



## **“How Do You Not Understand?”**

Holy Trinity

May 27, 2018

# **KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH** | *Golden Valley, Minnesota*

*May 27, 2018*

## **VISIT**

Welcome to God's divine service among his saints in his house this morning. If you experience any kind of barrier to worship, please speak with an usher. There is a hearing assistance system available, there are activity bags for children, and the service is streamed live in the Fireside Room down the hall.

Please fill out one of the worship participation cards in the pew racks and place it into the offering plate during the service. The pastors at King of Grace will be happy to contact you with more information about the church or school if you request contact on the card.

## **WORSHIP**

Trinity Sunday is one of the few Sunday festivals in the church year during which we celebrate a doctrine, not an event. Today we recall the identity of the one true God. Trinity Sunday is a celebration of the revelation, as seen in Scripture, that our God is one God in three persons. Today we see how the Word of God creates faith in the Holy Trinity, resulting in our status as children of God.

- In the Old Testament reading, Isaiah is purified to become one of God's children and spokesmen through a holy coal—representing Jesus, the Holy One of God.
- According to the Epistle reading, belonging to the family of God is not restricted to Jews only, it is open to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.
- The Gospel reading tells of Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus, who thought membership in the family of God was by physical descent. But no, Jesus says, it is by spiritual rebirth. The Holy Triune God is not a tribal deity, he is God of all!

*The word Matins means “of the morning.” It is an ancient service of prayer which was traditionally conducted at the break of day. In Matins, we hear God’s Word read and proclaimed and then respond with prayers for blessing, protection, and guidance as we begin a new day and a new week.*

## THE CONFESSION OF SINS

Page 109

## OPENING HYMN

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” | #15

## THE VERSICLES

Page 109

*The versicles (or ‘small verses’) are short responsive sentences from God’s Word which are said and sung by the pastor and the congregation.*

## THE INVITATORY AND VENITE EXULTEMUS

Page 110

*Venite Exultemus means “Come Let us Worship” in Latin. This is Psalm 95 set to a musical tune and has been sung to glorify and praise God for over 2,500 years.*

# THE WORD

---

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.” At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.” Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.” 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!”

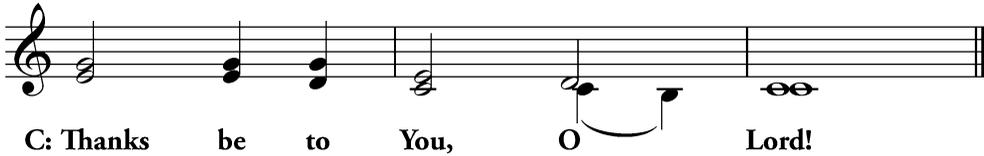
## EPISTLE READING

*Romans 8:14-17*

Because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

## THE RESPONSORY

*Page 112*



## THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON HYMN

*"God Loved the World So that He Gave" | #403*

## GOSPEL READING

*John 3:1-17*

## "How Do You Not Understand?"

**N**OW THERE WAS A MAN OF THE PHARISEES NAMED NICODEMUS, A MEMBER of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him." In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he

gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

### **OFFERING**

*The offering is given by the members of King of Grace as a fruit of faith to thank God for how He provides for our earthly needs daily and richly. If you are visiting us today, please do not feel compelled to participate.*

### **CANTICLE HYMN**

*“The Lord, My God, Be Praised” | #404 v. 1-4*

*The Canticle is a hymn or song of praise that traditionally is based on a text from God’s Word other than the Psalms.*

### **PRAYERS, BEGINNING WITH THE KYRIE**

*Page 116*

*Kyrie Eleison means “Lord have mercy.” It is a cry from God’s people asking that our Triune God look on us in mercy, and that He would help us in our needs and troubles.*

### **BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION**

*Page 119*

*Benedicamus means, “Let us bless.” It calls on the congregation to give thanks to God and has its origins in the Psalms (41:13, 72:18) as well as in 1 Corinthians 15:57, “But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” The Benediction is a blessing on God’s people.*

### **CLOSING HYMN**

*“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” | #592*