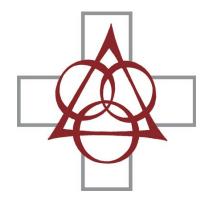
# **Festival of the Holy Trinity**

June 15, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.







**Welcome!** Though the word "trinity" is not found in the Scriptures, the Three 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 Triune God 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.

#### Welcome

**Pre Service Music** 

**Ringing of the Bells** 

#### **Confession and Absolution**

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

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, 

  → Son, and Holy Spirit, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **Q** 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.
- 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 

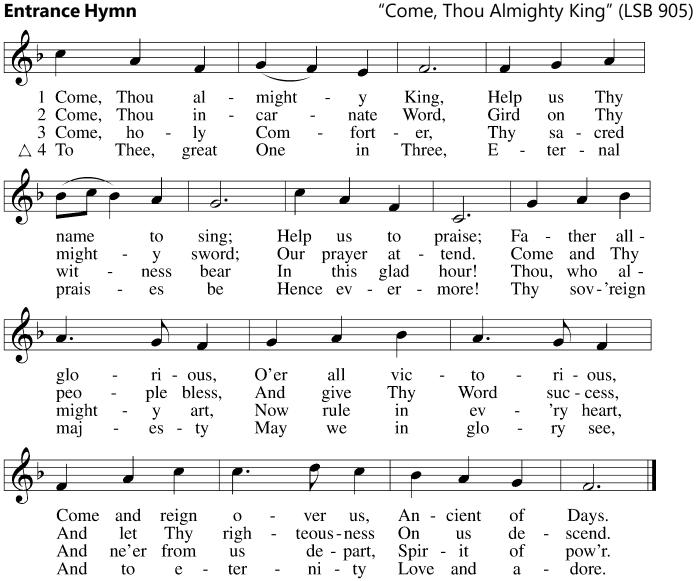
  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## **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**



Text: English, before 1760, alt., Tune: Felice de Giardini, 1716–96, Text and tune: Public domain

# Greeting

- **P** 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.
- **C** 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.

## Children's Message

## **First Reading**

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

<sup>1</sup>Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice? <sup>2</sup>On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; <sup>3</sup>beside the gates in front of the town,

at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud: <sup>4</sup>"To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the children of man. [...]<sup>22</sup>"The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of old. <sup>23</sup>Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

<sup>24</sup>When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. <sup>25</sup>Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth, <sup>26</sup>before he had made the earth with its fields, or the first of the dust of the world. <sup>27</sup>When he established the heavens, I was there; when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, <sup>28</sup>when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, <sup>29</sup>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, <sup>30</sup>then I was beside him, like a master workman, and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, <sup>31</sup>rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the children of man."

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm (spoken responsively)

Psalm 8

- 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 babes 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, and the son of man that you care for him?
- I Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.
- You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet,
- **L** all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,
- 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.

<sup>14</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . . <sup>22</sup>"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— <sup>23</sup>this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup>God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. <sup>25</sup>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;

<sup>26</sup>therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope.

<sup>27</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption.

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup>"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. <sup>30</sup>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, <sup>31</sup>he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh

see corruption. <sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

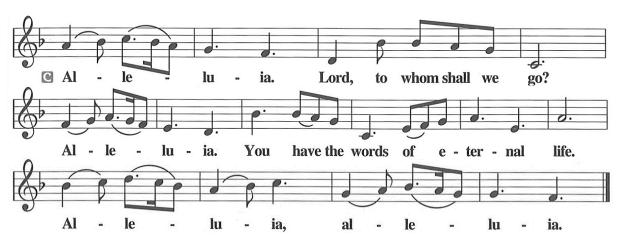
"'The Lord said to my Lord,

Sit at my right hand,

**I** The Word of the Lord.

## Thanks be to God.

#### **Alleluia Verse**



Holy Gospel John 8:48-59

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

# **G** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>48</sup>The Jews answered [Jesus], "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" <sup>49</sup>Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup>Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." <sup>52</sup>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.' <sup>53</sup>Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" <sup>54</sup>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.' <sup>55</sup>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.

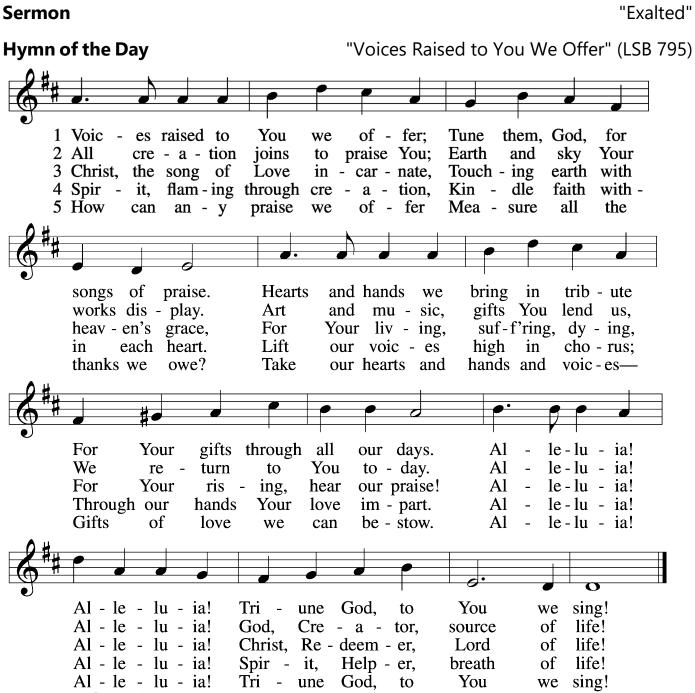
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup>until I make your enemies your footstool.'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup>Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

<sup>56</sup>Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." <sup>57</sup>So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." <sup>59</sup>So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

# Praise to you, O Christ.



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: Carolyn Jennings, 1936
Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318
Tune: © 1996 Carolyn Jennings. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318

## **Prayers of the People**

P 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:

- P 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.

#### **Announcements**

## **Offertory Prayer**

- Let us pray: God of mercy and grace,
- 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**

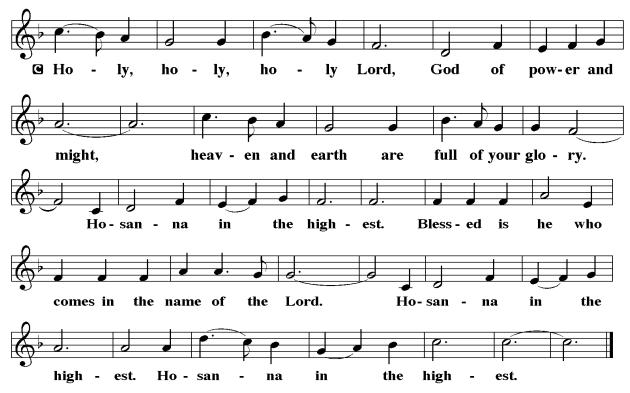
# **Great Thanksgiving**

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **©** We lift them up to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

#### **Preface**

P 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 singing:

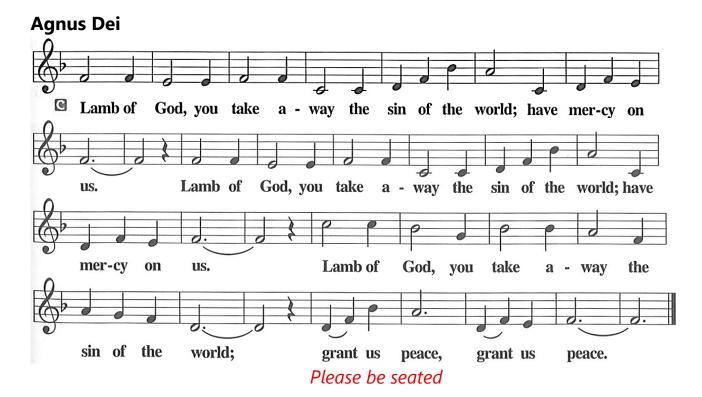
#### Sanctus



# **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

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**

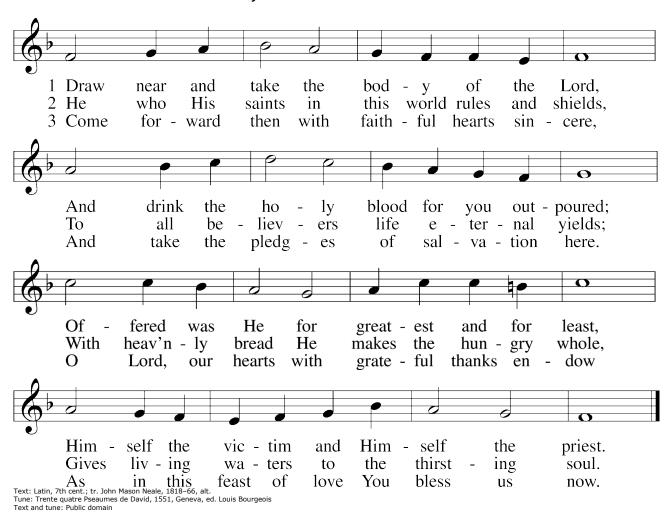
Distribution Anthem

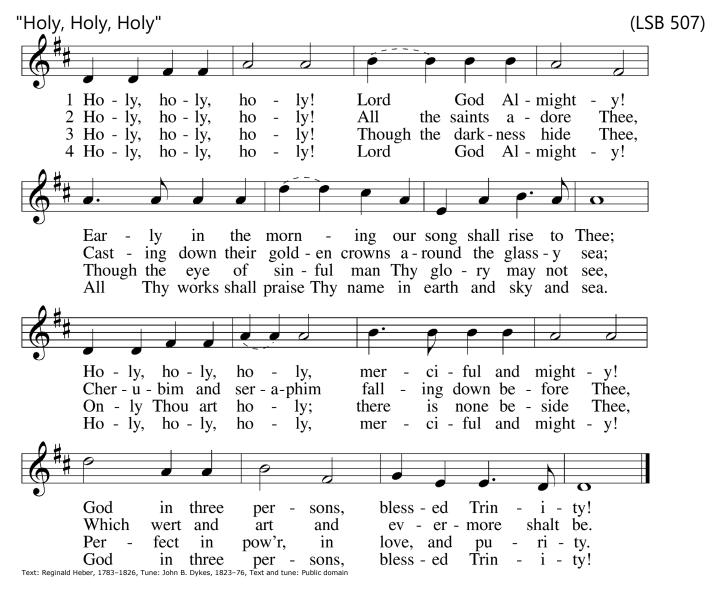
"Hymn to the Trinity" (Michael Burkhardt)
Choir of St. John's

Father, to you our praise we bring; For love, for care, glad voices sing; We laud with joy, the earth shall ring: Alleluia! O Christ, to you all glory be, From sin your death has set us free To live with you eternally. Alleluia! Spirit of God, you give us pow'r, Your blessings now upon us show'r Our faith you bring into full flow'r. Alleluia! Glory to God, the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One. Forever more God's praise be sung. Alleluia! Amen.

# "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

(LSB 637)





#### 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**

**L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

### Thanks be to God.



Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt. Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna Text and tune: Public domain

#### **Postlude**

#### 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 without doubt perish eternally.
- **I** And the catholic faith is this,
- That 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.
- 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:
- The Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;
- The Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;
- The Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.

- **L** And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,
- 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, the Holy Spirit almighty;
- And yet there are not three Almighties, but one Almighty.
- **L** So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
- And yet there are not three Gods, but one God.
- So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
- And yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.
- Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord,
- So also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.
- **I** 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.
- 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: But the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.
- All: Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.
- But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 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:
- All: Perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;
- 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,
- Who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,
- 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.
- At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.
- And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.

Athanasian Creed (Quincunque Vult) from Lutheran Service Book. Copyright © 2006 by Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. Distributed by the LCMS Board for National Missions (Worship) for congregational use only. Commercial reproduction, or reproduction for sale, of any portion of this work or the work as a whole, without the written permission of the copyright holder, is prohibited.

# **Our Ministry Of Worship**

Officiant/Preacher Pastor Meehan

Welcome/Children's Message Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship

Lay Assistant Trevor Hassett
Communion Lay Assistant Barbara Pate

Organist/Pianist David Leahey, Director of Music

Acolyte Christian Pleisch

Crucifer Gavin Stiens
Ushers Benjamin May

Michelle May

Altar Care Cathy Long

AV Operators Scott Budzien

**Denise Canter** 

Welcome Host Denise Canter

Nursery Melissa Malinowski

Lisa Goodell

To **Give** to St. John's Lutheran Church



This weekend's **altar flowers** are given in memory and celebration of the Reverend Chaplain (Col)
Bernard F. Nass, our great Dad!
It's been 3 years to the day of your earthly departure.
Lisa Nass and Christa (Nass) Ogilvy.



To **download** our SJLC app



To **view** and **subscribe** to our Midweek Update



# Acknowledgments

Holy Communion, Setting Five, With One Voice © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version,

©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder ©2006 Concordia Publishing House. LSB Hymn License 200-2399. LS Builder Support NH 200-299.

Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-701520. All rights reserved.

Hymn to the Trinity - Michael Burkhardt (1991 Morning Star Publishers) All rights reserved.



# St. John's Lutheran Church 5952 Franconia Road Alexandria, VA 22310



A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

### St. John's Lutheran Church Staff

Pastor Rev. John Meehan

Director of Discipleship Jennifer Hills, DCE

Director of Music David Leahey

Office/Facilities Administrator Michelle May

Finance Administrator Jennifer Smith

## **Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) Staff**

Director of ECEC Amanda Parks

ECEC Administrator Kari Wells

## **Contact Us**

Office: 703-971-2210 ECEC: 703-971-3581 Website: www.sjlc.com

### **Emails**

Pastor: pastor.meehan@sjlc.com

Director of Discipleship: jennifer.hills@sjlc.com

Director of Music: david.leahey@sjlc.com

Office: office@sjlc.com Finance: finance@sjlc.com ECEC Director: ecec@sjlc.com

ECEC Administrator: ecec.admin@sjlc.com