

## **St. Paul's Lutheran Church – Crossroads (ELCA)**

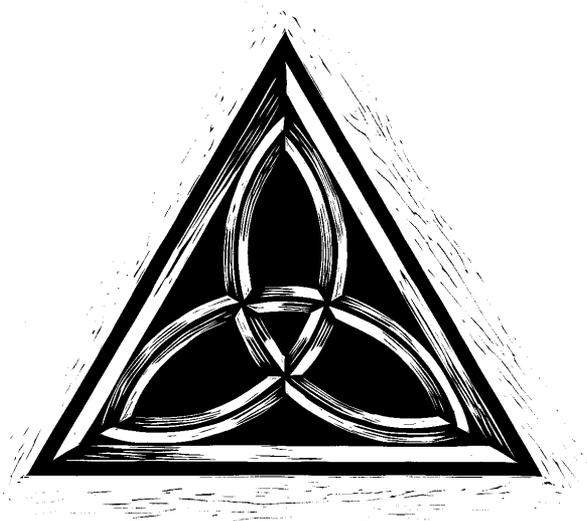
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**Sunday, May 27, 2018**

**The Holy Trinity**

*When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.*



LET YOUR GUARD DOWN,  
LET GOD IN,  
BE AMONG FRIENDS

**WELCOME . . .**

We are privileged to have you as our guest in the Lord's house this morning. We pray that the time you share with us will be meaningful for you and that God will bless you through it. If you have a question that is not answered here, please don't hesitate to ask someone around you.

**Registry:** Please take time to complete the registry/attendance sheet found in the pew in the black folder at the center aisle. It is important to us that we know who is worshipping with us today. Thank you.

**Worship:** This booklet is our order of worship for today. Hymns are found in the "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" hymnals located in the racks on the back of the pew in front of you. Everything else is printed in this booklet.

Our worship includes **Holy Communion**. As Christians in the Lutheran heritage, we believe that our Lord Jesus is physically present "in, with, and under" the bread and wine we receive. However, if you believe that Jesus' body and blood were given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins, you are welcome to commune with us, regardless of your faith background. A white grape juice is available at the center of the tray for those who do not wish to receive wine.

If you desire to receive communion but are unable to come forward to the communion rail, inform the usher of such and communion will be brought to you.

**. . . WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!**

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Ministers:	The people of St. Paul's Lutheran Church-Crossroads
Pastor:	Pastor Creighton
Greeters:	Donna Siebert and Eunice Sisson
Accompanist:	Andrea Westerfeld
Acolytes:	Madelyn Bohman Emily Borgman
Assisting Minister:	Laura Nicholson
Reader:	Debbie Mack
Communion Assistant:	Aaron Nicholson
Sound System:	Sarah Bohman
Offering Counters:	Gene Krieger and Gary Westerfeld
Altar Committee:	Ethel Ollier

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## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

**Amen.**

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness,  
let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Eternal God our creator,

**in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
God's love has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit given to us.  
In the mercy of almighty God,  
Christ died for us while we still were sinners;  
and for his sake, God † forgives you all your sins.  
**Amen.**

### **GATHERING HYMN:**

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!*      **ELW 413**

### **GREETING**

*The presiding minister and assembly greet one another.*

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.**

### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

ELW p. 139

*A canticle of praise may be sung by all.*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's 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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8**

*This reading narrates Isaiah's vision of the Lord surrounded by angels. They sing "Holy, holy, holy," a song the church sings at the beginning of the great thanksgiving. This liturgical text invites the church and all creation to sing in praise of God's glory. That glory is God's mercy toward sinners.*

A reading from the sixth chapter of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

<sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 29**

*The psalm is read responsively by verse.*

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God’s name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;

the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup>**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD  
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup>**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are crying,  
“Glory!”

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17**

*In describing the new life of faith, Paul refers to all three persons of the Trinity: the Spirit leads us to recognize that we are children of God the Father and sisters and brothers with Christ the Son.*

A reading from the eighth chapter of Romans.

<sup>12</sup>Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to

the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands to acclaim the gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW p. 142

**♪Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

*Jesus’ miracles prompt Nicodemus to visit him in secrecy. Jesus tells him about being born of the Spirit and about the Son who has been sent by God to save.*

The holy gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very

truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?”<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.<sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.<sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’<sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?”<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony.<sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?<sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.<sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,<sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY:

*Come Join the Dance of Trinity*

ELW 412

## ATHANASIAN CREED

Pastor (P): Whoever wants to be saved  
should above all cling to the catholic faith.  
Whoever does not guard it whole and inviolable  
will doubtless perish eternally.

Now this is the catholic faith:

**All: We worship one God in trinity  
and the Trinity in unity,  
neither confusing the persons  
nor dividing the divine being.**

P: For the Father is one person,  
**Men (M): the Son is another,  
Women (W): and the Spirit is still another.**

P: But the deity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
is one, equal in glory, coeternal in majesty.

P: What the Father is,  
**M: the Son is,  
W: and so is the Holy Spirit.**

P: Uncreated is the Father;  
**M: uncreated is the Son;  
W: uncreated is the Spirit.**

P: The Father is infinite;  
**M: the Son is infinite;  
W: the Holy Spirit is infinite.**

P: Eternal is the Father;

**M: eternal is the Son;**

**W: eternal is the Spirit;**

**All: And yet there are not three eternal beings,  
but one who is eternal;  
as there are not three uncreated and unlimited  
beings, but one who is uncreated and unlimited.**

P: Almighty is the Father;

**M: almighty is the Son;**

**W: almighty is the Spirit;**

**All: And yet there are not three almighty beings,  
but one who is almighty.**

P: Thus the Father is God;

**M: the Son is God;**

**W: the Holy Spirit is God;**

**All: And yet there are not three gods, but one God.**

P: Thus the Father is Lord;

**M: the Son is Lord;**

**W: the Holy Spirit is Lord;**

**All: And yet there are not three lords,  
but one Lord.**

P: As Christian truth compels us to acknowledge  
each distinct person as God and Lord,  
so catholic religion forbids us  
to say that there are three gods or lords.

P: The Father was neither made  
nor created nor begotten;

**M: the Son was neither made nor created,  
but was alone begotten of the Father;**

**W: the Spirit was neither made nor created,  
but is proceeding from the Father and the Son.**

**All: Thus there is one Father, not three fathers;  
one Son, not three sons;  
one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.**

P: And in this Trinity, no one is before or after,  
greater or less than the other;  
but all three persons are in themselves, coeternal and  
coequal;

**All: and so we must worship the Trinity in unity  
and the one God in three persons.**

P: Whoever wants to be saved should think thus about  
the Trinity.

**M: It is necessary for eternal salvation that one also  
faithfully believe  
that our Lord Jesus became flesh.**

**W: For this is the true faith that we believe and  
confess:**

**That our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son,  
is both God and man.**

**M: He is God, begotten before all worlds  
from the being of the Father,**

**W: and he is man, born in the world from the being of  
his mother—**

P: existing fully as God,  
and fully as man  
with a rational soul and a human body;  
equal to the Father in divinity,  
subordinate to the Father in humanity.

**All: Although he is God and man,  
he is not divided,  
but is one Christ.**

P: He is united because God

has taken humanity into himself;  
he does not transform deity into humanity.

**M: He is completely one in the unity of his person,  
without confusing his natures.**

**W: For as the rational soul and body are one person,  
so the one Christ is God and man.**

**All: He suffered death for our salvation.**

**He descended into hell  
and rose again from the dead.**

**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.**

P: At his coming all people shall rise bodily  
to give an account of their own deeds.

Those who have done good will enter eternal life,  
those who have done evil will enter eternal fire.

This is the catholic faith.

One cannot be saved  
without believing this firmly and faithfully.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*The assisting minister leads the assembly in prayer.*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in  
every place, praying for the world that God so loves.

*A brief silence.*

Abba, when we cry to you, your Spirit bears witness with  
our spirit. Give to your church the confidence of the  
children of God, so that we boldly share with everyone  
your world-saving love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

The whole earth is full of your glory: cities teem, fields flourish, mountains soar, and waters abound. Blot out our sin of spoiling your creation. Send us to go for you, mending what is torn and tattered in your world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son. In these days, when nation condemns nation, save us. Give us strength and fill us with your justice and peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your people cry out to you, seeking the goodness and hope of your holiness. Let the wind of your Spirit blow into the lives of all who suffer from injustice, want, or anguish of any kind, especially those listed in the bulletin and prayer book, and those we name aloud or in our hearts at this time. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In our living and in our dying, we belong to you. In loving remembrance, we honor those who live with scars or have died defending our nation. Beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks, and teach us your ways. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

With affection we remember the saints now departed and rejoice in their faithful witness, especially John Calvin, renewer of the church. Through their example, provoke us to holy lives of loving service in your name. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray and all for whom we have forgotten or neglected to pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

## **OFFERING**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands as the gifts are brought forward.*

## **OFFERING SONG:**

*Create in me a Clean Heart*

**ELW 186**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

*After the table is set, the assisting minister leads a prayer.*

Let us pray together.

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. Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

ELW p. 144

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...  
... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

ELW p. 144

**♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

*The presiding minister continues.*

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God,  
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

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.

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus  
taught us.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly in invitation.*

*The assembly is seated.*

*All are welcome at Christ's table! If you are a visitor and receive communion at your home church, you are invited to do so here. Everyone is invited to receive communion or a blessing.*

## **COMMUNION SONG**

ELW p. 146

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

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

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace.**

## **COMMUNION**

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond*

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

*After Holy Communion has been distributed, the assembly stands and the presiding minister may say:*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

*The assisting minister leads the assembly in prayer after communion.*

Let us pray.

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.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessings.*

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  
✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG:**

*Holy God, We Praise Your Name* **ELW 414**

## **DISMISSAL**

*The assisting minister may address the assembly.*

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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### **We remember in Prayer:**

Carol Bergman      Mikayla Siebert  
Todd Siebert      Sarajane Wilson  
Art and Karen Salvitti      Marlin and Julia Siebert

Zach Briner (Marilyn Gausman's relative)  
Bekah Netherton (daughter of Debbie Mack's friend)  
Lois Bastien Brown (Tim Salvitti's grandmother-in-law)  
Ruth Booster (wife of former pastor)

Melody Briner (Marilyn Gausman's daughter)  
Marie Dierckman (Ginny Low's mother)  
Louise Eads (Michelle Wehr's grandmother)  
Bonnie Haughn (Sabrina Salvitti Haughn's mother-in-law)  
Leonard (husband of Lisa Gausman's friend)  
George Lerose (Art Salvitti's brother-in-law)  
Tessa Mayer (wife of Wanda Siebert's principal)  
Ronnie Nicholson (Darrell's brother)  
Barry Norman (Lisa Gausman's former principal)  
Carol Rayve and Ron Price (Karen Salvitti's mother and friend)  
Ted Rayve (Karen Salvitti's brother)  
Beverly Richardson (Laura Nicholson's mother)  
Kristina Salvitti (Art's daughter)  
Gary Schopmeyer (friend of Anita and Bob Krieger)  
Charlie Seibert (friend of Anita and Bob Krieger)  
John Ward (Eunice Sisson's brother-in-law)  
Jasmine Westerfeld (Sharon Brown's great-granddaughter)  
Melinda Wilson (wife of Ben Wilson)

anyone affected by natural disasters, warfare and violence  
all who serve in the military

**Honored Members:**

Paul Gausman            Allen and Mary Lou Narwold  
Bill Westerfeld

**Our members at St. Andrew's:** Julia Siebert  
Ruth Thackery

**Our Partner Churches:** Northern Evangelical Lutheran  
Church, India and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Milan

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**Today:**

On this Trinity Sunday, as always, we worship in the name of  
the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Pastor Creighton will be attending the **Synod Assembly** from Thursday until Saturday. In case of emergency, you may contact him at 812-655-4616.

A reminder that **worship services** in June and July will begin at 9 AM rather than 10.

**Newsletters** are available in the narthex. Please take yours – and any for your family – as you leave this morning

**This Week:**

Office Hours – Monday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Thursday 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Pr. Creighton’s office hours –  
Monday – Thursday 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**Tuesday** –  
SEIC Clergy meeting 10:00 AM

**Thursday – Saturday**  
Synod Assembly in Fort Wayne

**Sunday** -  
Sunday Worship honoring graduates 9:00 AM

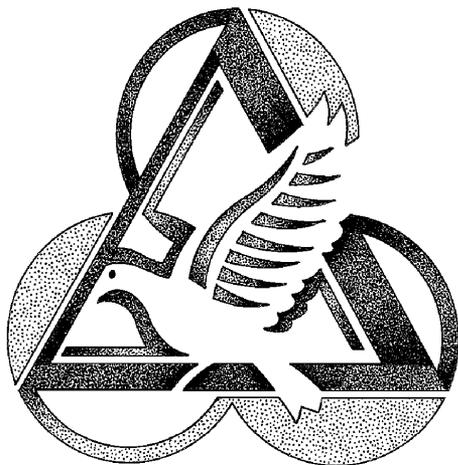
**Upcoming Events / Announcements:**

Please **check the bulletin board** for a variety of programs being offered to our youth and the adults serving youth in our community.

## Our Amazing Life through Fearsome Death

Holy. Glory. These words in the first reading and psalm testify to awe at God's transcendent sovereignty, fearsome majesty, and infinite mystery. No mortal can see God's face or hear God's voice and live. The fear expressed in these readings is *personal*—a living mortal in awe of the living God. In our age, awe at transcendent mystery tends toward the *impersonal*—at the invisibly small (in physics, quarks and strings) and the unimaginably large (space and time). Does anyone in our age still cultivate the fear of an unmanageable transcendent God, or is the notion too connected to images of a heavenly bully to be useful? Besides, Paul and Jesus each offer a picture of God's immanence. Paul invites us to revel in God's approachability, affirming that we can cry, "Abba! Father!" Jesus proclaims the most famous Bible verse of all, telling of God's great love and desire to save.

But both Jesus and Paul testify that any presumption of easy friendship and comfortable intimacy with the triune God is as out of place now as ever. The immanent God is still the transcendent God! And it is still true: no mortal can see God's face or hear God's voice and live—even if the face and voice belong to Jesus through the Holy Spirit. The life God desires for us is accomplished through Jesus' death—and through our own through baptism. Those deaths are as utterly terrifying as death always is, but with this grace: the death leads to our holy birth from above into a life where "we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him" (Rom. 8:17).



The grace of the  
**Lord Jesus Christ,**  
the love of **God,**  
and the communion  
of the **Holy Spirit**  
be with all of you.

2 Corinthians 13:13

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