



Building Blocks of Faith

God the Father – Creator and Sustainer

Summer series - 9

July 26, 2026

Sunday 9:30 am

Also on Sunday: Radio Broadcast on WRMN 1410 AM & Live Stream at:

[Holy Trinity Lutheran Church \(holytrinityelgin.com\)](http://holytrinityelgin.com)

GATHERING

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

Prelude: *Largo*
Ayre

Antonio Vivaldi
John Dowland



Purpose Statement

Our Savior calls us into mission. Let us say together the purpose we share:

***A Christ-Centered Church
Sharing Faith, Hope, and Love
with each other, our neighbors, and the world.***



Welcome and Announcements



Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Thanksgiving For Baptism

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

O Lord our God, we give you thanks
for the grace that is at work in us
through the gift of our baptism—
the sign of your threefold name,
the communion of your faithful people,
the promise of your glorious realm.
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
poured out upon us in baptism,
let your grace and peace grow in us,
until we gather at your heavenly throne
to give you thanks and praise forever;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Pardon

At the baptismal font:

It is only by the power of God
that we are able to stand against evil.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**You tell us, O Lord, who may abide in your presence,
who may dwell on your holy hill:
those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and who speak the truth from their heart.
And yet, O Lord, we do not walk blamelessly.
So often we stumble on the path of faith.
The truth makes us nervous,**

and we pretend not to know what is right.
Have mercy, O God.
Convict us by your wisdom,
cleans us by your grace,
challenge us by your presence,
and, by your forgiveness, free us to try again.

Lifting water from the font:

Now stand firm in your faith,
 covered by the saving grace of God
 and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.
 In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.



Gathering Hymn: Gather Us In

ELW 532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



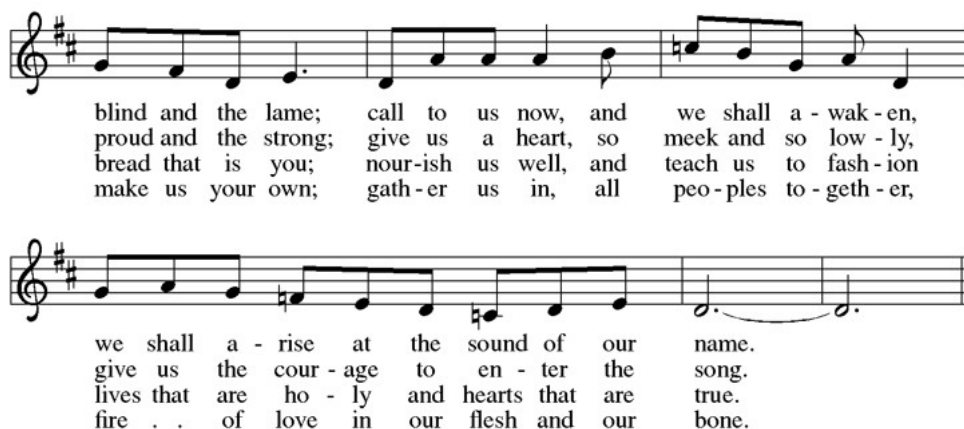
van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
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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

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O glorious God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, your whole creation sings your marvelous work; may heaven's praise so echo in our hearts that we may be good stewards of the earth; through Jesus Christ by whom all things were made, and in the Holy Spirit, the giver of life. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.



Mostly Children's Time

WORD

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

Verse of the Month: John 1:1

Let us remember the witness of Scripture as we say our verse of the month together:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.



First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

World's creation in seven days

1 When God began to create^[a] the heavens and the earth— **2** the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters— **3** God said, "Let there be light." And so light appeared. **4** God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. **5** God named the light Day and the darkness Night.

There was evening and there was morning: the first day.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia (Taizé)

ELW 175

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

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

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.



Gospel: Matthew 6:30-34

The holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰ If God dresses grass in the field so beautifully, even though it's alive today and tomorrow it's thrown into the furnace, won't God do much more for you, you people of weak faith? ³¹ Therefore, don't worry and say, 'What are we going to eat?' or 'What are we going to drink?' or 'What are we going to wear?' ³² Gentiles long for all these things. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ Instead, desire first and foremost God's kingdom and God's righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore, stop worrying about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.



Sermon



Hymn of the Day: *Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud*

ACS 947



1 Source and Sov'-reign, Rock and Cloud, For - tress, Foun-tain, Shel - ter, Light,
2 Word and Wis-dom, Root and Vine, Shep-herd, Sav - ior, Ser - vant, Lamb,
3 Storm and Still-ness, Breath and Dove, Thun-der, Tem - pest, Whirl-wind, Fire,



Judge, De - fend - er, Mer - cy, Might, Life whose life all life en-dowed:
Well and Wa - ter, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:
Com - fort, Coun-s'lor, Pres - ence, Love, En - er - gies that nev-er tire:

Refrain

May the church at prayer re - call that no sin - gle ho - ly name

but the truth be - hind them all is the God whom we pro-claim.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

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Apostles Creed

With Christians around the world, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.



Prayers of the People

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

As we do each weekend, we light a candle for peace and pray together the Peace Prayer.

A brief silence as the peace candle is lit.

Let us pray together ... **God of love, your word teaches that peace is not the absence of conflict but the presence of justice. Peace is what happens when those who have much do not have too much and those who have little do not have too little. The very old and the very young feel safe and supported. Parents can feed themselves and their children and all have the opportunity for meaningful work in their community. Let us pray and work for this kind of peace. God of grace, hear our prayer.**

God our wisdom and our song, we pray for bishops, candidacy committees, those preparing for seminary, those awaiting call as deacons or pastors, and all who seek to lead your disciples in any way. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our breath and our heartbeat, help us to recognize signs of your presence among us. Protect and support diverse ecosystems, from national parks to family farms, from ranches to wild places. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our peace and our guide, help civic leaders hear all their peoples' stories with compassion and curiosity, and remind us of your love from which we can never be separated. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God our intercessor and our lawgiver, dismantle the barriers to care and recognition of all who live with chronic illness, mobility struggles, pain, and uncertainty. We pray especially for . . . and all those on our prayer chain. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God who seeks, finds, and saves, for our community's part in the ongoing gift of creation, and for the riches of faith and hope which came before, we give you thanks. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

Amen.



Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

I invite you to share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



As we prepare to receive the gift of Holy Communion, we pray a table grace patterned after the great Old Testament and early church prayers that recount God's goodness and ask that such goodness would extend to us and through us now and until our Lord's promised return.



Offertory: Now Thank We All Our God (Verse 1)

ELW 840

Please stand in body or spirit as the gifts are brought forward.

1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662



Offering Prayer

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.**



Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

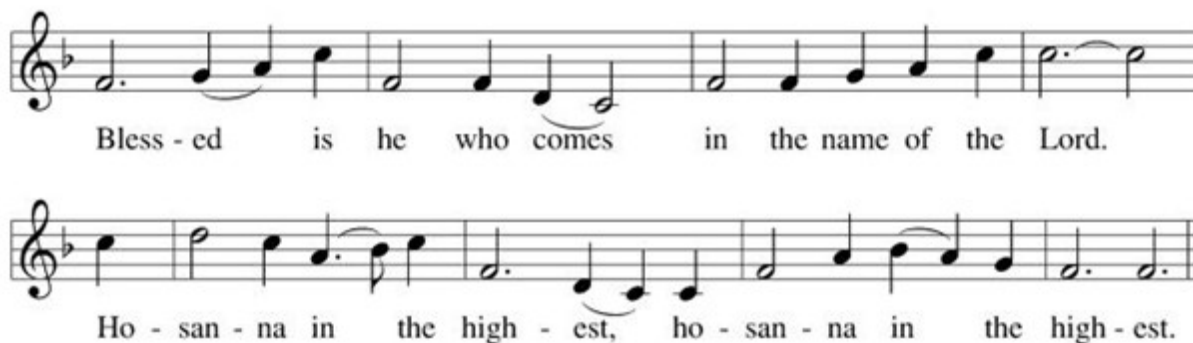
It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Pastor continues with the preface to the eucharistic prayer, which leads us to Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus), an ancient hymn comprised of the angelic chorus of Isaiah 6, the praise of Psalm 118:26, and the crowd's Palm Sunday shouts of Matthew 21:9.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Music: LAND OF REST, American folk tune
Text: "Sanctus," tr. English Language Liturgical Consultation



Thanksgiving at the Table

Pastor continues with the eucharistic prayer, which concludes with the Lord's Prayer.

Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat;
this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This cup
is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,**

thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.
Thanks be to God.

The assembly may be seated.

All are welcome to the communion feast, for our Lord is host and gives himself to all who desire to receive.

Please come up to the communion rails, either kneel or stand as you are able.

Those not receiving Holy Communion are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing or remain in their seats in prayer. While we share this festive meal, we sing of our Savior's invitation, grace, and promise. Come, let us eat and drink at the table of the Lord.



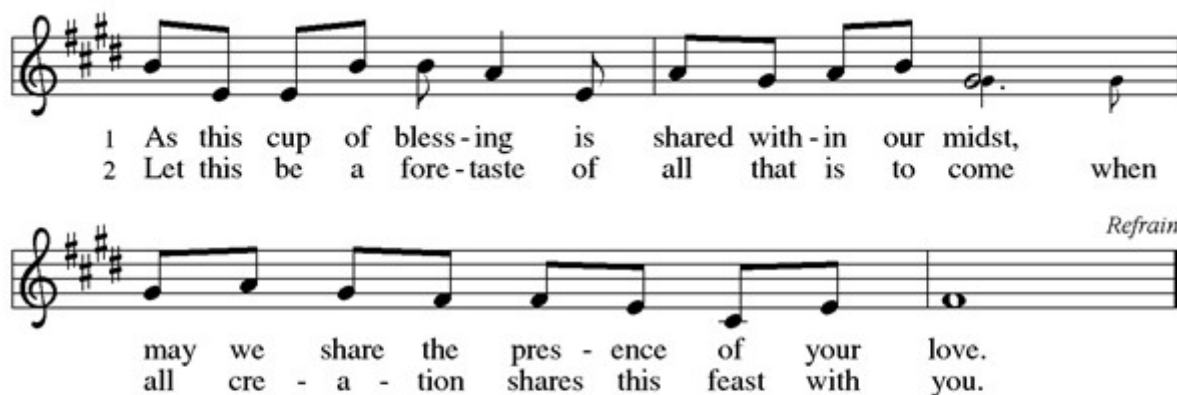
Music During Communion: *As the Grains of Wheat*

ELW 465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the melody for the first line of the lyrics. The second and third staves continue the melody for the subsequent lines. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.



1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
 2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
 all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen
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Sharing the meal

Special Music: *O Bread of Life From Heaven*

German Hymn



Prayer after Communion

We thank you, God of heaven and earth,
 that you fill our deepest need
 with the very gift of Jesus Christ,
 broken and poured out for us.
 Pour us out into a broken world.
 Channel our common life
 toward the common good,
 following the way our Savior leads us
 now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

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



Blessing

The Author of life,
 the Word of salvation,
 the Breath of new birth,
 ✝ one God, bless you
 and equip you for living and serving,
 today and every day. **Amen.**



Sending Hymn: How Great Thou Art

ELW 856



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cia-ma-tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-



thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
 gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
 bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
 ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine
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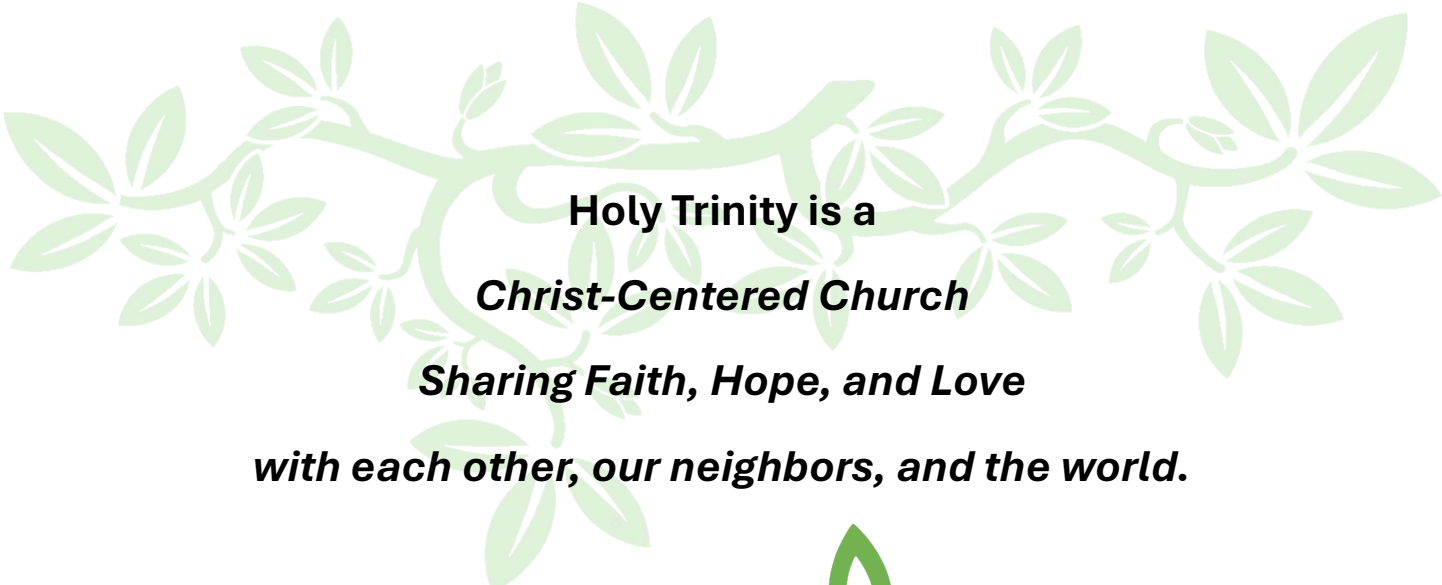
Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Fugue, C Major*

Abraham Kerckhoven



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Christ-Centered Church**

Sharing Faith, Hope, and Love

with each other, our neighbors, and the world.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



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