

# HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

May 26, 2024



## 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.

<b>Pastor:</b>	Pastor Todd Hoeffs	(289-362-0113)	<a href="mailto:sr.pastor@christlutheransc.ca">sr.pastor@christlutheransc.ca</a>
<b>Parish Assistant:</b>	Louise Gondosch	(905-329-8579)	<a href="mailto:parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca">parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca</a>
<b>Business Manager:</b>	Karen McCumber		<a href="mailto:business.manager@christlutheransc.ca">business.manager@christlutheransc.ca</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>			<a href="mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca">secretary@christlutheransc.ca</a>
<b>Facebook:</b>			<a href="http://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC">www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC</a>
<b>Bulletin by email:</b>			<a href="mailto:chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca">chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca</a>

Seminarian Vijay Samuel, Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary Student Fieldworker  
Rev. Noel Richard, Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary Colloquy Student Fieldworker

A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube at:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING\\_TKT19c\\_OIBbMqGwLw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING_TKT19c_OIBbMqGwLw)

## Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church!

### We're glad you've joined us for worship!

Please be aware that our Worship Services are **recorded and posted on YouTube and Facebook**. There is, although very slight, a possibility that your image might be posted. If you have any concerns, please either speak to the Elder on duty or alternatively seat yourself more towards the back of the sanctuary or along either of the outside aisles. May our gracious and loving Lord bless you as you worship Him. We pray we all remain safe and healthy.

### PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIPPING

To God the Father, who first loved us, and made us in His own image; To God the Son who loved us, and washed away our Sins in his own Blood; To God the Holy Spirit, who spreads the Love of God abroad in our hearts, We raise our prayers this morning. Amen.

### DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS

Monday: Psalm 20	Wed: Numbers 6:22-27	Friday: Leviticus 23:1-8
Tuesday: Exodus 25:1-22	Thurs: Psalm 81:1-10	Saturday: Leviticus 24:5-9

**Musician** – Mayumi + **Reader** – Lorraine K. + **Greeters** - Tom B. & Judy S.




**June 2024 Worship Schedule**

June 2—2<sup>nd</sup> Pentecost LSB Setting 3: Seminary Fieldworkers  
Vijay & Noel [*Pastor Todd away*]

June 9 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Pentecost LSB Setting 4 Communion

June 16 – 4<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Word & Prayer worship [Father's Day]

June 23 – 5<sup>th</sup> Pentecost 9 AM Spoken Matins [church] &  
11 AM Picnic Service [Burgoyne Park]

June 30 – 6<sup>th</sup> Pentecost LSB Setting 3 Communion

**NAOMI HOHNBERG'S MEMORIAL SERVICE** is set for Monday, June 17th, 2024 at 11 AM at our church. A luncheon will be served in the church basement following. Burial will take place where her family is located in Vancouver, BC. We pray for safe travels for those coming near and far as we worship the Lord for the life of His servant, Naomi.

## ALSO HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Monday: 10:00 AM - Luther Manor with Pastor Todd  
1:00 PM – “Sewing Circle”  
7:30 PM - Choir

Tuesday: 10:00 AM – Precious Moments at Happy Rolph’s

Thursday: 10:00 -11:30 AM - SOUL  
7:15 PM- Promise Band Practice

Sunday: 10:00 AM 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**PARISH EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP:** Today in Sunday school we learn how Philip, directed by an angel, encounters an Ethiopian official reading from Isaiah, while riding in his chariot. Realizing he needs help to understand the Scriptures, Philip steps in. After instructing him, Philip baptizes the man and then is carried away by the Spirit to Azotus. Our Bible Verse: Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ. Romans 10:17



**YOU ARE INVITED!! EVERY SUNDAY!!**

Hope to see you downstairs *for*

**COFFEE, TEA & TREATS !**

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

(during Sunday School & CHAT)

Anyone willing to help serve or bring treats, please contact: Judy Mason

**PRECIOUS MOMENTS:** We will be meeting at Happy Rolph’s entrance this Tuesday, May 28, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. for a fun outing. Please bring your own drinks, a general snack will be provided. Any questions, please contact Louise (905-329-8579).

**SEWING TEAMS Mondays from 1-4 PM** in the church basement devoted to making necessary items for the Haiti mission and various other missions. Lots of seamstress duties are needed, but sewing is the #1 priority, and anyone is welcome to come. Please speak to Wendy Hyatt if you need any further information.



# YARD SALE, PLANT SALE & BBQ

SATURDAY, JUNE 1<sup>st</sup> @ 9 a.m.

Weather permitting--outside in front of the church!  
*the BEST barbecued hot dogs IN TOWN and drinks, etc.*  
*Also, handmade bracelets by one of our SOUL participants.*

**COME, find your Treasure, have a bite to eat and help us support various Missions and Charities including: Many Programmes within our own Community such as "Out of the Cold" & "Niagara Mobile Closet"**



*Hope to see many people there!!*

**Mary Martha Yard Sale: Saturday, June 1, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.** In conjunction with the Fitzgerald Neighbourhood Yard sale\*\*\*\*\*WE NEED HELP FROM AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE! Here are some of the ways:

1. May 31: We need people to organize last minute details and move tables upstairs to the front doors
2. If you have items you wish to clear from your house and would like to donate to the church instead of Value Village, etc. request a table that you are able to man on the day of the sale (with some help from your friends.) Load up your car, the day before, unload in front to the church, sell whatever you can and take the remaining items to the Christian Benefit shop (or home.)
3. Bake some treats for the sale (cookies, squares, muffins) – anything wrapped individually or in small portions - bring them the morning of June 1 - already priced please!
4. Contribute plants to our plant sale
5. Set-Up - Come early on Saturday morning, especially men - we would sure appreciate your help carrying the tables and boxes. We will likely start setting up about 7:45 a.m.
6. Man a Table or organize a table - We will need 2 or 3 volunteers at each table.
7. Clean-Up - Helpers to pack up and clean up afterward.
8. **HELP US ADVERTISE!!** Mark your calendars, save the date --- Tell your friends and neighbours, spread the word as much as you can, put a notice in your apartment building, post about it on your Facebook page, any other way you can think of. Please contact Lorraine Kaija at [lk\\_notl@yahoo.com](mailto:lk_notl@yahoo.com).for\_further\_information\_The proceeds from this Yard Sale will go to one of the many deserving charities we help out!

**NATIONAL-LWMLC Convention: The 12th Regular Convention of Lutheran Women's Missionary League-Canada** will be held July 11-14, 2024, at the Four Points by Sheraton in London, Ontario: Theme – **Ps. 149:1 'Sing to the Lord a new song'**. You are welcome to join in person or online via live stream. For more information see flyer in narthex.

- Special Keynote Speaker, Deb Burma. Christian author and LWML seminar leader. Special Interest Speakers will share cross-cultural ministry with voice & song.
- The mites monetary offerings gathered the last 3 years provided local support for a Bethlehem Walk in BC to International support of deaconesses in Nicaragua and Cambodia. Rev. Mark Smith will bring information. Voting on Mission Grants for the next triennium. *Anyone interested in attending, see Lorraine Kaija.. See LWML web site: [lutheranwomen.ca](http://lutheranwomen.ca)*

**ANNUAL MEMBERS/VOTERS MEETING** will be held on **Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024** immediately following the morning worship service and a luncheon. This is a very important meeting as it will provide up-to-date information with respect to all of the events which are currently ongoing within the congregation. Also, elections to the Board of Directors and Council Committee Chairpersons will take place.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** – Elections for the Board of Directors and Council Committee Chairpersons will take place at the Annual Members/Voters Meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Should you wish to share your talents by serving in any capacity please speak with James Hyatt, Don Fretz or Pastor as soon as possible.



**YOUTH AT ACTIVATE: Sunday, June 9** immediately following service we will car pool to Burlington for lunch and *Activate*. Cost is \$25/person + money for lunch. Activate is all about (think competition, problem solving, and all-around fun challenges): <https://www.youtube.com/watchv=LV4hfG5eGXU> With it being such a dynamic and active event, it's the perfect time to invite a friend or two to try out Activate together! The more the merrier, and we will coordinate rides accordingly. **Sign up here:** <https://bxzq0rfovsd.typeform.com/to/tHjlluSQ>. Any questions, feel free to reach out to any of the youth

leaders (Louise, Dan, or Valerie).

### **LWML-C/MARY MARTHA EVENTS**

**Tuesday, June 18:** Summer Potluck – 5:30 PM. More details to follow.

Please feel free to join us for any or all of the LWML-C/Mary Martha events!

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## Vacation Bible School:

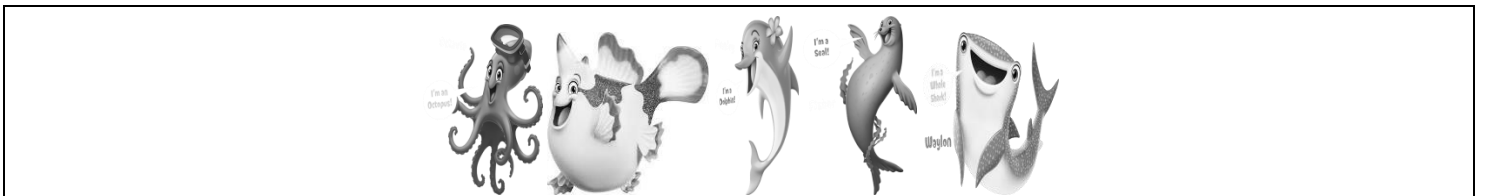
*“SCUBA: Diving into friendship with God.”*

**Monday July 22 - Friday July 26, 9 am - 12 pm** (extended care 12 noon - 3:30 for children Grades 1-6).

Registration forms are available in the narthex. Please register by calling the Church at 905-685-8294 or email: [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca).

Please invite friends and neighbours.

**VBS VOLUNTEERS:** We thank God for the opportunity to provide a VBS program for children of our congregation and community, however we need volunteers. (Recreation, registration, group leaders to name a few) Please consider how **YOU** might help this year. Volunteer forms are available in the narthex. **PLEASE continue to keep VBS in your prayers.**



**CHURCH SECRETARY POSITION** – If you feel that you (or someone you know) have the necessary qualifications and are interested in this position, either as a temporary replacement or on a permanent basis, please contact the Congregational Chairman, James Hyatt for a job description or and/or the necessary qualifications and experience required.

**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**, St. Catharines, is seeking a Librarian Technician. The Library Technician is responsible for managing the seminary's print and digital collection, purchasing and processing books, circulation, and reference support to faculty and students. The Library Technician also manages occasional sales in a small bookstore. The position is part-time. Extra hours may be available as Assistant to the Registrar. To apply send your resumé to [president@concordia-seminary.ca](mailto:president@concordia-seminary.ca).

**L.A.M.P MISSION TEAM** - If you are interested in joining please contact Pastor Jeff Swords at telephone number [905-931-3165](tel:905-931-3165). L.A.M.P. is a frontline mission experience through the sharing of Christ's love, Grace, and Promise of resurrection. The team strives to demonstrate these same attributes to His community in the north. Our assigned community is Kingfisher Lake, through a VBS program, community presence and friendship. We are looking for additional team members, pray partners and financial support.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** for Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, provided by Andy & Bette Vasko and family in memory of John Vasko Sr.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** – The flowers for the altar are being supplied by Stephanie's Floral. Should you wish to provide the flowers for a special occasion, in memory of a loved one or just simply to give praise and thanks to our Lord, please indicate your preferred date on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. The cost is \$35 per vase. There is no expectation that you sign for both vases. Perhaps a second person would like sign for a vase on the same day!

**KAROLINE DUGA**, former wife of Steve Duga, passed away on Victoria Day [May 20th] after enduring a lengthy illness. We remember Steve in our prayers and the members of his family as they find hope in the communion of saints and joyful reunion which awaits all who believe in Christ.

**PASTOR TODD HOEFFS** celebrated his 24th year of ordination into the Holy Ministry last Tuesday, May 21st [2000]. Rev. Paul Shippert, Emeritus, who baptized and confirmed him, also ordained Pastor Todd at his home parish, Immanuel Lutheran Church, East Aurora, NY. Fieldwork pastor, pastoral care professor with CLTS & mentor, Rev. Dr. Erwin Brese, preached the sermon on John 15: "I chose you to go and bear fruit."

**PASTOR TODD & JENNIFER** will be away this week, Friday through Sunday. They will be celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary. While on his vicarage [student pastoral internship] in Regina, SK, Pastor Todd met his future wife in August of 1998 and subsequently they were joined in marriage on June 5, 1999 by Jenn's pastor who, in addition to being the vicarage supervisor, remained life-long "family". Seminary fieldworkers Vijay & Noel will be leading the service June 2nd and delivering the sermon.

**MOTHER'S DAY DIAPER DRIVE** is hosted by choose LIFE Niagara for the month of May. Diapers and wipes for mothers in need may be dropped off at the church and Judy Mason will deliver. Monetary donation marked "Diaper Drive" can be sent to the agency on 1 Belton Blvd. Income tax receipts will be issued for your donation (including gift-in-kind tax receipts where store receipts are given.)

**KOREAN STUDENT** studying at the Seminary in need of housing by August 14. Karl is 30 and is fluent in English. If you can help in anyway please contact him at [PasserKarlBy@gmail.com](mailto:PasserKarlBy@gmail.com)

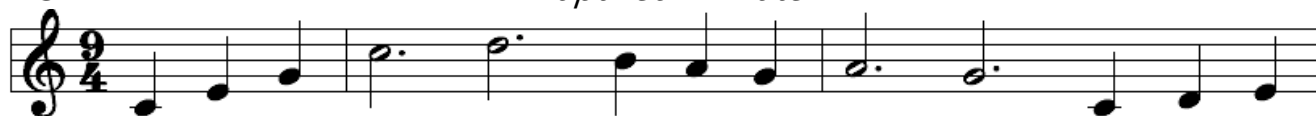
# SERVICE OF THE WORD & PRAYER WITH BAPTISM

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

May 26 2024 + 10 AM worship

## BAPTISMAL HYMN

*"Baptized In Water"*



1. Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2. Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3. Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ, our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his  
tomb with Christ, our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ, our King; born of one Fa - ther, we are his



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.  
chil - dren, joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

WORDS: Michael Saward (Rom. 6:3-5)

MUSIC: Trad. Gaelic melody

BUNESSAN

55.54 D

Words © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. by Hope Publishing Company

<https://www.google.ca/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ministrymatters.com%2Ffiles%2F809%2FBaptized%2520in%2520Water%2520%2528Pew%2529.pdf&psig=AOvVaw1Y8uXRHQcfjFBwRkQEB9mm&ust=1716161063830000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CAQQjB1qFwoTCKjRqKasm>

## BAPTISM OF CIARA JOLENE KOCH

*Parents: Kevin & Vanessa Koch*

*Godparents: Andrew Koch & Lindsey Whitney*

## SCRIPTURAL COMMAND

Our Lord Jesus Christ says: All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go 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 keep everything I have entrusted to you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

## ADDRESS

Scripture teaches that we are born sinful and unclean, but that our heavenly Father washes us clean in the waters of baptism. We are re-born as His children as the Holy Spirit renews us and gives us eternal life. Through baptism He graciously forgives us our sins and unites us with our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we share in His death and resurrection.



## PRESENTATION

Who brings this child for holy baptism? ***We do.***

How is this child named? (***Name is spoken***)

## ADMONITION

Since you as parents and sponsors have brought (Name) to be baptized, you are responsible for his/her upbringing in the Lutheran Church. Remember him/her in your prayers. Bring him/her to the services in God's House and teach him/her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments. Remind him/her of her baptism, set him/her a good example, and provide for his/her instruction in the faith that he/she may join you and all believers around the Lord's Table to feast on Jesus' Body and Blood.

Do you intend to joyfully do this? **Yes, I/we do.**

## MARKING OF THE CROSS

(Name), receive the sign of the holy cross †, upon your forehead and upon your heart, to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

## GOSPEL PROCLAMATION

Jesus our Lord says: Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth; unless you receive the Kingdom of God like a little child you shall never enter it.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us ask the blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ on (Name) and pray together the prayer He has taught us:

**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. And 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.**

## PUBLIC CONFESSION OF THE FAITH

I ask you now to publicly speak your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

**Yes, I do renounce them.**

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

**Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord?

**Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,**

**died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the + life everlasting. Amen.**

#### BAPTISM

(Name), I baptize you in the name of the Father † and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit †. Amen.

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has given you the new birth by water and the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His Spirit, so that you receive eternal life. Amen.

#### PRESENTATION OF CANDLE

Receive this burning light. Live always by the Light of Christ and be ever watchful for His coming that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him to the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom, which has no end. Let your light so shine before others, that they see your good works and glorify Your Father Who is in Heaven.

#### PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we join with (Name's) parents in thanking you for giving them this child and for adopting him/her as Your own child in holy baptism. Strengthen him/her faith by Your Holy Spirit, so that his/her sinful self may die each day and he/she may rise to new life with Christ forever. As You have written his/her name in the book of life and have made him/her a member of the body of Your Son, guide him/her, so that, with all Your saints, he/she may one day abide in Your Heavenly Home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### PRESENTATION OF BAPTIZED

Through Baptism, God has added this new brother/sister a member of the Priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and show forth His creative and redeeming Word to all the world:

**We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same Heavenly Father, and workers with us in His Kingdom.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

GATHERING SONG      *"Praise To The Lord, The Almighty"*

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
Come, all who hear; now to his temple draw near,  
joining in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
if with his love he befriends you.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.  
Let the Amen sound from his people again;  
gladly forever adore him.**

*Text: J. Neander; 1647; trans. C. Winkworth public domain*

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray; **hear us, dear Lord--**

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.**

## SCRIPTURE

**Old Testament** *Isaiah 6:1-8*

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a very high throne. His long robe filled the Temple. Burning heavenly creatures stood above him. Each creature had six wings. They used two wings to cover their faces. They used two wings to cover their feet. And they used two wings for flying. Each creature was calling to the others: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of heaven's armies. His glory fills the whole earth." Their voices caused the frame around the door to shake. The Temple filled with smoke. I said, "Oh, no! I will be destroyed. I am not pure. And I live among people who are not pure. But I have seen the King, the Lord of heaven's armies." On the altar there was a fire. One of the burning heavenly creatures used a pair of tongs to take a hot coal from the fire. Then he flew to me with the hot coal in his hand. The creature touched my mouth with the hot coal. Then he said, "Look. Your guilt is taken away because this hot coal has touched your lips. Your sin is taken away." Then I heard the Lord's voice. He said, "Whom can I send? Who will go for us?" So I said, "Here I am. Send me!" This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## SCRIPTURE RESPONSES

You are the treasured people of the LORD,

**a people holy to the LORD our God.**

Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.

**Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

One does not live by bread alone,

**but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

*(Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)*

Praise the Lord, you angels. Praise the Lord's glory and power. Praise the Lord for the glory of his name.

**Worship the Lord because he is holy.**

*(Ps. 29)*

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

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them... "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 sing shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity! Blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity,

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity! Blessed Trinity! Blessed Trinity!

**Holy Gospel** *St. John 3:1-17*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to You, O Christ!**



ATHANASIAN CREED verses

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.**

O Lord, our Lord, how magnificent is your reputation throughout the earth!

**You reveal your majesty in the heavens above.**

CHILDREN'S TALK

HYMN RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*"To God Be The Glory"*

[www.Hymnary.org](http://www.Hymnary.org)



1 To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done! So loved he the  
2 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our re -



world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -  
joic - ing through Je - sus the Son, but pur - er and high - er and

tone - ment for sin and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 great - er will be our joy and our won - der when Je - sus we see.

*Refrain*

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the peo - ple re - joice!

O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son

and give him the glo - ry, great things he has done!

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915, abr., alt.  
 Tune: William H. Doane, 1832–1915; setting: *The United Methodist Hymnal*, 1989, alt.  
 Text and music: public domain

TO GOD BE THE GLORY  
 11 11 11 11 WITH REFRAIN  
 P#1162, 2:11 1462 2 T 1462 21 116: 1 G# 1312

## MESSAGE

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith -

**praying in the Holy Spirit.**

*(Jude 20)*

Keep yourselves in the love of God,

**waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, that leads to eternal life**

*(Jude 21)*

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation.

**The old has passed away; behold, the new has come!**

*(2 Cor. 5:17)*

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another:

**Most Gracious Father, we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in our thoughts, words and deeds. We have committed sins against our neighbour and against You, O Father. Have mercy upon us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins. Those sins which are known to us, and those which are unknown. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that by faith we may be sorry for**

**our sins, repent of them and serve You in newness of life to the honour and glory of Your Holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OFFERINGS *are gathered.*

### **THE PRAYERS**

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 the church's pastors, workers and lay people true to the Trinitarian faith; blessed are you, Lord God, King of the universe.

**Blessed be Father, Son, and Holy Spirit forever and ever.**

For all you have made, for the earth and the sea and all their creatures, and the universe of space and stars, planets and moons, and for the world of spirits and angels, blessed are you, Lord God, King of the universe. Let us pray:

**Blessed be Father, Son, and Holy Spirit forever and ever.**

Be with those in the path of violence and war. Guard them against harm and give them a future with hope. Send your peace to the places that need it the most (especially...). Let us pray.

**Blessed be Father, Son, and Holy Spirit forever and ever.**

Give strength to those bearing heavy burdens: addiction, mental illness, loneliness, and grief. Heal those whose bodies and souls are hurting; especially we remember... Let us pray.

**Blessed be Father, Son, and Holy Spirit forever and ever.**

Enable this congregation to support all families. Strengthen all adults who nurture, so that they guide with wisdom, gentleness, and grace. Let us pray.

**Blessed be Father, Son, and Holy Spirit forever and ever.**

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.**

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

Let us praise the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, + be with you all.

**Amen**

G Am D G C G D  
*Leader or All*

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Refrain*  
 All G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

TEXT: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981, alt.

MUSIC: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; harm. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011

Text and Music © 1981, 2000 OCP

HERE I AM (Schutte)

7.7.7.4.D with refrain

<https://www.firstpreswh.org/daily-devotional/i-the-lord-of-sea-and-sky-here-i-am-lord-hymn-69/>

**THE SERVICE OF THE WORD AND PRAYER** is an adapted version which is contained in the "With One Voice" Hymnal Supplement to the Lutheran Book of Worship. Published by Augsburg Fortress in 1998. The SCRIPTURE SONG & OFFERING SONG are reprinted with limited permission from www.hymnary.org.

REV. TODD HOEFFS  
HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY [Pentecost 1]  
Acts 2:14, 22-33  
"Everything Old Is New Again"  
May 26, 2024

The apple doesn't fall far from the tree.  
Like Mother, like daughter.  
What is seen in parents, is often seen in their children.  
What we see or hear of God, we see or hear of in His Son.  
Jesus even tells us to call upon Him by saying "Father, Son & Holy Spirit."  
This is the Trinity and its as old as the 1<sup>st</sup> few chapters of OT book Genesis.  
God created the Heavens and the Earth;  
God = ELOHEEM  
The Spirit of God hovers over the waters. RUAH of ELOHEEM.  
When God creates people, it is the LORD GOD == ELOHEEM YAHWHEY  
3 persons, LORD, GOD, & RUAH  
The Spirit's breath -- making Adam's lungs begin life.  
Our Triune God is life.  
Trinity is how we call upon Him in faith.  
Hear, O Israel, the Lord Your God, is ONE.  
Father, Son & Spirit ARE ONE – which in Hebrew is unity.  
God is united.  
In Him we are One. United.  
Faith. Scripture. Baptism.  
Notice today we didn't begin our service with the Trinity invocation?  
Because Ciara's baptism in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
Began our worship as it signified her gift of faith and forgiveness.  
Holy Trinity Sunday began as a yearly festival in the 1400s.  
The creation of the Creeds, whose division around the divinity of Jesus sparked  
these writings, appeared 300-500 years after Jesus' ascension.  
Ancient life remained an oral culture.  
Your words mattered.  
Saying the most correct and faithful words about God  
impacted your religious life.  
The Apostles' Creed [always used in Baptism] is concise and complete.  
Nicene Creed historically used in connection to Holy Communion  
Expresses greater detail on how God comes to us in Christ  
And how the Spirit comes to us from both.  
The verses from the Athanasian Creed is the last written creed [600]  
As wishes to clearly express in detail how Jesus is both human and divine.  
We might think?  
Well, if its in the Bible, its clear right?



Not really?

It's a shock if we find 2 people who agree on something they experienced.  
More so thousands of different Christians.

So many strange views of God circulated then as now.

[Pour God into Jesus, extract it, infuse it back!!!!]

The Creed help you put into the Word the truths of Scripture easily.

Even if you're a person that doesn't think much of Creeds,

They help us keep believing the same truths of the Bible.

Martin Luther himself encourages us to follow the creeds

As long as they do not go against Scripture.

New apostle Peter makes the Trinity clear in Acts 2,

Which is part of his Pentecost day sermon.

In verses 32 and 33, Peter says:

*"This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.*

*He is exalted at the right hand of God,*

*and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit,*

*he has poured out this gift that you are seeing and hearing."*

Here we the church's very first Gospel gift of the Holy Trinity.

God is Father. Jesus, the Son, rules with the Father as His rightful heir.

And the Spirit is proclaimed as a separate and yet inter-related identity,

coming from both the Father and from Jesus.

Peter's sermon makes clear that the Father's Kingdom purposes and

His saving work culminates in the new world order with Christ in charge, governing  
in the power of the Spirit.

Peter's audience is primarily familiar with Judaism.

Jesus as the Christ of God was truly unknown then.

They did know about King David,

So Jesus is explained as both David's son and David's Lord.

As David represents ancient Israel,

even more so Jesus represents His reconciled and restored Israel

of both Jews and Gentiles as the world's rightful King.

"You seek Jesus who is crucified"). Fear not, but instead resort to the crucified Son  
who exhibits the Father's loving forgiveness and bestows the Holy Spirit.

Taking parts of the Psalms and Prophets is an incredible witness

And offers proper context for their faith:

Connecting Jesus with the God of Israel.

The God of creation, the God of history, the living God

finds full and complete revelation in the person, word, and works of Jesus,

"...delivered up according to God's longstanding plan" ([Acts 2:23](#)).

Jesus is King. He is in charge.

It is the Gospel, sweet gospel, not legalism nor law which is in the forefront.

But don't forget: "You crucified Him."

Ouch. That must sting.

It does.

Truth hurts.

This Jesus, resurrected, ascended, and ever present through the Spirit,  
Still and ever always graciously abides as the ever-crucified Lord.

Who died on Cavalry once, for all, saying it is finished.

The work to save us is done.

Up to this point, if you asked anyone within the temple or synagogue how they  
would experience God, they'd say:

look within yourself

and to make your very best effort to be the best you can

to fulfill various standards of law, some more severe, some less.

Not terribly helpful.

Keeps you busy, trying, play up to God, hoping He doesn't see the decay within.

To know the problem is not to solve it.

Baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins resolves it.

We need good news, not good advice.

The crucifixion, necessitated by our sins that condemn us,

now resounds as the victory of Christ over sin and death,

capped by the dawning of the new creation in Jesus' resurrection!

Believe. Be baptized.

The Truth heals.

The action here is entirely from God towards us.

This is what sets it apart from every religion and philosophy as the Gospel — good  
news, as opposed to dutiful religious obligation.

Notice Peter ties forgiveness to getting baptized and repenting.

From the gift comes the life of the grateful receiver.

Repent 1<sup>st</sup> doesn't work.

You and I can't fix ourselves.

Baptism and repentance go together.

It's the love and the marriage.

The unity with the Holy Communion.

Baptism into the life of God makes sure you have a life-line of faith and grace.

The true test of Gospel focused evangelism is this:

Do missionaries feed hungry stomachs first and then teach them of God,

Or make them listen to their words 1<sup>st</sup> and then feed as a reward?

Real mission work feeds the body so the heart can wrap itself in the love of Jesus.

People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

You can't pour water from an empty well.

The Fountain of life must be splashing around inside you 1<sup>st</sup>.

You can feed people because you have been fed with the Bread of Heaven.

You help once you are helped.

You love because you've been loved 1<sup>st</sup>

When people encounter us, they encounter the living Lord inside our bodies,

On our lips, in our minds, through our hands and feet.  
We receive the Trinity,  
People experience the trinity in us.  
Jesus and the Father are one.  
All they have we have.  
As we are ONE in God, we can be ONE for all others.  
Unity never means exactness.  
Unity doesn't remove the need for diversity.  
No two people will ever be exactly the same.  
Each of us have gifts, talents, jobs, interests and passions  
Which help move along the Body of Christ in the world.  
And like a magnet, people will be drawn to the love which radiates from you.  
Because, apples don't fall far from the main tree.  
We belong to God.  
Like Father, like Son.  
Like Father, like children.  
Amen.