, since we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him. (EHV™)

**John 3:1-17** – There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these miraculous signs you are doing unless God is with him.” Jesus replied, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born, can he?” Jesus answered, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God! Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh. Whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be surprised when I tell you that you must be born from above. The wind blows where it pleases. You hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” “How can these things be?” asked Nicodemus. “You are the teacher of Israel,” Jesus answered, “and you do not know these things? Amen, Amen, I tell you: We speak what we know, and we testify about what we have seen. But you people do not accept our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven, except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven. “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” (EHV™)