

# HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

June 12th, 2022



## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1  
Church: 905-685-8294  
[www.christlutheransc.ca](http://www.christlutheransc.ca)

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**Office Hours:** Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon  
**Bulletin Announcements:** Please send to [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca).  
Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

**Pastor:** Pastor Todd Hoefts (289-362-0113) [pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com](mailto:pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com)  
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**Prayer:** Almighty and everlasting God, since You have given us, Your servants, grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith, and to worship the true Unity in the power of Your divine majesty, keep us also steadfast in this true faith and worship, and defend us ever from all our adversaries, for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**NOTE:** Holy Communion will be celebrated today and next Sunday due to the 4th Sunday of June being the Church picnic day.

**Organist:** 9 a.m. – Mayumi Munoz  
**Readers:** 9 a.m. – Chris Mason  
**Greeters:** 9 a.m. – Ralph & Mary Muller  
11 a.m. – Paul Wachs  
11 a.m. – Heather Turner

**Children’s Message:** Please be aware that during recorded services the children will be heard but no actual video will be taken, the camera will be focused on a still shot.

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE TODAY:** **Psalm 8: 9** <https://youtu.be/EHd94W2YWdw>

**DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:**

Monday: Deut. 6: 4-13      Wed.: Eph. 4: 1-6      Friday: Eph. 1: 3-14  
Tuesday: Col. 2: 1-9      Thurs: 1 Tim. 3: 14-16      Saturday: John 5: 17-23

**MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE:** We know each of us should all be working to memorize God's Word! You are invited to listen to our Children’s Messages where we are focusing on understanding and memorizing a Psalm verse each week. This week is **Psalm 8: 9.**

**OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES** to Jill & Pastor Munoz, Jill’s mom, Eyla Russ, was called home by her Lord and Savior on Thursday, June 9, 2022. You are in our prayers

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** A reminder that today, **June 12th** Sunday School is meeting for the last time before we enter our summer schedule. *(we will be doing a special Father's Day craft)*

**SOUL** has resumed its IN-PERSON gathering each Thursday! Approx. 15 people will attend each week with caregivers. We will sing, pray, play Bible Bingo, create crafts, enjoy refreshments and much needed relationship building in lively conversations. Pastor Todd is the current leader and will be assisted by Heather Simons, Louise Gondosch (piano), Betty Vasko (kitchen), Judy Slingerland, Tom Bailey, Judy Mason, Wendy Hyatt and Linda Sowrey. Pastor Todd’s email address is: [pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com](mailto:pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com). This is a wonderful start which can only grow and grow as the Lord wills. Thank you for all who support this important and vital ministry

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Will meet this Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the church. We will continue our Right Now Media Bible Study entitled "One at a Time." We all want to make a difference in the world. Without a doubt, Jesus is the one who has made the biggest difference in history; but how? There are many answers we could highlight, but one phrase captures how Jesus had an impact...by focusing on the one; **"One at a Time."** Please feel welcome to join us!

**FATHER'S DAY DESSERTS:** Come, celebrate "*fathers and father figures*" that impact our lives in such positive ways. Treat them to a slice of their favourite pie and coffee, then join in on some special time together between the services on **Sunday, June 19th**.

We thank our heavenly Father, for His example and ask that He continue to bless the fathers that support and surround us. Pie and Bake Sale proceeds will go towards defraying the costs of the July National Youth Gathering in Winnipeg.

*P.S.—If anyone would like to make a pie or other goodies for the bake sale, sign up sheets are in the narthex.*

**LMWL-C/Mary Martha** are pleased to invite you to our final gathering before the summer break on **Tuesday, June 21st at 5:30 p.m.** as a pot luck. Kathy DeKouchay has the sign-up sheet for food, so if you can discuss with her what you might bring (appetizer, salad, main course, dessert) that would be helpful. Mary Saxton has graciously offered her home at 28 Emerald Common (go north to Lakeshore & just east off Vine St. turn left onto Willcher, left onto Sapphire & left onto Emerald Common.) Since parking is limited please arrange to carpool. Please also bring with you, your own plates and cutlery plus a lawn chair. We look forward to seeing you and being together.

**CONGREGATIONAL/VOTERS MEETING**

The meeting originally scheduled for Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup> is now rescheduled to **Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** Agenda will include ratification of actions taken by Church Council during Covid restrictions, approval of Budget for 2022, election of Church Council, Reports from Committee Chairs and a discussion of service times for the summer and into the fall. You do not need to be a Voter to attend and everyone is encouraged to be there if possible.

**NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING:** We are so excited to let you know there are 3 youth attending the gathering this July 14th - 19th in Winnipeg, plus 2 adults as ibods (assisting with the details of the gathering itself) and myself as the youth leader. We ask for your continued prayers on the gathering as committee members work to pull things all together and on us as we make plans to travel.

<b><u>Last Sunday Attendance:</u> June 5th, 2022 Attn: 9 A.M. – 58; 11 A.M. – 44; Total: 102</b>					
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Weekly Need</u></b>	<b><u>Last Sunday</u></b>	<b><u>Year To Date</u></b>	<b><u>+ or – (--)</u></b>
Current:	283,291.00	5,554.73	1,863.00	93,244.78	(32,057.01)
LCC Missions	20,000.00	392.16	190.00	6,615.50	( 2,230.65)
Property Improvement:			114.00	3,195.50	

**A MEMORIAL DONATION** has been given to SOUL in memory of Josie Knoll by Fred & Janice LeBlanc.

**FLOWERS** have been placed on the altar this morning by Linda Roepke on the occasion of her 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**THANK YOU:** On behalf of the Lutheran Women's Convention, we would like to express our appreciation for all your donations for Medical Missions. They will be distributed to missionaries in the mission field.

**THANK YOU:** It is with extreme joy that I would like to report that our Pop up Yard Sale/Barbecue and Plant sale was a resounding success. God has truly blessed us, since it is all about Him. The weather was perfect, participation from different members of the congregation was wonderful, there was a lot of community interaction and it was great to see people that we had not seen for a long time. My hope was that no-one was overwhelmed by helping out. The bustle of activity in front of the church reflected life and activity from within our congregation. A special bonus was that SOUL received \$303, and CLWR - Ukraine effort received a cheque for \$965 and \$145. Thank you all so very, very much! *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."* **Matthew 5:16**

**EXTRA HANDS & BODIES NEEDED:** we continually need extra people assisting in our services. With offering both 9 am and 11 am services, we are finding ourselves short staffed of volunteers. Particularly for the late service, we need your help in the following areas:

- 1) Greeting of Worshippers at entrance and Covid Protocol Preparation of our PowerPoint worship services [editing the Google Doc Slides, can be done at home]
- 2) Operation of the PowerPoint during church services [training with written instruction will be provided]
- 3) Taking a turn preparing the Altar for Communion and seasonal colour cloth changes [Altar Guild]
- 4) Ushering people to pew seats and directing people to line up for communion
- 5) Lighting and extinguishing of altar candles

Recording services using newly installed equipment [training with written instructions will be provided]  
We pray that you consider helping. We need participation from all ages. Should you wish more information about what is involved, please speak to Judy Slingerland, Tom Kuhl or Pastor Todd.

**GREETERS:** - What a wonderful way to get to know everyone in the congregation and at the same time enjoy a little fellowship! Greet members at the door, encourage hand sanitizing and provide them with a copy of the Bulletin and Worship Folder. It's as easy as that! A sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board and everyone is encouraged to sign up

**Notice to Church Extension Fund Depositors:** The Church Extension Fund (CEF) is winding down its operations and as of now all depositors with current addresses have received their deposited funds plus the interest owing. However, we have a number of unclaimed savings accounts and savings certificates as we do not have current contact information for these. If you or someone you know thinks they may have a CEF account which has not been redeemed, please contact Darryll Holland at: 800-465-8179 ext4 or [dholland@lceast.ca](mailto:dholland@lceast.ca). Also if you are in possession of God Bank Savings Stamps or Tracky Stamps, these too can be redeemed by returning the books or stamps to: Lutheran East District, 275 Lawrence Ave., Kitchener, ON N2M 1Y3.



## SUNDAY, JUNE 26TH

**Services:** 9:00 a.m. at Church  
11:00 a.m. at Burgoyne Woods, Section "C"

Organized Games & Activities, Fun and Action for all!!  
Hamburgers, hotdogs and pop provided.

**Necessities to bring:** Lawn Chairs, salad, dessert, "utensils" and "plates".

If you plan to attend, please register by Sunday June 19

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Creative Communion*

## HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

June 12, 2022 + 9 AM Worship

OPENING SONG:

*"Majesty!"*

**Majesty! Worship His majesty  
Unto Jesus be all glory  
Honor and praise--  
Majesty! Kingdom authority  
Flow from His throne  
Unto His own, His anthem raise  
  
So exalt lift up on high  
The name of Jesus  
Magnify come glorify  
Christ Jesus the King**

**Majesty worship His majesty  
Jesus who died now glorified  
King of all kings...  
  
So exalt lift up on high  
The name of Jesus  
Magnify come glorify  
Christ Jesus the King  
  
Majesty worship His majesty  
Jesus who died now glorified  
King of all kings**

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CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

You are my hiding place O Lord;

**you will save me from trouble.**

I sing aloud of your salvation,

**because you protect me.**

Then I confessed my sins to you;

**I did not conceal my wrongdoings.**

Looking for mercy from the Blessed Trinity, let us confess our sins together, as one people. O Gracious God,

**Our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and gift us with grace to grow more into the likeness and image of Your dear Son, our new born King and Saviour, Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

Receive the forgiveness Christ Jesus Himself has won for you by His Passion, His death and resurrection. In the place of Christ and by His holy command, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of David,

**Son of the living God, have mercy on us and give us Your peace. Amen.**

1. **Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God, in the High--est.**
2. **God cares for me, God cares for me, God cares for me, He's so good to me!**
3. **He sent us Christ, He sent us Christ, He sent us Christ, on a cross for me.**
4. **I praise His name, I praise His name, I praise His name, For He rose for me.**

*Velna Ledin, 1933 Public domain*

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY:

We pray: Eternal God, Almighty Creator, You have revealed Yourself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and You live in the perfect and divine unity of love. We praise Your power and majesty. Keep us firm in the faith You have given, defend us from all adversity and bring us at last into Your holy presence, where You dwell in endless joy and love; O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God in three persons, blest forevermore.

**Amen.**

### THE WORD

**The Old Testament:** *Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31*

Does not wisdom call, and 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 out: 'To you, O people, I call and my cry is to all that live. The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. 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— when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. 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 worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race. This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The New Testament Reading:** *Acts of the Apostles 2: 14a, 22-36*

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'People of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence." 'Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, "He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption." This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us 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 both see and hear. 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.’ ” Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.’

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM:

*“Holy Holy Holy”*

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our songs 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 shall be.**

**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.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Heaven and earth are full of His Glory.  
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen!**

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**The Holy Gospel: St. John 16: 12-15**

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter:

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus says:] ‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

ATHANASIAN CREED *selections*

*LSB Page 319*

Whoever desires to be saved must, above all else,

**Hold the catholic faith.**

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.**

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

**And yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**

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.**

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,**

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 there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**This is the catholic faith.**

GOSPEL SONG:

*"King Of Kings"*

1. In the darkness we were waiting  
Without hope, without light  
Till from Heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes--  
To fulfil the law and prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

Chorus:

Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings!

2. To reveal the kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross  
For even in Your suffering  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake You died

3. And the morning that You rose  
All of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored

4: And the Church of Christ was born  
Then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this Gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel shall not faint  
By His blood and in His Name  
In His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me.

Chorus:

Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings

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MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Eternal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit: thank you for making yourself known through your mighty works. Continue to show yourself to the world by spreading the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Support all who are preparing for service as pastors, and keep all the church's pastors, teachers and lay workers true to the Trinitarian faith so that the community of the church may flow from the community of God.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Heavenly Father, you formed the waters and the dry lands, and your fingers set the stars and moon in the heavens. We pray for all people and all lands - bring peace and prosperity so that all may be blessed by your wonderful goodness. And move us to care for this world as we should.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Lord Jesus Christ, the Wisdom and Word of God, you were there at the beginning of creation yet chose to become one of us. We pray for your worldwide church - protect those who are persecuted for bearing your name, and bring all people to rejoice in you as their Saviour.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Remember this nation, dear Lord, that we remain a peaceable land and a light of hope and a help to other nations of the world, especially to areas of need, trauma, warfare, persecution or natural disaster;

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***



Spirit of God, you hovered over the waters of creation and you came to us in our baptism. We pray for those whose lives we share - unite us in a community of love so that we welcome the stranger and support the struggling. Build us strong in faith and in lives of serving active love and care.

*Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.*

Triune God, you continue to give life and love. We pray for all weighed down by heavy loads - have mercy on all in trouble and give perseverance and character and hope founded on the suffering of Christ. Help us bear each other's burdens in a community of compassion, and meet the needs of those we know personally to be in want especially remembering.

*Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.*

Holy God, you are our beginning and our end, the ground of our existence and the foundation of our faith. Support us in this faith so that at our life's end we may be raised to eternal life to share with all your saints in glory, for you are Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### THE HOLY MEAL

HOLY HOLY HOLY

"Hosanna, Hosanna"

Carl Tuttle © 1985 Mercy Pub.

1. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high -  
 2. Glo - ry, glo - ry, Glo - ry to the King of  
 est; Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high -  
 kings; Glo - ry, glo - ry, Glo - ry to the King of  
 est. Lord, we lift up Your name,  
 With hearts full of praise; Be ex - alt - ed, O  
 Lord my God, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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### THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**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. 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**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION:**

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying: "Take, eat; This is My + Body which is given for you, this do, in remembrance of Me. In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying "Drink of it all of you, this cup is the New Testament in My + Blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you**

**LAMB OF GOD**

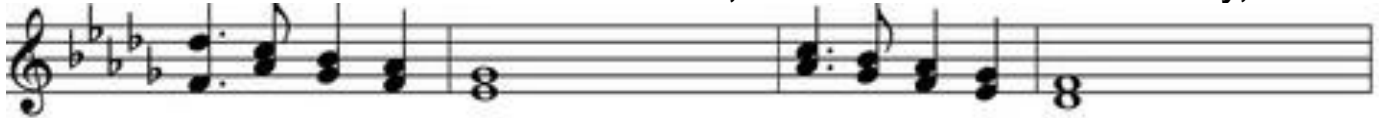
*[Tune: I Surrender All]*



**O Lord Je-sus Christ the True Lamb; this world's sins You take a-way;**



**O Lord Je-sus Christ the True Lamb; this world's sins You take a-way;**



**Lord, have mercy now;**

**Christ, have mercy now.**



**Lord, have mer -cy; Christ, have mer -cy; Give us now Your peace.**

COMMUNION HYMN: "O Blessed Spring"

www.hymnary.orgLSB595



1 O bless-ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us  
 2 Through sum-mer heat of youth-ful years, Un - cer - tain  
 3 When au-tumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their  
 4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, We breathe our  
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to  
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing  
 heav - y har - vest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will  
 last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take  
 this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -



be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.  
 rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.  
 move With gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.  
 wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.  
 vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

Setting available in hymn accompaniment edition.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Tune: English

Text: © 1993 Susan Palo Cherwien; admin. Augsburg Fortress  
 Tune: Public domain

O WALY WALY

L M

John 15:1-5; Gen. 2:9; Rev. 22:14

SONG OF SIMEON:

"Let Your Servant Depart"

[tune: Sweet By & By]

**Let your servant depart now in peace,  
 For Your Word from of old is fulfilled,  
 Your salvation my eyes now have seen,  
 Long-prepared as it always has been.**

**In Your light, you reveal, the world's promise and Israel's great joy!  
 Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always may You be adored.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Let us pray: Pour out upon us Your blessed Holy Spirit, O Lord, that we who have shared in this Holy Communion feast of Your Body and Blood may find strength in the Fellowship and Confession of the One True Faith which sends us forth to proclaim Your redeeming love to the world and prepare us joyfully to see You face to face in glory; Who with the Father and the Spirit You live and reign as one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BENEDICTION:**

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord upon you with favour, + and give you peace. **Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG:**

*“To God Be The Glory”*

- 1. To God be the glory great things He hath done  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life gates that all may go in**

Chorus:

**Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the earth hear His voice  
Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the people rejoice  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give Him the glory great things He has done**

- 2. O perfect redemption the purchase of blood  
To ev'ry believer the promise of God  
The vilest offender who truly believes  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives**

Chorus:

**Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the earth hear His voice  
Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the people rejoice  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give Him the glory great things He has done**

- 3. Great things He hath taught us  
Great things He hath done  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder our transport when Jesus we see**

Chorus:

**Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the earth hear His voice  
Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the people rejoice  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give Him the glory great things He has done**

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**SERVICE NOTE:**

Glory to God, Lamb of God and Song of Simeon adapted and arranged by Rev. Todd Hoeffs based on common ecumenical liturgical texts 2021. Music notations from [www.hymnary.org](http://www.hymnary.org) website.

# LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR

June 12, 2022 + 11 AM Worship

OPENING HYMN:

**"Father, We Praise You"**

www.Hymnary.orgCW © 1996

1 Fa - ther, we praise you, now the night is o - ver. Ac - tive and  
2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for your man - sions; Ban - ish our  
3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it, Trin - i - ty

watch - ful, stand - ing now be - fore you, Sing - ing, we of - fer  
weak - ness, health and whole - ness send - ing. Bring us to heav - en,  
bless - ed, send us your sal - va - tion; Yours is the glo - ry,

prayer and med - i - ta - tion; Thus we a - dore you.  
where your saints u - nit - ed Joy with - out end - ing.  
gleam - ing and re - sound - ing Through all cre - a - tion.

Text: attr. Gregory I, 540-604; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt.  
Tune: *Anriphoner*, Paris, 1681

CHRISTE SANCTORUM  
11 11 11 5

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth.**

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

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

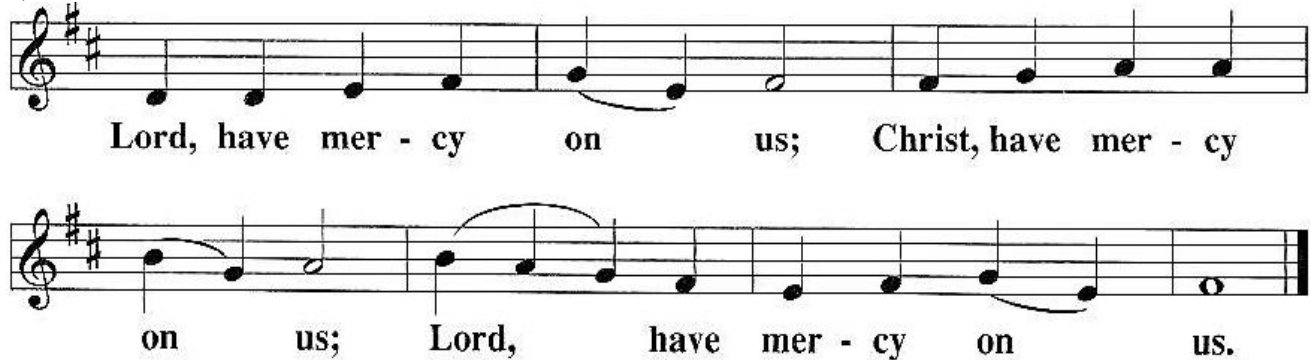
Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that 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.

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

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY:



HYMN OF PRAISE:

*“Glory To God”*

*Woodlands tune*

**Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise;  
of heav’nly joy and earthly peace we sing.  
We worship you, to you our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heav’nly King.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father’s only Son,  
you bore for us the load of this world’s sin.  
O Lamb of God, your glorious vict’ry won,  
receive our pray’r, grant us your peace within.**

**Alone, O Christ, you only are the Lord,  
at God’s right hand in majesty most high:  
who with the Spirit worshipped and adored;  
with all the heav’nly host we glorify.**

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY:

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

Eternal God, Almighty Creator, You have revealed Yourself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and You live in the perfect and divine unity of love. We praise Your power and majesty. Keep us firm in the faith You have given, defend us from all adversity and bring us at last into Your holy presence, where You dwell in endless joy and love; O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God in three persons, blest forevermore. **Amen.**

### THE WORD

**The Old Testament:** *Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31*

Does not wisdom call, and 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 out: ‘To you, O people, I call and my cry is to all that live. The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. 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— when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world’s first bits of soil. 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 worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM:

*“Holy Holy Holy”*

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our songs 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 shall be.**

**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**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Heaven and earth are full of His Glory.  
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen!**

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**The New Testament Reading:**

*Acts of the Apostles 2: 14a, 22-36*

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: ‘People of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.” ‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, “He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.” This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us 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 both see and hear. 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.’ ” Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.’

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA & VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God. *John 20:31*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**The Holy Gospel:** *St. John 16: 12-15*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter:

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus says:] 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

ATHANASIAN CREED *selections*

*LSB Page 319*

Whoever desires to be saved must, above all else,

**Hold the catholic faith.**

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.**

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

**And yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**

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.**

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,**

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 there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**This is the catholic faith.**



HYMN OF THE DAY: *"To God Be The Glory"*

1. **To God be the glory great things He hath done  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life gates that all may go in**

**Chorus:**

**Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the earth hear His voice  
Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the people rejoice  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give Him the glory great things He has done**

2. **O perfect redemption the purchase of blood  
To ev'ry believer the promise of God  
The vilest offender who truly believes  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives**

**Chorus:**

**Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the earth hear His voice  
Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the people rejoice  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give Him the glory great things He has done**

3. **Great things He hath taught us  
Great things He hath done  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder our transport when Jesus we see**

**Chorus**

**Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the earth hear His voice  
Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the people rejoice  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give Him the glory great things He has done**

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MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Eternal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit: thank you for making yourself known through your mighty works. Continue to show yourself to the world by spreading the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Support and keep all the church's pastors, teachers and lay workers true to the Trinitarian faith so that the community of the church may flow from the community of God.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Lord Jesus Christ, the Wisdom and Word of God, you were there at the beginning of creation yet chose to become one of us. We pray for your worldwide church - protect those who are persecuted for bearing your name, and bring all people to rejoice in you as their Saviour.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Remember this nation, dear Lord, that we remain a peaceable land and a light of hope and a help to other nations of the world, especially to areas of need, trauma, warfare, persecution or natural disaster;

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Spirit of God, you hovered over the waters of creation and you came to us in our baptism. We pray for those whose lives we share - unite us in a community of love so that we welcome the stranger and support the struggling. Build us strong in faith and in lives of serving active love and care.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Triune God, you continue to give life and love. We pray for all weighed down by heavy loads - have mercy on all in trouble and give perseverance and character and hope founded on the suffering of Christ. Help us bear each other's burdens in a community of compassion, and meet the needs of those we know personally to be in want especially remembering...

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Holy God, you are our beginning and our end, the ground of our existence and the foundation of our faith. Support us in this faith so that at our life's end we may be raised to eternal life to share with all your saints in glory, for you are Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **THE SACRAMENT**

The Lord be with you:

**And also with you.**

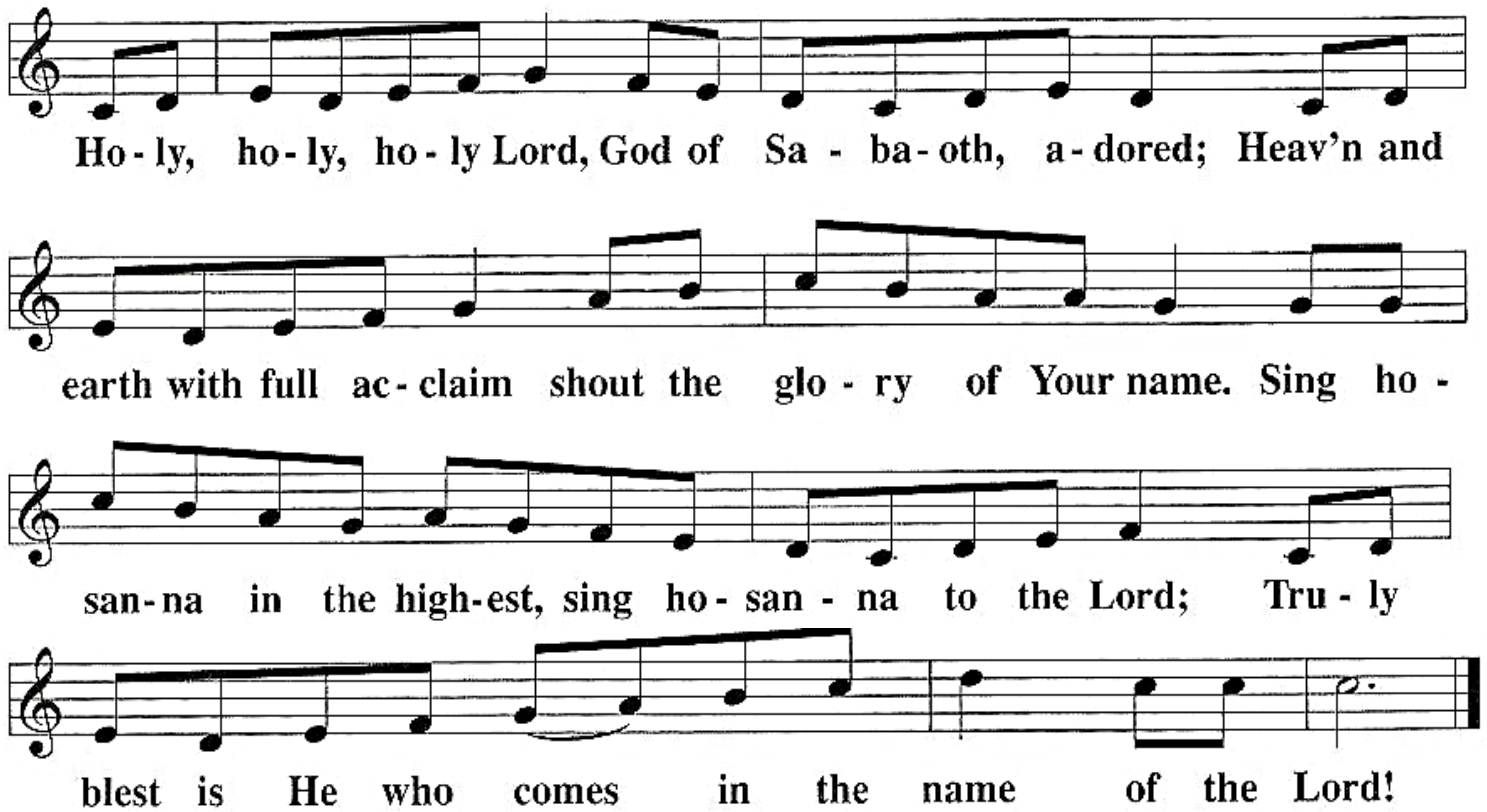
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good, right and joyful that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and everlasting God: You have revealed Your glory as the glory also of Your Son and of the Holy Spirit: three persons, equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, yet one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in Your everlasting glory. And so, with the Church on earth and all the company of Heaven, we praise Your name and join their un-ending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of Sa - ba - oth, a - dored; Heav'n and  
earth with full ac - claim shout the glo - ry of Your name. Sing ho -  
san - na in the high - est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord; Tru - ly  
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come...**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION:**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD



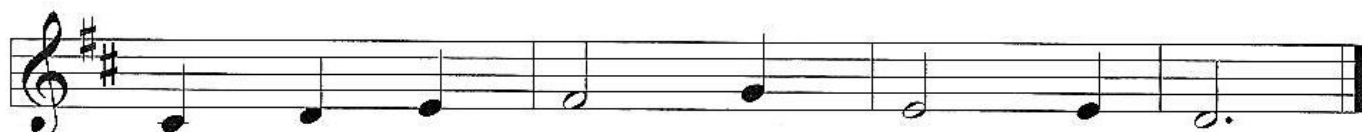
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

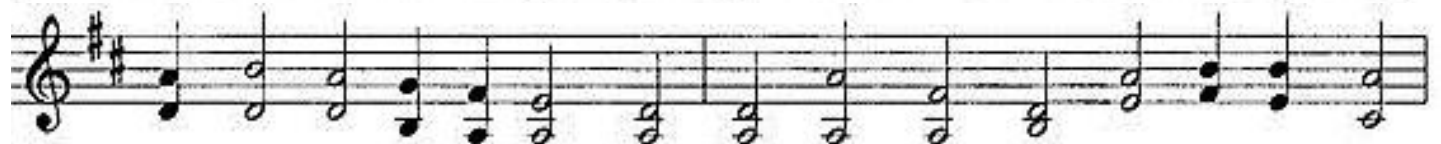


Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN: "Alleluia! Let Praises Ring " [hymnary.org/hymn/ELH1996/211](http://hymnary.org/hymn/ELH1996/211)



1. Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! To God the Fa - ther let us bring  
 2. Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Lamb of God we sing,  
 3. Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Ho - ly Ghost we sing  
 4. Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to our Tri - unc God we sing;



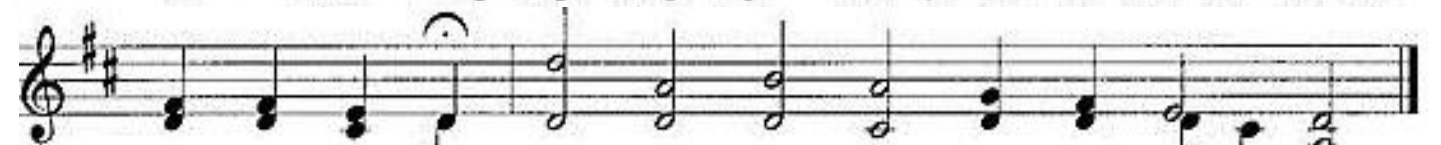
Our songs of ad - o - ra - tion. To Him through ev - er - last - ing days  
 In whom we are e - lect - ed. He bought His Church with His own blood,  
 For our re - gen - er - a - tion. The sav - ing faith in us He wrought  
 Blest be His name for - ev - er! With an - gel hosts let us a - dore



Be wor - ship, hon - or, pow'r, and praise, Whose hand sus - tains cre -  
 He cleansed her in that bless - ed flood, And as His Bride se -  
 And us un - to the Bride - groom brought. Made us His cho - sen  
 And sing His prais - es more and more For all His grace and



a - tion. Sing - ing, Ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;  
 lect - ed. Ho - ly, Ho - ly Is our un - ion And com - mun - ion.  
 na - tion. Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Joy e - ter - nal, Bliss su - per - nal;  
 fa - vor. Sing - ing, Ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly-



Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry.  
 His be - friend - ing Gives us joy and peace un - end - ing.  
 There is man - na And an end - less, glad ho - san - na.  
 Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry!

Hallelujah! Lob, Preis und Ehr  
 Author unknown, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1698  
 Tr. composite

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET  
 P. Nicolai, 1556-1608

## SONG OF SIMEON

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

## BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord upon you with favour, + and give you peace. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN:

*“Come Join The Dance Of Trinity”*

*[The Lord’s My Shepherd]*

**Come, join the dance of Trinity,  
before all worlds begun--  
the interweaving of the Three,  
the Father, Spirit, Son.**

**Come, speak aloud of Trinity,  
as wind and tongues of flame  
set people free at Pentecost  
to tell the Savior's name.**

**Come, see the face of Trinity,  
newborn in Bethlehem;  
then bloodied by a crown of thorns  
outside Jerusalem.**

**We know the yoke of sin and death,  
our necks have worn it smooth;  
go tell the world of weight and woe  
in Christ, we’re free to move!**

*Words: Richard Leach, 1953; © 2001 Selah Publishers Music “The Lord’s My Shepherd I’ll Not Want” LSB 710  
BELMONT CM ([www.graceglenellyn.org](http://www.graceglenellyn.org))*

**REV. TODD HOEFFS**

**Holy Trinity Sunday (series C)**

**Scripture: Proverbs 8: 1-4, 21-30**

**Sermon: "God's Not So Common Sense"**

**June 12, 2022**

**Today's Trinity message is from OT Proverbs, chapter 8: *"Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? ...The Lord God wove wisdom from the very beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago she was set up ...working beside God, like a master craftsman."***

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

There's an old, old saying which reads "the smartest man is the one who knows what he's dumb at..." There's a lot to be said for not only knowing yourself, but the wisdom to know limitations of abilities. What we can handle and what we can't.

Wisdom is a lot like electricity in your home. Can't really see how it works but you know its there when the lights go on. You knows its there, it works, its reliable.

Wisdom is like common sense. Simply knowing right from wrong, what works well, what doesn't and the memory to recall that. Appreciating both order and an ability to adapt. Learning carefully from past experiences.

Taking the time to think and reflect, what you would do differently given the opportunity. Self-editing words before they come out of our mouths or get texted to a friend. Wisdom.

God speaks of wisdom through Solomon's Proverbs. Solomon is King David's son who also ruled as one of Israel's best loved Kings. He wrote Proverbs as a collection of wise teachings for living faithfully to God while waiting for the ultimate hope of the Saviour, Jesus Christ, Who alone would bring in wise rule with lasting peace.

It's also great speaking of Proverbs on the Festival of the Holy Trinity. The day we set aside in the church to honour the wisdom of how our God comes to us: the ONE TRUE GOD in the persons of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Our Father is Spirit without a Body, thus He wove together WISDOM through HIS Spoken Word echoing out from the very beginning of creation. That Word is God's Son, JESUS CHRIST. Who eventually becomes real flesh and blood and bone, walking this earth as one of us. HUMAN from the



heritage of Mary, GOD from the seed of the Holy Spirit. Perfect God and Perfect Man. And the Holy Spirit is also without a body and yet is sent to the earth at times in the form of WIND, a DOVE, SMOKE, and tongues of FIRE.

Who God is and how He relates to us began long before earth came to be. God's ability is ancient and beyond our human abilities. Which makes His ability to care for us in our times of need that much richer. Even this very truth comes to us as WISDOM. Proverbs calls wisdom "she", sharing her understanding on the earth about all that's important to our faith and life in God. Wisdom in Proverbs ISN'T GOD but comes from God's working in the world.

Isn't that fascinating!? Our Father created female wisdom. She opens up our minds and works alongside His Word. She is from the beginning before time with God, created by Him, doing His work of teaching and guiding. The original Hebrew understanding is that God wove wisdom from Heavenly fabric to enlighten our messy chaotic world. Whenever God spoke out loud this wisdom circulated around the earth, entering into the ears of His people, creating the living Scriptures we have before us. God the weaver, the artisan, the builder, with wisdom filling in all the blanks!

This wisdom, like the Holy Trinity, is a holy mystery. All that we believe about God in the Scriptures is a mystery. Even the Sacraments of Baptism, forgiveness and Communion are mysteries because we trust that God has promised they're for our good.

We trust that God comes to us as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit with the water of Baptism. We trust that this washing is so unique from other waters because these waters provide forgiveness of sins, the indwelling of our God and welcome us into His family.

We trust that whenever we are forgiven anything we've done wrong is never held against us because God Himself has declared us free and clear.

We trust that God's Word of Scripture is enough to feed our faith and trust and hope in Him.

We trust that when the Words from Jesus' Last Supper are spoken over bread and wine on the altar they house the Body and Blood of Christ in them. We eat and drink the blessed glory of Jesus' life and death, and we show Jesus to the world whenever we eat His Meal.

We trust this mystery to be true and sure. God has promised. This is His Wisdom. While wisdom has become interwoven into the creation, like God's will. Yet, even with God's 10 commands,

this enlightenment isn't enough to fully enlighten our hearts and minds. It still can't drive out the opposite of wisdom—which is sinful human foolishness.

Foolishness fools us into thinking we can do what we want when we want as if we have no limitations. That we can live without God's help. We become foolish by neglecting wisdom because wisdom involves thoughtfulness, time, compassion, listening...all skills which take work & release our need to control. Foolishness seeks its own way to save the self at all cost. Foolishness takes, finds giving costly & stressful & burdensome. We tell ourselves we give what we can, but we don't. Foolishness becomes fearful and selfish. Fools trust in other things than God.

Wisdom from God's Word creates & renovates & rebuilds where human sinful foolishness tears down & wrecks & demolishes.

So God sets His wisdom upon His Son, the promised Christ, Jesus our Lord. Born as God in a human body. Filled with power from on high as the 2nd person of the Trinity, the living Word, walking, eating, talking, teaching. Set with the spirit of wisdom & understanding & council & might.

Wisdom as the Great Craftsman surrounds the Carpenter's Son. Wisdom is overjoyed as Christ makes the lame run and breaks all the chains from every known captive. Jesus invites all He meets to enter into His unique forgiving freedom to go & be foolish no more. In this Wisdom delights.

But the Son got rejected. Human foolishness turned into outrage & anger which chose not to see truth & beauty coming from the Saviour's face. The authorities under God's own ancient wise plan to save the world led Jesus to death.

Jesus dying on a cross as an outcast criminal is God's foolishness, which is wiser than human wisdom. The great mystery is solved. Jesus' dies and releases the entire world from its entangled foolish ways. Jesus dies and lets every human being off the hook from having to suffer death for their sins. Heaven is open to all and God's wisdom is shared with all believers. Jesus' own empty grave proves fools don't have the last word.

All this is from our God, beyond us and our human limits. Beyond our plans and our values. Which is why God created His wisdom - so that we could know His loving heart by knowing Jesus, whom we know deeply by our faith.

Our generous Father loves, gives, creates, blesses, teaches, a truly perfect model for all people but especially men and very good to hear on fathers today. Traits of our Heavenly Father are patience (which is a willingness to put up long with some things in life), compassion, wisdom, courage,

sacrifice...all great traits He gives to all through His Son. We can be confident in hope and strong in our faith, without fear of being vulnerable, without fear of being joyful or peaceful or wise. Wisdom says we laugh when things are funny and cry when life is sad.

Like common sense, we may see wisdom in short supply today in our world. Common sense can be taught. But it involves learning and growing and seeing mistakes as avenues for a new start. Thinking before acting. The very idea that we need CAUTION: HOT COFFEE written boldly on McDonald's coffee cups shows just how much common sense IS missing!

But God has set His wisdom and His very own self within us. Even when we see churches or Christians act foolish or hasty or harmful our witness of Christ in our lives will show faithful wisdom. Our pushback against these trends will be our confident yet gentle trust in Jesus Who has the power to make all things new.

He's made us new. We're woven together as one by faith. God still weaves our whole lives on a knitted path with trials to overcome and joys to celebrate. Never alone. But with Christ and His Spirit moving our feet into God's way.

Wisdom in Christ helps guide our words, inspire our imaginations and fill our witness so that all other will lay aside foolish ways and be wise in God's way. The way of peace, the way of love, the way of peace, the wise way.

Amen

