



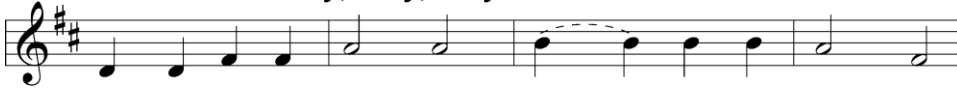
June 15, 2025
Holy Trinity Sunday

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy"

LSB 507



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,
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!



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;
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and 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,
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.
Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

CALL TO WORSHIP:

[L]: Blessed be the Holy Trinity: Author of creation, Word of salvation, Source of regeneration,

[P]: **Eternal Three-in-One, majestic One-in-Three we worship Your glorious and gracious presence**

[L]: and pray that You bring us at last into Your heavenly presence where You live in endless joy and love, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

[P]: **One God, now and forever. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

- L:** Let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- P:** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- L:** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your Children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our Midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

RESPONSIVE SONG: “Free to Worship”

Verse 1

We have gathered to sing these songs
Wretched sinners and desperate frauds
Fully covered in Jesus’ blood
Free to worship the Three In One
Free to worship the Three In One

Chorus

Holy is the Lord
Holy is the Lord Almighty
Holy is the Lord our mighty God

Verse 2

We have gathered to sing these songs
Sons and daughters of every tongue
Bound together in Jesus blood
Free to worship the Three In One
Free to worship the Three In One

Bridge

The curtain was torn through
We stand before You
And mercy is all you speak

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-36

Then Peter stood up with the eleven apostles. In a loud voice he said to them,

“Men of Israel, listen to what I say: Jesus from Nazareth was a man whom God brought to your attention. You know that through this man God worked miracles, did amazing things, and gave signs. By using men who don’t acknowledge Moses’ Teachings, you crucified Jesus, who was given over to death by a plan that God had determined in advance. But God brought Him from death back to life and destroyed the pains of death, because death had no power to hold Him. This is what David meant when he said about Jesus:

‘I always see the Lord in front of me.
I cannot be moved because He is by my side.
That is why my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices.
My body also rests securely
because You do not abandon my soul to the grave
or allow Your holy one to decay.
You make the path of life known to me.
In Your presence there is complete joy.’

“Brothers, I can tell you confidently that our ancestor David died and was buried and that his tomb is here to this day. David was a prophet and knew that God had promised with an oath that He would place one of David’s descendants on his throne. David knew that the Messiah would come back to life, and he spoke about that before it ever happened. He said that the Messiah wouldn’t be left in the grave and that His body wouldn’t decay.

“God brought this man Jesus back to life. We are all witnesses to that. God the Father used His power to give Jesus the honored position—the one next to Him on the heavenly throne. Jesus has also received and has poured out the Holy Spirit as the Father had promised, and this is what you’re seeing and hearing. David didn’t go up to heaven, but he said,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Take the honored position—the one next to Me [God the Father] on the heavenly throne—
until I put your enemies under your control.”’

“All the people of Israel should know beyond a doubt that God made Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”—GW®

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

“Benedictus”
~ Brian Lewis

Ladies’ Chorus

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

8:00 & 9:30

HOLY GOSPEL: *John 8:48-59*

The Jews replied to Jesus, “Aren’t we right when we say that You’re a Samaritan and that You’re possessed by a demon?”

Jesus answered, “I’m not possessed. I honor My Father, but you dishonor me. I don’t want My own glory. But there is someone who wants it, and he is the judge. I can guarantee this truth: Whoever obeys what I say will never see death.”

The Jews told Jesus, “Now we know that You’re possessed by a demon. Abraham died, and so did the prophets, but You say, ‘Whoever does what I say will never taste death.’ Are You greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets have also died. Who do You think You are?”

Jesus said, “If I bring glory to Myself, My glory is nothing. My Father is the one who gives Me glory, and you say that He is your God. Yet, you haven’t known Him. However, I know Him. If I would say that I didn’t know Him, I would be a liar like all of you. But I do know Him, and I do what He says. Your father Abraham was pleased to see that My day was coming. He saw it and was happy.”

The Jews said to Jesus, “You’re not even fifty years old. How could You have seen Abraham?”

Jesus told them, “I can guarantee this truth: Before Abraham was ever born, I am.”

Then some of the Jews picked up stones to throw at Jesus. However, Jesus was concealed, and He left the temple courtyard. —GW®

SERMON HYMN:

"Thy Strong Word"

LSB 578

△ *Please stand for this stanza*



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glo - ry, Tongues Thy
 △ 6 God the Fa - ther, light - cre - a - tor, To Thee



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of
 mer - cy to pro - claim, Throats that shout the
 laud and hon - or be. To Thee, Light of



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy ho - ly name.
 Light be - got - ten, Praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! May the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, light - re - veal - er, Glo - ry,



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 light which Thou dost send Fill our songs with
 glo - ry be to Thee. Mor - tals, an - gels,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ias, Al - le - lu - ias with - out end!
 now and ev - er Praise the ho - ly Trin - i - ty!

MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY: “All Creatures of Our God and King”

Verse 1

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Oh praise Him
Alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
Oh praise Him Oh praise Him
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Verse 2

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
Oh praise Him
Alleluia
Praise praise the Father praise the Son
And praise the Spirit Three-in-One
Oh praise Him Oh praise Him
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Verse 3

All the redeemed washed by His blood
Come and rejoice in His great love
Oh praise Him
Alleluia
Christ has defeated every sin
Cast all your burdens now on Him
Oh praise Him Oh praise Him
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Verse 4

He shall return in pow'r to reign
Heaven and earth will join to say
Oh praise Him
Alleluia
Then who shall fall on bended knee
All creatures of our God and King
Oh praise Him Oh praise Him
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

CONFESSION OF FAITH

L: We worship One God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance. For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another. So, the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.

P: **We believe in God the Father Almighty Maker of Heaven and earth**

L: What does this mean?

P: **I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

L: This is most certainly true.

P: **We believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

L: What does this mean?

P: **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,**

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

L: This is most certainly true.

P: **We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

L: What does this mean?

P: **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.**

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

L: This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

L: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

P: **hear our prayer.**

L: May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

P: **hear our prayer.**

L: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

P: **hear our prayer.**

- L:** Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,
P: **hear our prayer.**
- L:** Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,
P: **hear our prayer.**
- L:** Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,
P: **hear our prayer.**
- L:** And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
P: **hear our prayer.**
- L:** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
P: **Amen.**

OFFERING: *There is a plate in the Narthex for your gifts. If you so desire, TEXT GIVING is available by texting GIVE to 562 210-0463. You can also mail your gifts in to the church office.*

PREFACE:

- L:** The Lord be with you.
P: **And also with you.**
- L:** Lift up your hearts.
P: **We lift them to the Lord.**
- L:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
P: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- L:** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace,

lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

P: Amen.

✠ Holy Communion ✠

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To prepare for communion you can find prayer prompts on the front page of the burgundy hymnal. Or simply pray: "Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation, You invite me to come to You; to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacred meal. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts. Amen."

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

For those communing, who so desire, center cups in each tray are alcohol free.

The wafers next to the Christ candle are gluten free.

for those with dietary restrictions, please take a gluten free wafer.

In our 9:30& 11:00 a.m. services we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and come forward and remain standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.

DISTRIBUTION:

“Jesus Paid it All”

Verse 1

And I hear the Savior say
Thy strength indeed is small
Child of weakness watch and pray
Find in Me thine all in all

Chorus 1

'Cause Jesus paid it all
All to Him I owe
Sin had left a crimson stain;
He washed it white as snow

Interlude

It's washed away
All my sin and all my shame

Verse 2

Lord now indeed I find
Thy pow'r and Thine alone
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone

Verse 3

And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete
Jesus died my soul to save
My lips shall still repeat

Interlude

Sin had left a crimson stain
He washed it white as snow...

Chorus 2

Oh praise the One Who paid my debt
And raised this life up from the dead

“Christ, the Word of God Incarnate”

LSB 540

1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of
 2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,
 4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your
 6 Christ, the Al - pha and O - me - ga, Christ, the first-born

A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
 food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,
 lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,
 from the dead, Christ, the life and res - ur - rec - tion,

Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You
 Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the
 Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good
 Christ, the Church's glo - rious head: Praise and thanks and

shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our
 food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of
 ad - o - ra - tion And un - end - ing wor - ship be To the

path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.
 thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.
 Fa - ther and the Spir - it And to You e - ter - nal - ly.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

- [L]:** Praise we the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit, with them One,
[P]: And may the Son on us bestow the gifts that from the Spirit flow.

CLOSING HYMN: “Almighty Father, Bless the Word”

LSB 923



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your
2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward
3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all

grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious
now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye

seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!
wor - shiped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

POSTLUDE



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“Holy, Holy, Holy” LSB 507

Text: Reginald Heber.

Tune: John B. Dykes.

Text and music: Public domain.

“Free to Worship”

CCLI Song #6318781

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“Thy Strong Word” LSB 578

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76.

Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944; setting: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923, alt..

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“All Creatures of Our God and King”

CCLI Song # 6529800

St. Francis of Assisi| William Henry Draper| Jonathan Baird | Ryan Baird| © 2013 Sovereign Grace Praise. Admin by Integrity

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“Jesus Paid it All”

CCLI Song #4689508 Alex Nifong| Elvina M. Hall | John Thomas Grape ©2006 sixsteps Music, worshiptogether.com songs

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"Christ, the Word of God Incarnate" LSB 540

Text: Steven P. Mueller, b. 1964. © 2001 Steven P. Mueller. Used by permission.

Tune: *Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1825. Public domain.

"Almighty Father, Bless the Word" LSB 923

Text: *Church Poetry*, Philadelphia, 1823, sts. 1-2, alt.; Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, st. 3.

Tune: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and music: Public domain.



SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Acolyte 8:00...Brody Clevon

Lector 8:00...Josette Utke Lector 9:30...Barbara Hasty

Liturgist 8:00 & 9:30...Karl Fink 11:00...Soren Widmann

Director of Music & Worship Arts...Noah Freeman

Artist in Residence...Blake Flattley

Sound and Livestream...Felix Rivera, Jon Widmann

Crucifer 8:00...Penelope Clevon

Lector 11:00...Ashlyn Bowman

Preacher...Pastor John Alwood

Accompanist...Kevin Bowers

Children's Message...Lily Alwood



If You're a Visitor, WELCOME! We are so glad you have joined us for worship today. If you would like more information about Bethany and its ministries, please scan the QR code to the right. You will be directed to Bethany's fillable information form.



Worship Attendance:

Average weekly worship attendance Easter Season 2024: 430 per Sunday

Average weekly worship attendance Easter Season 2025: 460 per Sunday

Average weekly worship attendance May 2024: 396 per Sunday

Average weekly worship attendance May 2025: 470 per Sunday.

Budget:

Year to date (April 25) actual offerings \$1,179,533.49; same period last year \$1,047,899.76

Year to date (April 25) actual congregational income \$3,521,866.16; same period last year \$3,200,290.52

Year to date (April 25) actual expenses \$3,492,912.04; same period last year \$3,202,201.53

Year to date (April 25) actual income vs. expense \$28,954.12; same period last year (\$1,911.01)





Please visit our websites to find out more about our Church, School and Preschool. Get weekly updates by signing up for the **Bethany Bullet**—our weekly capsule of worship highlights and campus-wide information.

Bethany Lutheran Church and its Ministries are found at: www.bethanylutheran.org

Bethany Lutheran School information can be found by visiting their website at: www.bethanylutheran.org/school/

Bethany Preschool's website: www.bethanylutheran.org/preschool/

To sign up for the weekly **Bethany Bullet**: <https://bit.ly/BethanyBulletSignUp>



DONATE TO BETHANY'S FLOWER FUND!

Flowers are used to decorate the altar every Sunday, for special seasons such as Christmas and Easter, as well as other important dates during the church calendar. You are able to make two types of donations to the Altar Flower Fund: a general donation and a special request with recognition.



- **A SPECIAL REQUEST WITH RECOGNITION*** is a special type of Altar Flower donation. This request will be printed in the bulletin. For example, it could be given in memory of a person who has gone before us, for a wedding anniversary, baptismal birthday or a birthday celebration, etc. **This recognition has a suggested donation of \$75.**
- **A GENERAL DONATION TO THE ALTAR FLOWER FUND** enables Bethany to have flowers in worship and for our shut-in and hospitalized members to receive flowers from our flower ministry team, even when no one has ordered flowers for specific purposes on Sunday. **This General Donation is for any amount you wish to give.**

*If you are making a **Special Request with Recognition**, please use this form to let us know of your donation **for a specific Sunday date** and what the significance of that donation is towards. **IMPORTANT:** Please complete this form at least **2 weeks prior** to that date, so that information regarding your donation can be printed in the Sunday bulletin for the date requested.

Sign up to donate to Bethany's Altar Flower Fund, please use this URL:

<https://bit.ly/BLCAltarFlowers>



Or scan Bethany's Flower Fund QR code to the right: