

THE HOLY TRINITY

Faith Lutheran Church

The Blessed Trinity

May 26, 2024



As We Gather: We ponder today the great mystery of God—that God is one and that this one God is three persons. The liturgy in its proclamation focuses on the divine mystery of the triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Holy Trinity is not so much truth to be understood as it is truth to be confessed. We confess the Father from whom all things come, the Son who is the incarnate Lord Jesus Christ, and the Spirit who proceeds from the Father through the Son. Throughout the centuries of the Christian Church, the confession of the Holy Trinity has been a hallmark of faithful believers. We sing of the Trinity and, with the profound words of the Athanasian Creed, we confess the Holy Trinity to be the one true God.

PREPARATION

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

God's Kids Opening [Song "You Are By My Side"; Message; Prayer]

Opening Sentences

Revelation 4:8b, 11

- P** Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!
- C** **Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power,**
- P** for You created all things,
- C** **and by Your will they existed and were created.**

Confession and Absolution

P Almighty God, we are called to confess You as the God who has no equal;

C **You are three distinct persons, yet one God.**

P You are holy, we are not; You are righteous, we are not.

C **Yet in Your foreknowledge, You knew this would be our state, and You made a distinct and definite plan for a way to redeem us from our sins: the sins of thought, which creep into our minds daily; our words, which deserve death because of the evil that comes from our tongues; and our deeds, which we know go against Your holiness. Forgive us, Lord, for these and all sins, not because we are deserving, but for Your definite plan of mercy and grace shown to us at the cross.**

P I ask you before God, who searches all hearts, and one another, is this your sincere confession? If so, answer yes.

C **Yes, this is my sincere confession before God and before my brothers and sisters in Christ.**

P Hear the good news on this day! God has forgiven you all your sins because of the blood of Jesus shed at the cross. In the stead and at the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen! Thanks be to God for His mercy and grace!**

P May God, who began this definite plan before He created the world, continue to work in you and bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Thank You, Lord, for loving us, forgiving us, and having a definite plan for us.**

WORD

Introit

Psalm 16:8-11; antiphon: Liturgical Text

P Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity.
C **Let us give glory to Him because He has shown His mercy to us.**

P I have set the Lord always before me;
C **because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

P Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
C **my flesh also dwells secure.**

P For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
C **or let Your holy one see corruption.**

P You make known to me the path of life;
C **in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity.
C **Let us give glory to Him because He has shown His mercy to us.**

Hymn of Praise Alleluia! Let Praises Ring #822 *sts. 1, 4*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! To God the Fa -
4 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to our tri -



ther let us bring Our songs of ad - o - ra - tion.
une God we sing; Blest be His name for - ev - er!

To Him through ev - er - last - ing days Be wor - ship, hon -
 With an - gel hosts let us a - dore And sing His prais -
 or, pow'r, and praise, Whose hand sus - tains cre - a - tion.
 es ev - er - more For all His grace and fa - vor!
 Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;
 Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;
 Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry.
 Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry!

Text: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, 1698, Darmstadt; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608. Text and tune: Public domain

Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray.
 Almighty God, You are three persons yet one God. This is a mystery that is beyond our understanding. You ask us not to understand but simply believe. Give us the faith of a child, that what You have said in Your Word about Yourself we may believe in our hearts and live out by faith in our lives. We pray this in the name of Jesus, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, who was, who is, and who is coming, the Almighty.
- C** Amen.

Old Testament *Isaiah 6:1–8* (The prophet Isaiah is overcome by his sinfulness and God’s holiness.)

¹In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”

⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

⁸And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle *Acts 2:14a, 22–36* (Three thousand people heard Peter’s message of the resurrection of Jesus and Him being both true God and the Messiah.)

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

²²“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—²³this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;

²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption.

²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³Being 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 yourselves are seeing and hearing. ³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, ³⁵until I make your enemies your footstool.’

³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel *John 3:1–17* (Nicodemus, the “teacher of Israel,” is taken to school by Jesus, who shares God’s plan of salvation in a nutshell.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, 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 the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And 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, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Athanasian Creed

P Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith.

C Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.

P And the catholic faith is this,

C that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.

P For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.

C But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.

P Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:

C the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;

P the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;

C the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.

P And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,

C just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinities, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.

P In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;

C and yet there are not three Almightyies, but one Almighty.

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

C and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.

P So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;

C and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.

P Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.

C **The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.**

P The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.

C **The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.**

P Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.

C **And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;**

P but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.

C **Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.**

P But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **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.**

P 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:

C **perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;**

- P** equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
- C** **Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:**
- P** one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
- C** **one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.**
- P** For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
- C** **who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,**
- P** ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- C** **At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.**
- P** And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- C** **This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.**

Sermon Hymn God Loved the World So That He Gave #571 sts. 1, 3, 6

1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
 △ 6 Glo - ry to God the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly

Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
 Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
Trin - i - ty, Be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93. Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon The Holy Trinity in Action Genesis 1:1-3, 26-28

Offering and Contemporary Song “Image of God” by We Are Messengers. Sung by Kayla and Matthew.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and all people according to their needs. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for planning and creating this world for us to inhabit. You have given us the stewardship of it. Where we have failed, forgive us. Give us wisdom to manage what You planned for us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, You cared for us with no guarantee we would ever love You back. You lived the perfect life we could not and suffered the death we are not willing to suffer for our sins. We can never repay You—all we can do is thank You, and so we do now. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O Holy Spirit, through Your inspiration we have the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make us wise unto salvation in Jesus Christ. Yet without the faith freely given by You, we

would not be able to believe. You keep us in that faith our entire journey on this side of eternity. We ask that You would rule our hearts and minds, and bring to our remembrance what the Scriptures say at just the right time. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We lift up those facing health challenges at this moment, and those who are homebound [especially . . .]. Hear our petitions on their behalf. We ask that You use doctors and nurses, medicines and researchers, and, according to Your will, miracles, so those who have any dreaded disease might be returned to health to serve You. Heavenly Physician, we entrust them to Your care and will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, You have commanded us to pray for all in authority. We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they seek justice and peace. We lift up leaders everywhere. Help them by Your Spirit to lead with diligence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

Other Petitions: Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**

P For Christians persecuted around the world and who feel the heavy hand of injustice, we ask that You keep Your people faithful and protect all who need Your protection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your gracious and loving hands we commend all for whom we pray and those You know need our prayers, trusting in Your mercy; in the name of Jesus, with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, who was, who is, and who is coming, the Almighty.

C **Amen.**

SACRAMENT

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - 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!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P 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."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210



C 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.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution Hymns

The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord #634

1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -
 2 He blot - ted out with His own blood The judg - ment
 3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a
 4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this
 brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort
 that a - gainst us stood; For us He full a -
 sol - emn guar - an - tee: In this His ho - ly
 Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,
 in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
 tone - ment made, And all our debt He ful - ly paid.
 Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
 as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

5 We dare not ask how this can be,
 But simply hold the mystery
 And trust this word where life begins:
 "Given and shed for all your sins."

6 They who this word do not believe
 This food unworthily receive,

Salvation here will never find—
May we this warning keep in mind!

7 But blest is each believing guest
Who in these promises finds rest;
For Jesus shall in love remain
With all who here His grace obtain.

8 Help us sincerely to believe
That we may worthily receive
Your Supper and in You find rest.
Amen! They who believe are blest.

Text (sts. 1–4, 6–8): Haquin Spegel, 1645–1714; (sts. 1–4, 6–8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841–1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite. Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742. Text and tune: Public domain

O Gracious Lord, I Firmly Am Believing #635



1 O gra - cious Lord, I firm - ly am be - liev - ing
2 Lord, I have sinned, a thou - sand times of - fend - ing;
3 You see my sin yet seat me at Your ta - ble;
4 O Lamb of God, my faith - ful, lov - ing Sav - ior,
5 Heav - en - ly Bread, my life and ben - e - dic - tion,



Your bound - less love will bless each faith - ful soul,
My thank - less thoughts and words and deeds e - raise,
Lord, as a guest, I sure - ly am the least:
You I em - brace in faith and ho - ly love;
This cup You give can take a - way each ill.



As from this al - tar we are here re - ceiv - ing
To me Your hand of mer - cy now ex - tend - ing,
Un - clean, un - fit, of wor - thy deeds un - a - ble—
Grant me the strength to show by my be - hav - ior
Come and re - lieve my soul from all af - flic - tion;



Your bod - y and Your blood to make us whole,
 O God, my Sav - ior, I im - plore Your grace,
 My heart pre - pare for this most ho - ly feast,
 A life now hid - den in Your reign a - bove,
 Calm ev - 'ry sigh un - til my heart is still,



Your bod - y and Your blood to make us whole.
 O God, my Sav - ior, I im - plore Your grace.
 My heart pre - pare for this most ho - ly feast.
 A life now hid - den in Your reign a - bove.
 Calm ev - 'ry sigh un - til my heart is still.

Text: Spanish or Latin American, 20th cent.; tr. Stephen P. Starke, 1955. Tune: H. León. Text: © 2004 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110006139
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Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211



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 Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.
 We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:23–26

P When God gave Aaron and his sons the benediction, He said, “Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, ‘Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them.’” Receive, therefore, with believing hearts, the benediction of our God:

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn Now Thank We All Our God #895

1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voic - es,
 2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,
 △ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,

Who won-drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;
 With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us
 The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
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Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 3.

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