

THE HOLY TRINITY



Faith Lutheran Church
Beyond Comprehension
May 31, 2026

As We Gather: We usually think of ourselves as small, humble creatures. We are subject to the creation in which we live and often are at the mercy of the forces around us. But we are reminded in Genesis that we are the crown of God’s creation, part and parcel of all He has made. We cannot understand Him, but we know enough. That is Peter’s reminder to those who executed Jesus: He did not stay dead but was able to overcome the forces opposed to Him—for us! We have work to do, Jesus tells the disciples and us in the Gospel. But we do not have to do it alone. Though we cannot understand Him, God is with us each day in His strength, mercy, and forgiving love. In short, we need not comprehend our great God; we only receive all the love He has for us. “O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!” (Psalm 8:1).

PREPARATION

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

God's Kids Opening [Children of the Heavenly Father LSB 725 v.1,4; Message; prayer]

1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His
 in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose
 heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958. Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden. Text: Public domain. Tune: Public domain

Opening Sentences

Psalm 8:1; Genesis 1:3, 31

P O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

C You have set Your glory above the heavens.

P And God said, "Let there be light,"

C and there was light.

P And God saw everything that He had made,

C and behold, it was very good.

Confession and Absolution

P Let us come before God with our sins to acknowledge them before Him and in the presence of one another.

C Heavenly Father, we confess that we have failed to be the people You have created us to be. We daily miss the mark of being very good, and we fail to be Your representatives in the care of Your good creation. With the early disciples, although we do believe, sometimes we doubt. Only by Your grace are we able to come before You and find peace and joy. Remind us of Your great love and mercy for us.

P Jesus has joyful work for us to do. He has commanded us to go, teach, and baptize. And, despite our sins, He also promised, "Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). God's majesty is not only in creating the world in which we live but in loving us despite our daily failures. He sent His Son to forgive our every sin. As David wrote, "I saw the Lord always before me, for He is at my right hand that I may not be shaken" (Acts 2:25).

As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

WORD

Introit

Psalm 16:8–11; antiphon: Liturgical Text

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity. Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mercy to us.

I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; 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.

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity. Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mercy to us.

Kyrie

P Lord, have mercy on us.

C Father, have mercy on us.

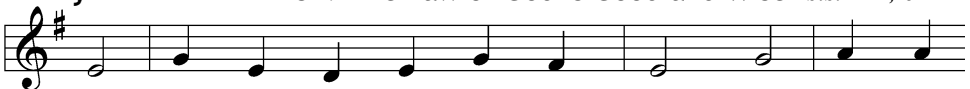
P Lord, have mercy on us.

C Christ, have mercy on us.

P Lord, have mercy on us.

C Holy Spirit, grant us Your peace. Amen.

Hymn of Praise 579 The Law of God Is Good and Wise *sts. 1–2, 6*



1 The Law of God is good and wise And sets His
2 Its light of ho - li - ness im - parts The knowl - edge
6 To Je - sus we for ref - uge flee, Who from the

will be - fore our eyes, Shows us the way of righ - teous -
of our sin - ful hearts That we may see our lost es -
curse has set us free, And hum - bly wor - ship at His

ness, And dooms to death when we trans - gress.
tate And turn from sin be - fore too late.
throne, Saved by His grace through faith a - lone.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug. 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 and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty.
- C** **Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities;**
- P** for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Genesis 1:1–2:4a* (God creates all that exists.)

- ¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
- ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
- ³And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light

from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” ²¹So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its

kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. ²⁵And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ²⁹And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

¹Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ²And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading *Acts 2:14a, 22-36* (Peter tells the Good News to those who crucified our Lord.)

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.

Verse

Isaiah 6:3b

P Alleluia.

C Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;

P the whole earth is full of His glory!

C Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *Matthew 28:16-20* (Jesus promises to accompany His followers.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

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 Infinites, 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 Almighty, 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;**

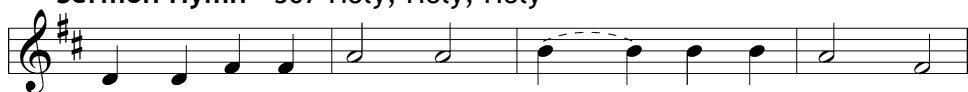
P but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.

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 507 Holy, Holy, Holy



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 man 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!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826. Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76. Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Christ's Command and Promise to His Church Matthew 28:16-20

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Psalm 8:2, 4–6, 9

P Let us pray for the world around us, all people, and ourselves.

“Out of the mouth of babes and infants, You have established strength.”

Grant wisdom and love for families in and beyond this congregation, O Lord. We give thanks for growing families

and that they grow stronger in love as You guide and protect them.

C **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

P “When I look at Your heavens, . . . what is man that You are mindful of him.”

Grant humility to all of us. Grant that we grow in faith toward You and love toward one another.

C **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

P “Yet You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings.”

Grant us grace to acknowledge the true place of governments and nations, care workers and medical professionals, and those who tend crops and herds, as they seek to meet the needs of the people under their care.

C **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

P You have “crowned him with glory and honor.”

Open the eyes of the proud, who seek ever greater power and prestige, that they may find true greatness in serving as You have, in love and mercy.

C **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

*Special concerns may be added. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer***

P You have given us “dominion over the works of Your hands.”

Give wisdom and guidance to everyone who manages Your good creation that all people may be fed, peace may break out, and many people around us will join to say,

C **“O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!”**

P These and any other things You would have us ask of You, O God, grant for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

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.

Benediction

P 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 828 We Are Called to Stand Together



1 We are called to stand to - geth - er With the saints of
2 Those whom Je - sus called a - pos - tles Jour - neyed with Him
3 Through the in - ter - ven - ing a - ges Round the world the
4 Now in man - y tongues and cul - tures Songs of cel - e -
5 To each com - ing gen - er - a - tion Tell the truth, per -



a - ges past, With the pa - tri - archs and proph - ets
side by side, Heard His teach - ing, felt His pow - er,
Gos - pel spread: Faith - ful her - als took the mes - sage,
bra - tion ring; Mil - lions who con - fess our Sav - ior
suade, ex - plain, Till the time when time is end - ed,



In the faith they once held fast; Prom - is - es and
Saw the way He lived and died; Then the news of
Guid - ed where the Spir - it led; So the bod - y
Hon - or Him as Lord and King And, for cour - age,
Till the Sav - ior comes a - gain— Till the saints are



hopes they trea - sured Now we find ful - filled at last!
res - ur - rec - tion They de - liv - ered far and wide.
grew in stat - ure, Serv - ing Christ, the liv - ing head.
grace and guid - ance Ev - 'ry day their prayers they bring.
all u - nit - ed Un - der Christ's e - ter - nal reign!

Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, 1962. Tune: Henry V. Gerike, 1948–2025

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Dismissal

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God!

Acknowledgments

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

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