

Trinity Sunday
SERVICE OF THE WORD
June 7, 2020
The 115th Anniversary of
Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church

GATHERING

Announcements

As you prepare for worship, gathered in virtual community and connected by God's beautiful and unfathomable design, you are invited to light a candle and bring a small container of water with a bowl.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as we begin.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into a bowl in your worship space as the minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life. We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**



Gather us in with Song, Lord: Holy, Holy, Holy, # 413ⁱ

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.**

A Prayer for This Trinity Sunday

God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity,
We ask for your presence to enter this space.
We know that in self-giving love,
Your very nature teaches us how to love one another.

Parent and Creator,
Son and Redeemer,
Spirit and Advocate,

We call upon you to teach us this hour.

Teach us to pray.

Teach us to love.

Teach us to be one, as you are one.

With all of our divisions we create with our own biases,
From social class to race,
From gender to age,
From ability to different abilities,
We know we still have much to learn.

Teach us this hour, we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ, our ever-present hope. Amenⁱⁱ

WORD

First Reading *Representing a more comprehensive image of God, we read God's words (**in bold**) together ...*

Genesis 1-2:4a

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

Then God said, **“Let there be light”**; and there was light. And God saw that the

light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, **“Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.”** So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, **“Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.”** And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, **“Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.”** And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, **“Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.”** And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, **“Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.”** So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, **“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”** And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, **“Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.”** And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, **“Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”** So God created

humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 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 air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”**

God said, **“See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.”** And it was so.

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 8

Gospel & Sermon – *ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton*

Matthew 28: 16-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 28th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

...The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Song of the Day: Many and Great, O God #837

Prayers of Intercession

We are called into unity with one another. Yet especially this week our nation is experiencing painful and profound disunity. Let us preface our prayers this morning with a period of silence, meditating on the sorrows of our country, its history of racial

injustice, and its resistance in bringing about liberty and equality for all.

Held together in the mercy of the triune God, let us join with one another to pray for the many needs of the world.

A brief silence.

O triune God, bless the preaching and reception of your Word, and pour your Spirit onto congregational leaders and all the baptized. Give wisdom and stamina to those who work in national church offices for their unprecedented tasks. Hold the churches of all denominations together in one, as you are one.

A brief silence.

Holy One, Holy Three, for the church we pray: **Grant your threefold blessing.**

O triune God, as at the beginning of time your word and spirit visited the earth, so now sustain this planet with your renewing care. Teach us to care for the very good earth that you have created. Calm the summer's storms, and send rain where there is drought.

A brief silence.

Holy One, Holy Three, for the earth we pray: **Grant your threefold blessing.**

O triune God, in whom Three are One, guide with your powerful mercy our troubled nation, where relationships are fractured and injustice marks the land. Heal our wounded people. Give hope to the despairing. Protect the protestors. Preserve our cities from more tumult, and keep away those intent on destruction. Guard stores and homes from fire, and save us from bloodshed. Lead our police and national guard as they stand against

violence. Assist our president, our governors and our legislators in moving forward from a history of racism into a future of peace.

A brief silence.

Holy One, Holy Three, for our nation we pray: **Grant your threefold blessing.**

O triune God, bless the aboriginal peoples in lands around the globe. We commemorate before you today Chief Seattle, and we ask you to protect the native peoples of this land from yet more dangers, from outside aggression, and from internal despair.

A brief silence.

Holy One, Holy Three, for all tribes and clans we pray: **Grant your threefold blessing.**

O triune God, open our eyes to see your likeness in everyone. Heal the sick, uphold all who face oppression, feed the hungry. Visit refugee camps with power to save. We ask your mercy on the millions who suffer from the coronavirus – the sick, the dying, the bereaved, the unemployed. Uphold medical workers, and accompany researchers as they seek a vaccine. Embrace the children who live confused and sad. We pray also for those we remember here before you:

A brief silence.

Holy One, Holy Three, for all in need we pray: **Grant your threefold blessing.**

O triune God, as summer begins, give

safety to those who travel and contentment to those who cannot. Give a sense of sabbath rest to those whose vacation plans have been canceled, and grant activities to the children who cannot attend summer camp. Shine your sun on farmers' fields, so that enough food will grow for our needs. Shield all farm workers from the worst of the heat.

A brief silence.

Holy One, Holy Three, for summertime we pray: **Grant your threefold blessing.**

O God, bring us into the mystery of your triune life. We praise you as Life-giver, Pain-bearer, Mercy-maker. Accept now the petitions of our own hearts.

A longer time of silence.

Peace (In ASL)

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Thanksgiving for the Word

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Holy One, Holy Three, for ourselves we pray: **Grant your threefold blessing.**

O triune God, we praise you for all the saints who, in the past and the present, have lived and died in you. At the end, bring us all into the tender power of your presence.

A brief silence.

Holy One, Holy Three, for now and forever we pray: **Grant your threefold blessing.**

Hear these words, O God, and receive also those petitions that are too deep for words, joining our prayers with those of Jesus Christ, who intercedes for us, now and forever.

Amen.ⁱⁱⁱ

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

When we disciples ask Jesus how to pray, he teaches us, saying pray with words like these:

**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.**

SENDING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage;
hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the
power of the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

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ⁱⁱ Based on a Prayer for Trinity Sunday by Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer, Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church in Martinsville, VA. <https://fbcmartinsville.com>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://blogs.elca.org/worship/2379/>