

Trinity Sunday



May 30, 2021

Joint Service of the Central Cluster
New Jersey Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Join us for our livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit/>
or <https://www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ>



Everyone is welcome. As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

May 30, 2021

Virtual Coffee Hour has concluded. We look forward to seeing everyone in person!

In-Person Worship Resumes June 6 with worship in the sanctuary at 8:00 and 10:30 AM. Fill out this questionnaire (<https://tinyurl.com/3s49f4nn>) to help with these services.

Altar Flowers: With worship returning to the sanctuary on June 6, altar flowers will resume! Please sign up in the rear entry. The weekly flower cost to the church is \$80. Please give as you are able, online or with a check.

In-Person Services: Our next in-person OUTDOOR service will be **TODAY at 5:00 PM**. This service will be offered biweekly.

Cross Roads Fundraiser, 500 Gifts in May: Help Cross Roads recover from the effects of the pandemic and ensure its future ministry through a generous challenge for all gifts made in May. Each gift made by **May 31** will receive **an additional \$200** added to it, up to \$100,000! Click [here](http://www.crossroadsretreat.com/online-donation) (www.crossroadsretreat.com/online-donation) to give and for more information.

ASP Calendar Fundraiser for Youth Missions/Appalachia Service Project has ended. Total up your collection and write a check to St. John's with ASP on the memo line, or visit the church website to give online: Established Funds, Youth Missions, add donation amount and ASP to the comment box. Many thanks for participating in this virtual fundraiser!

Rally for Social Ministry: Help us support five of St. John's hunger and housing ministry partners. We will be raising at least \$1,000, supporting a different group each week. If the total goal of \$5,000 is raised, the committee will make a \$500 donation. There will be a celebration rally after the 5:00 PM service on **June 27** with music, dancing, fellowship, sandwich-making for Bridges, and a food drive. Make all donations **DIRECTLY TO ST. JOHN'S** with a check or through the "Special Offerings" category using this [secure link](https://tinyurl.com/7kr8yzu). Please note the organization you are supporting and fill out this form (<https://tinyurl.com/7kr8yzu>). St. John's will make one large monetary donation on behalf of our congregation to each organization. This week we are collecting for [Loaves & Fishes](#).

Save the Date for a Farewell & Godspeed for Margaret Sherman: Mark your calendars as we bid farewell to lifelong member Margaret Sherman on **June 6 at 2:00 PM**.

HeartSaver First Aid/CPR/AED is being held at St. John's on **June 19 at 9:00 AM** to teach skills needed to recognize emergencies and give first aid. Contact Jane Bowman at janekey.b@comcast.net or 908-447-8865.

Giving Is Important. We count on your generous offerings to continue to do our robust ministry. Please give generously. You may [give online](#) or mail checks to the church.



Welcome in the name of the Triune God!

Today is the feast of The Holy Trinity, or Trinity Sunday. In scripture, song, and prayer we worship our one God in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Today's service is a joint worship service of the Central Cluster of the New Jersey Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It is such a joy to know that we are part of a larger, interconnected Church and not just our individual congregations. May God bless and strengthen our shared ministry in the gospel.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE “Immortal, Invisible”

Arr. by Faye Lopez and Mark Lopez

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

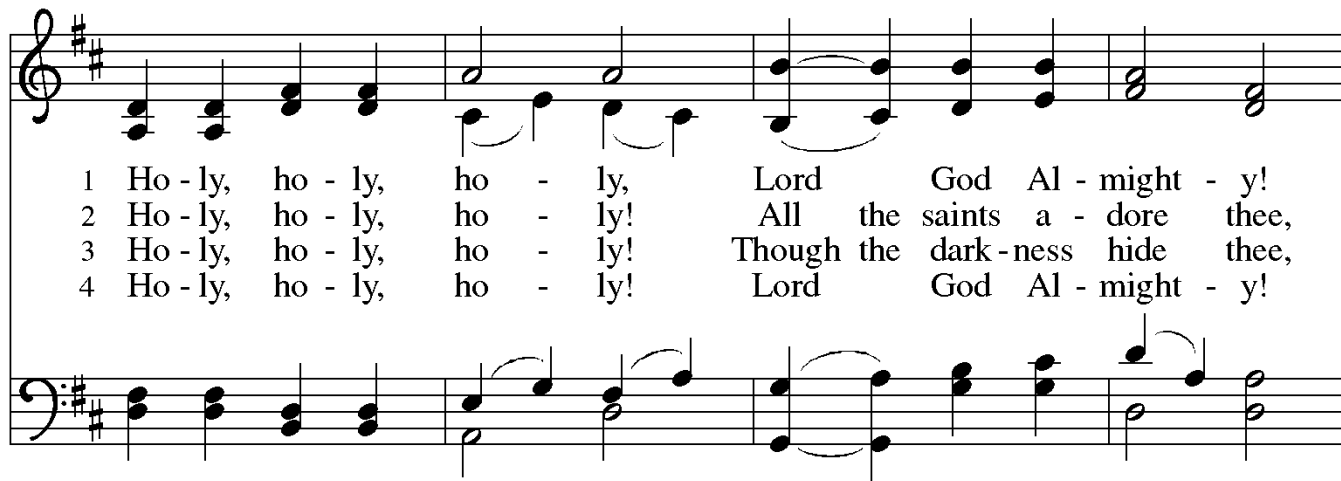
Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

To you, O God, all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of word and sacrament in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

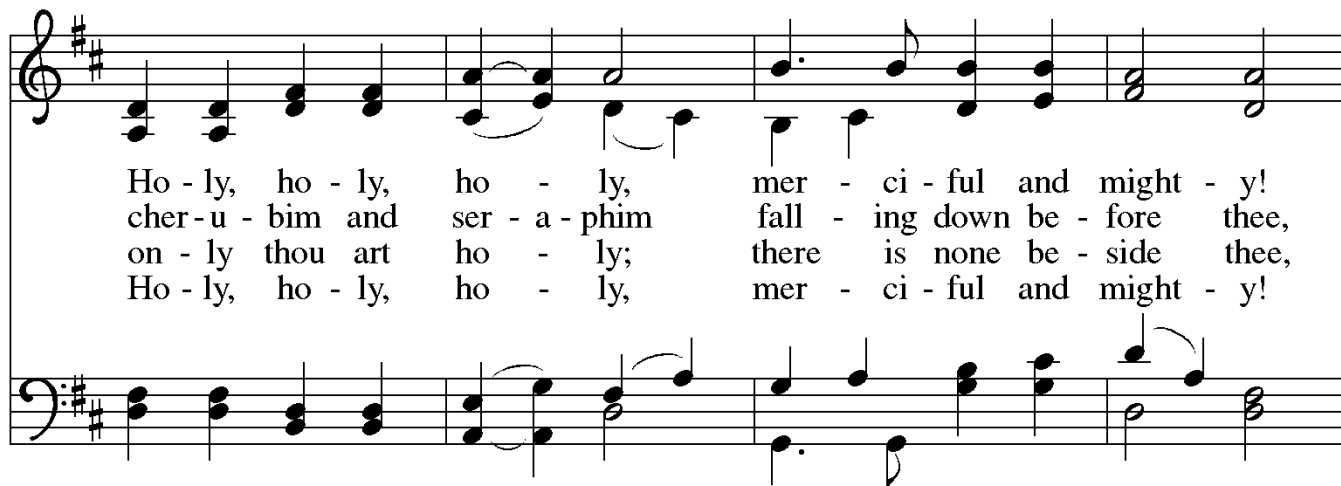
GATHERING HYMN ELW 413 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!



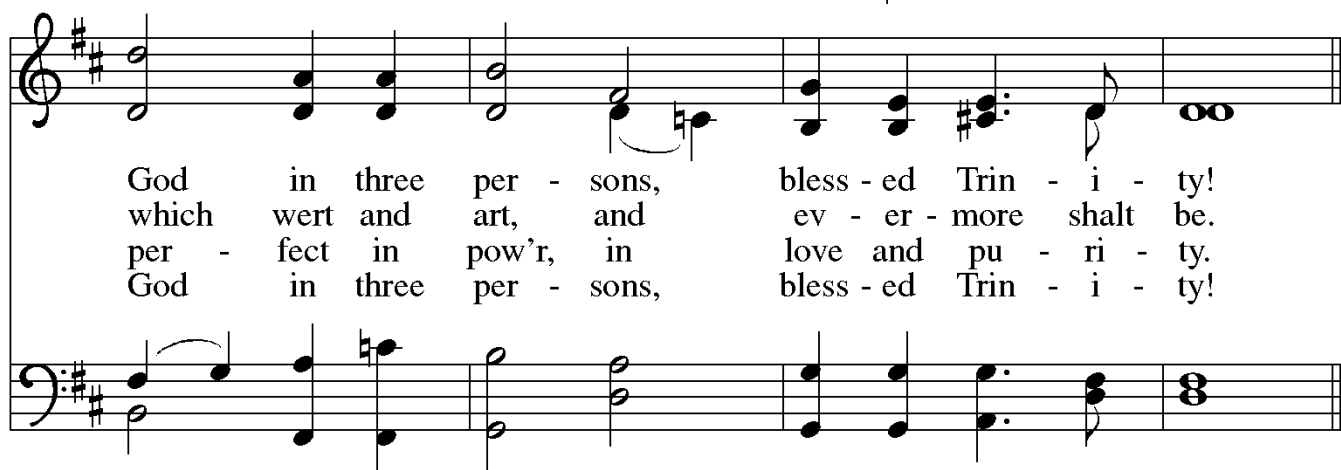
1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



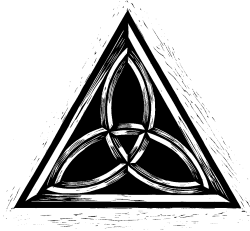
Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!



APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE ACS 1087 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be. A - men.

Text: Paul M. Vasile, b. 1976, based on the Gloria Patri
Music: GLORY TO GOD (VASILE), Paul M. Vasile
Text and music © Paul M. Vasile, admin. Augsburg Fortress

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING Isaiah 6:1–8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

SONG Reckless Love

Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me. You have been so, so good to me.
Before I took a breath, You breathed Your life in me. You have been so, so kind to me.

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God.
Oh, it chases me down, fights ‘til I’m found, leaves the 99.
And I couldn’t earn it, I don’t deserve it, still You give yourself away.

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me. You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth, You paid it all for me. You have been so, so kind to me.

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God.
Oh, it chases me down, fights ‘til I’m found, leaves the 99.
And I couldn’t earn it, I don’t deserve it, still You give yourself away.

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God.
There’s no shadow You won’t light up, mountain You won’t climb up, coming after me.
There’s no wall You won’t kick down, lie You won’t tear down, coming after me

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights ‘til I’m found, leaves the 99
I couldn’t earn it, I don’t deserve it, still You give yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending reckless love of God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL John 3:1–17

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He 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.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”

⁴Nicodemus 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?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The 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.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹“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. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“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.

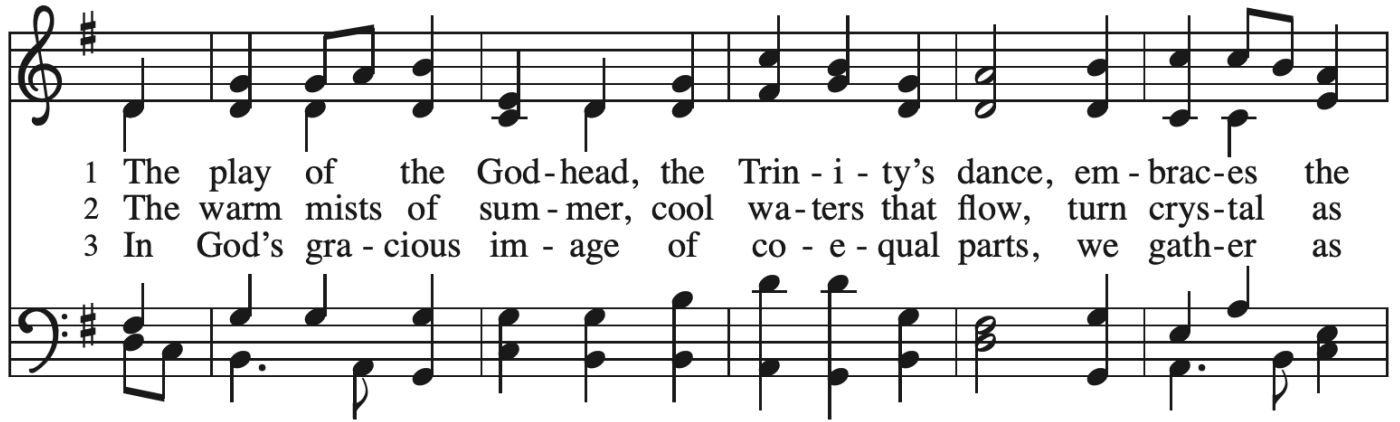
¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The gospel is proclaimed, concluding: The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

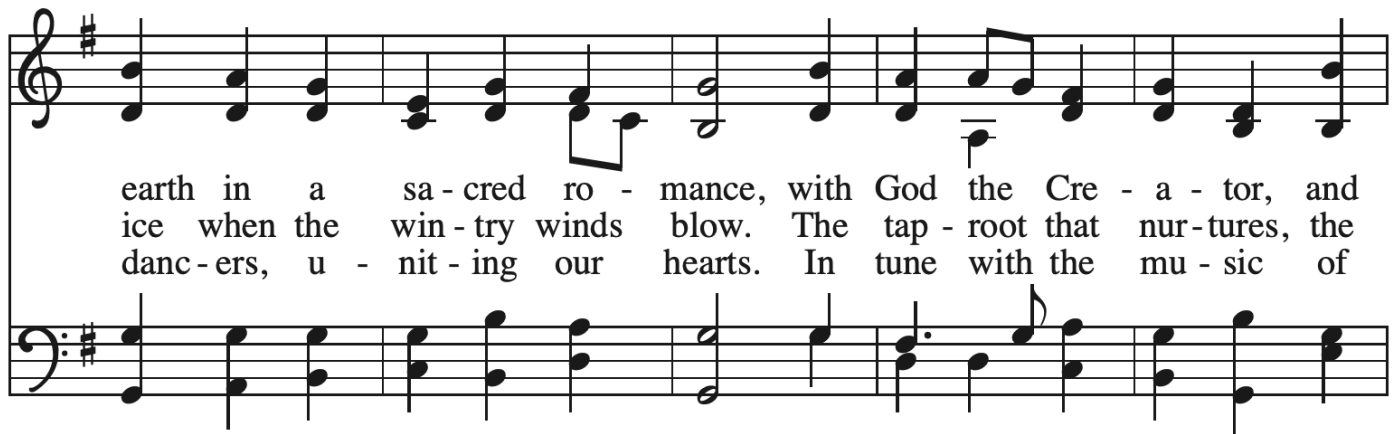
SERMON

Bishop Tracie Bartholomew

HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 946 The Play of the Godhead



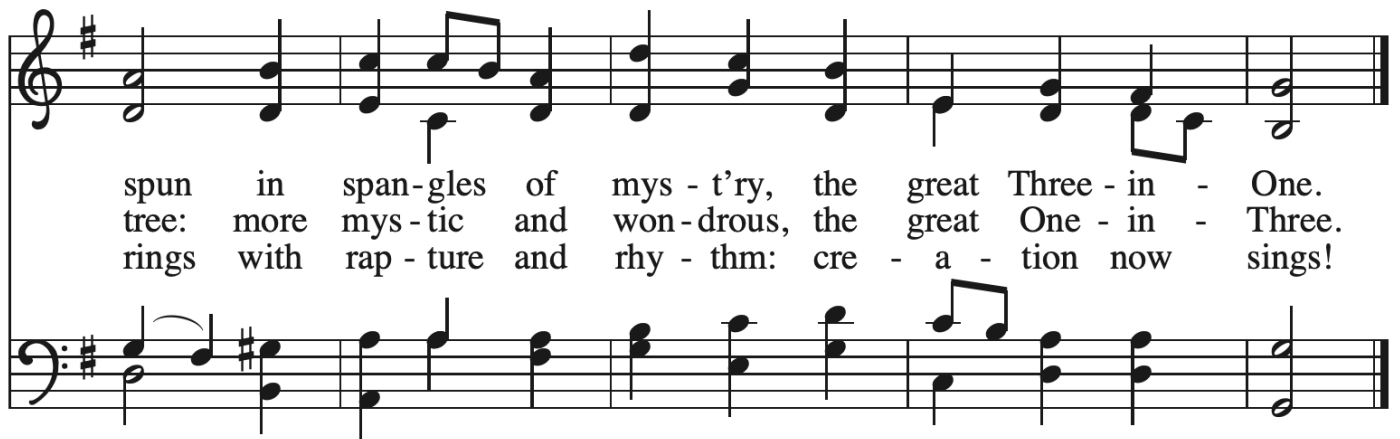
1 The play of the God-head, the Trin - i - ty's dance, em - brac - es the
2 The warm mists of sum - mer, cool wa - ters that flow, turn crys - tal as
3 In God's gra - cious im - age of co - e - qual parts, we gath - er as



earth in a sa - cred ro - mance, with God the Cre - a - tor, and
ice when the win - try winds blow. The tap - root that nur - tures, the
danc - ers, u - nit - ing our hearts. In tune with the mu - sic of



Christ the true Son, en - twined with the Spir - it, a web dai - ly
shoot grow - ing free, the life - giv - ing fruit, full and ripe on the
all liv - ing things, we join in the round of bright na - ture that



spun in span - gles of mys - t'ry, the great Three - in - One.
tree: more mys - tic and won - drous, the great One - in - Three.
rings with rap - ture and rhy - thm: cre - a - tion now sings!

NICENE CREED

With the whole Church through out the world, let us confess our faith:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Response at the conclusion of the prayer: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

PEACE

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



SPECIAL MUSIC “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

Arr. by Don Ehrmann

OFFERING MESSAGE

The Rev. Marissa Krey
Mission Funding Director, ELCA World Hunger

OFFERING MUSIC Setting of “Holy, Holy, Holy”

By Sandra Eithun (b. 1963)

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

CHARGE

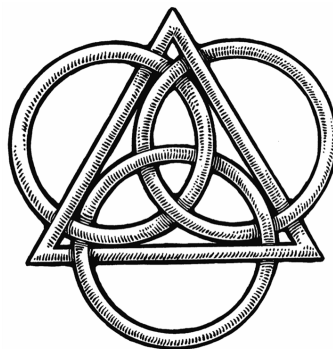
Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

BLESSING

The holy Three, the holy One increase your hope, strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and † grant you peace. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



SENDING HYMN ELW 414 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
 bow are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
 and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Participants in Today's Service

The Rev. Tracie Bartholomew, Bishop of the New Jersey Synod

The Rev. Dr. Christa M. Compton, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Chatham, NJ

The Rev. Dr. J. David Knecht, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Springfield, NJ

The Rev. Frederick L. Lentz, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Parsippany, NJ

The Rev. Dr. Carol A. Lindsay, Calvary Lutheran Church, Cranford, NJ

The Rev. Jane McCready, Faith Lutheran Church, New Providence, NJ

The Rev. Beau Nelson, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Florham Park, NJ

and St. Mark Lutheran Church, Morristown, NJ

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, St. John's Lutheran Church, Summit, NJ

Carol Beadle, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Chatham, NJ

Don Ehrmann, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Parsippany, NJ

Jeanne Elmuccio, Calvary Lutheran Church, Cranford, NJ

Donna Garzinsky, St. John's Lutheran Church, Summit, NJ

Shea Velloso, Faith Lutheran Church, New Providence, NJ

Doug Oberhamer, Calvary Lutheran Church, Cranford, NJ

Matt Spatz, Calvary Lutheran Church, Cranford, NJ

Calvary Virtual Choir: Linda Bennet, Carolyn Burroughs, Virginia Dearborn, Phyllis

Dandy, Jeanne Elmuccio, Carla Flint, Sean Garnhart, Alyssa Gautieri, Esther Krutzel,

Patrice Patterson, Matthew Spatz, Meg Sorenson Spatz, Donna Schlenker

Holy Cross-Newbridge Worship Team: Jon Torgrimsen-Guitar & Vocals, Frank

Milano-Drums, Stan Gergen- Electric Guitar, Ken Sausville-Keyboards, Jim Dascoli-

Bass Guitar

St. John's Virtual Chime Choir: Linda Clark, Alana Coble, Rick Coble, Carol Groote,

Kim Kanefke, Alexa Reeves, Louise Reeves. Robin Roth, Corey Sanders

Special thanks to Jeanne Elmuccio for video editing of today's service.



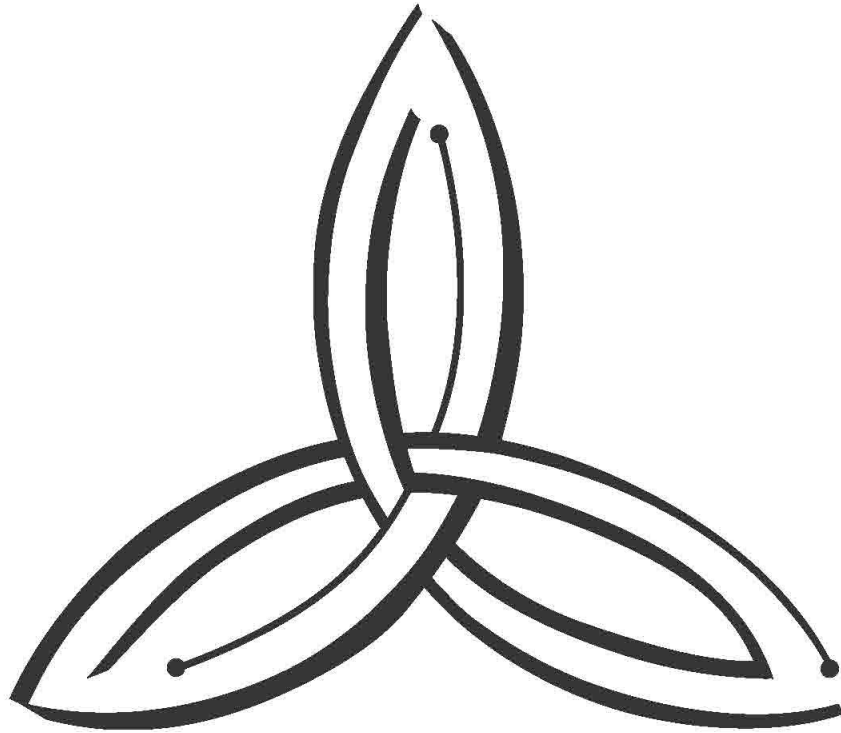
PRE-READER

Trinity Sunday

- Today is **Trinity Sunday**.
- The color for Trinity Sunday is **white**.
- Trinity means **three**.
- **Trinity Sunday** is the first Sunday **after** the Day of Pentecost.

Color in the trinity symbol below.

Holy Spirit



Son

Father



Isaiah heard his own voice say, “Send me!”



Do the math!

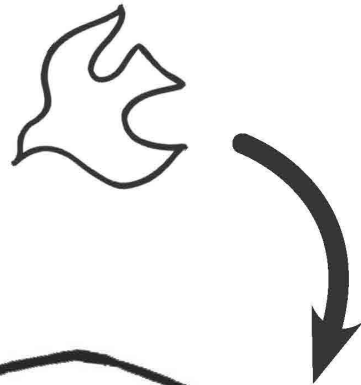
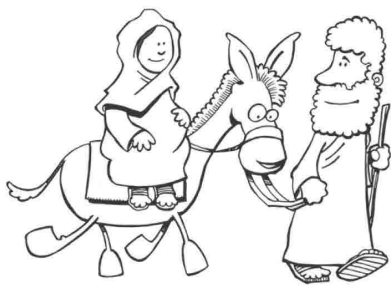
$$1 + 1 + 1 = 3$$

Father + Son
+ Holy Spirit
= God



Born by the Spirit

Jesus says we are born by flesh and born by the Spirit.
Color in baby Jesus, his parents Mary and Joseph,
and the dove.



Look around the room and check off each set of three you can find:

- 3 children

- 3 candles

- 3 musical instruments

- 3 Bibles

- 3 dads

- 3 grandmas

- 3 white shirts



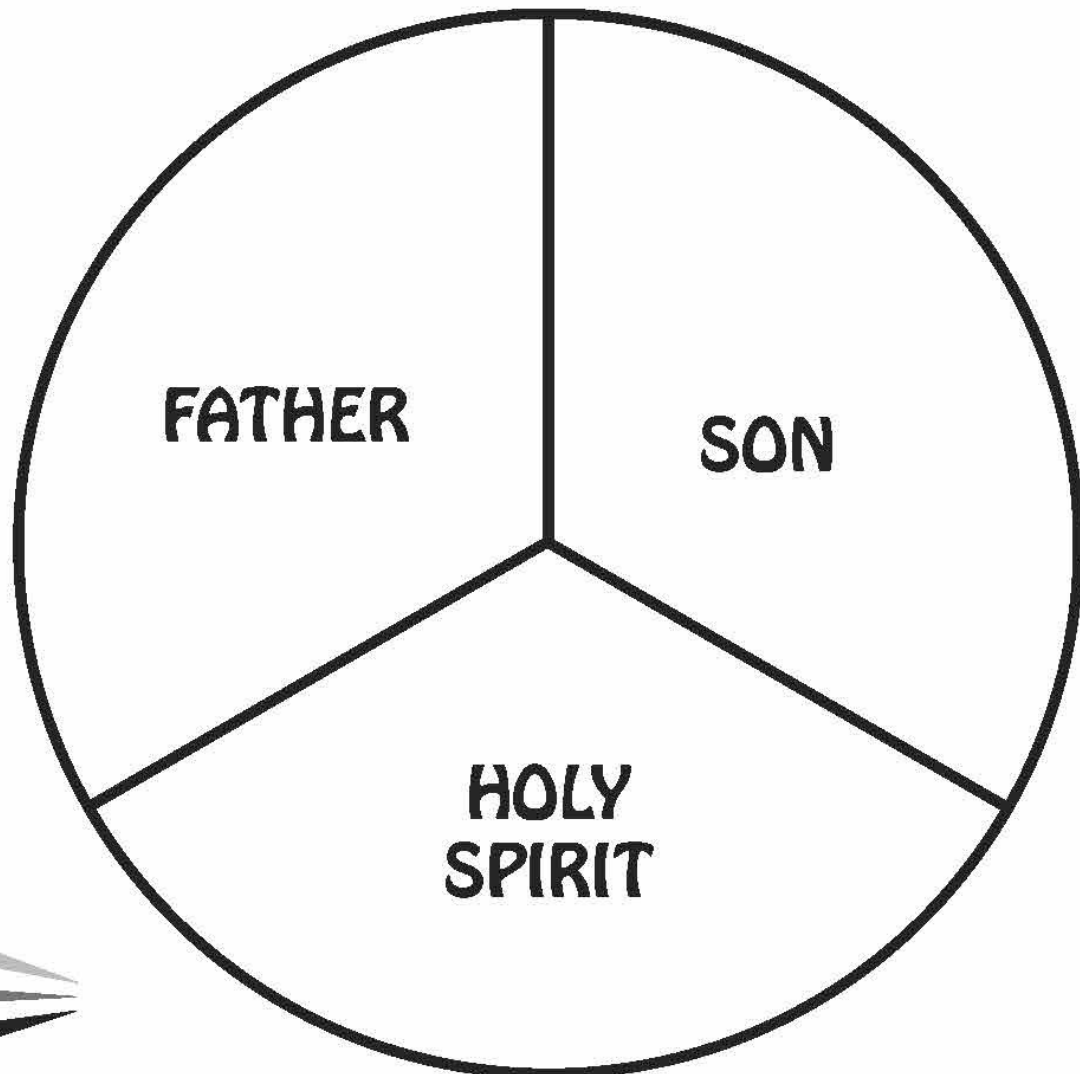
READER

Trinity Sunday

- Today is **Trinity Sunday**.
- Trinity Sunday happens the week after the **Day of Pentecost**.
- Trinity Sunday reminds us of God being **three in one**.

Three in One

There are three parts of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Draw each of these parts in the circle. (Hint: you can use symbols to help represent them. One symbol of the Holy Spirit is a dove.)

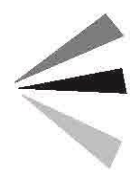
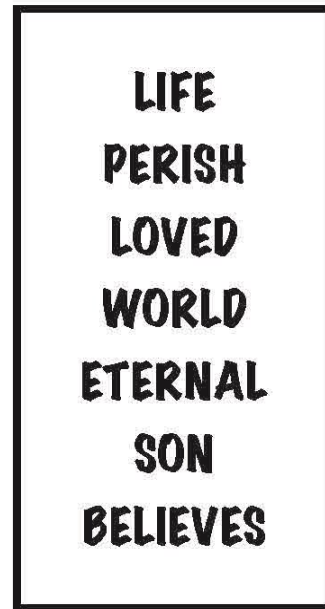


Today's memory verse is John 3:16. You may have heard it before. Fill in the blanks below by finding the missing words in the word search.

Memory Verse



"For God so _____ the
 _____ that He gave his only _____ so
 that everyone who _____ in him will not _____
 but have _____." **John 3:16**



Bible Tip!

Like this verse? Find it in the Bible and put a star near it!



Born in Two Ways?

Nicodemus was a church leader who had lots of questions for Jesus. Jesus told Nicodemus we are born of flesh *and* of Spirit. Confused? So was Nicodemus. He asked Jesus another question: "How can these things be?"

Fill in the blanks to describe yourself as a baby, someone who was born both of flesh and of God.

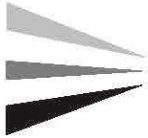
What is your full name? _____

What is your date of birth? _____

Where were you born? _____

What did you look like? _____

What is a story your family tells you about when you were a baby?



Did you know that words beginning with **tri** mean three? Match the words with their correct definitions.



Trinity

A race that includes biking, swimming, and running

Triathlon

A group of three, often referring to musicians

Triangle

A bike with three wheels

Tricycle

God as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Tripod

A stand with three legs that a camera sits on

Trilogy

A two-dimensional shape with three sides

Trio

A series of three books

Rhyming with Three

Think of words that rhyme with three that have to do with church, Trinity Sunday, or the things you see around you. Write them below. Examples might be keys, a tree, or even a man's goatee!

A large rectangular frame is formed by the number '3'. The top and bottom edges are composed of seven '3's each, with a decorative fan-like shape at the corners. The left and right edges are composed of ten '3's each, also with decorative fan-like shapes at the corners. The interior of the frame is empty, providing space for writing words that rhyme with 'three'.