Festival of the Holy Trinity June 4, 2023 – 10:30 a.m. *With One Voice*, Holy Communion, Setting Five





Welcome! Though the word "trinity" is not found in the Scriptures, the Persons of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are shown to be at work throughout history. 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.

Join your heart and voice in praising our risen Lord in our hymns and prayers in today's service. If you would like more information about St. John's and our ministry, please speak with one of the greeters, ushers, or the pastor.

Prayer before Worship

Heavenly Father, speak to us of grace and life through your holy Word and life-giving Supper in this worship service. Prepare our hearts and minds for the joy of coming into your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pre Service Music

"Animato" (Cynthia Dobrinski) Handbell Ensemble

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of Baptism as the presiding minister begins:

- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **G** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

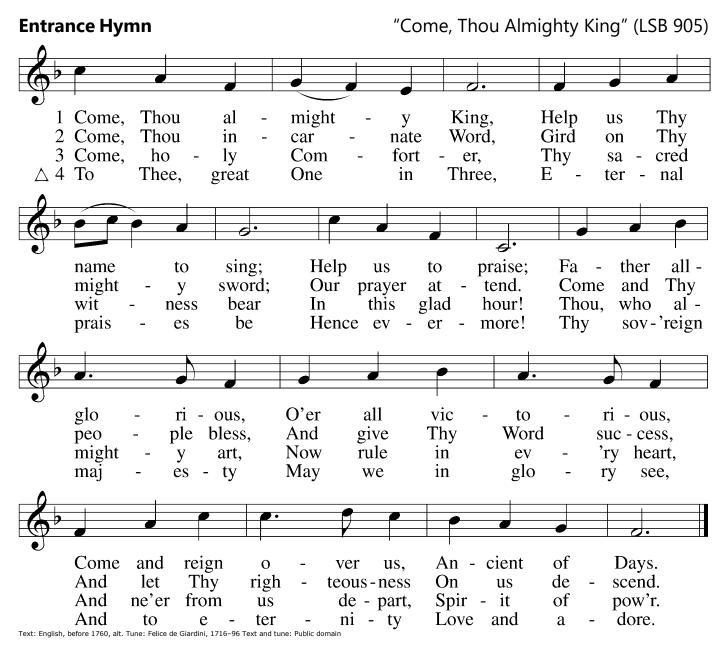
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- G Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

Sharing of the Peace

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **C** And also with you.

You are invited to share the peace of Christ with those around you.

Service of the Word

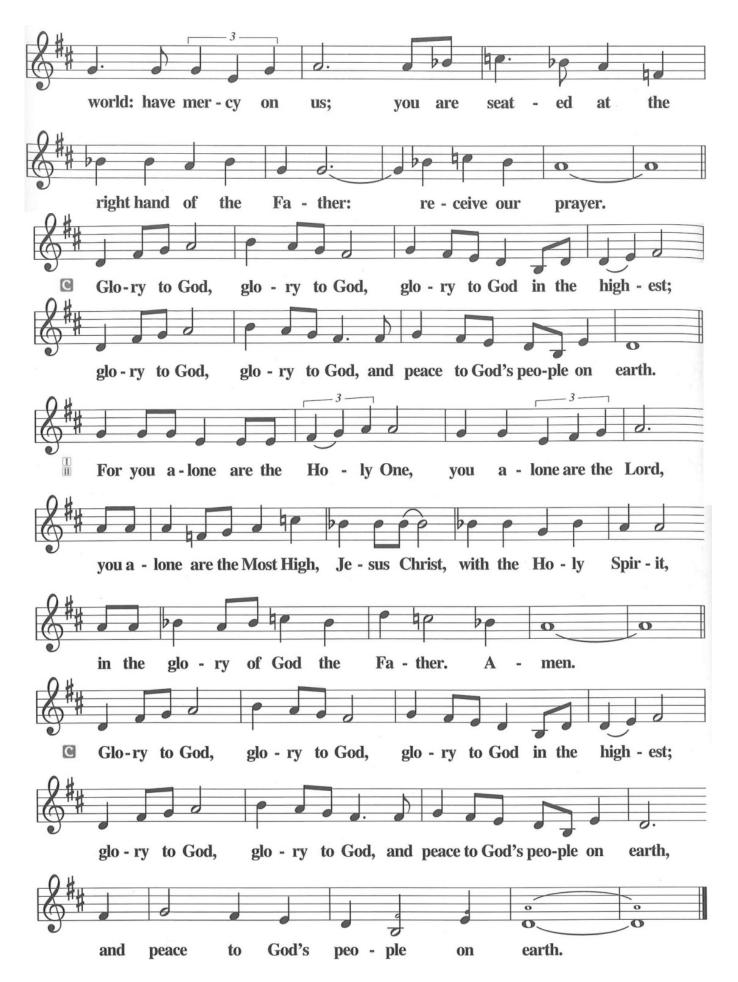


Greeting

- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **C** And also with you.

Hymn of Praise





Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

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. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And 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 an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens 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.

¹¹And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. 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 expanse of the heavens 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 expanse of the heavens to give light upon the

earth." And it was so. ¹⁶And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on 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 swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²¹So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²And God 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 according to their kinds livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. ²⁵And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸And God 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 heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on 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 heavens and to every that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

¹Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ²And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

⁴These are the generations

of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

I The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Psalm (spoken responsively)

L O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger. L When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, C and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings L and crowned him with glory and honor. **C** You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet,

all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field

C the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

L O LORD, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Second Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-36

Please join in reading aloud the highlighted portion of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

^[14a] But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them. ^[22] "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—^[23] this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ^[24] God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible

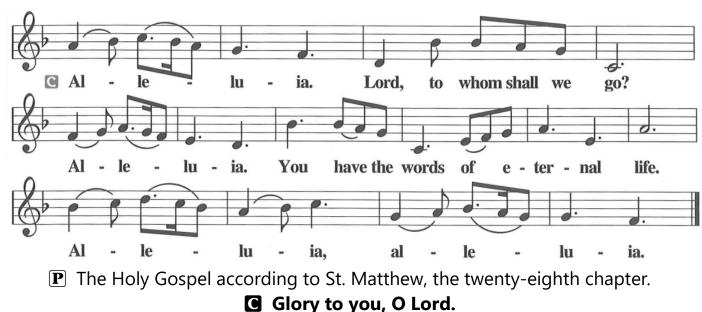
Psalm 8

for him to be held by it. ^[25] 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; ^[26] therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. ^[27] For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. ^[28] You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

^[29] "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. ^[30] 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, ^[31] he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ^[32] This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ^[33] 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. ^[34] For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, ^[35] until I make your enemies your footstool."'

^[36] 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 The Word of the Lord.C Thanks be to God.



Alleluia Verse

Holy Gospel

"Three Words that Shape Lives"

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when 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, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day "Holy, Holy, Holy" (LSB 507) 1 Ho - ly, Al - might - y! ho - ly, ly! Lord God ho 2 Ho - ly. ho - ly. 1y!the saints a - dore Thee. ho All _ 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho Though the dark-ness hide _ ly! Thee. 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly. ho _ ly! Lord God Al - might - y!ing Ear our song shall rise to Thee; _ ly in the morn -Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea: sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see, of Though the eve Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea. All ci - ful and might - y! Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer ing down be - fore Cher - u - bim and fall ser - a-phim Thee. is none be - side On - ly Thou art ho there Thee. _ ly; ci - ful and might - y! Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho ly, mer --God bless - ed in three Trin i - ty! per sons, Which wert and ev - er - more shalt be. art and love, and fect pow'r. Per in in pu ri - ty. -God in three per bless - ed Trin i - tv! sons. _ Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826 Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Prayers of the People

Led by the Holy Spirit, and with the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer. During the season after Pentecost each petition ends with the phrase: "Hear us, O

God."

Please respond by saying "**Your mercy is great**." The prayers end with the words:

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Recognition of High School Graduates

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

- L Let us pray: God of mercy and grace,
- **C** the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them up to the Lord.

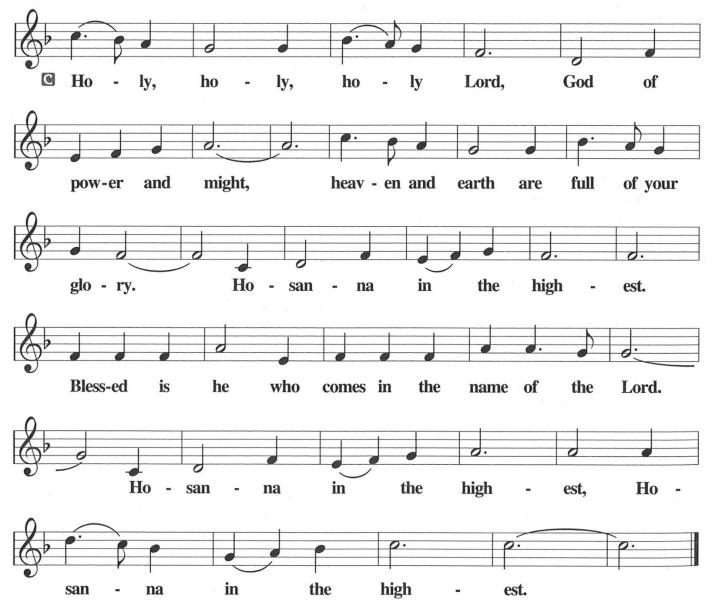
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, who with Your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, one Lord. In the confession of the only true God, we worship the Trinity in person and the Unity in substance, of majesty coequal. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

☑ 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.

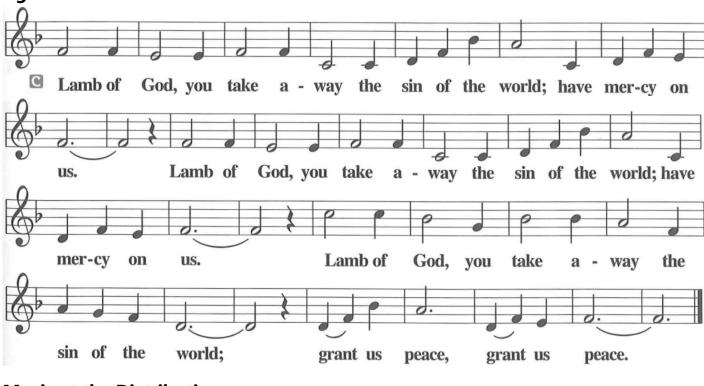
Distribution

Agnus Dei

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.



Music at the Distribution

Choir Anthem

"Pie Jesu"

(from Requiem by Gabriel Faure/David Sanders) Handbell Ensemble



Dismissal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

L Let us pray: Generous God,

• we give you thanks that again this day you have opened wide your hand and satisfied us with the food of life, the body and blood of Christ. Sharing your compassionate heart, may we be blessed and given to all who hunger and thirst; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

P God all mighty, God most merciful, Father,
→ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, keep you, and grant you peace.

C Amen.

Dismissal

I Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn

"Voices Raised to You We Offer" (LSB 795) (see page 19)

> "Joy" (Barbara Kinyon) Handbell Ensemble

+ + +

Immediately following the worship service, a reception for the High School Graduates with take place in the Fellowship Hall, which will then lead into the Congregational Voter's Meeting.

+ + +

The Athanasian Creed

The Church's Confession of the Holy Trinity

Early in the fourth century, a new teaching appeared which claimed that Jesus was not true God. Arius, the north African priest who first proposed this theory, was extremely persuasive, and soon the controversy was so widespread that a church council was called to settle the matter. Out of that meeting in A.D. 325 came the Nicene Creed, which clearly confesses Jesus to be true God. That creed, which was expanded in A.D. 381 in order to defend the divinity of the Holy Spirit, is still widely used today as a confession of the triune faith. Despite the clarity of the Nicene Creed, the controversy continued for some time. Toward the end of the fifth century, another creed was written that marveled at the mystery of the Trinity in a way that no creed had ever done. Though attributed to Athanasius, a fourth-century opponent of Arius, this anonymous creed clearly came at a later stage in the debate.

The Athanasian Creed proclaims that its teachings concerning the Holy Trinity and our Lord's incarnation are the catholic faith. In other words, this is what the true church of all times and all places has confessed. More than 15 centuries later, the church continues to confess this truth, confident that the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has given himself for our salvation.

Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic* faith. Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will C without doubt perish eternally. And the catholic faith is this, That we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in С 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. С But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal. Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit: С The Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated; The Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite; С The Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal. L 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. In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, L the Holy Spirit almighty; And yet there are not three Almighties, but one С Almighty.

L	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.	
L	So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is	
	Lord;	
С	And yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.	
L	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 catholic religion to	
_	say that there are three Gods or Lords.	
L	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:		
	made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.	
L	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 after another; none	
	is greater or less than another;	
Women:	Vomen: But the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and	
	coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity	
A 11.	in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.	
All:	Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think	
T	thus about the Trinity.	
L	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	
WICH.	before all ages;	
Women:	And He is man, born from the substance of His	
	mother in this age:	
All:	Perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational	
	soul and human flesh;	
L	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;		
All:	One altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by		
	unity of person.		
L	For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,		
С	Who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell,		
	rose again the third day from the dead,		
L	Ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of		
	the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to		
	judge the living and the dead.		
С	At His coming all people will rise again with their		
	bodies and give an account concerning their own		
	deeds.		
L	And those who have done good will enter into eternal life,		
	and those who have done evil into eternal fire.		
С	This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it		
	faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.		

*universal, Christian



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Our Ministry Of Worship

Guest Officiant/Preacher	Rev. Dr. John Denninger
Welcome	Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship
Lay Assistant	Stacey Crosson
Communion Lay Assistant	Jeff Crosson
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Mychal Burroughs
Crucifer	Sophie Wilson
Ushers	Benjamin May
	Michelle May
Altar Care	Jean Gilbertson
AV Operators	Greg Auld
	Jurgen Gobien
Welcome Host	Joe Godwin

This weekend's **altar flowers** are given by Greer & Nilah Putnam in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary

+ + +

A huge thank you to our handbell choir, who have helped enhance our worship services over the past year. Our handbell choir takes a much-needed break and will return in September. Please be sure to thank them for their commitment and dedication to St. John's Music Ministry!



Benjamin Anderson – Thomas A. Edison High School – son of Matthew and Christina Anderson, Ben will graduate on June 6. Ben has been an avid swim and dive participant in his local pool. One of Ben's favorite things about his time at St. John's has been our fellowship time after church, especially the receptions. Ben would like to study mechanical engineering and hopes to one day work for Lockheed Martin. Ben will attend the University of Wyoming this fall.

Eric Bach Jr. - South County Secondary School - son of Eric Sr. and Margarita Agular, Eric will graduate on June 9. Eric was heavily active in the South County Choir community, becoming president of the highest choir, the South County Singers. He was also an active participant in the South County Theatre Department, playing roles such as Sam in *Mamma Mia* and Luke in *The Lighting Thief: The Percy* Jackson. Eric also participated in the Tri-M Music Honors Society and ITS, International Thespian Society. Eric's dream is to continue to study music and become a professional performer, being signed to a Musical Theatre or Opera company that would allow him to sing on stage for a living. Eric received a Full-Ride Scholarship to Michigan State University and was awarded the National School Choir Award at SCSS for competing in District-Level choirs for 5 years, State-Level Choirs for 3 years, and National-Level Choirs for 2 years. Eric's favorite memory at St. John's has been spending time with his brothers and the other students in Confirmation Classes. Eric would like to thank his mom and dad for always supporting him in all of his artistic endeavors and for continuing to make sure that church was an important part of his life. Eric will study Vocal Performance with a Pre-Law Emphasis at Michigan State University.

<u>Avalyn Crosson – West Springfield High School</u> – daughter of Jeff and Stacey Crosson, Avalyn will graduate on June 6. While in high school Avalyn participated in Cross Country, Track, National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and German Honor Society. Avalyn will attend Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, where she plans to study international relations and pre-law. She hopes to one day work as a lawyer at the United Nations.

<u>Amelia Ehlers – W.T. Woodson High School</u> – daughter of Andrew and Cynthia Ehlers, Amelia will graduate on June 6. Amelia is an avid volleyball player and well as a musician in her school orchestra. Amelia's favorite St. John's memory is her time spent on the Confirmation retreats. Amelia's long-term life goals are to see where God calls her and to live her life to the fullest. Amelia will be attending the University of Washington, where she plans to study marine biology.

William Marik – Thomas A. Edison High School – son of Mark and Lisa Marik, William will graduate on June 6. Will loves basketball and has played it for many years. William is also an active and dedicated Boy Scout who has received his Eagle Scout Award. At St. John's, Will has served as a Sunday Morning Children's Ministry Leader, VBS small group leader, and AV tech. His favorite St. John's memory was participating in the Mission Trip to Haiti in February 2019. Will would like to say, "Thanks to all who prayed for and supported me over the years, especially Barbara Pate." William has received the Emerging Leaders Scholarship from the Corps of Cadets. He will be attending Virginia Tech – Corp of Cadets -Air Force this fall, where he plans to study business and finance.

Michael Swale- James Madison High School – son of Tim and Maria Swale, Michael will graduate on June 6. A very active young man, Michael has enjoyed many activities throughout high school. His top four have been crew, chorus, personal fitness, and Young Life. Michael is also a dedicated Boy Scout and received his Eagle Scout Award. Michael has also received the Warhawk Spirit Award for sportsmanship and leadership. Michael's favorite St. John's memory is the retreats at Mar Lu Ridge. Michael will attend Marietta College in Ohio, where he plans to study environmental science and geology.

Sydney Weikart – West Potomac High School – daughter of Dan and Anne Weikart, Sydney will graduate on June 7. A creative and entrepreneurial young woman, Sydney created her own company, Sydney Day Design, and was featured in a Forbes article. On top of being a CEO, Sydney also enjoyed various high school activities such as Cross Country, Track, Our Minds Matter Club, and the National Honors Society. Sydney's favorite memory was the bugs she encountered on confirmation/youth retreats. Sydney would love to travel after college. She will attend the University of Tennessee, where she will study business. Please visit our website at <u>www.sjlc.com</u> for devotional readings for use in the week ahead or to learn more about our life together as a congregation.

St. John's Lutheran Church · 5952 Franconia Road · Alexandria, VA 22310 703-971-2210

To view the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter, *Midweek Update*, scan this QR Code



Acknowledgments

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