

Because He Lives, We Live Lives of Lavish Love



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Welcome to Holy Trinity

We're glad you came today to join us in worshiping the one true God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He has graciously created us, mercifully redeemed us, and freely gives us all the treasures of heaven through His Word and Sacraments!

If you are a **visitor** with us today, please sign the "GUEST" cards in the pews and give them to the ushers or pastor. If you want to find out more about what we teach, or are curious about church membership, please talk to our pastor. Members of Holy Trinity, please fill in the side marked "MEMBER."

A **Parents' Room** is located at the rear of the sanctuary if you need to temporarily leave to calm a child. Inside the Parents' Room you can still see, hear and participate in the worship service.

Wheelchair accommodations are found on the organ side of the church. If you do not use a wheelchair, be careful to leave space in these wheelchair accessible pews for the benefit of those who need them and their families.

HOLY TRINITY is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), a national church body headquartered in Mankato, Minnesota. We confess that we are saved by Grace Alone (Eph. 2:8) through Faith Alone (Acts 16:31) revealed in Scripture Alone (John 5:24). Though we are totally sinful from birth, Jesus Christ paid for our sins on the cross and gives us eternal life in heaven. We subscribe to the Lutheran Confessions (the Book of Concord, 1580) because they are a faithful and accurate summary of this Biblical doctrine. The ELS has been in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) since 1872.

A Note to All Our Guests Regarding the Lord's Supper:

During this service, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. Since this sacrament is the Lord's Supper and not ours, we are careful to follow our Lord's instructions. In particular, we take to heart these important truths:

- 1. In the Lord's Supper, Jesus truly gives us His body and blood together with the bread and the wine. Jesus says, "Take and eat; this is my body...Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood" (Matthew 26:26-28).
- 2. In the Lord's Supper, we express a unity of faith with one another. "Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf" (1 Corinthians 10:17).
- 3. Our Lord urges us to practice this unity with great love and care. "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Corinthians 11:27,29).

Because we take these truths seriously, we invite all communicant members of our congregation or of a sister congregation in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) or the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) to commune with us today. However, we ask that those who are not members of a sister congregation refrain from taking the Lord's Supper with us at this time. In doing this, we are not judging anyone's faith. Out of love for our Lord and all people, we simply desire to discuss the Bible's teachings with our guests before communing together. We want all who commune to receive the Lord's Supper for their benefit and in a way that follows our Lord's instructions. If you have any questions about this or any other teaching of the Bible—or if you would like information about how to join our congregation—please feel free to speak to our pastor.

THE DIVINE SERVICE RITE TWO

ELH pg. 60

[CW93 492]

- **Hymn** "Son of God, Eternal Savior"
- Son of God, eternal Savior,
 Source of life and truth and grace,
 Word made flesh, whose birth among us,
 Honors all our human race,
 You our head, who, throned in glory,
 For your own will ever plead:
 Fill us with your love and pity;
 Heal our wrongs and help our need.
- Come, O Christ, and reign among us,
 King of love and Prince of Peace;
 Hush the storm of strife and passion;
 Bid its cruel discords cease.
 By your patient years of toiling,
 By your silent hours of pain,
 Quench our fevered thirst for pleasure;
 Stem our selfish greed for gain.
- 3. Bind us all as one together
 In your Church's sacred fold,
 Weak and healthy, poor and wealthy,
 Sad and joyful, young and old.
 Is there want or pain or sorrow?
 Make us all the burden share.
 Are there spirits crushed and broken?
 Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
- 4. As you, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live. Freely have your gifts been granted; Freely may your servants give. Yours the gold and yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stewards of your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.

- Stand --

Invocation

 \blacksquare ASTOR In the name of the Father and of the \pm Son and of the Holy Spirit.

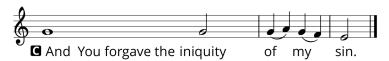


Confession and Absolution

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord.



P I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;



- O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.
- @ Amen.

Psalm 145 [NIV]

- **P** Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
- **@** his greatness no one can fathom.
- **P** One generation will commend your works to another;
- **G** they will tell of your mighty acts.

- **P** The LORD upholds all those who fall;
- **and lifts up all who are bowed down.**
- **P** The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.
- **19** You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.
- P The LORD is near to all who call on him,
- **G** to all who call on him in truth.
- **P** He fulfills the desires of those who fear him,
- **G** he hears their cry and saves them.

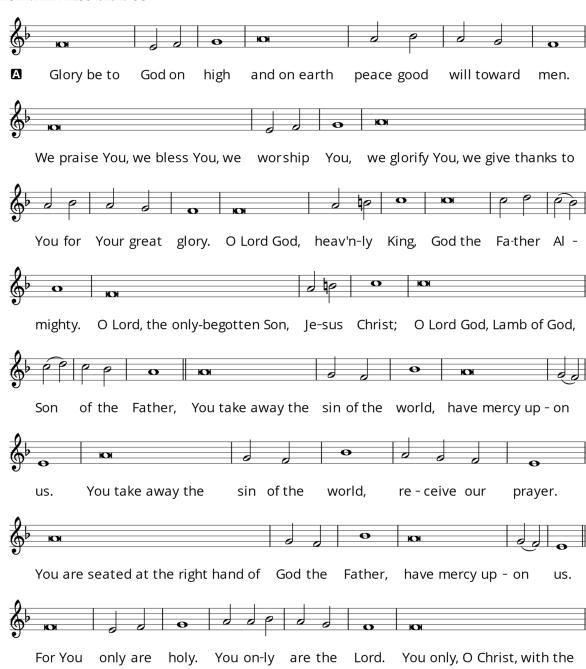
Gloria Patri



Kyrie Eleison



Gloria in Excelsis Deo





Ho-ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.



Prayer of The Day

P Let us pray:

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



-Be seated-

First Reading • Acts 11:1-18

The Lord taught Peter that racial and cultural differences are not to prevent us from showing lavish love to all people.

The apostles and brothers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. ²When Peter went up to Jerusalem, those who insisted on circumcision criticized him, ³ saying, "You went to visit men who were uncircumcised and ate with them!"

⁴So Peter began to explain everything to them, point by point. He said, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision in which an object like a large sheet was let down from heaven by its four corners. It came right to me. ⁶When I inspected it very carefully, I saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!'

⁸ "But I replied, 'Certainly not, Lord, for nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.'

 9 "A voice spoke from heaven a second time: 'What God has made clean, you must not continue to call unclean.' 10 This happened three times, and then everything was pulled up into heaven again.

¹¹ "At that very moment, three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them without any hesitation. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he saw an angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and call for Simon, the one called Peter. ¹⁴ He will speak words to you by which you and all your household will be saved.'

 15 "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came down on them, just as he came down on us at the beginning. 16 Then I remembered how the Lord had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 So if God gave them the same gift as he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to try to stand in God's way?"

¹⁸When they heard these things, they had no further objections, and they praised God, saying, "So then, God has granted repentance that results in life also to the Gentiles!"

Second Reading • 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

The defining mark of Christians is not the spiritual gifts that they possess, but it is the lavish love that is demonstrated as they use those gifts for the benefit of others.

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and know all the mysteries and have all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away everything I own, and if I give up my body that

I may be burned but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient. Love is kind. Love does not envy. It does not brag. It is not arrogant. ⁵It does not behave indecently. It is not selfish. It is not irritable. It does not keep a record of wrongs. ⁶It does not rejoice over unrighteousness but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never comes to an end. But if there are prophetic gifts, they will be done away with; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be done away with. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, ¹⁰ but when that which is complete has come, that which is partial will be done away with. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put away childish things. ¹² Now we see indirectly using a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I was fully known.

¹³So now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

-Stand-

Gospel Acclamation

1 John 4:16

P Alleluia. We also have come to know and trust the love that God has for us. God is love. Whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him. Alleluia.



Gospel • *John* 13:31-35

P The holy Gospel is written in the thirteenth chapter of the Gospel according to St. John, beginning at the thirty-first verse.



The Father has glorified the Son. Christ shares that glory with us and commands us to show others the same lavish love he has shown to us.

After Judas left, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify the Son in himself and will glorify him at once."

³³ "Dear children, I am going to be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

³⁴ "A new commandment I give you: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P Here ends the Gospel.



Confession of Faith ~ Nicene Creed

■ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic

Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

-Be seated-

Chief Hymn • "Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire"

[CW93 498]

- Though I may speak with bravest fire
 And have the gift to all inspire
 And have not love, my words are vain—
 As sounding brass—and hopeless gain.
- Though I may give all I possess
 And, striving so, my love profess
 But not be giv'n by love within,
 The profit soon turns strangely thin.
- Come, Spirit, come; our hearts control.
 Our spirits long to be made whole.
 Let inward love guide ev'ry deed;
 By this we worship and are freed.

Sermon

God's Greatest Gift Is Love

-Stand-

Offertory Psalm





-Be seated-

Offering

Prayer of the Church

-Stand-

Preface

P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



- **G** We lift them up un to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

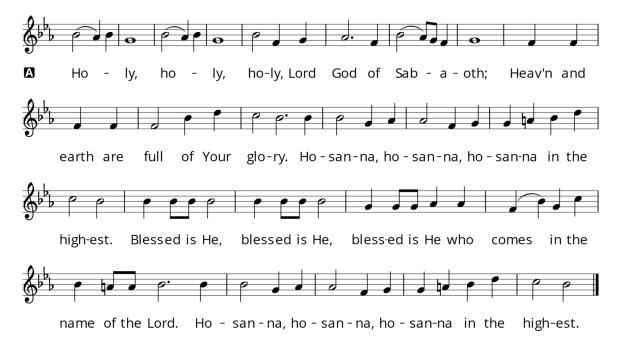


G It is good and right so to do.

Preface for the Season

P It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Sanctus



Lord's Prayer

P 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.



Words of Institution

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

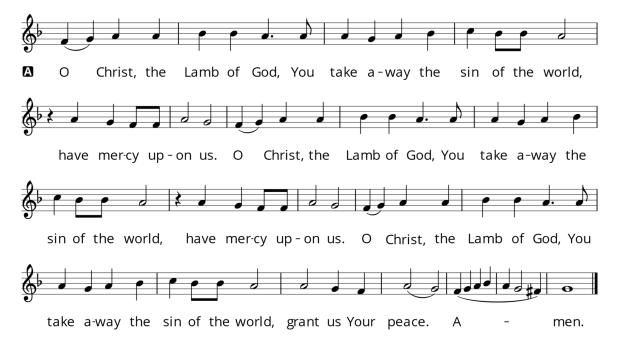
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My + blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei



Distribution

Guests, please read and take note of the explanation of our Communion practice on page 2 in this service folder.

Hymn • "Love in Christ Is Strong and Living"

[CW93 490]

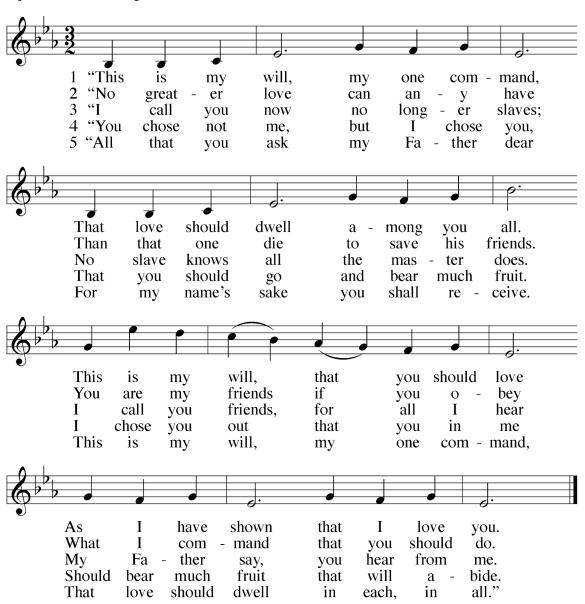
- Love in Christ is strong and living, Binding faithful hearts in one; Love in Christ is true and giving -May his will in us be done!
- Love is patient and forbearing, Clothed in Christ's humility, Gentle, selfless, kind and caring, Reaching out in charity.
- Love in Christ abides forever,
 Fainting not when ills attend;
 Love, forgiving and forgiven,
 Shall endure until life's end.

Hymn • "O Master of the Loving Heart"

[CW93 491]

- O Master of the loving heart,
 The friend of all in need,
 We pray that we may be like you
 In thought and word and deed.
- Your days were full of kindly acts;
 Your speech was true and plain;
 Of those who ever sought you, Lord,
 None came to you in vain.
- Your face was warm with sympathy;
 Your hand God's strength revealed;
 Who saw your face or felt your touch
 Were comforted and healed.
- Oh, grant us hearts like yours, dear Lord, So joyous, free, and true, That all your children, ev'rywhere, Be drawn by us to you.

Hymn • "This Is My Will"



Nunc Dimittis



Communion Verse

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.



■ And His mercy en - dures for-ev - er

Collect of Thanksgiving

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in lovingkindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.



Benediction



-Be seated-

Closing Hymn • "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

[CW93 494]

- Blessed be the tie that binds
 Our hearts in Christian love;
 The fellowship of kindred minds
 Is like to that above.
- Before our Father's throne
 We pour our ardent prayers;
 Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
 Our comforts and our cares.
- We share our mutual woes,Our mutual burdens bear,And often for each other flowsThe sympathizing tear.
- When here our pathways part,
 We suffer bitter pain;
 Yet, one in Christ in one in heart,
 We hope to meet again.

From sorrow, toil, and pain
 And sin we shall be free
 And perfect love and friendship reign
 Through all eternity.

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