# **Finding Your Way Home**

June 4, 2023



**Trinity Sunday** 

**WELCOME, GUESTS!!!** We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

**THEME FOR TODAY'S FOCUS** - We believe in the Triune God. "Whoever wishes to be saved must, above all else, hold to the true Christian faith. Whoever does not keep this faith pure in all points will certainly perish forever" (Athanasian Creed). The third and longest of the ecumenical creeds underscores the importance of this Sunday's message. The doctrine of the Trinity is not a logical exercise or a dogmatic excursion. It's central to our salvation. The Triune God is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Lose this doctrine, and as the Creed says, you lose it all. A Jesus who is less than God is also less than Savior.

MORNING PRAYER - Almighty God and Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, filling and renewing all creation by your eternal Spirit, and manifesting your saving grace through our Lord Jesus Christ: in mercy cleanse our hearts and lips that, free from doubt and fear, we may ever worship you, one true immortal God, with your Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

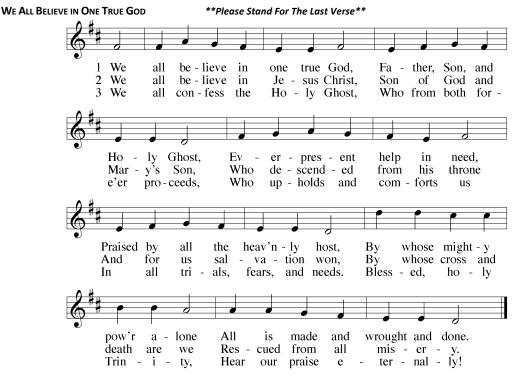
ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: SERVICE OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT— CW, p.26











Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: WIR GLAUBEN ALL AN EINEN GOTT (87 77 77) Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693, alt.

The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also, with you.

# **CONFESSION OF SINS**

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY Kyrie

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



2



**PRAYER OF THE DAY** 

Let us pray.

Almighty God and Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, filling and renewing all creation by your eternal Spirit, and manifesting your saving grace through our Lord Jesus Christ: in mercy cleanse our hearts and lips that, free from doubt and fear, we may ever worship you, one true immortal God, with your Son and the Holy Spirit.



\*\*Please Be Seated\*\*

FIRST LESSON: GENESIS 1: 1 – 2: 3

Although the Bible ascribes certain works to each person (the Father as Creator, the Son as Redeemer, the Holy Spirit as Sanctifier), Augustine's rule still stands the external acts of the Godhead are shared. The Father created, the Son created, the Spirit created. The only acts not shared by the persons are paternity, filiation, and procession. So when we read the account of creation here, we see all three persons of the Godhead at work.

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was undeveloped and empty. Darkness covered the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good. He separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." There was evening and there was morning—the first day.

God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters, and let it separate the water from the water." God made the expanse, and he separated the water that was below the expanse from the water that was above the expanse, and it was so. God called the expanse "sky." There was evening and there was morning—the second day.

God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together to one place, and let the dry land appear," and it was so. The waters under the sky gathered to their own places, and the dry land appeared. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathering places of the waters he called "seas." God saw that it was good. God said, "Let the earth produce plants—vegetation that produces seed, and trees that bear fruit with its seed in it—each according to its own kind on the earth," and it was so. The earth brought forth plants, vegetation that produces seed according to its own kind, and trees that bear fruit with its seed in it, each according to its own kind, and God saw that it was good. There was evening and there was morning—the third day. God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to divide the day from the night, and let them serve as markers to indicate seasons, days, and years. Let them serve as lights in the expanse of the sky to give light to the earth," and it was so. God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He also made the stars. God set these lights in place in the expanse of the sky to provide light for the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. There was evening and there was morning—the fourth day.

God said, "Let the waters swarm with living creatures, and let birds and other winged creatures fly above the earth in the open expanse of the sky." God created the large sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their own kind, and every winged bird according to its own kind. God saw that it was good. God blessed them when he said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the waters of the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." There was evening and there was morning—the fifth day. God said, "Let the earth produce living creatures according to their own kind, livestock, creeping things, and wild animals according to their own kind," and it was so. God made the wild animals according to their own kind, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its own kind. God saw that it was good.

God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that crawls on the earth."

God created the man in his own image. In the image of God he created him. Male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." God said, "Look, I have given you every plant that produces seed on the face of the whole earth, and every tree that bears fruit that produces seed. It will be your food. To every animal of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. There was evening and there was morning—the sixth day.

The heavens and the earth were finished, along with everything in them. On the seventh day God had finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had been doing. God blessed the seventh day and set it apart as holy, because on it he rested from all his work of creation that he had done.



**PSALM 150** 

5



#### Refrain

Praise God in his sanctuary;\*
praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his acts of power;\*
praise him for his surpassing greatness.

Refrain

Praise him with the sounding of the <u>trum</u>pet,\*

praise him with the <u>harp</u> and lyre,

praise him with tambourine and <u>dancing</u>,\*

praise him with <u>strings</u> and flute,

praise him with the clash of <u>cym</u>bals,\*

praise him with resounding <u>cym</u>bals.

Refrain

Let everything that has breath <u>praise</u> the LORD.\*

Praise the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son\*
and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it,
as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,\*
is now, and will be forever. Amen. Refrain

#### SECOND LESSON

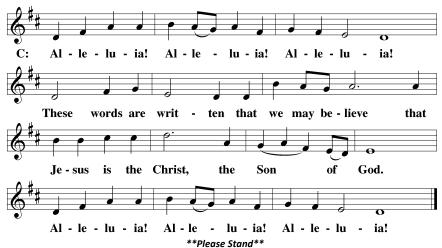
### 2 CORINTHIANS 13: 11 - 14

The grace, the love, the fellowship. That is the story of the Trinity in the lives of believers. Grace is that which we don't deserve; God's love is what drove it; our fellowship with God and with each other is its result.

Finally, brothers, rejoice. Set things in order. Be encouraged. Agree with one another. Be at peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

# **VERSE OF THE DAY**

Alleluia. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory. Alleluia. (Isaiah 6:3b)



GOSPEL MATTHEW 28: 16 – 20

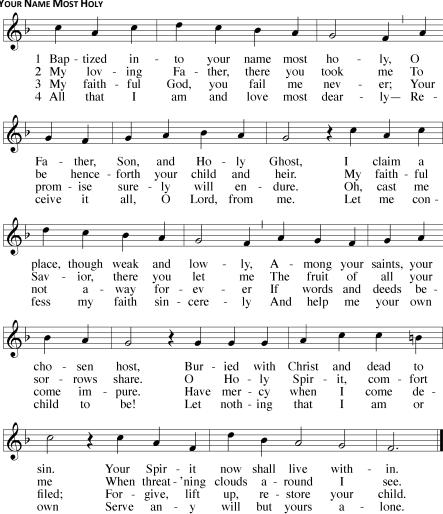
On a mountain in Galilee they met a man who had died, but lived again. Some of his disciples doubted, but the ones that believed his word bent the knee and worshipped this man as God. If what this man said was true, then God had died for them; God had risen for them; and now, God himself was calling them to a ministry for all nations.

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some hesitated because they were uncertain. Jesus approached and spoke to them saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and gather disciples from all nations by baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and by teaching them to keep all the instructions I have given you. And surely I am with you always until the end of the age."



HYMN OF THE DAY: #294

BAPTIZED INTO YOUR NAME MOST HOLY



Text: Johann J. Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE (KÖNIG) (98 98 88) Johann B. König, 1691–1758.

SERMON: SERMON TEXT Go and Gather! MATTHEW 28: 16 - 20

\*\*Please Stand\*\*

## **ATHANASIAN CREED**

Whoever wishes to be saved must, above all else, hold to the true Christian faith.

Whoever does not keep this faith pure in all points will certainly perish forever.

Now this is the true Christian faith: We worship one God in three persons and three persons in one God.

## Without mixing the persons or dividing the divine being.

For each person—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—is distinct, but the deity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one, equal in glory and coeternal in majesty.

What the Father is, so is the Son, and so is the Holy Spirit.

The Father is uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated; the Father is infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite; the Father is eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal;

Yet they are not three who are eternal, but there is one who is eternal, just as they are not three who are uncreated, nor three who are infinite, but there is one who is uncreated and one who is infinite.

In the same way the Father is almighty, the Son is almighty, the Holy Spirit is almighty; yet they are not three who are almighty, but there is one who is almighty.

So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God; yet they are not three Gods, but one God.

So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord; yet they are not three Lords, but one Lord. For just as Christian truth compels us to confess each person individually to be God and Lord,

So the true Christian faith forbids us to speak of three Gods or three Lords.

The Father is neither made nor created nor begotten of anyone. The Son is neither made nor created, but is begotten of the Father alone. The Holy Spirit is neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeds from the Father and the Son.

So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.

And within this Trinity none comes before or after; none is greater or inferior, but all three persons are coequal and coeternal, so that in every way, as stated before, all three persons are to be worshiped as one God and one God worshiped as three persons.

Whoever wishes to be saved must have this conviction of the Trinity.

It is furthermore necessary for eternal salvation truly to believe that our Lord Jesus Christ also took on human flesh. Now this is the true Christian faith:

We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.

He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh, equal to the Father as to his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity;

And though he is both God and man, Christ is not two persons but one, one, not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God;

One, indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person; for just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being, so God and man are one Christ.

He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, and from there will come to judge the living and the dead.

At his coming all people will rise with their own bodies to answer for their personal deeds. Those who have done good will enter eternal life, but those who have done evil will go into eternal fire. This is the true Christian faith.

## Whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved. Amen.

\*\*Please Be Seated\*\*

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver." This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

## We praise you for every grace and blessing.

Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

## Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.

We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

# Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.

Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

# Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.

Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

# Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.

Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

## Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN #481

O GOD, YOUR HAND THE HEAVENS MADE



Text: Frank L. Cross, b. 1904, alt. © 1961. Renewed 1989 by The Hymn Society

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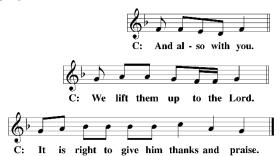
Tune: KINGSFOLD (CM D) English folk tune, 19th century, adapt.

\*\*Please Stand\*\*

# THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

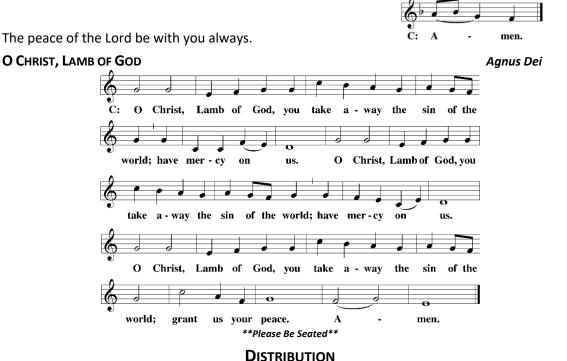
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY SANCTUS



# **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.





## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## **BLESSING**

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

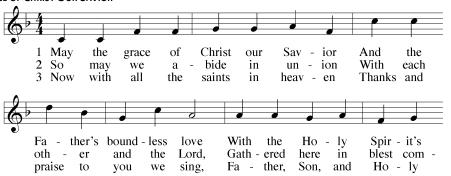
The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



### **CLOSING HYMN:**

#326

MAY THE GRACE OF CHRIST OUR SAVIOR





Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, st. 1-2, alt.; Carroll T. Andrews, b. 1918, st. 3, alt.

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Tune: STUTTGART (87 87) Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716, alt.

#### What We believe:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

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Refrain Tune: Walter Pelz. From Seasonal Psalms. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LMSG Ammo Can** – This is your last opportunity to support Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) until Veterans Day. The LMSG ammo can on the center table at the church entrance. All donations will be sent to the LMSG to assist active duty, reservists, national guard, veterans, retirees, and their dependents needing assistance. These donations also go to support the annual PTSD retreats.

Worship Committee – Have you been thinking, "I wish I had a way to give a little bit of time to help at church?" Well, we need you! Those interested in assisting with our service. We need greeters, ushers, people on the music and video, or who can bring good ideas to help us with our Worship Service. With enough people, we can rotate a schedule so it's not only one person all the time. So please meet with Gene Baldwin after today's service.

Church exercise and fellowship – So, are you needing just to get out and go for a walk? Perhaps you would like to make some new friends? Pastor is conducting Friday morning strolls in various neighborhoods; you can walk as far or as little as you like. Please dress accordingly, bring some water, and meet at the church at 10 am Friday for a short devotion and a walk. (Pastor Emmons might ask you to carry his clipboard as he knocks on doors, or you could get to hold his fliers.)

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** – You are invited to join us for Sunday Morning Bible Study; reading is optional; come and go as you like. We are looking at the Christian Church after Jesus ascended into heaven. However, we always have time for other questions if you have a question about something else.

**Midweek Bible Study** – We will resume Bible Study Tuesday, May 30, at 6 pm at the Pastor's home to continue our study of Romans. Please join us at 4384 SW 36<sup>th</sup> St, Redmond (in the Triple Ridge edition across from Ridgeview High School) or on Zoom.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057 Password: GraceOT

**Synod Convention** – Pastor Emmons will be leaving for the convention June 12 - 22. Our Elder Gene Baldwin will also be joining him, so while he is gone, if you have an emergency, you can still reach Pastor Emmons at 541-699-7643, or should you need an emergency visitation, contact Clark Pederson at 541-891-8975.

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