

Liturgy

First Sunday after Pentecost
Year B
Trinity Sunday

GATHERING

Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the LORD is powerful;

The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

In His temple, all cry: "Glory!"

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood,

Yes, the LORD sits enthroned as King forever.

The LORD gives strength to His people;

The LORD blesses His people with peace!

— from Psalms 29 and 30:4

We are gathered to worship the eternal God,

the source of love and life, who creates us.

We are gathered to worship Jesus Christ,

the risen One, who lives among us.

We are gathered to worship the Spirit,

the holy fire, who renews us.

**To the one true God be praise in all times and places,
through the grace of Jesus Christ.**

How Great Is Our God

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty:

Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.

He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,

And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice.

Chorus

How great is our God, sing with me

How great is our God;

And all will see how great,

How great is our God.

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands:

Beginning and the End, beginning and the End.

The Godhead Three in One: Father, Spirit, Son;

The Lion and the Lamb, Lion and the Lamb.

Bridge

Name above all names, Worthy of all praise;

My heart will sing, How great is our God.

You're the name above all names

You're worthy of all praise

My heart will sing how great is our God

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Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

*LECTIONARY for the first Sunday
after Pentecost, Year B:*

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalms 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

In the liturgical year, the first Sunday after the commemoration of the Day of Pentecost is traditionally devoted to a celebration of the mystery, power, beauty, and community of the triune God. On Trinity Sunday, the focus of the Church is on the Person and work of each member of the Trinity, and on the theological truth that all three Persons exist together throughout all eternity—from all ages past, in the present now, and into eternity future. The lectionary for year B invites us to see these truths in several passages. Isaiah relates his vision of the Lord on His throne and God's calling of him as His prophet with the words: "Who will go for us?" Psalm 29 depicts the eternal power and majesty of the Godhead. In the familiar and beloved passage in John's gospel, Jesus explains to Nicodemus God's heart of love, expressed and accomplished through the Father, the Son and the Spirit in the gift of eternal life: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." And in the epistle reading we see the gracious working of the Trinity in our adoption into God's family as His children and heirs.

As you read through this liturgy, consider and contemplate the various ways in which the words of the readings and the lyrics of the songs reveal the nature of the triune God and help us to understand—and experience—our relationship with Him and with each other within the community of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Gathering reading is written for two readers and the congregation. This second part is adapted and reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, ©2004 CRC Publications.

INVOCATION

Prayers of adoration, praise, and thanksgiving for God's presence

Come, Thou Almighty King

Come, Thou Almighty King;
Help us Thy name to sing.
Help us to praise:
Father, all glorious,
O'er all victorious;
Come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou Incarnate Word;
Gird on Thy mighty sword.
Our prayer attend:
Come, and Thy people bless,
And give Thy word success;
Spirit of holiness,
On us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter;
Thy sacred witness bear.
In this glad hour:
Thou, who almighty art,
Now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.

Setting: Ellen Koehler. Copyright ©2013. All Rights Reserved.
Text: Author unknown.
Hymn tune: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1769.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**I bind unto myself the name –
the strong name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same:
the Three in One and One in Three,
by whom all nature hath creation,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word.**

**Praise to the Lord of my salvation,
Salvation is of Christ the Lord.**

– from the *Lorica* of St. Patrick
(St. Patrick's Breast-Plate; 5th C.)

We use these three verses of this traditional hymn here at Gathering, and bring in the doxological fourth verse below, as a sung response to the Profession of Faith (much of which is also sung).

Ellen's setting of Come, Thou Almighty King is available by request as a lead sheet and scored for keyboard or organ. You may write us at: clerestorynotes@gmail.com

We are using this section of Saint Patrick's ancient hymn to the Trinity as an introduction to our sung profession of faith (below).

A lorica is an ancient monastic prayer for protection. The Lorica of Saint Patrick, also commonly known as Saint Patrick's Breastplate, is a Gaelic poem attributed to Saint Patrick. For more information on the composition and background of the Lorica, see the commentary on Be Thou My Vision in the Music Room (Hymn Settings section). Here's a link: <https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/be-thou-my-vision>

We Believe (Apostles' Creed)

Chorus

We believe in one true God:
Father, Spirit, Son;
One Church, one faith, one Lord of all;
His kingdom come.

Verse 1

We believe in God the Father,
Almighty Lord of life,
Creator of the Heavens,
The earth, the sea, the sky.
And we believe in Jesus,
The only Son of God,
Born of the virgin Mary,
Who lived as one of us.

Verse 2

We believe that Jesus suffered,
Was beaten, crucified;
He died and He was buried,
Entombed in darkest night.
The third day rose victorious,
Ascended into Heav'n,
Will one day come to judge us,
The living and the dead.

Verse 3

We believe in God the Spirit;
One church, empow'ed by Him;
Communion of God's people,
Forgiveness of our sin;
Our bodies resurrected
To everlasting life,
To worship, love and wonder
Before the throne of Christ.

CCLI Song #7063563 ©2016 Thankyou Music.
Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.

Come, Thou Almighty King (verse 4)

To Thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be.
Hence evermore:
Thy sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see;
And to eternity
Love and adore.

Setting: Ellen Koehler. Copyright ©2013 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.
Words and hymn tune public domain. Text: Anonymous.
Hymn tune: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1769.

The Profession of Faith is a mostly sung profession on this Trinity Sunday, following the corporate reading from Saint Patrick's Breastplate.

Alternate choices for a sung profession of faith:

- Because We Believe
(CCLI Song #2133379 ©1996 Mother's Heart Music. Jamie Harvill and Nancy Gordon)

- This I Believe (The Creed)
(CCLI Song #7018338 ©2014 Hillsong Music Publishing. Ben Fielding and Matt Crocker)

The doxological fourth verse of this classic Trinitarian hymn is a natural and fitting conclusion to the sung Profession of Faith.

Ellen's setting of Come, Thou Almighty King is available on request as a lead sheet and scored for keyboard or organ.

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,
He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies
through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Brothers and sisters, we have an obligation – not to the flesh, but to the Spirit.

If, by the Spirit, we are putting to death the misdeeds of the body, we will live.
For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

– from Romans 8:11-14

Let us confess our sins to God in the words of this ancient prayer
from the early church, the Trisagion, which means “three-times holy.”

**Holy God, Holy and mighty,
Holy immortal One, Have mercy on us.**

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy on us.

[Silence]

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy on us.

[Silence]

O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,
Have mercy on us.

[Silent confessions]

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.
Hear our prayer, O God; hear our prayers.
Incline Your ear to us, and grant us Your peace.

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord hear my prayer,
O Lord hear my prayer,
When I call answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer,
O Lord hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song,
The Lord is my praise;
All my hope comes from God.
The Lord is my song,
The Lord is my praise;
God, the well-spring of life.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.
For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through Him. – John 3:16-17

You did not receive a spirit of slavery, that you should fall back into fear.

But you received a spirit of adoption.

*When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness
with our spirit that we are children of God,
and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.*

– Romans 8:15-17

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

TIME OF OFFERING

Words and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

I See the Lord

I see the Lord,
Seated on the throne,
Exalted;
And the train of His robe
Fills the temple with glory.
And the whole earth is filled,
And the whole earth is filled,
And the whole earth is filled
With His glory.

Holy, holy, holy, holy,
Holy is the Lord.
Holy, holy, holy, holy,
Holy is the Lord.

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THE WORD

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

Passing of the Peace

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!

Our Father in Heaven (sung)

Our Father in heaven, Your name is holy,
Your name is holy, our Father.
Your kingdom come,
And Your will be done
Here on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us, we pray, our bread for today,
Our debts forgive and in turn we will live,
Forgiving of what others owe.
Keep us from trials;
Save us from our ancient foe!

As we sing the kingdom,
We sing the power,
We sing the glory be Yours –
Forever. Amen. Amen. Amen!

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All Creatures of Our God and King

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness:
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One.
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: St. Francis of Assisi, c. 1225; transl. William H. Draper, 1919.
Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623; hymn tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Words: Reginald Heber, 1826; Music: John B. Dykes, 1861

Revelation Song (Chorus)

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come;
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings;
You are my ev'rything, and I will adore You.

CCLI Song #4447960 ©2004 Gateway Create Publishing. Jennie Lee Riddle

Music for this setting of the Lord's Prayer, Our Father in Heaven, is available in the sheet music catalog as a lead sheet, and as a solo/melody line with piano accompaniment on request.

Here's a link:

<https://clerestorynotes.com/live/sheetmusic/our-father-heaven>

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

Holy, Holy, Holy (verse 4)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name,
In earth, and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Benediction:

God the Father,
through the Word and the Holy Spirit,
created all things.

**He revealed His perfect plan in all creation
by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh;
and through the Spirit enables us, His children,
to share in the life, love and community of the blessed Trinity.**

Now, as we go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord,
may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Amen. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

– based in part on 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

A thought about worship...

“The Christian church . . . has always been committed to a triune experience and understanding of God, but most preachers seldom preach on this subject. The discipline of addressing the congregation once a year on the meaning of triune faith and worship is helpful and necessary. . . . Christians need to know . . . the spiritual understanding of the self made in the image of God and the significance of Christian community that mirrors the eternal, communal relationship of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.” (Robert E. Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year* [Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004], 175).

Lectionary for next week: 1 Samuel 8:4-20, 11:14-15; Psalm 138;
Genesis 3:8-15; Psalm 130;
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

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