

# HOLY COMMUNION

## MAY 31, 2026

### HOLY TRINITY

#### WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

**PRELUDE AND PREPARATION** *Prepare your heart for worship, read the introduction, look up the Scripture readings and pray:*

**Almighty God, You provide the true bread from heaven, Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Prepare us to receive His body and blood, that abiding in Him, and He in us, we may be filled with the power of His endless life. AMEN.**

**CHILDREN** *of all ages are welcome! The Children's Library is available if a child needs a break during the service.*

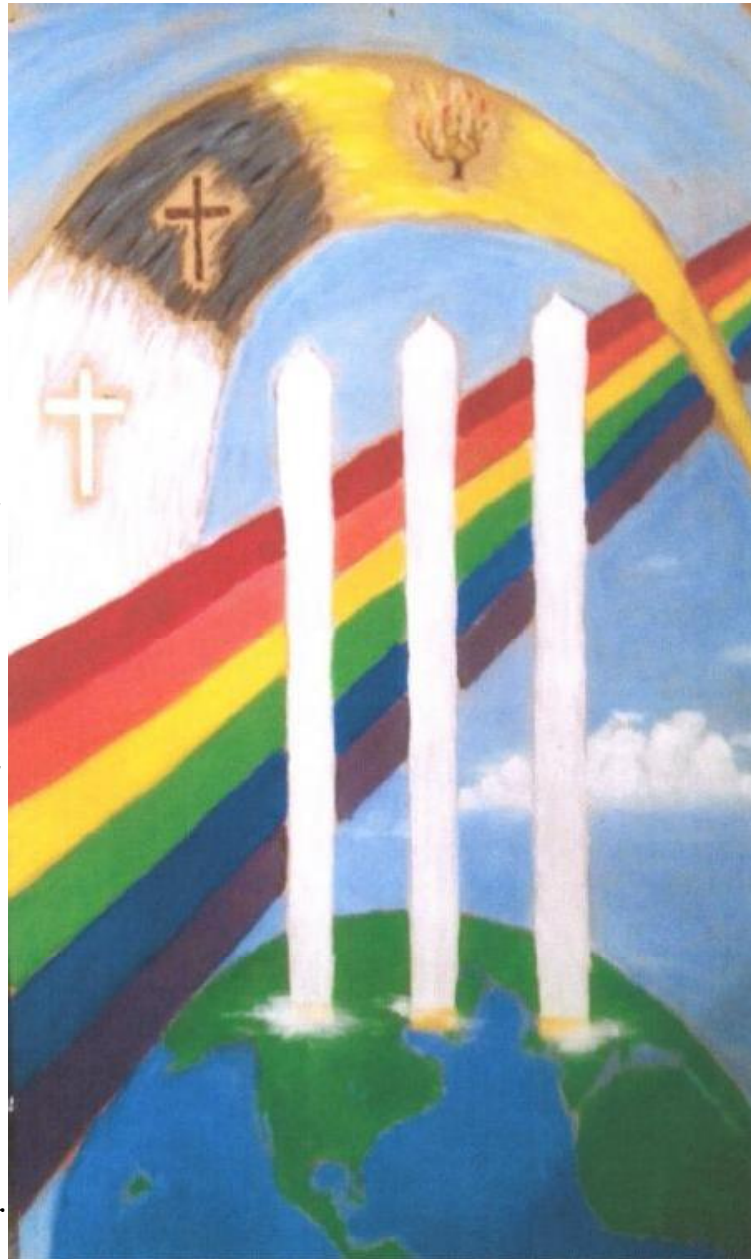
#### **LISTENING**

**DEVICES** *for the hearing impaired are available at the sound board (in the back of the sanctuary).*

#### **INTRODUCTION**

*The word "trinity," though not found in the Bible, is thoroughly Scriptural. Today's second lesson includes the apostolic greeting "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, Son, and 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.*



**COMMEMORATION** of the **Visit of Mary to Elizabeth** - *When Mary visited her cousin. Elizabeth greeted her with the words, "Blessed are you among women," and, inspired by the Holy Spirit, Mary responded by singing (the Magnificat). Luke writes that John the Baptist rejoiced and leapt in his mother's womb when Mary's greeting was heard. God chose these women to mark a turning point in history: Elizabeth (too old to have a child) bears the last prophet of the old covenant, and Mary, still a young virgin, bears the incarnate Word and the new covenant. How might our words today bring blessing to one another?*

**PATRIOTIC PRAISE TIME** (10:45 - Stand, sit or kneel.)

**WELCOME AND MEDITATION**

(Please rise.)

**GATHERING HYMN** "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"  
(Maj # 47 - favorite - Text: Reginald Heber; Tune: John B. Dykes)



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

**Cover art:** *“And THE WORD Is GOD!” by Robert A. Buzzard, April 15, 1960. This was my art work as a young Muhlenberg College student fulfilling the request in a Literature Course for a Symbolic Painting.*

*My Explanation: The story commences on the right side of the painting with the invoking of God’s gold radiant Arc, “THE WORD.” The Arc progresses to Moses and the burning bush, Jesus’ crucifixion, Jesus’ resurrection, then expands to our eternal living world. The spectrum rainbow, Our Hope, is not an arc but forever linear signifying infinity which is the never ending of “THE WORD!” The candles represent the “trinity of the world” and although they appear void of light they are forever illuminated by “God’s Arc!”*

**INVOCATION** ( = All may make the sign of the cross.)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, Who forgives all our sin, Whose mercy endures forever.

**C: AMEN.**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*(Please kneel. Silence is kept for reflection.)*

P: Gracious God, **C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from You and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to You, and uphold us by Your Spirit, so that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **C: AMEN.**

**GREETING** *(Please rise.)*

P: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

# WE PRAISE GOD'S NAME

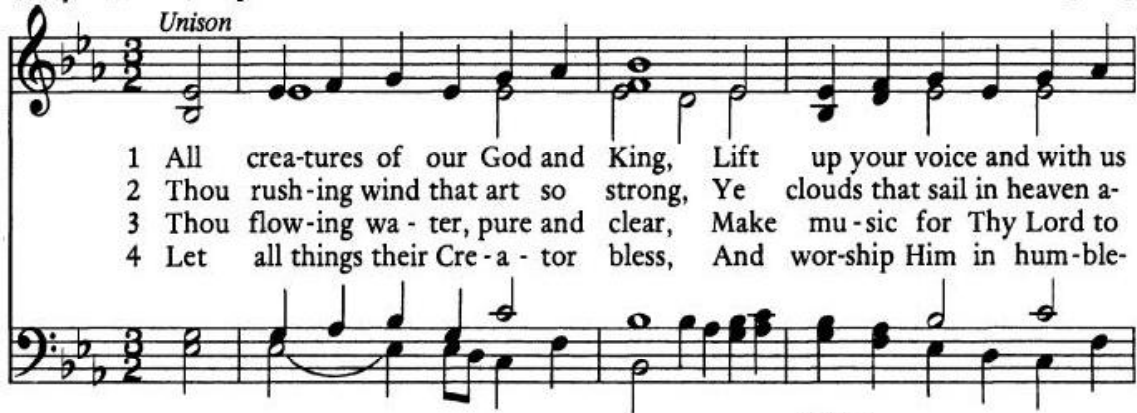
## HYMN OF PRAISE

"All Creatures of our God and King" (Maj # 61)

Francis of Assisi  
Tr. by William H. Draper

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
Geistliche Kirchengesäng

*Unison*

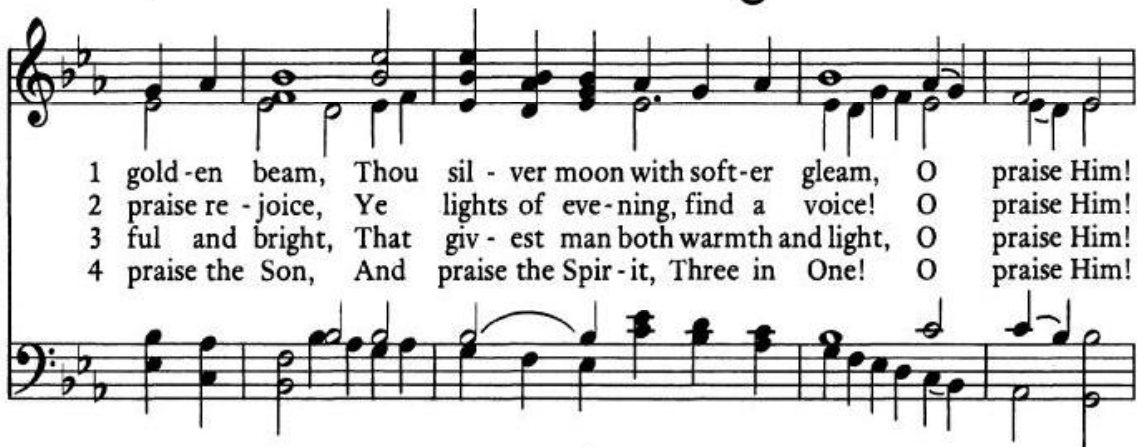


1 All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us  
2 Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heaven a-  
3 Thou flow-ing wa - ter, pure and clear, Make mu-sic for Thy Lord to  
4 Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, And wor-ship Him in hum-ble-

*Harmony* *Unison*



1 sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing sun with  
2 long, O praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing morn, in  
3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so mas - ter -  
4 ness. O praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther,



1 gold - en beam, Thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O praise Him!  
2 praise re - joice, Ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice! O praise Him!  
3 ful and bright, That giv - est man both warmth and light, O praise Him!  
4 praise the Son, And praise the Spir - it, Three in One! O praise Him!



O praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.      **C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray together:      **C: 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 in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. AMEN.**

## RESPONSIVE READING....Psalm 8 (*congregation: indented*)

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

**You have set Your glory above the heavens.**

From the lips of children and infants You have ordained praise because of Your enemies,

**to silence the foe and the avenger.**

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,

**the moon and the stars, which You have set in place,**

what is man that You are mindful of him,

**the son of man that You care for him?**

You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings

**and crowned him with glory and honor.**

You made him ruler over the works of Your hands;

**you put everything under his feet:**

all flocks and herds,

**and the beasts of the field,**

the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,

**all that swim the paths of the seas.**

O LORD, our Lord,

**how majestic is Your name in all the earth!**

# PRAISE SONG *(Please sit.)*

*“I Sing the Mighty Power of God” (W&R # 31)*



1 I sing the might-y pow'r of God that made the moun-tains rise,  
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food,  
3 There's not a plant or flow'r be-low but makes your glo-ries known;



that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad and built the loft-y skies.  
who formed cre-a-tion with a word and then pro-nounced it good.  
and clouds a-rise and tem-pests blow by or-der from your throne;



I sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day;  
Lord, how your won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,  
while all that bor-rows life from you is ev-er in your care,



the moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o-bey.  
if I sur-vey the ground I tread, or gaze up-on the sky!  
and ev-'ry-where that I could be, you, God, are pres-ent there.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, M. v. Werkmeister, *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle*, 1784

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

**FIRST LESSON** .....Genesis 1:1-2:4a.....Pg. 1

P: Word of God, Word of Life.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND LESSON** .....2 Corinthians 13:5-14.....Pg. 1808

P: Word of God, Word of Life.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

**COLLECT FOR CHILDREN** *(When children are present.)*

P: We will dismiss for Children’s Church after the Gospel reading.

Let us pray the Collect for Children together: **C: Heavenly Father, You have blessed our congregation with the joy and care of children. Give us courage, patience, and wisdom, as we bring them up in the faith, that they may never know a day apart from Your love and care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *(Please rise.)*

*“Holy Ground” (Maj # 547 - favorite - Geron Davis)*

We are stand - ing on ho - ly ground,  
and I know that there are an - gels all a - round.  
Let us praise Je - sus now.  
We are stand - ing in his pres - ence on ho - ly ground.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th Chapter.

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

**GOSPEL** .....Matthew 28:16-20.....Pg. 1550

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated. Young children may go to Children’s Church. See the space for sermon notes in Announcements insert.)*

**SERMON** *“Worshiping and Serving the Triune God”*

**WE RESPOND IN FAITH**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *(Please rise.)*

*“Lord you Give the Great Commission” (ELW # 579 verses 1,2,5)*

1 Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the sick and  
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -  
 5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you  
 preach the Word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,  
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,  
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,  
 and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness  
 life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new  
 may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the  
 to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty.  
 fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty.  
 cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty.

*Refrain*  
 With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991

## **ATHANASIAN CREED** (*Read in trialogue*)

**P:** Whoever wishes to be saved must, above all else, hold the true Christian\* faith. Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled, will without doubt perish for eternity.

### **PART 1 - WE WORSHIP ONE GOD IN TRINITY:**

#### **FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT**

**L:** Now this is the true Christian\* faith: We worship one God in trinity and the Trinity in unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the divine being.

**C:** **For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Spirit is still another.**

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

**C: What the Father is, the Son is, and so is the Holy Spirit.**

**Uncreated is the Father; uncreated is the Son; uncreated is the Spirit. The Father is infinite; the Son is infinite; the Holy Spirit is infinite. Eternal is the Father; eternal is the Son; eternal is the Spirit:**

L: 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.

**C: Almighty is the Father; almighty is the Son; almighty is the Spirit:**

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

**C: Thus the Father is God; the Son is God; the Holy Spirit is God:**

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

**C: Thus the Father is Lord; the Son is Lord; the Holy Spirit is Lord:**

L: 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 Christian\* religion forbids us to say that there are three gods or lords.

**C: The Father was neither made nor created nor begotten; the Son was neither made nor created, but was alone begotten of the Father; the Spirit was neither made nor created, but is proceeding from the Father and the Son. Thus there is one Father, not three fathers; one Son, not three sons; one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.**

L: 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;

**C: 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.

**PART 2 - WE BELIEVE AND CONFESS ONE CHRIST**

**WHO IS BOTH GOD AND MAN**

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

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

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

**C: He is God, begotten before all worlds from the being of the Father, and He is man, born in the world from the being of His mother— 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.**

L: Although He is God and man, He is not divided, but is one Christ. He is united because God has taken humanity into Himself; He does not transform deity into humanity. He is completely one in the unity of His person, without confusing His natures. For as the rational soul and body are one person, so the one Christ is God and man.

**C: 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.**

L: 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.

P: This is the true Christian\* faith. One cannot be saved without believing this firmly and faithfully.

*\*catholic (Adapted from the LBW.)*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** *(Please kneel as you are able.)*

*(Response: L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: hear our prayer.)*

**OFFERING** *We no longer pass the plate, but your offerings are needed more than ever. The plate is located at the back of the center aisle. Please place your offering and your Communication Card there as you come in or go out. Thank You!*

## WE COMMUNE WITH CHRIST

### 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 offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everliving God. You have revealed Your glory as the glory also of Your Son and of the Holy Spirit: three persons, equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, yet one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in Your everlasting glory. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn: *“Praise to the Father”*

*(LBW # 517 - Text: Elizabeth R. Charles; Tune: Friedrich F. Flemming)*



1 Praise to the Fa - ther for his lov - ing - kind - ness, ten - der - ly  
2 Praise to the Sav - ior for his deep com - pas - sion, gra - cious - ly  
3 Praise to the Spir - it, com - fort - er of Is - rael, sent from the



car - ing for his err - ing chil - dren; praise him, all an - gels;  
car - ing for his cho - sen peo - ple; young men and wom - en,  
Fa - ther and the Son to bless us! Praise to the Fa - ther,



praise him in the heav - ens; praise to the Fa - ther!  
ag - ing folk and chil - dren, praise to the Sav - ior!  
Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it! Praise to the tri - une God!

### PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world You gave Your only Son, that all those who believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to You for the salvation You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

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 in 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.

Remembering, therefore, His death, resurrection, and ascension, we await His coming in glory. Pour out Your Holy Spirit, that by this memorial meal we may know the unity we share with all Your people in the body of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(sung) (please be seated after "Amen")*

**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. AMEN.**

*(The congregation may bow in reverence and wonder at the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.)*

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION** *All who are baptized and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior may partake. Please fill out a communication card and put it in the offering plate. We have returned to kneeling for communion by "tables." People who want to minimize contact and maintain greater physical distance can take a pre-filled glass and stand a foot back from the altar rail. For a gluten-free rice wafer (blue-green) say "Rice." Grape juice (white) is in pre-filled glasses. Those not ready to receive communion may come for a blessing.*

### **COMMUNION HYMNS** *(sung while others are receiving.)*

1. "Holy God, We Praise Your Name" (ELW # 414)

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we  
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -  
 3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred  
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,  
 above are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,  
 name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,  
 three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your  
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with  
 and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to  
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.  
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"  
 set of sun through the church the song goes on.  
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.  
 Music: GROSSER GOTT, Maria Theresa, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1774

## 2. “Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works” (WOV # 794)

1 Man - y and great, O God, are your works, mak - er of  
 2 Grant un - to us com - mu - nion with you, O Star - a -

earth and sky. Your hands have set the heav'ns with stars;  
 bid - ing One. Come un - to us and dwell with us;

your fin - gers spread the hills and plains. Lo, your word  
 with you are found the gifts of life. Bless us with

formed the wa - ters deep; o - ceans o - bey your voice.  
 life that has no end, e - ter - nal life with you.

Text: Joseph R. Renville, 1779–1846, para. Philip Frazier, 1892–1964, alt. Music: LAC QUI PARLE, Dakota tune

## WE ARE SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

### **CANTICLE** *(Please rise.) "Doxology"*

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, Ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen." The score includes a final double bar line with repeat dots.

### **BLESSING**

P: Continue to walk in Christ Jesus, rooted and built up in Him. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**C: AMEN.**

### **SENDING HYMN** *"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"* *(Maj # 107 - favorite)*

### **PASSING THE PEACE**

L: As we leave to serve the Risen Lord in the power of His Spirit, let us share with one another some of the blessings of peace we have received. The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

### **POSTLUDE**

**FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS** *Everyone is invited to remain for fellowship and refreshments. Snacks, coffee and hot water are available in the Gathering Place. You can brew your own coffee/tea using the Keurig® in the Parlor.*

ALTAR FLOWERS & BULLETINS ARE SPONSORED BY:

*Holy Cross to the glory of God*

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the  
 2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain O'er which our traf - fic  
 3 O Spir - it, whom the Fa - ther sent To spread a - broad the  
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, Our breth - ren shield in

1 rest - less wave, Who bids the might - y o - cean deep Its  
 2 runs a - main By moun - tain pass or val - ley low: Wher -  
 3 fir - ma - ment: O wind of heav - en, by Thy might Save  
 4 dan - ger's hour; From rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro -

1 own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we  
 2 ev - er, Lord, our breth - ren go, Pro - tect them by Thy  
 3 all who dare the ea - gle's flight, And keep them by Thy  
 4 tect them where - so - e'er they go; Thus ev - er - more shall

1 cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
 2 guard - ing hand From ev - ery per - il on the land.  
 3 watch - ful care From ev - ery per - il in the air.  
 4 rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea. A - men.

# MAY 31, 2026 HOLY TRINITY

## SERVANTS OF THE LORD TODAY

COVER ART: Bob Buzzard  
GREETER: 8:30-Sally Stein | 11:00-Irene Graham  
SOUND: 8:30-Josh Miller | 11:00-Ken Yoxheimer  
LIVESTREAM: 8:30-Jan Stryker  
SONG LEADER: Nancy Cook  
CRUCIFER/LITURGIST/COMMUNION: 8:30-Seth Miller  
11:00-Lyn Stryker  
LECTOR: 8:30-Patty Stein | 11:00-Kathy Ballek  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Ruthann Kistler  
USHER: 8:30-Jan Stryker | 11:00-Irene Graham  
ALTAR GUILD: Irene Graham & Sharon Branigan  
COUNTERS: Karen Brown, Jan Stryker  
GRASS CUTTERS (5/25-30): Sam Glasmire, Rich Stein  
SEXTON: **Volunteers needed**  
PHONETREE: Stephen Zeiner  
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Mike Zyskowski  
PRAYER CARE: call Darlene Treisner (610) 442-8494

## Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church



a congregation of the  
NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH



2700 Jacksonville Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017  
Office/Pastor (610) 867-6231 † Holycrossoffice@rcn.com  
Holycrosspastor@rcn.com † Preschool (610) 867-9735  
www.holycrossbethlehem.com

### CHURCH STAFF

Rev. David L. Brown, *Pastor* † Ruthann Kistler, *Christian Ed. Dir.*  
Nancy Cook, *Organist* † Karen Brown, *Secretary*  
**Volunteers Needed**, *Sexton* † Karen Steiner, *Pre-school*  
Lisa Wechsler, *Bookkeeper* † Stephen Zeiner, *Webmaster*

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM † Sunday School - 9:45 AM  
(*Holy Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays & Major Feasts*)

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