



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
**Babbtown (Meta 8 am)**  
**Schubert (Jefferson City 10 am)**

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**HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY**  
 June 15, 2025

**Order of Worship:** Printed below  
 (with P for Pastor, C for Congregation)  
 or

found on page 15 in The Lutheran Hymnal TLH

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*SERVICE NOTE: Today is Holy Trinity Sunday, a day on which we are refreshed in the Trinitarian faith that we profess. We use an abbreviated reading of the ancient Creed today, called the Athanasian Creed.*

*Luther called this Creed, with its emphasis on the doctrine of the Trinity, the grandest production of the church since apostolic times. Its origin is obscure. It probably originated in North Africa later in the fifth century,*

*The Creed emphasizes faith in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

*God is three persons, yet one God, and Jesus is true God himself become human, but still Divine. This is what makes one a true Christian.*

*This Creed in its entire form rejects any false teaching about Jesus and the Biblical picture of God as Trinity, Three in One.*

**The Ringing Of The Bell**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn:** TLH #246 "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**  
**Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;**  
**Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!**  
**God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,**  
**Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;**  
**Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,**  
**Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,**  
**Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,**  
**Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,**  
**Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**  
**All Thy Works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea,**  
**Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!**  
**God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity! Amen.**

**Invocation:** p. 15 [Responses Sung]

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.  
Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: **Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

**Confession of Sins** p. 16

ALL: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**Absolution** p. 16

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by 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: *[Sung]* **Amen.**

**Introit – Psalm 8** *(read responsively)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, and undivided Unity!

C: **We will give glory to Him, because He has shown His mercy to us.**

P: O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Your Name in all the earth!

C: **You have set Your glory above the heavens! Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength,**

P: Because of Your enemies, You silence the enemy and the avenger.

C: **When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, What is man that You are mindful of him?**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity and the undivided Unity!

C: **We will give glory to Him, because He has shown His mercy to us.**

**Gloria Patri:** p.16 *[Sung]*

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**The Kyrie:** p.17 *[Sung]*

C: **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**The Gloria in Excelsis:** p. 17-19 *[Sung]*

C: **Glory be to God on high; And on earth peace, good will toward men.**

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,**

**We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

**O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.**

**Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Salutation and Response:** p.19

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**

**Prayer of the Day** *(Spoken together)*

**Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of the faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in the faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, now and forever.**

**Response:** *[Sung]* **Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading**

*Deuteronomy 4:32-40*

"For ask now of the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and ask from one end of heaven to the other, whether such a great thing as this has ever happened or was ever heard of. Did any people ever hear the voice of a god speaking out of the midst of the fire, as you have heard, and still live? Or has any god ever attempted to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs, by wonders, and by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and by great deeds of terror, all of which the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? To you it was shown, that you might know that the Lord is God; there is no other besides him. Out of heaven he let you hear his voice, that he might discipline you. And on earth he let you see his great fire, and you heard his words out of the midst of the fire. And because he loved your fathers and chose their offspring after them and brought you out of Egypt with his own presence, by his great power, driving out before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in, to give you their land for an inheritance, as it is this day, know therefore today, and lay it to your heart, that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other. Therefore you shall keep his statutes and his commandments, which I command you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong your days in the land that the Lord your God is giving you for all time."

**Epistle Reading**

*Romans 11:33-36*

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counsellor? Or who has given something to Him, and God will be in his debt? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen.

**The Gradual** *(The congregation responds with "Halleluiahs!")*

P: BLESSED are You, O Lord, Who beholds the deep: and Who lives between the cherubim. Blessed are You, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven: and greatly to be praised, and glorified, and highly exalted forever. Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers: and greatly to be praised and glorified forever. Hallelujah!

*As the Gospel reading is announced, the congregation sings...* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord!**

**The Holy Gospel**

*John 8:48-59*

The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." 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.' Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" 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.' 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. Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

*The Gospel ended, the congregation sings...` **Praise be to Thee, O Christ!***

**Athanasian Creed** (shortened form, spoken responsively)

P: Whoever wants to be saved must, above all, hold the true Christian faith. Now this is the true faith, that we worship one God in three persons and three persons in one God without confusing the persons nor separating the divine being.

**C: For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is still another; but there is one God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, all equal in glory and eternal in majesty.**

P: It is necessary that one also believe faithfully that our Lord Jesus Christ became human. This is the true faith, that we believe and confess, that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is both God and human, but is not two Christ's but one, both divine and human in one person.

**C: God, begotten before all worlds from the being of the Father, and human, born in the world from the being of his mother, perfect God and perfect human, with a rational soul and a human body.**

P: For just as soul and body are one in a human being, so God and human are one in Christ,

**C: who suffered for our salvation, descended to the dead, rose from the dead on the third day, ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty and will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Jesus Christ, the Son, sits at the right hand of God the Father, and together with the Holy Spirit works together,

**C: One God in three persons, to work faith in us to believe that we will rise again and live with him forever. This is the one true faith.**

**Sermon Hymn:** TLH #245 "God Loved the World So That He Gave"

**God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save  
That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.**

**Christ Jesus is the Ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death;  
All that confide in Him alone Are built on this chief Cornerstone.**

**God would not have the sinner die, His Son with saving grace is nigh,  
His Spirit in the Word doth teach How man the blessed goal may reach.**

**Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which thou hast done,  
And, justified by Jesus' blood, Thy Baptism grants the highest good.**

**If thou be sick, if death draw near, This truth thy troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.**

△ **Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To Thee, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally! Amen.**

**Sermon:** "God's Wonderful Mystery" – Deuteronomy 4:39-40

Introduction – There are plenty of things that are "mysteries"

1. Are we satisfied with allowing God to be a mystery?
  - a. We are content with God when things are OK
  - b. God is God even if we don't understand Him
  - c. Mystery or not, God wants us to acknowledge Him
2. When we are young, much of life is a mystery
  - a. We simply accept things as children
  - b. We grow up and question things not understood
  - c. Often we don't even acknowledge that God is there
3. It is not a mystery what God has done
  - a. He created us and wants us to have life
  - b. He sent Jesus, our God and Lord, to live and die
  - c. Together with the Spirit, we are given life and love

Conclusion – What a wonderful mystery that God loves us so much - the Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

*(The Offerings are brought forward. Offering plates are at the entrances.)*

**Offertory p. 22 [Sung]**

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

**Rite of Confirmation (Schubert)**

**Prayers**

**THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*[We invite those who are communicant members of sister Lutheran Congregations, in the fellowship of LC-MS, and are repentant, to commune with us.]*

**The Preface: p. 24 [Responses Sung]**

**P: The Lord be with you.**

**C: And with thy spirit.**

**P: Lift up your hearts.**

**C: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.**

**C: It is meet and right so to do.**

**P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God ... 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: p. 26 [Sung]**

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He,  
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna,  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**The Lord's Prayer: p. 27**

**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;**

**[Sung] For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**The Words of Institution:**

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 Pax Domini: p. 27**

**P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.**

**C: [Sung] A - - - men.**

**The Agnus Dei:** p. 28 *[Sung]*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace.

A - - - men.

## **The Distribution**

**Distribution Hymns:** TLH #244 "Glory Be to God the Father"

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One!  
Glory, glory, While eternal ages run!

Glory be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each spot and stain;  
Glory be to Him who bought us, Made us kings with Him to reign!  
Glory, glory, To the Lamb that once was slain!

Glory to the King of angels, Glory to the Church's King,  
Glory to the King of nations; Heav'n and earth, your praises bring!  
Glory, glory, To the King of Glory sing!

Glory, blessing, praise eternal! Thus the choir of angels sings;  
Honor, riches, pow'r, dominion! Thus its praise creation brings.  
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings! Amen.

TLH #250 "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

Holy God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.  
All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heav'n above adore Thee.  
Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.

Hark! the glad celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising;  
Cherubim and seraphim, In unceasing chorus praising,  
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy, Lord!

Lo, th'apostles' holy train Join Thy sacred name to hallow;  
Prophets swell the glad refrain, And the white-robed martyrs follow,  
And from morn to set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.

△ Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name Thee,  
Though in essence only one, Undivided God we claim Thee  
And, adoring, bend the knee While we own the mystery. Amen.

**The Nunc Dimittus:** p. 29 *[Sung]*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,  
For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation:  
which Thou hast prepared before the Face of all people,  
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**The Thanksgiving:** p. 30

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: *[Sung]* And His mercy endureth forever.

### **The Thanksgiving Prayer: pp, 30-31**

P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith towards You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

C: *[Sung]* **A- - - - men.**

### **The Benedicamus: p. 31**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: *[Sung]* **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Benediction: p. 31**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: *[Sung]* **Amen, Amen, Amen!**

### **Closing Hymn: TLH #644 "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" (Doxology)**

△ **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **Silent Prayer**

### **Announcements**

## ***Have A Blessed Week!***

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**Cover pic artwork:** Allan Forbis

**The Lutheran Hymnal:** St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn #246: Scripture: Revelation 4:8; Holy, Holy, Holy! ; Author: Reginald Heber (1827); Tune: Nicaea; Composer: John B. Dykes (1861).

Hymn #245: Scripture: John 3:16; Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt; God Loved The World So That He Gave; Author unknown: (1791, cento); Translator: August Crull († 1923, alt.); Tune: St. Crispin; Composer: George J. Elvey (1862).

Hymn # 244: Scripture: Revelation 19:1; Glory Be To God The Father; Author: Horatius Bonar (1866); Tune: Worcester; Composer: Walter G. Whinfield († 1919).

Hymn #250: Scripture: Luke 2:14; Grosser Gott, wir loben dich; Holy God, We Praise Thy Name; Author unknown based on the Te Deum; Translator: Clarence A. Walworth (1853, alt.); Tune: Grosser Gott; Source: "Allgemeines Gesangbuch," Vienna, 1775.

Hymn #644: Psalm 150:1; Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow' Author: Thomas Ken (1695); Tune: Old Hundreth; Source: Geneven Psalter," 1551.

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