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**Trinity Sunday**

THE GATHERING

*The acclamation*

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:

**The whole earth is full of his glory.**

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength;

ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name.

**The whole earth is full of his glory.**

The Lord shall give strength to his people;

**The whole earth is full of his glory.**

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:

**The whole earth is full of his glory.**

*First Hymn*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea,

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,

Who wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,

Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;

Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,

Perfect in power, love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

[1]

*Prayer of preparation*

**Almighty God,**

**to whom all hearts are open,**

**all desires known,**

**and from whom no secrets are hidden:**

**cleanse the thoughts of our hearts**

**by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**

**that we may perfectly love you,**

**and worthily magnify your holy name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Prayers of Penitence*

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit. Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice, and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

**Lord God,**

**we have sinned against you;**

**we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing**

**and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us**

**and restore to us the joy of your salvation;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the God of love and power

Forgive you and free you from your sins,

Heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,

And raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

[2]

*Gloria in Excelsis*

***Glory to God in the highest,***

***and peace to his people on earth.***

**Lord God, heavenly King,**

**almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,**

**you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,**

**with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen**

*The Collect of the Day*

Almighty and everlasting God,

you have given us your servants grace,

by the confession of a true faith,

to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity

and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:

keep us steadfast in this faith,

that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[3]

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*The First Reading*

**Comfort for God’s People**

1 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.

3 A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.4 Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

5 And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

6 A voice says, “Cry out.” And I said, “What shall I cry?”

“All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. 7 The grass withers and the flowers fall,

because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.”

9 You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, “Here is your God!”

10 See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. 11 He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

[4]

12 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens?

Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance?

13 Who can fathom the Spirit of the Lord, or instruct the Lord as his counsellor? 14 Whom did the Lord consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way?

Who was it that taught him knowledge, or showed him the path of understanding?

15 Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust. 16 Lebanon is not sufficient for altar fires, nor its animals enough for burnt offerings.

17 Before him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by him as worthless and less than nothing.

18 With whom, then, will you compare God? To what image will you liken him? 19 As for an idol, a metalworker casts it,

and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and fashions silver chains for it. 20 A person too poor to present such an offering selects wood that will not rot; they look for a skilled worker to set up an idol that will not topple.

21 Do you not know? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood since the earth was founded?

22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

23 He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. 24 No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground,

than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.

[5]

25 “To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength,

 not one of them is missing.

27 Why do you complain, Jacob?

 Why do you say, Israel,

“My way is hidden from the Lord;

 my cause is disregarded by my God”?

28 Do you not know?

 Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,

 the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary,

 and his understanding no one can fathom.

29 He gives strength to the weary

 and increases the power of the weak.

30 Even youths grow tired and weary,

 and young men stumble and fall;

31 but those who hope in the Lord

 will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;

 they will run and not grow weary,

 they will walk and not be faint.

*Isaiah 40 New International Version (NIV)*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.** Alleluia.

[6]

*Second Hymn*

[7]

*Gospel Reading*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Matthew

Alleluia. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**The Great Commission**

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age

*Matthew 28:16-20 New International Version (NIV)*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.** Alleluia.

[8]

*The Sermon*

To say anything at all about the Holy Trinity is tricky, how can you compare the all powerful and eternal God to anything? But our Triune God is unquestionably the God of loving relationship. He did not start to look for relationship and love when he made creation, the oneness of God is eternally found in the perfect loving relationship of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, within the Holy Trinity.

It is our God’s desire to share this love with all people and as Christians we are called to relationship with our God as both three in one, and with each person of the Trinity.

Most of us find it easier to imagine the idea of relationship with the Father and The Son than we do with the Holy Spirit. Too often we speak of the Holy Spirit as an it rather than as a who. The Holy Spirit becomes a power or gift to be received rather than a person with whom we are to develop a loving relationship.

The Holy Spirit is our councillor, comforter, and enabler. He is not a power to be mastered, but a person of the Trinity that we must receive into our lives if we are to be the people that our God calls us to be.

[9]

*The Creed*

Let us declare our faith together in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,**

**of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God, begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father;**

**through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,**

**was incarnate from the Holy Spirit**

**and the Virgin Mary**

**and was made man.**

**For our sake**

**he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory**

**to judge the living and the dead**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

[10]

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son**

**is worshipped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic**

**and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism**

**for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Prayers of Intercession*

We come boldly to the throne of grace,

praying to the almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

for mercy and grace.

We plead before your throne in heaven.

Father of heaven, whose love profound

a ransom for our souls has found:

We pray for the world, created by your love,

for its nations and governments …

Extend to them your peace, pardoning love, mercy and grace.

**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

[11]

Almighty Son, incarnate Word,

our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord:

We pray for the Church, created for your glory,

for its ministry to reflect those works of yours …

Extend to us your salvation, growth, mercy and grace.

**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath

the soul is raised from sin and death:

We pray for families and individuals, created in your image,

for the lonely, the bereaved, the sick and the dying …

Breathe on them the breath of life

and bring them to your mercy and grace.

**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

Thrice holy! Father, Spirit, Son,

Mysterious Godhead, Three in One:

We pray for ourselves,

for your Church, for all whom we remember before you …

Bring us all to bow before your throne in heaven,

to receive life and pardon, mercy and grace for all eternity,

as we worship you, saying,

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Amen.**

[12]

**The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

*The Peace*

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.

Peace from his Son Jesus Christ who is our peace.

Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.

The peace of the triune God be always with you:

*Third Hymn*

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,**

**Holy is the Lord God almighty.**

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,**

**Holy is the Lord God almighty.**

**Who was, and is, and is to come,**

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.**

**Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord,**

**Jesus is the Lord God almighty.**

**Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord,**

**Jesus is the Lord God almighty.**

**Who was, and is, and is to come,**

**Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord.**

**Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,**

**Glory to the Lord God almighty.**

**Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,**

**Glory to the Lord God almighty.**

**Who was, and is, and is to come,**

**Glory, glory, glory to the Lord.**

[13]

*The Eucharistic Prayer*

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right,

it is our duty and our joy,

at all times and in all places

to give you thanks and praise,

holy Father, heavenly King,

almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks

because you have revealed the glory of your eternal fellowship of love with your Son and with the Holy Spirit,

three persons equal in majesty,

undivided in splendour, yet one God,

ever to be worshipped and adored.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes**

**in the name of the Lord**

Hosanna, in the highest.

[14]

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,

we remember his offering of himself

made once for all upon the cross;

we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;

we look for the coming of your kingdom,

and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

[Great is the mystery of faith:]

 **Christ has died:**

 **Christ is risen:**

 **Christ will come again.**

[15]

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power**

**be yours for ever and ever. Amen**

*The Lord’s Prayer*

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, as our Saviour taught us, so we 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,**

**the power, and the glory**

**for ever and ever. Amen**

[16]

*Breaking of the Bread*

We break this bread

to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

*Giving of Communion*

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ

which he gave for you,

and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink

in remembrance that he died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts

by faith with thanksgiving.

*Whether you are able to receive the bread and wine from the priest or not, you are invited to say this prayer;*

Jesus, Lord and Saviour,

I thank you for the gift of faith

that you have placed within my heart.

By your Holy Spirit,

grant that my faith and spirit will be fed by your grace,

that I may be able to follow in your ways,

now and always. **Amen.**

[17]

*Post Communion Collect*

Almighty and eternal God,

you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

and live and reign in the perfect unity of love:

hold us firm in this faith,

that we may know you in all your ways

and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,

who are three Persons yet one God,

now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Prayer after Communion*

**Almighty God,**

**we thank you for feeding us**

**with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**

**Through him we offer you our souls and bodies**

**to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit**

**to live and work**

**to your praise and glory.**

**Amen.**

[18]

*Final Hymn*

Angel voices ever singing

round thy throne of light,

angel-harps for ever ringing,

rest not day nor night;

thousands only live to bless thee

and confess thee Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest

mortal eye can scan,

can it be that thou regardest

songs of sinful man?

can we know that thou art near us,

and wilt hear us? yea, we can.

Yea, we know that thou rejoicest

o'er each work of thine;

thou didst ears and hands and voices

for thy praise design;

craftsman's art and music's measure

for thy pleasure all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer

of thine own to thee;

and for thine acceptance proffer all unworthily

hearts and minds and hands and voices

in our choicest psalmody.

Honour, glory, might, and merit

thine shall ever be,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, blessed Trinity.

Of the best that thou hast given

earth and heaven render thee.

[19]

*THE SENDING OUT*

*The Blessing*

God the Father,

who first loved us and made us accepted in the beloved Son, bless you.

**Amen.**

God the Son,

who loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood, bless you.

**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,

who sheds abroad the love of God in our hearts,

bless you.

**Amen.**

The blessing of the one true God,

to whom be all love and all glory for time and for eternity,

come down upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Filled with the love of the Father and the Spirit’s power,

go in the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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