St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, June 7, 2020

The Holy Trinity

**Introduction to the day**

*Though the word* trinity *is not found in the scriptures, today’s second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.*

**Prelude**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: In the name of the Father,

and of the ☩ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.** **Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Song*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* (ELW 413)**

1 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!

2 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.

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

4 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!

**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**

P: Let us pray

**C:** **Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.** **Amen.**

**First Reading:** **Genesis 1:1--2:4a**

L: A reading from Genesis.

*At the beginning of time, God the Creator, God the powerful Word, and God the life-giving Spirit form the earth and all its inhabitants. God sees that all this created work is good and then rests on the seventh day.*

1In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. 3Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. 4And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
  6And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” 7So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. 8God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.
  9And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. 10God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. 11Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. 12The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. 13And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.
  14And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, 15and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. 16God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. 17God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, 18to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.
  20And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” 21So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. 22God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” 23And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.
  24And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. 25God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.
  26Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”
 27So God created humankind in his image,
  in the image of God he created them;
  male and female he created them.
28God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” 29God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. 30And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. 31God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.
 2:1Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. 2And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. 3So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.
  4aThese are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 8 read responsively**

 1O Lord our Lord,
  how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
 2**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;**
  **you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**
 3When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
  the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
 4**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,**
  **human beings that you should care for them?**
 5Yet you have made them little less than divine;
  with glory and honor you crown them.
 6**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;**
  **you have put all things under their feet:**
 7all flocks and cattle,
  even the wild beasts of the field,
 8**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,**
  **and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**
 9O Lord our Lord,
  how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

L: A reading from 2 Corinthians.

*Paul closes a challenging letter to the Corinthians with an appeal to Christian fellowship grounded in the triune harmony of Christ’s grace, God’s love, and the Spirit’s partnership.*

[Paul writes:] 11Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. 12Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.
  13The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20**

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them to baptize and teach all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

16Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

***Silence for meditation***

**Affirmation of Baptism - Max Dincher**

**Presentation**

*Those making affirmation may gather with the ministers at the font.*

*They may be joined by others from the assembly.*

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly with these or similar words.*

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Max Dincher, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of his baptism.

*Those making affirmation are presented by a sponsor or another representative of the congregation:*

I present Max, who desiresto make public affirmation of his baptism.

*The presiding minister may continue with prayer.*

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this brother,

whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called him to yourself,

Enlightened him with the gifts of your Spirit,

and nourished him in the community of faith.

Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism,

and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

**Profession of Faith**

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism. The assembly may stand and join in the responses.*

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Response:*

I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Response:*

I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response:*

I renounce them.

*The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.*

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

**Affirmation of Baptism**

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.*

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God’s faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Max responds:*

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

P: People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God’s blessing.*

Father in heaven, for Jesus’ sake, stir up in Max the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his *f*aith, guide his life, empower him in his serving, give him patience in suffering, and bring him to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

*Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.*

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

**C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God**

**and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

***Borning Cry* (ELW 732)**

1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."

3 "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."

4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."

**Prayers of Intercession**

A: Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

A: God of community, you form us as your church. Guide our bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized in sharing your life-giving good news with all the world. Strengthen us to be bold in our proclamation. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: God of creation, you called everything into being. Sustain this world with your renewing care. Inspire us to see waterways, plant life, birds, fish, insects, and mammals and call them good. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: God of counsel, all authority belongs to you. Encourage the leaders of this and every land to seek peace, equality, and unity. Instill wisdom in advocates who work toward justice in often ignored communities. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: God of care, you created us in your image. Help us see your likeness in one another. Open our eyes to see and attend to all who face oppression and suffering. Console, heal, and nourish all in need (especially). Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: God of companionship, you accompany this body of faith. As the rhythms of summer begin, protect all who travel, renew all who will enjoy a time of sabbath, and shelter all who will not be protected from the sun’s heat. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: God of compassion, you comfort us in our grief with the promise of the resurrection. We give you thanks for the saints of all time and in our lives (especially). Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: 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.**

**Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**Congregation Meeting**

All confirmed members of St. John Lutheran are invited to attend a congregation meeting after our 9:00 am worship service on Sunday, June 21, for the purpose of approving the removal of the flat roof on the Sunday School building (which has leaked for years and is in bad shape), the construction of a pitched gabled shingle roof, and the financing of the project.

***Announcements***

Remember in prayer: Rowen Aldridge, Luke Antolick, Antolick family, Stella Barnard,

Donna Batschelet, Dan Berninger, Bob Braucht, Lisa Bressler, Wayne Brewer, Dick Dershem, Jeanie Fisher, Justin Gardner, Joann Hall, Dawn Hauser, Joyce Hudson, Mae Pearl Kuehl,

Ralph Lehman, Caleb Leone, David Mitchell, Bob and Phyllis Moriarity, Brian Moyer,

Kathy Neal, Rev. Donald and Ruth Nice, Elsie Parks, Shawn Rhinehart, Jack Rishel,

Joann Rishel, June Rozenberg, Jane Shaffer, Jillian Waldman, Frances Whitman and all of our shut-ins; the safety of our military troops around the world (Mark Baier, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Jenna White); Family Promise and the homeless in our counties. Bishop Eaton, our Presiding Bishop; and Bishop Collins, Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. For our Companion Synod in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany; our sister church, St. Wunibald in Heidenheim, Germany and for the New Love Center as it seeks to build a new food hub.

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and celebration of Max Dincher’s Confirmation given by Pastor and Karen Aucker.

The Lutheran Church **Women’s Prayer Chain** is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran.

Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons:

 Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597

 Sarah Davidson - 570-398-0659

 Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852

 Donna Martin – 570-321-5629

**“Grab-a-Tab” -** The youth of St. John would like to ask for donations of little tabs from beverage, soup and dessert cans. It doesn’t matter what color the tab, just grab them and deliver them to the church office. This project will benefit the Ronald McDonald House of Danville.“Grab-a-Tab” program allows people of all ages to join in the effort of providing a “Home-away-from-Home” to children with cancer or other serious illnesses and their families.

**Fellowship Time**

You are invited to join us on the third Wednesday of each month at the Restless Oaks for a time of fellowship. No reservations needed. Just show up at 11:30 a.m. in the back room and order from the menu. The next Fellowship Time is on Wednesday, June 17. The Restless Oaks has been closed. We will wait and see if they re-open.

**Graduation Recognition**

The members of St. John Lutheran will be recognizing our High School and College graduates at the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, June 21.

 High School College

Katie Brewer Shania Penton Sam Baier

Olivia Anne Eisner Jillian Waldman Alexandra Waldman

Max Ferguson Josephine Ely (master’s degree)

Brian McCloskey

Allison Moore

**Father’s Day**

The youth of St. John will honor the Men of St. John with a small gift on Sunday, June 21 in celebration of all mothers and women who influence our lives and help us grow.

**Giving Plus+**

St. John Lutheran is offering a new way to support the ministries of St. John. Now you can download the “Giving Plus+” app from your app store for your cell phone. This feature is also available on our web site. Enter your email, make up a password, and walk through the choices to give the church an electronic donation by check or debit/credit card. People were asking if they could give electronically by debit/credit card. Now this feature is available. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Aucker

**We also offer Give+ Text:**

Simply send a text message to 570-865-1101 with the amount you would like to contribute (example: 25). Within a few minutes, you’ll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt of your donation via email.

**Mail your offering envelope to St. John Lutheran Church, 229 S. Broad St. Jersey Shore, PA 17740**

**Thank you to the members of St. John for your continued support!**