

Holy Trinity Sunday

May 26, 2024 A.D.

10:30 A.M.



GRACE

Evangelical Lutheran Church



Christ-Centered

Mission-Driven

Traditionally-Grounded

Congregationally-Focused

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Holy Trinity Sunday



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude..... Please Observe Silence For Meditation

- * Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness page 56

PRAISE

- * Opening Hymn **Holy, Holy, Holy** **LBW 165**
- * The Kyrie page 57
- * The Hymn of Praise..... *This is the Feast*..... Page 60
- * The Salutation and Prayer of the Day..... page 62

EQUIP

The First Lesson..... Isaiah 6:1-8

L: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm 29 Bulletin pg. 4

The Second Lesson Acts 2:14a, 22-36

L: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

- * The Holy Gospel..... John 3:1-17
- Children's Sermon Pastor East
- The Message..... "Having Relationship with the Three Persons of God" Pastor East
- Hymn of the Day..... **Breathe on Me, Breath of God** **TCH 393**
- * The Athanasian Creed Litany..... **INSERT**
- * The Prayers and the Peace..... page 65

GIVE

The Offering The People of God

- * The Offertory and Prayer pages 66, 67

RECEIVE

- * The Great Thanksgiving..... page 68
- * The Eucharistic Prayer & The Lord's Prayer pages 69, 71
- * **The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament**
- * Post-Communion Canticle..... *Thank the Lord*..... page 72
- * Post-Communion Prayer
- * The Benediction

SEND

- * The Sending Hymn **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise** **LBW 526**

- * The Dismissal: P: Go in peace. Be the Church! **All: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

* = Stand Hymnals in Pew Rack: LBW = Green WOV = Blue TCH = Burgundy

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP at Grace Church this morning as we gather to worship the Father, + Son and Holy Spirit in truth. As you entered the sanctuary today, you received this bulletin containing the order for worship and announcements. Please also notice the Prayer List where you will find a listing of all the known prayer concerns. You are invited to use this as a guide for your personal prayers throughout the coming week. If you need information about our congregation or if you'd like to update your information, make sure to fill out the yellow Worship Today Form and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. If you have a prayer concern, indicate that on your Worship Today Form at the bottom or on the reverse side. If you are seeking a Church Home or would like more information about Grace, please contact the Church Office this week.

THIS WEEK'S THEME: God's Truth of scripture presents God as a Triune being: Father, Son and Holy Spirit – three persons, and at the same time, one God. It is essential for us as believers to acknowledge and believe in this mystery. In addition, it is helpful to consider how we have faith in each person of the Trinity, and how we are in relationship with each.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 6:1-8

In 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 I am! Send me."

PSALM 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,

ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁸**The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.**

⁹And in the temple of the LORD
all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as King forevermore.**

¹¹The LORD shall give strength to his people;
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

SECOND LESSON: 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. 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.”

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

Now 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.

Next Sunday's Readings: Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Psalm 81:1-10; 2 Corinthians 4:5-12; Mark 2:23 - 3:6. Readings are based on the recommended use of the English Standard Version (ESV) by the North American Lutheran Church and Lectionary of Sola Publishing. Used by Permission.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Hazel Medlin
by Todd Childers.

GRACE PRAYER LIST

In the Grace Church Family: Jeffry Bivens, Rick & Cindy Bivens, Glenda Childers, Pat Dietz, Sheila Drum, Allen and Kay Hatchett, Irene Heavner, Lorene Heavner, Rachel Heavner, Larry & Brenda Jarrett, Martha Johnson, Faye Lane, Phil Leatherman, Betty Matheson, Jane Moss, Christine Norman, Tricia and Dan Panek, Debi Pisko, Michael Pisko, Stephen Pisko, Helen Smith, Ethan Starnes, Richard & Sandi Tallant, Libby Travis, Shirley Warlick, Carolyn & Scott Whisnant.

Nursing Home: Juanita Haas (Trinity Village), Ted Whisnant (Trinity Village),

Friends and Relatives in our Prayers: Pray for Peace in Israel and the World, New Covenant Lutheran Mission Church, Bobby Aderholdt, Jimmy Aderholdt, LeAnn Buckwell, Caleb Bumgarner & Family, Travis Bumgardner, Becky Cartee, Jessica Cassels & Family, Dennis & Evelyn Childers, Harold Crouse, Dennis D’Alessio, Julie Foster, Guy Franzen, Wendy Hannah, Larry Heavner, J.C., Michele Kirkland, Peggy Klutz, Lily Rose, Sgt. Ryan McMullen and shift, Greg Masters, Chris Medlin, Jenny Mulcahy, Katie Patton, Angela Sanford, Melinda Smith, Scott Speagle, Zachary Speagle and Amber, Cozel Spencer, Shanie Spencer, Steven, Sue, Monica Thomas, United States of America; Faye White, and especially the families of those who have given their lives in the service of our country and those who continue to protect our freedoms and for all members of our Armed Forces.

(Names are left on the prayer list for 30 days unless the office is notified otherwise.)

PLEASE WELCOME PASTOR BRACK EAST who is leading worship this morning.

ASHURE (FORMERLY ECCCM) food ask for the month of June is cereal. Your donations make a real difference right here in Catawba County! **THANK YOU** to the disciples at Grace for the 121 pounds of food that were donated and delivered to Ashure on May 8, 2024. Thank you for helping to keep the food pantry stocked!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! **Vacation Bible School** will be held on Sunday, June 9th – Thursday, June 13th at Plateau United Methodist Church from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Set-up will be at Plateau on June 7th from 5:30 pm – 7:00 p.m. The theme this year is “Campfire Light.” There will be classes and activities for every age. Please contact Stormy Shull if you are available to volunteer.

TOMORROW IS MEMORIAL DAY! Let us take a moment to honor the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. Military and protecting our freedom!

NALC NEWS – MAY ISSUE – There are copies available in the Narthex.

JUNE NEWSLETTERS are available in the Narthex. Please be sure to get your copy. You can help distribute them by taking one to a friend or relative. Those not picked up will be mailed next week.

*“The LORD shall give strength to his people;
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.”*
Psalm 29:11

HAPPY MAY/JUNE BIRTHDAY TO:

27 – Jane Robertson
2 – Helen Smith

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Today:

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

9:30A – Sunday School

10:30A - Worship Celebration

Monday:

Memorial Day Holiday (church office closed)

Next Sunday:

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:30A – Sunday School

10:30A – Worship Celebration

The Ministers.....The People of Grace Lutheran Church
Pastor
Organist..... Sandi Tallant
Administrative Assistant Pam Tallent
Leadership Board President Tim Eckard
Youth Leader Stormy Shull
Lector Alan Shull
Communion Assistants..... Alan and Stormy Shull
Ushers Jack Wilfong and James Hall
Altar Preparation..... Herb and Libby Travis
Offering Tabulators Todd Childers and Alan Shull
Custodian Chris Abernethy



Table Talk II

By Rev. Timothy J. Swenson • ILT Dean of Chapel

Trinity Sunday | May 26, 2024



JOHN 3:1-15 (16-17)

“No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.” (Vs. 3:13)

In his polemics, Luther delighted in ridiculing the church as it was represented by the papal party. Those folks practiced the way of the pilgrim—the “via”—along which the pilgrim traveled as “viator.” The viator progressed along the way through spiritual exercises, pious practices, and works of charity. All accomplished toward the end of obtaining the “beatific vision”—that is, a glimpse of God majestically ensconced in heaven. In his ridicule, Luther depicted this church of the papal party as a well-dressed woman hanging in the sky with her head stuck in heaven while her legs and nether regions flopped and flailed around beneath her skirts—not a very attractive depiction. The papal party’s church tried, by their own reason and strength to walk the way of the pilgrim... to travel the via as a viator... to obtain the beatific vision as a result of its work. Jesus’ words to Nicodemus deny this possibility to the church: “No one has ascended into heaven...” (vs. 13). Only the Son of Man who came down from heaven to be our Savior... our salvation... and our Lord... only Jesus Christ ascends into heaven. The church, the body of Christ, remains fully in this creation, feet planted firmly on the ground, not flopping and flailing like the woman of Luther’s ridicule.

To be sure, we do indeed have a heavenly presence... a life beyond the eschaton... and we have that life now by faith. The Apostle Paul assures us, “You have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears in glory then your life too will appear in glory” (Col. 3:3-4). That life of yours hidden away in God on the other side of the eschaton is established at your baptism. You have no way to walk... no pious practices to accomplish... no works of charity to perform... nothing of your own reason or strength will get you there. Only being born anew in baptism... only being born of water and the Word through which the Holy Spirit works... only by such birth is your eternal life on the other side of the eschaton realized and your mortal life in this creation established.

Table Talk: Discuss the import of having an eternal life already realized versus the future possibility of having one.

Pray: Heavenly Father, establish both my eternal life and my life in this world. Amen



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