

Trinity Sunday. Jesus was confronted by a direct assault on His status as Messiah. He plainly and clearly proclaimed Himself the "Word" of God and the "I Am" (of the burning bush encounter with Moses.) Jesus proclaimed that He is the Malak Yaweh (the Angel of the Lord who met with Abraham.) He further stated that the people challenging Him didn't know Him because they didn't in fact believe in the One True God. There is a sub-context in our lesson for today that has to do with eternity in the name of Jesus. In Mark 12:27, Jesus expressed that God is the God of the living. "Abraham saw" the birth of Christ, "and was glad." (John 8:56)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

© O God, we thank You; for Your Holy Word. We thank You for Your Revelation through the Scripture by which we have come to know You. We thank You for Your mercy by which we have come to love You. We thank You that You are the One, true, Triune Godhead, eternal, immortal, invisible, in Whom we live and move and have our being.

We bless You, Almighty Father, Your glory fills the heavens. You made us and all things in Your wisdom You made it all. Allow us to enjoy Your creation, and teach us to use our bodies and the things of the world in ways that are always pleasing to You.

We worship You, O Christ, of the Father's Love begotten. You have drawn us to You, and promised that whoever believes in You will not perish but have everlasting life. You are exalted at the right hand of our Father, and we are placed in a kingdom from which we cannot be moved.

We praise You, O Holy Spirit, You called us by the Gospel and led us into all truth. You gathered us as one true Church. You gave us strength of purpose and renewed the spirit of our mind. Keep us in mind of God so that our life is directed by and governed in the will of our Father.

Abide with Your Church, O God. Make us people and Pastors who are diligent in the vocation to which You have called us. Purify us in faith that through our efforts many are saved. Strengthen and preserve us in Your truth.

Watch over all who call on You this day. Feed the hungry, cure the sick, and pacify those who grieve. Be the guardian of all in danger, the companion of all in loneliness, the Power of all in temptation and the expectation of all who despair.

Hear us as we bring to You our private petitions. (Time of silent prayer.) This to You, O, Father, in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

© Amen.

HOLY TRINITY

Chant Tone



<p>Introit Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity.* Let us give glory to Him because He has shown His mer cy to us.</p> <p>I have set the Lord always be — fore me; * because He is at my right hand, I shall not be — shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being re — joices; * my flesh also dwells secure. For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, * or let Your holy one see cor — ruption.</p>	<p>You make known to me the path of life; * in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures for evermore.</p> <p>Glory be to the Father and to the Son * and to the Holy — Spirit; as it was in the be — ginning, * is now, and will be forever. — Amen.</p> <p>Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity.* Let us give glory to Him because He has shown His mer cy to us.</p> <p><i>(Antiphon, liturgical text; Psalm 16:8-11)</i></p>
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Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, One God, now and forever.

Gradual

The word is near you, in your mouth and | in your heart, *
the word of faith that | we proclaim.
For with the heart one believes and is | justified, *
and with the mouth one confesses | and is saved.

(Romans 10:8b, 10)

ENTRANCE PRAYER: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, One in Three and Three in One, accept our praise for our creation, redemption, and sanctification. O Father, Author of our creation, we give You thanks for permitting us to live in Your beautiful world. O Jesus Christ, Author and finisher of our faith, we thank You for suffering, dying and for giving our lives a purpose, making us Your testimony to the world. O Holy Spirit, Source of our faith, we give You thanks for calling us by the Gospel, for enlightening us with Your gifts and for establishing the Holy Christian Church. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

TODAY IS THE HOLY DAY WE AS A CHURCH HAVE SET ASIDE TO ESPECIALLY REMIND OURSELVES THAT WE WORSHIP A TRIUNE GOD; FATHER (our creator,) SON (our redeemer,) AND HOLY SPIRIT (the source of our sanctification.) To the mystery of the One transcendent God, who created our world, we add the mystery of our God who works for us within the Godhead, in Three Persons. We proclaim with the church throughout history that the Lord our God is One, and we confess with the people of the New Testament church that our One God took into the Divinity our humanity, whereby Jesus could suffer and die for us. The Holy Spirit imputes the death of Jesus into us and our Father sees us as perfect. We thank everyone who has been called out by our Father, to worship His Son our redeemer in the power of the Holy Spirit.

THEME OF THE DAY:

Triune God

INTROIT—(Antiphon, Liturgical Text;) Psalm 16:8-11

Scripture does not use the word "Trinity." The first time the word was used liturgically was about 170 by Theophilus of Antioch. The Didache (a book of worship from the first century) has the Trinitarian formula for Baptism (quoting Matthew 28:19,) and about the year 100, Ignatius, wrote a series of articles that explained God as "Triune," without using the word. Our "Liturgical Text," is perhaps as old as 325. Psalm 16 is about Christ. It was written by David, but it contains a confident statement about the Resurrection. Psalm 16 is connected to our Epistle Lesson.

COLLECT

God has to describe the Divine with human words. We pray for the ability to understand God in His work as Father, Son and Holy Spirit because such knowledge assists us in our ability to worship Him.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Proverbs 8 is a unified poem consisting of three strophes and a concluding exhortation. The final third of this poem makes up our lesson for today. Although it seems as if Wisdom is simply an ethical teacher with a bit of helpful information, the fact is that Wisdom is none other than Jesus the Son of God. The Second person of the Trinity was active with the Father and the Holy Spirit in the creation of the world. The Second person of the Trinity was also delighted in mankind, even after our fall into sin. With such sacrificial Love, Wisdom (Jesus) went to the cross.

GRADUAL—Romans 10:8b, 10

The use of Romans verse 8b, is new in our reading cycle. (Verse 10 is used on Pentecost.) Paul was encouraging us to have a right understanding of God and especially to confess Jesus as Savior.

EPISTLE LESSON—Acts 2:14a, 22-36

Quoting Psalm 16:8-11 (25-28) and Psalm 110:1 (34-35,) Peter showed that the prophecies had their ultimate fulfillment in Jesus, the Son of David, rather than in David himself. This lesson is a part of Peter's Pentecost sermon. In spite of all His divine attributes the Nazarene was crucified, not because God was helpless to protect His Son, but because God had foreordained that wicked men should be permitted to nail His Son to the cross. The atoning sacrifice is the redemption of the world.

GOSPEL LESSON—John 8:48-59

We in the LCMS are on our own with the Gospel Lesson. In 1969 the church cut this lesson (from its place on Passion Sunday.) Through what is a very long story, we have put it back into the reading cycle, here on