

Holy Trinity Sunday ✠ Order of Service

The Greeting

P This is the day that the Lord has made.
C Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P We are transformed in Christ
C to share the hope of eternal life.

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing of the Peace

Opening Hymn • 604.....“I Bind unto Myself Today”

△ *Christa Reiter sings verses 1 and 2. The congregation joins in for the remaining verses and stands on the last verse.*

The Invocation

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

Introduction

P Through our worship on this Trinity Sunday, we will progressively and responsively confess the Athanasian Creed. As the more commonly confessed Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds were written and doctrinally accepted according to God’s Word in defense to the heresies of the time and applicable still today, so also the Athanasian Creed was written and doctrinally accepted to refute false teachings regarding the Scripturally revealed identity and work of the one true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As we hold the “catholic faith,” the Athanasian Creed refers to “catholic” as the true Church of all times and places who faithfully confess the true Christ as Lord and Savior. Together we confess Part 1.

The Athanasian Creed

Part 1

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 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.

Confession and Absolution

- P** As we approach our triune God and gather in His majestic name, we draw near with a true heart and confess our sins.
C Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness.
- P** We have turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing.
C We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins.
- P** Have mercy on us, heavenly Father, because of the obedience of our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.
C Forgive us all that is past, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, move us to serve You faithfully. Set our feet upon the new path of life, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

P Jesus says, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am” (John 8:58). He alone, with the Father and the Spirit, is the one who has promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you to greater faith and obedience, and bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

The Introit *Psalm 8*

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

C You have set Your glory above the heavens.

P Out of the mouth of babes and infants, You have established strength

C because of Your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

P When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,

C the moon and the stars, which You have set in place,

P what is man that You are mindful of him,

C and the son of man that You care for him?

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

C and crowned him with glory and honor.

P You have given him dominion over the works of Your hands;

C You have put all things under his feet,

P all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

C the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

P O Lord, our Lord,

C how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

C 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.

The Kyrie

P O Father, as You have graciously created all things,

C have mercy upon us.

P O Christ, as You have bought us back to Your Father with Your holy, precious blood,
C have mercy upon us.

P O Holy Spirit, as You enlighten our hearts with the light of the Gospel,
C have mercy upon us.

Hymn of Praise • 822 “Alleluia! Let Praises Ring”

The Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

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

The 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. Keep us steadfast in this faith, and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice? ² On the heights beside the way at the crossroads, she takes her stand; ³ beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals, she cries aloud: ⁴ “To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the children of man.

²² “The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of old. ²³ Ages ago, I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. ²⁴ When there were no depths, I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. ²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth, ²⁶ before he had made the earth with its fields or the first of the dust of the world. ²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there; when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, ²⁸ when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, ²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, ³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master workman, and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, ³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the children of man.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-36

¹⁴ But Peter, 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—²³ this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴ God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken;

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

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

²⁸ You 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. ³⁰ Being 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, ³¹ he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³ 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 yourselves are seeing and hearing. ³⁴ For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord,

“Sit at my right hand,

³⁵ until I make your enemies your footstool.”

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

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Children's Message

The Athanasian Creed

Part 2

- 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.**

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

John 8:48-59

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁸ The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" ⁴⁹ Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰ Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." ⁵² The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.'" ⁵³ Are you

greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?”⁵⁴ Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’”⁵⁵ But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him, and I keep his word.⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.”⁵⁷ So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?”⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.”⁵⁹ So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn • 941 “We Praise You and Acknowledge You”

The Sermon

The Athanasian Creed

Part 3

P As we confess in this creed the work and identity of the one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with all founded in and supported throughout Scripture, the Athanasian Creed closes with a reminder of judgment and the Last Day to come. Though reference is made to works, works are not the basis of our salvation. Only those who by faith believe in Jesus Christ for salvation are able to do good works in God’s sight, and the good works done are fruits of the saving faith in Christ given through the Holy Spirit.

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.**

The Offering

Thank you for your support of Holy Cross!

Three ways to give:

- 1) **at church** (the offering plate is at the entrance to the sanctuary)
- 2) **online giving** at www.holycrossstegen.org
- 3) **by mail**

The Offertory

Psalms 51:10-12

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

The Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Before Abraham was, You were and are and ever will be—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. From You comes all that is from creation to redemption in Jesus Christ. Your grace preserves all things. Grant us continued faith and trust in who You have revealed Yourself to be, that we trust in Your mercy and rejoice in the forgiveness accomplished for us through all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Ever-uniting Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—join us together in fellowship with one another and with You. Give us Your Spirit, that all may confess truly and faithfully Your Word and live in harmony of doctrine and life. As we prepare to receive the gifts You have prepared—Christ’s body and blood for the forgiveness of sins—in, with, and under the bread and the wine, nourish the faith You give as we gather together in Your presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Ever-sustaining Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—we worship You not as we ought but as we are able, within the frailty of our minds that struggle to understand and hearts that struggle against sin and unbelief. Guard us by Your Spirit, that we not grow weary nor lose sight of the goal before us. Work in us to display the good works of Him who has called us from darkness into His marvelous light. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Ever-providing Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—You have suffered fully the cost of love through the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Give healing and peace to all who are afflicted, and give Your comfort to the grieving and dying. We lift up to You those who have requested our prayer, [*especially* . . .], those whose needs are known only to

You, and those in our hearts [*silence for private prayer*]. Give them all that is needful so they may endure trials confident of Your presence and grace sufficient for every need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Ever-present Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—renew us by Your Word and Spirit. Where we lack love and compassion, build us up in Christ. When distracted by the temporal things of this world, draw our eyes upon our Savior You have given. Grant Your presence and strengthen our trust in Your promises made, fulfilled, and yet to come, that we be found faithful at Your time, and be forever together with those who have gone before us to Your kingdom without end. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

Additional petitions may follow.

P All these things we pray to You, through Christ Jesus, for You live and reign as the triune and eternal God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who always has been and always will be.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

The Preface

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalms 136

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

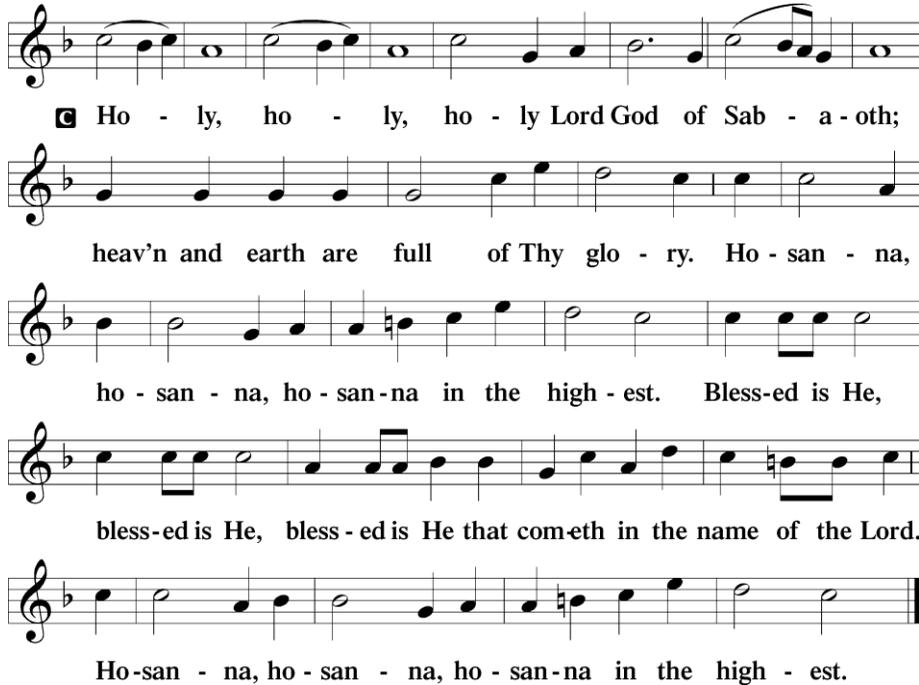
The Proper Preface

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, who with Your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, one Lord. In the confession of the only

true God, we worship the Trinity in person and the Unity in substance, of majesty coequal. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Sanctus *∞ Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The 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

Matthew 26:26-28

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.”

The Proclamation of Christ

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

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, 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:

The Lord’s Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

The Pax Domini ✠ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

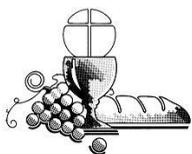
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

The Agnus Dei ∞ The Lamb of God

John 1:29

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.



The Distribution of Holy Communion • *The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine. We believe the Lord's Supper is a means of grace in that it provides forgiveness of sins and strengthening of our faith. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal.*

Participants are encouraged to ask these questions: Do I believe that I am a sinner and am truly sorry for my sins? Do I believe Jesus Christ is my Savior and that it is His true body and blood given to me along with the bread and wine? Do I intend with the help of God to repent of sin as I seek to follow Him?

If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold to a different confession of faith, please come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

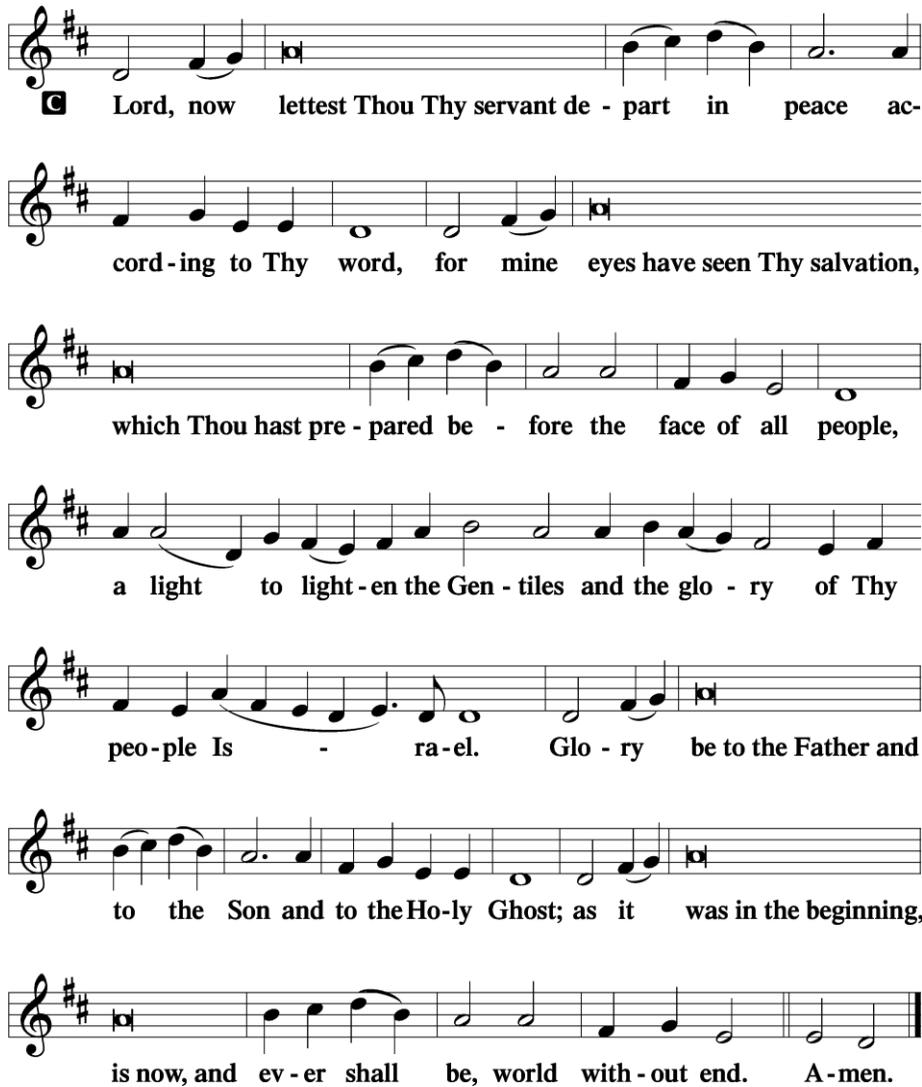
Communion Hymn • 633**"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"**

△ *Please stand on the last verse.*

Communion Hymn • 507**"Holy, Holy, Holy"**

The Nunc Dimittis ∞ *The Song of Simeon*

Luke 2:29-32



G Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

The Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed our spirits, nourished our faith, and forgiven our sins. Bless our days ahead, and keep us sanctified in the

truth, that we remain together as one Body in the confession and proclamation of You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

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 • 506 "Glory Be to God the Father"



SERVING TODAY

Pastor Craig Reiter

Organist: Michael Fitzsimmons

Keyboardist: Christa Reiter

Acknowledgments

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The Blessed Trinity

With Christ's clear command dominating their minds, the first followers of Christ were like a tiny spark that ignites a forest fire. As obedient foot soldiers of the Gospel, they went out proclaiming the spark of Christ's command in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

For centuries, philosophers and theologians have been trying to figure out the Trinity. These attempts however have always been futile. After setting forth the biblical understanding of the Trinity exhaustively and from every conceivable point of view, the Athanasian Creed, one of the oldest Christ-centered confessions of the Christian faith, closes by affirming, "This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved."

Don't take the name of the Trinity lightly! Therefore, the apostle Peter warns "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Knowing, therefore, the devil is near you, hoping to take your eyes of faith off the Trinity, you must be prepared.

So when you are tempted to embrace a religion or a faith that promotes or even permits any faith other than the Trinitarian Confession of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, then say like Jesus did, "Get behind me, Satan! Get away from me." On your own, you cannot stave off the devil. But the Good News is this: God will help you. He will empower you through His Word and Spirit.

Each morning as you rise, do as the early Christians did and begin your day by making the sign of the cross and saying, "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Then, in the name of the Trinity, ask God for protection for the day. And thank Him for all His blessings, and pray the God of the Bible—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—will guard and keep you and your family throughout the day.

Your Heavenly Father loves you in spite of your many failings. The Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is now interceding on your behalf at the throne of God every time you stumble and fall. The Holy Spirit of the blessed Trinity is at your side, convicting you of your sin but then also assuring you that every last one of your sins has been totally forgiven. He, the Spirit, then also plants deep into your heart God's gift of faith and hope.