

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

May 31 & June 3, 2026

As We Gather

Today Jesus speaks words which sound impossible: “If anyone keeps My word, he will never see death.” The Temple Authority could not understand how this man standing before them could claim such authority over death itself. Yet Jesus is not merely a teacher or prophet. He is the eternal and great “I AM.” The God who spoke to Moses from the burning bush, now standing in human flesh to save sinners. This message reminds us that when everything else fades away, only one thing truly matters: Jesus Christ crucified and risen for us.

✠ WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP ✠

Hymn All Who Believe and Are Baptized (LSB 601)

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences *Psalm 8:1; Genesis 1:3, 31*

P O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!
C **You have set Your glory above the heavens.**

P And God said, “Let there be light,”
C **and there was light.**

P And God saw everything that He had made,
C **and behold, it was very good.**

Confession and Absolution

P Let us come before God with our sins to acknowledge them before Him and in the presence of one another.

C **Heavenly Father, we confess that we have failed to be the people You have created us to be. We daily miss the mark of being very good, and we fail to be Your representatives in the care of Your good creation. With the early disciples, although we do believe, sometimes we doubt. Only by Your grace are we able to come before You and find peace and joy. Remind us of Your great love and mercy for us.**

P Jesus has joyful work for us to do. He has commanded us to go, teach, and baptize. And, despite our sins, He also promised, "Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). God's majesty is not only in creating the world in which we live but in loving us despite our daily failures. He sent His Son to forgive our every sin. As David wrote, "I saw the Lord always before me, for He is at my right hand that I may not be shaken" (Acts 2:25).

As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Kyrie

P Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Father, have mercy on us.**

P Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Christ, have mercy on us.**

P Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Holy Spirit, grant us Your peace. Amen.**

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty.

C **Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities;**

P for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31*

Does not wisdom call?
Does not understanding raise her voice?
On the heights beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her stand;
beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:
"To you, O men, I call,
and my cry is to the children of man. . . .

"The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of old.
Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth,
before he had made the earth with its fields,
or the first of the dust of the world.
When he established the heavens, I was there;
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,

when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
then I was beside him, like a master workman,
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,
rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the children of man."

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22–36

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

"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— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. 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;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
my flesh also will dwell in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One see corruption.
You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"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. 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, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being 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. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

> "'The Lord said to my Lord,
> Sit at my right hand,
> until I make your enemies your footstool.'

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 8:48–59

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Jews answered [Jesus], "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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn O Love, How Deep (LSB 544) *sts. 1, 7*

Sermon: What Really Matters *John 8:48-59*

The Athanasian Creed (Responsive)

P Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the Christian faith.

C **Whoever does not keep it whole, and undefiled, will without doubt perish eternally.**

P And the Christian faith is this,

C **That we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons, nor dividing the substance.**

P For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.

C **But the Godhead of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, is one: the glory equal, the majesty co-eternal.**

P Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:

C **The Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;**

P The Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;

C **The Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.**

P And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,

C **Just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.**

P In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;

C **And yet there are not three Almighties, but one Almighty.**

P So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;

C **And yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**

P So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;

C **And yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.**

P Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord,

C **So also are we prohibited by the Christian religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.**

P The Father is not made, nor created, nor begotten by anyone.

Men: *The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.*
Women: *The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.*

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

Men: *And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;*

Women: *But the whole three persons are co-eternal with each other and co-equal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity, and Unity in Trinity, is to be worshiped.*

C **Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.**

P But it is also necessary, for everlasting salvation, that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
C **Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.**
Men*: He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father, before all ages;*

Women: *And He is man, born from the substance of His mother, in this age:*

C **Perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;**

P equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
Men: *Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:*

Women: *One, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;*

C **one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.**

P For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,

C **Who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,**
P Ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from where He will come to judge the living and the dead.
C **At His coming all people will rise again, with their bodies, and give an account concerning their own deeds.**
P And those who have done well will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
C **This is the Holy Christian faith; whoever does not believe it, faithfully and firmly, cannot be saved.**

Prayer of the Church (Hear our prayer) *Psalm 8:2, 4–6, 9*

P ... Lord in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

Offering

Salvation unto Us Has Come (LSB 555) *sts. 1, 9–10*

1 Salvation unto us has come
By God's free grace and favor;
Good works cannot avert our doom,
They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
Who did for all the world atone;
He is our one Redeemer.

9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone
And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known,
With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify;
Works serve our neighbor and supply
The proof that faith is living.

D 10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace;
All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above,
You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessèd name we hallow.
Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text: Public domain

✠ THE LORD'S SUPPER ✠

We follow the liturgy on Pages 208-212 in the hymnal.

Preface *LSB 208*

Proper Preface

Sanctus *LSB 208*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei *LSB 210*

Distribution Hymns

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (LSB 549)
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (LSB 802)
Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice (LSB 556)

Sit

Lord's Supper Dismissal

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Benediction

Closing Hymn

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (LSB 940) *sts. 1, 5*

Dismissal

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

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