

## First St. John Lutheran Church

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[www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com)

Rev. Jerald K. Rayl, Pastor

Dr. Anthony Pattin - Church Musician

Cheri Sergent, Bell Choir, Director

Jennifer Hess, Office Manager

Jacob Kelly - Youth & Family Minister



## Holy Trinity Sunday

*Called through faith; Gathered in worship; Serving the community*

**June 4, 2023 - 9:00 am**

**June 7, 2020**

**June 4, 2023**

**Holy Trinity**

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! Through the Summer months we offer on service. Holy Communion will be celebrated every Sunday throughout the Summer.

**LIVESTREAM AND RECORDED WORSHIP:** We livestream the service on our church website at [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com). Also, the service will be recorded and published to the website

**SMILE! YOU'RE ON CAMERA:** Please remember you may be on camera during the livestream and the recording of the service.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Please remember to silence your cell phone before church begins. Thanks!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & CATECHISM** are dismissed for the summer.

**NURSERY** is in the church basement and is currently unstaffed; you are welcome to sit with your child. A diaper changing table is available in the ladies restroom in the basement of the church.

**RESTROOMS** are in the church basement. Go to the Narthex (lobby) and take either set of steps to the basement hallway. The ladies room is at one end, and the men's room is at the other.

**FLOWERS:** If you would like to sign up for altar flowers, there is a book in the lounge. Or, you can call the church office during the week to check on availability.

**MEMORIALS:** If you wish to give a memorial in honor or memory of a loved one, you may mail it in or pick up a memorial card in the church office.

### ***PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE***

#### **ELDERS**

Tom Gaskins, Terry Rudey

#### **READER**

Bob Haar

#### **SOUND BOARD**

Mark Ackerman

**ORDER OF WORSHIP – 9:00 am**

**Prelude** Dr. Pattin

**Ringing of the Bell** (Please Stand)

**Opening Hymn** “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty” No.413

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

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

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of 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 Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share the peace of the Lord

**Passing of the Peace**

*The congregation may greet one another by shaking hands, fist bumping, or any other form of greeting with the words, “Peace be with you.”*

*We conclude the sharing of the peace by singing:*

*“Lord I Lift Your Name on High” No. 857*

***“Lord I lift your name on high;  
Lord I love to sing your praises,  
I’m so glad you’re in my life,  
I’m so glad you came to save us.***

***You came from heaven to earth to show the way.  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift your name on high.”***

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Almighty and ever-living God, you have given us grace, by the confession of the true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and, in the power of your divine majesty, to worship the unity. Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your eternal glory, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**Announcements**

**Introduction**

Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today’s second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. 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.

**FIRST READING: Genesis 1:26-31--2:1-4a**

*This creation story reached its current form during or after the Babylonian exile of Israel. The writer profoundly declares faith concerning the world, human life, and God. This faith sees the world and humanity under the sovereignty of the God who redeemed Israel: it was Israel's God who was responsible for creation, not Babylon's.*

<sup>26</sup>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."

<sup>27</sup>So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>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." <sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>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. <sup>31</sup>God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>2:1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

<sup>4</sup>These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 8**

*How exalted is your name in all the world! (Ps. 8:1)*

O LORD our Lord,  
how exalted is your name in all the world!

**<sup>2</sup>Out of the mouths of infants and children  
your majesty is praised above the heavens.**

<sup>3</sup>You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, to quell the enemy and the avenger.

**<sup>4</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,**

<sup>5</sup>what is man that you should be mindful of him,  
the son of man that you should seek him out?

**<sup>6</sup>You have made him but little lower than the angels;  
you adorn him with glory and honor;**

<sup>7</sup>you give him mastery over the works of your hands;  
you put all things under his feet:

**<sup>8</sup>all sheep and oxen,  
even the wild beasts of the field,**

<sup>9</sup>the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,  
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.

**<sup>10</sup>O LORD our Lord,  
how exalted is your name in all the world!**

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

*Paul concludes his painful letter to the troubled church at Corinth with a final appeal for these Christians to live in peace. His last words form a benediction still used in Christian liturgy today.*

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup>Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

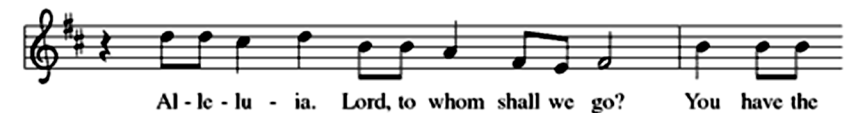
<sup>13</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

**Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel Announcement**

P: The Gospel according to St. Matthew Chapter 28.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20**

*After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them for mission in the name of the triune God.*

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

**Gospel Response**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Rayl

**Sermon Hymn**

*"Father Most Holy"*

No. 415

*(Please stand)*

**Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Pastoral Prayer** *(Each petition concludes with this response)*

P: Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*(Please be seated)*

**The Offering**

**Offertory Music**

Dr. Anthony Pattin

**Offering Prayer**

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

P: And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from the cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: To you, O God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**The Lord's Prayer** *(prayed by all)*

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.

### Invitation to Communion

P: Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

**C: Our Lord's body and blood, let us take together.**

*(Please be seated)*

### The Communion *(distribution will be continuous)*

*"All baptized Christians, believing that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's table.*

*Infant children and others who have not been baptized are welcome to come to receive a blessing; please make an X with your arms across your chest if you are not receiving the bread and wine."*

*If you wish to receive apple juice instead of wine, place your hand over your shoulder as you approach the person distributing the wine.*

*(After all have received communion, please stand.)*

P: Now may the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**C: Amen.**

### Prayer after Communion

P: Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

**C: Amen.**

### Blessing

P: May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope.  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### Closing Hymn

*"Day by Day"*

No.790

### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

Dr. Pattin

# PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY

## Please purchase full size items.

dish soap	shampoo, child	disposable razors
paper towel	laundry soap	toothbrush, adult
toilet paper	fabric softener sheets	toothpaste, adult
tissues	body lotion	sanitary pads
deodorant	body soap	band aids
shampoo, adult		

This is a list of the items that will provide a month's worth of hygiene supplies to families or individuals in our neighborhood to help them stay clean and healthy. We always welcome any donations from our congregation members.

**If you would like to donate items, please donate only full size products as sample sizes will not last a month.** If you would prefer a Pantry volunteer to do the shopping for you, we welcome monetary donations. Please make out checks to First St. John Lutheran Church and write Personal Needs Pantry on the memo line.

## **TODAY IS THE DAY**

**A** very special Bible study will be presented each Sunday **starting today, June 4th.**, following the worship service at 10:30 am.

Join Pastor Rayl as together we discuss how the teachings of the Bible and the church help us meet the often perplexing problems of life? The book, "Living in the Kingdom will be our resource (cost \$14.99 from Augsburg Fortress Press, also available for Kindle from Amazon).

Morning type refreshments will be served, (bagels, donuts, rolls, coffee, juice, etc.) Watch for details in the newsletter and future bulletin announcements.

This will be a great opportunity to grow and strengthen your faith and spiritual life, while having some of your big and small questions of faith addressed and hopefully answered.

(Interested in membership at First St. John Lutheran? This is your pathway.)

June 4, 2023

HOLY TRINITY

## Never Alone

In what do we put our faith? Whom can we trust? Sometimes it's hard to say. Doctors and scientists? Government officials and law enforcement? Friends and family? The answer is probably, "It depends." We realize that, no matter how well intentioned, these individuals are human and sometimes make mistakes. And they're not always available when we need them.

Jesus left his disciples with the assurance that they could put their trust and faith in him. As he sent them out into the world, he promised to offer more expert advice than scientists, greater protection and justice than the law, and more comfort and understanding than the dearest friend.

The disciples would need this kind of assurance to endure the hardships that lay ahead of them. In fact, Jesus had been trying to prepare them for the difficult days to come, even before his betrayal and crucifixion. Surely, as they looked back, the disciples had a better understanding of these prophetic words. They could also look back and recall Jesus' assurance that they would never be alone.

The Great Commission was Jesus' instruction to all believers, not just those present to hear the words. His words also provide reassurance. At every fork in the road, the command to share the gospel points us in the right direction. God has a plan for each of us, and has foreseen the difficult times ahead.

God wants us to know that no matter how difficult our lives become, we can trust God for guidance and comfort--even before we ask. God is also with the doctors, government officials, and family we rely on for all our earthly needs. We are never, ever alone.