

THREE IN ONE

AS WE GATHER

Holy Trinity, a time we commemorate and celebrate, is different than any other recognized time in the Church Year. Unlike Christmas, Easter, or last week's Pentecost, where we rejoice in and reflect upon an action of God for our salvation, Holy Trinity is a time to rejoice in and reflect upon a *doctrine*. We gather around our shared confession of God as we know Him to be in the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Even in the mystery of things we cannot fully understand or comprehend by our own reason, we trust God's revelation through His Word made known to us of who He is and what He has done, that apart from Him there is no other.

PREPARATION

HYMN "HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE THY NAME"

#940 *st. 1*

1 Ho - ly God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we
bow be - fore Thee. All on earth Thy scep - ter claim,
All in heav'n a - bove a - dore Thee. In - fi - nite Thy
vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign.

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.

Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna

Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

INTRODUCTION

P Through our worship, we will progressively and responsively confess the Athanasian Creed. As the more commonly confessed Apostles' and Nicene Creeds were written and doctrinally accepted according to God's Word in defense to the heresies of the time and applicable still today, so also the Athanasian Creed was written and doctrinally accepted to refute false teachings regarding the Scripturally revealed identity and work of the one true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As we hold the "catholic faith," the Athanasian Creed refers to "catholic" as the true Church of all times and places who faithfully confess the true Christ as Lord and Savior.

ATHANASIAN CREED

Part 1

- P** Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith.
- C** **Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.**
- P** And the catholic faith is this,
- C** **that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.**
- P** For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.
- C** **But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.**
- P** Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:
- C** **the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;**
- P** the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;
- C** **the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.**
- P** And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,
- C** **just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinities, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.**
- P** In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;
- C** **and yet there are not three Almightyies, but one Almighty.**
- P** So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
- C** **and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**
- P** So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
- C** **and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.**

HYMN "HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE THY NAME"

#940^{st. 2}

2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a -
bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the heav'ns with
sweet ac - cord: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.
Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna
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PSALM

Psalm 8

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

C You have set Your glory above the heavens.

P Out of the mouth of babes and infants, You have established strength

C because of Your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

P When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,

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

P what is man that You are mindful of him,

C and the son of man that You care for him?

P Yet You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings

C and crowned him with glory and honor.

P You have given him dominion over the works of Your hands;

C You have put all things under his feet,

P all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

C the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

P O LORD, our Lord,

C how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

HYMN "HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE THY NAME"

#940 *st. 3*

3 Lo, the a - pos - tles' ho - ly train Join Thy sa - cred
name to hal - low; Proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
And the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low, And from morn to
set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.
Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna
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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** As we approach our triune God and gather in His majestic name, we draw near with a true heart and confess our sins.
- C** **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness.**
- P** We have turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing.
- C** **We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins.**
- P** Have mercy on us, heavenly Father, because of the obedience of our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.
- C** **Forgive us all that is past, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, move us to serve You faithfully. Set our feet upon the new path of life, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.**
- P** Jesus says, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am” (John 8:58). He alone, with the Father and the Spirit, is the one who has promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you to greater faith and obedience, and bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

HYMN “HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE THY NAME”

#940 *st. 4*

4 Thou art King of Glo - ry, Christ; Son of God, yet
born of Mar - y. For us sin - ners sac - ri - ficed,
As to death a Trib - u - tar - y, First to break the
bars of death, Thou hast o - pened heav'n to faith.

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.

Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna

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WORD

INTROIT FOR HOLY TRINITY

Psalm 16:8–11; antiphon: Liturgical Text

P *Blesséd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity. Let us give glory to Him, because He has shown His mercy to us.*

C **Blesséd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity. Let us give glory to Him, because He has shown His mercy to us.**

P *I have set the LORD always before me;
because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.*

C **Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.**

P *For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
or let Your Holy One see corruption.*

C **You make known to me the path of life;
in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures
forevermore.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Blesséd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity. Let us give glory to
Him, because He has shown His mercy to us.**

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KYRIE

LSB 204

C **Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,

Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

PRAYER 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.
- C** Amen.

HYMN "HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE THY NAME"

#940 *st. 5*

△ 5 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,
three we name Thee; Though in es - sence on - ly one,
Un - di - vid - ed God we claim Thee And, a - dor - ing,
bend the knee While we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.

Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna

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OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31

- ¹Does not wisdom call?
Does not understanding raise her voice?
- ²On the heights beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her stand;
- ³beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:

⁴“To you, O men, I call,
 and my cry is to the children of man. . . .

²²“The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work,
 the first of his acts of old.

²³Ages ago I was set up,
 at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

²⁴When there were no depths I was brought forth,
 when there were no springs abounding with water.

²⁵Before the mountains had been shaped,
 before the hills, I was brought forth,

²⁶before he had made the earth with its fields,
 or the first of the dust of the world.

²⁷When he established the heavens, I was there;
 when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

²⁸when he made firm the skies above,
 when he established the fountains of the deep,

²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit,
 so that the waters might not transgress his command,
 when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
³⁰then I was beside him, like a master workman,
 and I was daily his delight,
 rejoicing before him always,
³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world
 and delighting in the children of man.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31

P The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart,

C the word of faith that we proclaim.

P For with the heart one believes and is justified,

C and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

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;
²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;

my flesh also will dwell in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One see corruption.

²⁸You 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.’

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

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Isaiah 6:3b

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

ATHANASIAN CREED

Part 2

P 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.

C The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.

P The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.

C The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.

P Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.

C And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;

P 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.

C Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:48–59

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁸The Jews answered [Jesus], “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” ⁴⁹Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” ⁵²The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ ⁵³Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” ⁵⁴Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ ⁵⁵But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. ⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” ⁵⁷So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” ⁵⁸Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” ⁵⁹So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

#507 *sts. 1–2*

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,
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;
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,
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826

Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76

Text and tune: Public domain

INTRODUCTION

- P** As we confess in this creed the work and identity of the one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with all founded in and supported throughout Scripture, the Athanasian Creed closes with a reminder of judgment and the Last Day to come. Though reference is made to works, works are not the basis of our salvation. Only those who by faith believe in Jesus Christ for salvation are able to do good works in God's sight, and the good works done are fruits of the saving faith in Christ given through the Holy Spirit.

ATHANASIAN CREED

Part 3

- P** But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **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.**
- P** 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:
- C** **perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;**
- P** equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
- C** **Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:**
- P** one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
- C** **one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.**
- P** For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
- C** **who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,**
- P** 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.
- C** **At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.**
- P** And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- C** **This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.**

HYMN OF THE DAY "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

#507 *sts. 3-4*



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!



Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.



On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826

Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76

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SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Before Abraham was, You were and are and ever will be—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. From You comes all that is from creation to redemption in Jesus Christ. Your grace preserves all things. Grant us continued faith and trust in who You have revealed Yourself to be that we trust in Your mercy and rejoice in the forgiveness accomplished for us through all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Ever-uniting Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—join us together in fellowship with one another and with You. Give us Your Spirit, that all may confess truly and faithfully Your Word and live in harmony of doctrine and life. As we prepare to receive the gifts You have prepared—Christ’s body and blood for the forgiveness of sins—in, with, and under the bread and the wine, nourish the faith You give as we gather together in Your presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Ever-sustaining Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—we worship You not as we ought but as we are able, within the frailty of our minds that struggle to understand and hearts that struggle against sin and unbelief. Guard us by Your Spirit, that we not grow weary nor lose sight of the goal before us. Work in us to display the good works of Him who has called us from darkness into His marvelous light. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Ever-providing Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—You have suffered fully the cost of love through the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Give healing and peace to all who are afflicted, and give Your comfort to the grieving and dying. We lift up to You those who have requested our prayer, *especially Hedy, Jean,*

Kathleen, Ray, Wally, Dana, Kaylee, Jen, John, Leah, Jonathan, Rod, and Kris, those whose needs are known only to You, and those in our hearts [*silence for private prayer*]. Give them all that is needful so they may endure trials confident of Your presence and grace sufficient for every need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Ever-present Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—renew us by Your Word and Spirit. Where we lack love and compassion, build us up in Christ. When distracted by the temporal things of this world, draw our eyes upon our Savior You have given. Grant Your presence and strengthen our trust in Your promises made, fulfilled, and yet to come, that we be found faithful at Your time, and be forever together with those who have gone before us to Your kingdom without end. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Additional petitions may follow.

P All these things we pray to You, through Christ Jesus, for You live and reign as the triune and eternal God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who always has been and always will be.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

BENEDICTION

P 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.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “GLORY BE TO GOD THE FATHER”

#506



1 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, Glo - ry be to
2 Glo - ry be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each
3 Glo - ry to the King of an - gels, Glo - ry to the
4 Glo - ry, bless - ing, praise e - ter - nal! Thus the choir of



God the Son, Glo - ry be to God the Spir - it:
spot and stain; Glo - ry be to Him who bought us,
Church's King, Glo - ry to the King of na - tions;
an - gels sings; Hon - or, rich - es, pow'r, do - min - ion!



Great Je - ho - vah, Three in One! Glo - ry,
Made us kings with Him to reign! Glo - ry,
Heav'n and earth, your prais - es bring! Glo - ry,
Thus its praise cre - a - tion brings. Glo - ry,



glo - ry While e - ter - nal a - ges run!
glo - ry To the Lamb that once was slain!
glo - ry To the King of glo - ry sing!
glo - ry, Glo - ry to the King of kings!

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89

Tune: Walter G. Whinfield, 1865–1919

Text and tune: Public domain

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