

May 26, 2024
Holy Trinity
Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA)

### Introduction to the day

When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

This worship is being streamed live via Facebook and will be posted to our Website and X (formerly Twitter). The camera captures anyone in the first few pews of our worship space and beyond extending to the altar.

PREDLUDE LIGHTING OF CANDLES RINGING OF BELL WELCOME

#### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The assembly stands.

Please respond with the words printed in bold.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

#### Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection.

### Gracious God,

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.

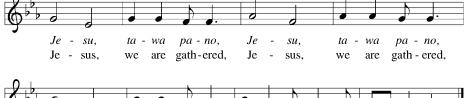
Amen.

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 + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

The assembly stands.

### GATHERING SONG Jesus, We Are Gathered (ELW 529) Sing twice.



Je - su, ta - wa pa - no, ta - wa pa - no mu zi - ta re - nyu.

Je - sus, we are gath-ered, we are gath-ered, Lord Je-sus, for you.

Text: Patrick Matsikenyiri

Music: JESU, TAWA PANO, Patrick Matsikenyiri

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### **GREETING (ELW p. 184)**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 188)

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

The assembly is seated.

#### WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

This reading narrates Isaiah's vision of the Lord surrounded by angels. They sing "Holy, holy," a song the church sings at the beginning of the great thanksgiving. This liturgical text invites the church and all creation to sing in praise of God's glory. That glory is God's mercy toward sinners.

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;

the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 29

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

Output Technology of the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

### <sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;

### the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup>The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;

the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

#### **SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17**

In describing the new life of faith, Paul refers to all three persons of the Trinity: the Spirit leads us to recognize that we are children of God the Father and joint heirs with Christ the Son.

A reading from Romans.

<sup>12</sup>Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Word of God, word of life.

#### Thanks be to God.

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Celtic Alleluia (ELW 174)



#### GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

Jesus' miracles prompt Nicodemus to visit him in secrecy. Jesus tells him about being born of the Spirit and about the Son who has been sent by God to save.

The holy gospel according to John.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁵Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ®The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁵Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹0Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of

Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON (ELW p. 189)

The assembly is stands.

### HYMN OF THE DAY Come, Join the Dance of Trinity (ELW 412)



Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune
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### APOSTLE'S CREED (ELW p. 189)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Each petition ends with, "Lord, in your mercy." Those worshipping respond with the hymn below, "Hear Our Prayer" (ELW 178).



Text and music: Paul Andress, b. 1956 Text and music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

# **PEACE (ELW p. 189)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

#### **OFFERING**

We are grateful for your gifts, and they are needed to continue the work of the church. For those worshipping online, options on ways to give are found on our website (<a href="www.wbbethany.org">www.wbbethany.org</a>). Thank you! After the offering is gathered, the people of God stand and sing the hymn on the next page as the gifts are brought forward.

### Change My Heart, O God (ELW 801)



# **OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 190)**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

# LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

# **BLESSING (ELW p. 192)**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

#### Amen.

The God of all grace 

→ bless you now and forever.

#### Amen.

# SENDING SONG Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! (ELW 413)



### **DISMISSAL (ELW p. 192)**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the Great Hall following worship.

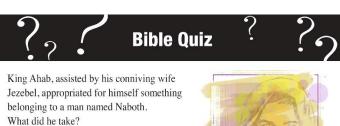
OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS		
Ministers of:	Today	June 2
Music	Jill Barnhart	Jill Barnhart
Proclamation (Lector)	Dave Bahnsen	Del Hughes
Minister of Technology	Cole Crosthwaite & Tate Frantz	Dale Swenson
Worship (Altar Care)	John & Linda Black	Marsh Family



Thank you for worshipping with us today. Just as Jesus welcomed the stranger, we believe all are welcome here. Please join us again next week.

For more information about our life together in Christ, visit:

www.wbbethany.org

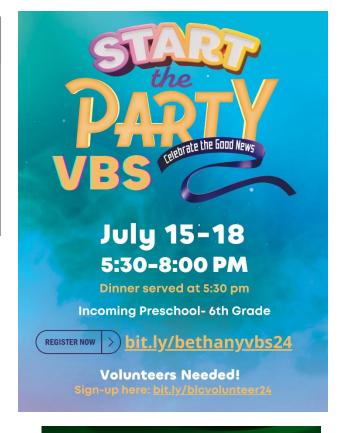


- A. Naboth's oxen
- B. Naboth's farm
- C. Naboth's vineyard
- D. Naboth's house



Answer: C (See 1 Kings 21:1-16.)





# Land Acknowledgement

Bethany Lutheran is located in the original and ancestral homelands of the lowa, Sauk, Fox, Kickapoo and Oceti Sakowin peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

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