# CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD, WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



THE HOLY TRINITY
JUNE 15, 2025
10:30 AM

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 901 EAST STROOP ROAD KETTERING, OHIO 45429-4688 (937) 298-0136

# INTRODUCTION

"O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" Today we celebrate the holy Trinity. Paul writes that through Jesus we have peace with God, whose love pours into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, giving us lasting hope. We celebrate the gracious One-in-Three, eternal Three-in-One, as we worship in community; as we share water and word, bread and wine; and as we bring God's love and hope to our neighbors.

# Drawn into Relationship, Guided into Truth

The doctrine of the Trinity invites us to consider how a God constituted by relationship—the Father with the Son, the Son with the Spirit, the Spirit with the Father—draws us into that relationship with God and one another. Gradually or suddenly, through the work of the Spirit, we come to know our belonging to the Father and to Christ's body.

In such loving relationships, truth is discovered. But people cannot bear the truth all at once, so discipleship and faith formation are gradual processes of listening for the Spirit's voice. Christian practices such as worship, learning, and service are occasions for people of all ages to be "guided into truth." Such practices are rooted in baptism, in which God draws us into a lifelong relationship in which we grow into truth and love over time—guided by the Spirit, accompanied by Jesus, and having peace with the Father.

In Romans, we hear the truth of how love originates and grows in us: Poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, God's love gives us a hope that will never disappoint. Christian community offers the delightful opportunity to experience one's own growth in hope, faith, and love, and to witness others' growth as they too are drawn more deeply into relationship with the triune God. Trinity Sunday offers the delightful opportunity to celebrate that growth.

<sup>\*\*</sup> indicates to stand as you are able.

#### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**PRELUDE** "In the Garden"

From the survey of favorite hymns.



#### \*\* CONFESSION

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

#### \*\* FORGIVENESS

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.** 

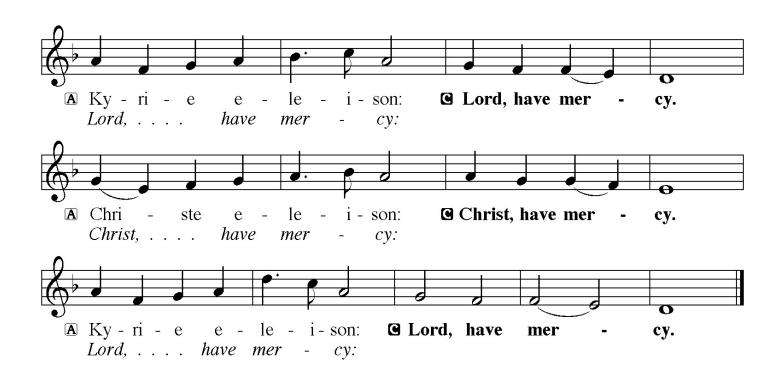
In the name of the Father, in the name of the Son,
In the name of the Spirit, Lord, we come.
We're gathered together to lift up your name,
To call on our Savior, to fall on your grace.
Hear the joyful sound of our offering,
As your saints bow down, as your people sing;
We will rise with you, lifted on your wings,
And the world will see that:

Our God saves, our God saves.
There is hope in your name
Mourning turns to songs of praise:
Our God saves, our God saves!

#### \*\* 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 Assisting Minister



#### \*\* CANTICLE OF PRAISE





#### \*\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Assisting Minister

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.

#### \*\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

## WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

#### FIRST READING

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

In the Bible, wisdom is portrayed in terms sometimes human and sometimes divine. Often, wisdom is personified as feminine. In this passage, Woman Wisdom is depicted not only as the first creation of God, but also as God's helper, rejoicing in God's creation, especially in human beings.

A reading from Proverbs.

Does not wisdom call, and 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 out: "To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live.

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.

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—when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil.

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 worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 8

Your glory is chanted above the heavens. (Ps. 8:2)

O Lord our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

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.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,

human beings that you should care for them?

Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

You have made them rule over the works of your hands;

you have put all things under their feet:

all flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts of the field,

the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,

and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

O Lord our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING Romans 5:1-5

Paul describes the life of faith with reference to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Even now, we have peace with God through Jesus, and our hope for the future is grounded in the love of God that we experience through Christ's Holy Spirit.

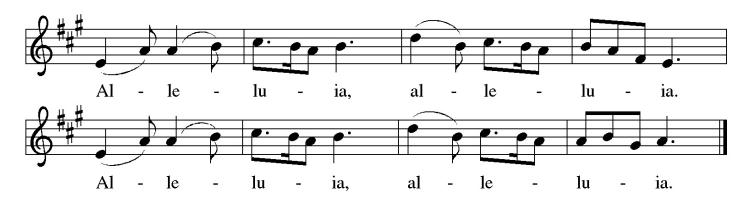
A reading from Romans.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

#### \*\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

#### \*\* GOSPEL READING

John 16:12-15

Jesus' ongoing presence with the disciples will be made known through the coming Spirit who will guide them and communicate to them Jesus' will and glory.

The holy gospel according to John.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUTH MESSAGE

**MESSAGE** 

Pastor Bob Swanson



#### \*\* APOSTLES' 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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. 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

Assisting Minister

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

Each petition concludes:

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

#### **GATHERING OF THE GIFTS**

#### **OFFERTORY**

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Assisting Minister

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.** 

#### MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### \*\* DIALOGUE

Lift up your heads; we lift them up to God. Lift up your voices; we lift them up to God. Lift up your hearts; we lift them up to God.

#### \*\* THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

And so we gather at the table. We come from many different places in life. And as we come together around the table we discover that our differences are not something we just tolerate, but that our differences are indeed a blessing. So come, children of God, just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of life and faith, you are welcome here - here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, children of God, come and remember. Remember the stories that Jesus' friends tell: Stories of bread broken and shared to feed a multitude; stories of gathering both enemy and friend together around a common table; stories of unlikely guests revealing the face of the sacred.

On a night of both celebration and betrayal Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it; gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Then Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so we pray: Lord, bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be open, and that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst, indeed in one another.

#### \*\* 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.

#### \*\* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

For those communing at home or in the pew:

COMMUNION — Receiving the Lord's tangible presence
The body of Christ given for you.
The blood of Christ shed for you.

Each person may respond: Amen.

**Communion Statement** ~ If you believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is your Savior and Redeemer and would like to receive Holy Communion, then come forward to receive the elements. If you would just like to come forward and receive a blessing, then you may do that also.

NOTE: We invite everyone to come forward for Holy Communion. If you have a gluten allergy, gluten-free wafers are available upon request when receiving Communion. Also, if you prefer not to receive wine at Communion, apple juice is available upon request. For those choosing to remain in the pews, there are communion all-in-one cups containing grape juice available in the Narthex.

#### **REFLECTION DURING COMMUNION**

As we prepare to receive the sacrament today, may we quietly take this time to center ourselves on Christ, and reflect the amazing gifts of grace and forgiveness that we have been given. As we receive the body and the blood of our Lord, let us reflect upon His sacrifice. Finally, may we take this time to ask the Holy Spirit to enter our hearts, and then to work in us and through us each and every day.

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**



#### \*\* TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and always keep you in God's grace. **Amen.** 

#### \*\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assisting Minister

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.** 

#### \*\* SENDING OF COMMUNION

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament to those who are absent. The presiding minister may lead this prayer of sending.

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

#### \*\* BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. **Amen.** 

#### (Verse)

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord.
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord
Our God, You reign forever,
Our Hope, our strong Deliverer.

(Chorus)
You are the everlasting God,
The everlasting God.
You do not faint,
You won't grow weary.

You're the defender of the weak. You comfort those in need.

You lift us up on wings like eagles.

#### (Verse)

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord.
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord
Our God, You reign forever,
Our Hope, our strong Deliverer.

(Final Chorus)
You are the everlasting God,
The everlasting God.
You do not faint,
You won't grow weary.
You're the defender of the weak.
You comfort those in need.
You lift us up on wings like eagles.

Our God, You reign forever, Our Hope, our strong Deliverer. You are the everlasting God,
The everlasting God.
You do not faint,
You won't grow weary.
You're the defender of the weak.
You comfort those in need.
You lift us up on wings like eagles.

#### \*\* DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the spirit.

Created, saved and gifted by God,
we seek, serve and share Jesus Christ. Hallelujah, thanks be to God!

#### **POSTLUDE**

"W + 2" = Worship Plus Two

Make a commitment not only to worship each week, But also try to find a way to serve in the congregation and seek out a way to serve our community.

YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD

# UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

# Emanuel Nine, martyrs, died 2015

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

On June 17, 2015, Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist while they were gathered for Bible study and prayer at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (often referred to as Mother Emanuel) in Charleston, South Carolina. Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. A resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance for the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on August 8, 2019. Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged reaffirm their commitment to repenting of the sins of racism and white supremacy which continue to plague this church, to venerate the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, and to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.

# Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931

Saturday, June 21, 2025

Onesimos was born in Ethiopia. Captured, enslaved, and taken to Eritrea, he was there freed by Swedish missionaries. He translated the Bible into his native Oromo and returned to preach there