

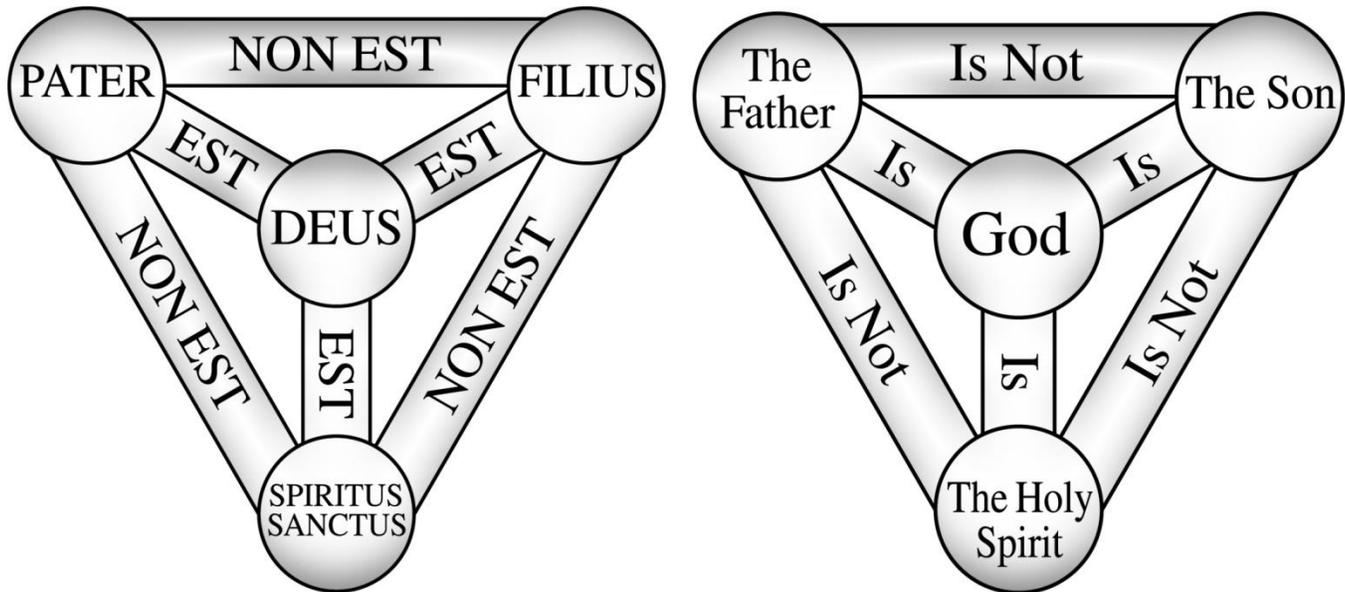


Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of His glory!

+ *Isaiah 6:3b*

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY

June 7, 2020



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The feast of the Holy Trinity is about the one true God who has revealed Himself in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. But the feast is not about God alone. As the Trinity, He is, of course, never alone even in Himself. But also in His creation, even the pinnacle of His work, mankind, is not to be alone. Male and female He created them. But even greater than this relationship is man’s relationship with God. Created “in His image,” we are never to be alone but find our identity in fellowship with God. Without Him, we are incomplete.

Even though we have rebelled and brought death by our sin (in effect, choosing to be alone without God), God took into Himself our very human natures in the person of the Son. So even now, God’s glorious and “very good” creation has become even better in Christ, with eternal life the way God originally intended things to be. This is the great good news we proclaim all our days by which God brings forgiveness and life to all, making disciples in all the nations of the earth. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
+Pastor Griebenaw

Pastor’s phone: (760) 679-3699
Pastor’s email: pastor@gracelutheranelcentro.org

✠ MATINS ✠

OPENING HYMN: Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest

499, sts. 1-4



1 Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest, And make our hearts Your
2 To You, the Coun - sel - or, we cry, To You, the gift of
3 In You, with grac - es sev - en - fold, We God's al - might - y
4 Your light to ev - 'ry thought im - part, And shed Your love in



place of rest; Come with Your grace and heav'n - ly aid,
God Most High; The fount of life, the fire of love,
hand be - hold While You with tongues of fire pro - claim
ev - 'ry heart; The weak - ness of our mor - tal state



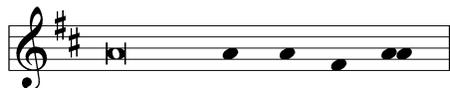
And fill the hearts which You have made.
The soul's a - noint - ing from a - bove.
To all the world His ho - ly name.
With death - less might in - vig - or - ate.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

OPENING VERSICLES

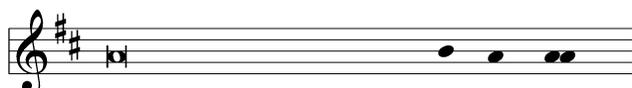
Psalms 51:15; Psalm 70:1



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

PSALMODY



L The Spirit of the Lord fills the world. Al - le - lu - ia.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Venite

Psalm 95: 1-7



C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

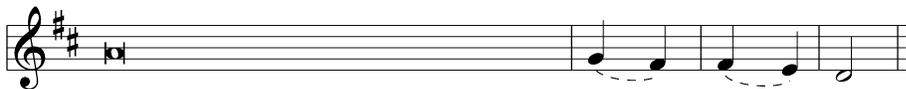


1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.

5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



L The Spirit of the Lord fills the world. Al - le - lu - ia.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Sit



1 God the Fa - ther be our stay; O let us per-ish nev - er!
 2 Je - sus Christ, be Thou our stay; O let us per-ish nev - er!
 3 Ho - ly Spir - it, be our stay; O let us per-ish nev - er!



Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, And grant us life for - ev - er.
 Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, And grant us life for - ev - er.
 Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, And grant us life for - ev - er.



Keep us from the e - vil one; Up - hold our faith most ho - ly,
 Keep us from the e - vil one; Up - hold our faith most ho - ly,
 Keep us from the e - vil one; Up - hold our faith most ho - ly,



And let us trust Thee sole - ly With hum-ble hearts and low - ly.
 And let us trust Thee sole - ly With hum-ble hearts and low - ly.
 And let us trust Thee sole - ly With hum-ble hearts and low - ly.



Let us put God's ar - mor on, With all true Chris - tians run - ning
 Let us put God's ar - mor on, With all true Chris - tians run - ning
 Let us put God's ar - mor on, With all true Chris - tians run - ning



Our heav'n - ly race and shun - ning The dev-il's wiles and cun - ning.
 Our heav'n - ly race and shun - ning The dev-il's wiles and cun - ning.
 Our heav'n - ly race and shun - ning The dev-il's wiles and cun - ning.



A - men, a - men! This be done; So sing we, "Al - le - lu - ia!"
 A - men, a - men! This be done; So sing we, "Al - le - lu - ia!"
 A - men, a - men! This be done; So sing we, "Al - le - lu - ia!"

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READINGS

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” ²¹So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. ²⁵And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸And 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 heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

²⁹And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens 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. ³¹And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ²And on the seventh day God finished His work that He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work that He had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all His work that He had done in creation.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Acts 2:14a, 22–36

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

²²“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves know—²³this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴God raised Him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for Him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says concerning Him,

“I saw the LORD always before me,
for He is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;
²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
my flesh also will dwell in hope.
²⁷ For You will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let Your Holy One see corruption.
²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life;
You will make me full of gladness with Your presence.’

²⁹“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that He would set one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.

³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The LORD said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand, ³⁵until I make Your enemies Your footstool.’

³⁶“Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA & VERSE



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Liturgical Isaiah 6:3b

Alleluia. Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory! Alleluia.



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:16–20

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when they saw Him they worshiped Him, but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

RESPONSORY

Psalms 119:89; 26:8; Luke 11:28



L 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
 2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep— it.
 3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

SERMON

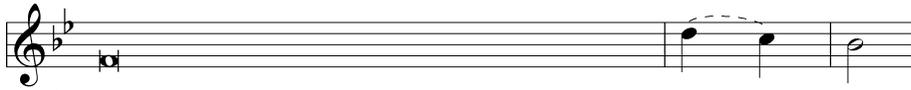
ATHANASIAN CREED

- ¹ Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith.
- ² Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.
- ³ And the catholic faith is this,
- ⁴ that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.
- ⁵ For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.
- ⁶ But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.
- ⁷ Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:
- ⁸ the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;
- ⁹ the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;
- ¹⁰ the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.
- ¹¹ And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,
- ¹² just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.
- ¹³ In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;
- ¹⁴ and yet there are not three Almighty, but one Almighty.
- ¹⁵ So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
- ¹⁶ and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.
- ¹⁷ So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
- ¹⁸ and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.
- ¹⁹ Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.
- ²⁰ The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.
- ²¹ The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.
- ²² The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.
- ²³ Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.
- ²⁴ And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;
- ²⁵ but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.
- ²⁶ Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.
- ²⁷ But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- ²⁸ Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.
- ²⁹ He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages; and He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age:
- ³⁰ perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;
- ³¹ equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
- ³² Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:
- ³³ one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
- ³⁴ one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.
- ³⁵ For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
- ³⁶ who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,
- ³⁷ ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- ³⁸ At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.
- ³⁹ And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- ⁴⁰ This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.

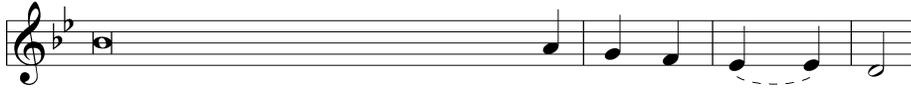
CANTICLE

Stand

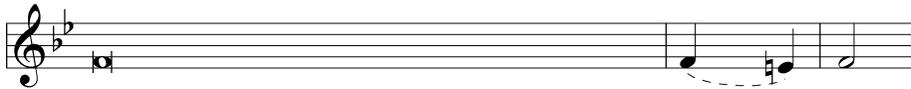
TE DEUM: We Praise You, O God



- C** 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
3 The noble army of martyrs praise — You.



- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
2 The glorious company of the apostles praise — You.
3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
4 You are the king of glory, O — Christ;



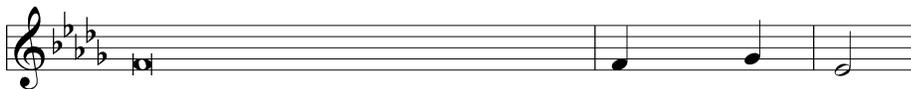
- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
2 The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise — You.
3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com-fort - er.
4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.



- 5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



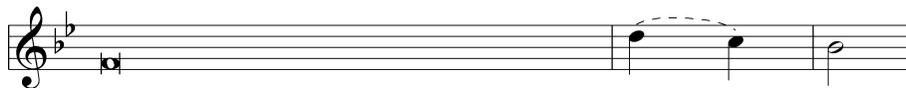
- 5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



- 5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
6 We believe that You will come



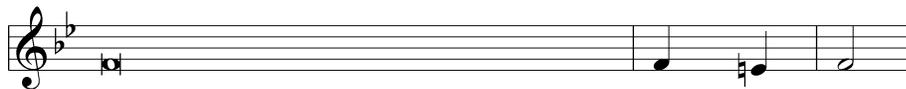
- 5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be — our — judge.



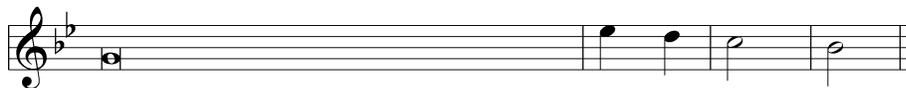
7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,
 8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.
 9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out _____ sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.
 8 Govern them and lift them up for - ev - er.
 9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on _____ us.



7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints
 8 Day by day we magni - fy You.
 9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.



7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.
 8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.
 9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

PRAYER

Kneel (or remain standing)

KYRIE

Mark 10:47



☐ Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13



Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as



it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly



bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give



those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -



to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -
ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

COLLECTS

P The Lord be with you.

G And with your spir - it.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

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.

G A - men.

Collect During an Epidemic

P Almighty God, heavenly Father, give us grace to trust You during this time of illness and distress.

In mercy put an end to the epidemic that afflicts us. Grant relief to those who suffer, and comfort all that mourn. Sustain all medical personnel in their labors, and cause Your people ever to serve You in righteousness and holiness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G A - men.

Additional collects may be prayed following the same form and response. The prayers conclude with the Collect for Grace.

Collect for Grace

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G A - men.

Stand

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1



L Let us bless the Lord.



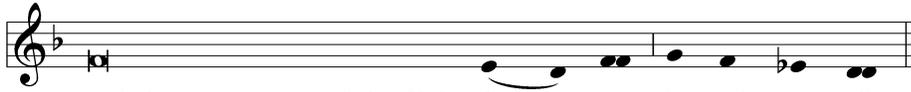
G Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14



P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



G A - - men.

CLOSING HYMN: Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest

499, sts. 1, 5-7



1 Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest, And make our hearts Your
5 Drive far a - way our wi - ly foe, And Your a - bid - ing
6 Teach us to know the Fa - ther, Son, And You, from both, as
△ 7 Praise we the Fa - ther and the Son And Ho - ly Spir - it,



place of rest; Come with Your grace and heav'n - ly aid,
peace be - stow; With You as our pro - tect - ing guide,
Three in One That we Your name may ev - er bless
with them One, And may the Son on us be - stow



And fill the hearts which You have made.
No e - vil can with us a - bide.
And in our lives the truth con - fess.
The gifts that from the Spir - it flow! A - - men.

Text and tune: Public domain

† SOLI DEO GLORIA †
(TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS FROM YOUR PASTOR

Brothers and sisters,

I kind of love the irony that happened with today: we resume in-person services at Grace and everyone is excited. We've all missed gathering in the sanctuary, being surrounded by brothers and sisters in Christ, and we're looking forward to a little bit of "normal" (never mind the "modifications" that the government has asked us to make) and BAM! Here comes the good old Athanasian Creed—that *long and tedious* creed that we recite only once a year . . . on the first day back at church! LOL!

Yeah, the Athanasian Creed is a long one and you can feel just a bit lost going through it unless you are laser-focused on what is being said. But it's also such an important creed *because it is so specific!* Now, maybe it's just because Leo is getting to the age of "What is that? What is this? What? What? What?" that I find the precision and detail of the Athanasian Creed so refreshing!

But for a little guy like Leo—or anyone young in the faith—the Athanasian Creed is a bit of overkill. That's why we start with the Apostle's Creed, the one we use in Holy Baptism, and then move to the Nicene Creed, the one we use with the Lord's Supper.

So why do we only use the Athanasian Creed once a year? Good question. We really ought to wrestle with this one more often because there's some challenging stuff in there! And this creed holds no punches but opens the gates with "Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith. Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally."

Whoa, nelly! Talk about laying it all out there!

But, you know, that's the kind of boldness and confidence that we really ought to have about our faith—the Christian faith—the catholic faith (little "c"). No doubt, the world will, at best, call such confidence "hubris" or, at worst, "elitism." But by God's grace, we'll call it for what it is: TRUTH.

Now, here's my "sales pitch" to help us work our way toward that confidence—join me for our **Study of the Psalms** on "Zoom" **every Tuesday at Noon (ending by 1:00pm)**. We socialize for the first 15 minutes and then start the study at 12:15pm, wrapping up by 12:45pm. We then close with prayer and say goodbye before 1:00pm. I really hope that you will join me for this week for Psalm 7.

- To join the study on your computer, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7603525715>
- To join by phone, call either "669-900-9128" or "346-248-7799" and enter 7603525715#

And tune-in to Facebook **each Wednesday night at 7:00pm** for a short (30 minute) **service of prayer and meditation** on the psalm. The service folder will be on our website (www.GraceLutheranElCentro.org) and the live-stream will be on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranElCentro).

Lastly, please continue to mail your tithes and offerings to the church's post office box:

Grace Evangelical-Lutheran Church
PO Box 1530
El Centro, CA 92244-1530.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
+Pastor Griebenaw