

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG
MAY 31, 2021 HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy

arr. David S. Harris

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” *John 3:17*



GATHERING SONG vs. 1, 2

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!



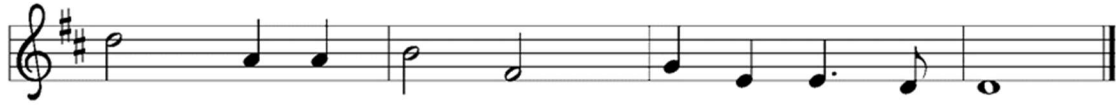
1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.
 Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

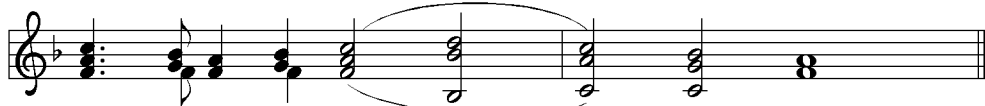
GREETING

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.**

KYRIE *sing in Latin vs. 1, 2, 3*



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
 2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
 1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . have mer - cy.
 2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
 Chris - te e - le - i - son.
 Lord, . . . have mer - cy.
 Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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: Isaiah 6:1-8

Sue Scheulen

A reading from Isaiah.

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

³And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

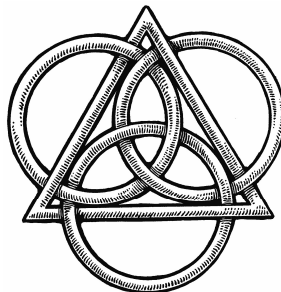
⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17

A reading from Romans.

¹²Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, de - scend on us, de -

scend on us. We gath - er here in Je - sus'

name. (hm)

**Additional verses ad lib:*
Come, Breath of heaven, . . .

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: BREATH OF HEAVEN, John L. Bell
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GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”

⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, 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 a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe,

how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just 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, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor JMe Lowden

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 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 INTERCESSION

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

We pray, O God, for your holy church around the world. Revitalize and renew us, that we may be reborn once again through the waters of baptism and the blowing wind of your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for your power revealed to us in creation; for cedar and oak trees, for rushing waters, for the echoes of thunder. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations and our leaders, that led by your Spirit, they work towards a world where all your children enjoy peace. We pray especially for (*nations currently experiencing war or turmoil may be named*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for healing for all those who suffer, especially Denny, Bill, Edwin, Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Rodney, Yvonne, Carroll, Ruby. Care for the emergency and first line responders everywhere, especially John, Stacy, Mike, Liz, Dixie, David, Evan, Bill, Hillary, Helen, Emily and James. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this worshipping community that the splendor of your majesty and the holiness of your mystery may be glorified through our worship and our relationships with one another. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. **Amen.**

OFFERING

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS


BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.


The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. Amen.

SENDING SONG v. 3, 4


Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!



3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.
Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Thomas Adams (1785-1858)



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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We give thanks to God that many of the pandemic concerns and restrictions of the past year are now being lifted. Although the virus continues to plague some areas of our country and world, we are thankful that, in the U.S., the number of cases of infection have decreased and the percentage of inoculated people is increasing. I am especially thankful to the Lord that members of Trinity have responded with care and concern for one another as they adapted to the COVID protocols by being open to new and creative ways to maintain our mission of “sharing Jesus’ love in worship, fellowship, hospitality and community by doing God’s work using our hands.”

Although churches have had some exemptions from the earlier, more stringent COVID protocols, Trinity Congregation Council has focused on concern for our members who may be particularly vulnerable to the viral infection. Throughout the pandemic Trinity leadership has made its decisions regarding our congregation’s actions based on information from both the scientific community and the recommendations of ELCA and Virginia Synod leadership.

The C.D.C. and Governor Northam have announced to the general public that masking, limits to in-person group size and physical distancing when inside buildings are no longer required for those who are fully vaccinated. Those who have not been fully vaccinated are encouraged to continue wearing masks and practicing distancing until they have received their vaccinations. Both the ELCA and ecumenical groups counsel against completely suspending congregational pandemic protocols, especially those involving masks, distancing while in worship and limits on community singing. With continued concern for the health and wellbeing of our entire membership and guests, Trinity Congregation Council recommends the following:

Masks: During in person worship and activities, we ask those who haven’t been fully vaccinated to continue to wear a mask. Those who have been fully vaccinated, may use their own discretion to wear or not wear a mask; however, we encourage continuing to mask as a sign of solidarity with and concern for our unvaccinated brothers and sisters.

Physical distancing in building: The ropes on the worship area pews will remain in place throughout the summer months. The Parish Hall is available for worship overflow, if needed. While inside, persons are encouraged to practice the physical distancing that provides personal comfort. We will respect the needs and desires of one another in this regard.

Greeting/hospitality protocols: The tracking done by our greeters on Sundays has been a helpful means to record attendance and welcome persons who are visiting with us; therefore, we will continue this process each Sunday. We’ve stopped taking temperatures when people enter, and we are gathering for refreshments after worship. If you are not feeling well before arriving at the church (fever, cough, etc.), please consider remaining home and using Zoom or Facebook Live, if possible.

Entry/Exit & building use: Pandemic restrictions on movement in the building, gathering in groups, or second floor usage are no longer in place. With appropriate permission, outside groups may use our facilities.

Additional worship information: We will continue to limit the number of hymns and the verses we sing as well as the sung liturgical parts of worship. Holy Communion will be held on the first Sunday of the month until further notice. Communion elements will be distributed at the front of the nave using wafers and pre-poured cups for the wine. Those distributing the elements will wear gloves. We’ll continue to place the bulletins on the pews before worship and have extras if needed.

If you have questions or concerns about any of the changes, please feel free to talk with me or with any member of the Congregation Council. It has been a difficult year; however, the Lord continues to walk with us bringing love, peace, and hope. Thanks be to God!

In Christ,
Pastor JMe

TRENDING @ TRINITY

Complete the survey! After two weeks of availability, the current response rate to the Hybrid/Digital Ministry survey is only 41%. The survey is meant to help the Congregation Council and Pastor in their planning for worship and life at Trinity in the coming weeks and months. That means your response is critical; we would like 100% participation. A link to the survey is in the weekly e-newsletter and hard copies are available this morning from the greeters. Completed hard copies can be returned to the greeters this morning or next week or dropped off at the office during the week.

Grief, Remembrance, Comfort and Hope: The Winchester Organ Guild is pleased to offer our virtual program, In Memory, a four-part online concert in memory of those who have died over the past year, in honor of all who have lost loved ones, and in appreciation of those willing to put themselves in harm's way to protect us. It will be posted on their website at least through June 15: <https://winchesterago.com>. On the home page, scroll down to see each of the four segments, with the program listed at the bottom. There is a play arrow on the opening slide of each video, or a link to watch it on YouTube.

The church office will be closed Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial Day.

Mark your calendar now. Following worship on Sunday, June 13, Trinity will have a "Pot Luck in the Parking Lot". Bring a dish or two to share. If you have a tent to provide shade from the sun, bring that along as well. What a great way to begin socializing again and show the community Trinity is up and running. Rain date June 27.

Parents if you have a child 7th grade or older that has not been confirmed and you would like them to be in a confirmation class, please contact Pastor JMe or the church office.

Trinity is joining with Stephens City United Methodist Church for **Wilderness Escape** Vacation Bible School this year. The VBS will run June 27-July 1, 6-8:15PM. **Parents:** If you have children age 4-12, go to the Stephens City UMC website to enroll your students. They are still looking for at least one more adult volunteer. If you are interested in helping, contact Jacquetta Owen jacquettaowen@gmail.com or speak to Pastor JMe.

Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 0840 5981 Passcode: 321080
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89308405981?pwd=TDY0SkxiUWgvNHpUZDBHdGk0aWRqZz09>

Dial +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

Facebook Live: you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account
<https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>

Call to Worship, First Sunday of the month 11AM Phone 1-971-224-6593 Code: 423612