

First English Lutheran Church

1311 E. 18th Street

Spencer, Iowa 51301

8:00 & 10:45 A.M. Non-Communion Services

Paul E. Kaldahl, Pastor

Holy Trinity

May 31, 2026

Phone: 262-5598

Kristin Kaldahl, Organist

AS WE GATHER

We are brought together by the Spirit of Christ to take up our part of the holy conversation that goes on continually between God and His church. On this day, God, who is One divine Unity in three undivided Persons, reveals Himself to His people.

PRELUDE / BELLS

HYMN – AGPS # 86 “Come Let Us Worship”

WELCOME

INVOCATION

P: In the name of our Triune God --- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Praise to our creating God! Praise to our redeeming God!
Praise to our renewing God!**

P: Let us join in thankful voices:

C: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Lord God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we praise You for Your love and mercy. As we worship, remind us of the blessings that come from You alone. Make us thankful, fill us with joyful faith, and keep us in fellowship with You here on earth and hereafter in heaven forever. Hear us in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Remembering . . . Today we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity as He reveals Himself in three distinct but interdependent Persons. The Holy Trinity speaks and we listen. He shows Himself in the spoken Word and the Word made flesh --- Christ Jesus our Lord.

LITANY TO GOD THE FATHER

P: I believe in God, the Father almighty,

C: Maker of heaven and earth.

P: Heavenly Father, who has employed divine power, wisdom, and love for our benefit; who every moment bestows new blessings upon us; who has not withdrawn Your bounteous hand from us though we have sinned against You;

C: have mercy upon us.

P: Heavenly Father, for Your caring correction and chastisement; for all Your gifts and blessings which we have never yet fully known; for all Your gifts and blessings that we have so often sinfully misused; for all Your gifts and blessings that You have bestowed on all the family of humankind; in union with the thanksgivings that the Church on earth and the Church triumphant in heaven pays You:

C: we thank You, heavenly Father.

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: Amen

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Genesis 1:1-2:3 ESV
(God creates the world.)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶ And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. ⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ And God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and

the stars. ¹⁷ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. ²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²¹ So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. ²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds — livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. ²⁵ And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. (Genesis 2) Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation. ⁴ These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created

HYMN – LSB #905 verse 1 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

LITANY TO GOD THE SON

- P: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
C: born of the Virgin Mary,
P: suffered under Pontius Pilate,
C: was crucified, died, and was buried.
P: He descended into hell.
C: The third day He rose again from the dead.
P: He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
C: From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
P: Jesus, our Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world,
C: have mercy upon us.
P: By Your glorious resurrection; by Your victory over death; by the glorious majesty of Your risen body;
C: good Lord, deliver us.
P: That we may walk in love, even as You walked in love; that we may set our affections on things above, not on things on earth; that we may live with You forever in heaven and earth;
C: grant us good Lord.
P: O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world;
C: have mercy upon us and grant us Your peace.
P: Lord, have mercy.
C: Christ, have mercy.
P: Lord, have mercy.
C: Amen

EPISTLE – Acts 2:14a, 22-36 ^{ESV}

But Peter, 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 — ²³ this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴ God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵ For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. ²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. ²⁸ You 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.³⁰ Being 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,³¹ he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption.³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.³³ Being 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.³⁴ For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, “The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand,³⁵ until I make your enemies your footstool.”³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

HYMN – LSB #905 verse 2 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

LITANY TO GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

P: I believe in the Holy Spirit,

C: **the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,**

P: the forgiveness of sins,

C: **the resurrection of the body,**

P: and the life everlasting.

C: **Amen**

P: O Spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and strength, of knowledge and godliness;

C: **have mercy upon us.**

P: O Spirit of love, joy, and peace; of long-suffering, gentleness, and goodness; of truth, kindness, and patience;

C: **have mercy upon us.**

P: From all sin and from all evil, from the crafts and assaults of the devil, from all uncleanness of mind and of body, and from every evil spirit,

C: **O Holy Spirit, deliver us.**

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: **Amen**

HYMN – LSB #905 verse 3 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 28:16-20^{ESV}

(Jesus gives the Great Commission.)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

HYMN – LSB #507 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

SERMON

ATHANASIAN CREED

Established by the catholic (catholic = “one” not Roman Catholic) Ecumenical Council sometime between 350-428 AD this creed attacked at least five different heresies of early Christian Church and defended the Scriptural truths passed down by the holy apostles of Christ. Since this is Trinity Sunday, for the sake of brevity a portion of the creed, which deals with the human and divine natures of Christ, has been omitted.

P: Whoever will be saved shall, above all else, hold the catholic [catholic = one] faith

C: **Which faith, except everyone keeps whole and undefiled, without doubt he will perish eternally.**

P: And the catholic faith is this,

Men: that we worship one God in three persons and three persons in one God,

Women: neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.

C: **For there is one person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Spirit.**

P: But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit is all one:

C: **the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.**

Men: Such as the father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit.

Women: *The Father uncreated, the Son uncreated and the Holy Spirit uncreated.*

Men: The Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible, and the Holy Spirit incomprehensible.

Women: The Father Eternal, the Son eternal, and the Holy Spirit eternal

P: And yet, there are not three eternal, but one eternal.

Men: As there are not three uncreated nor three incomprehensibles

Women: but one uncreated and one incomprehensible.

East side: So likewise, the Father is Almighty, the Son almighty, and the Holy Spirit almighty.

P: And yet there are not three almighties but one almighty.

West side: So, the Father God, the Son God, and the Holy Spirit God.

P: And yet there are not three Gods but one God.

East side: So likewise, the Father Lord, the Son Lord, and the Holy Spirit Lord.

P: And yet there are not three Lords but one Lord.

West side: For as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge every person by himself to be both God and Lord,

C: So, we cannot by the catholic faith say that there are three Gods or three Lords.

Men: The Father is made of none, neither created nor begotten.

Women: The Son is of the Father alone, not made nor created but begotten.

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

C: So, there is one Father, not three Fathers, one Son, not three Sons, one Holy Spirit not three Holy Spirits.

P: And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater of less than another; But the whole three persons are coeternal together and coequal, so that in all things, as is aforesaid,

C: the Unity in Trinity and the Trinity in Unity is to be worshiped.

P: Those, therefore, that will be saved are compelled thus think of the Trinity. Furthermore, it is necessary to everlasting salvation

C: that we also believe faithfully the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Men: For the right faith is that we believe and confess

Women: that our Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God, is God and man . . .

C: This is the catholic faith which, except a man believe faithfully and firmly he cannot be saved.

OFFERING (*Hymn will be sung during the offering*)

HYMN – LSB #506 “Glory Be to God the Father”

PRAYERS

P: O God our Father, we praise You for Your goodness. You have made us and all that we have and are.

C: Thank You, Father, for providing all that we need to support this body and life.

P: May Your name, gracious Father, be honored in all the earth.

C: Grant peace among nations, we pray, that Your Word may be proclaimed with boldness in all the world.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, we give thanks to You for our redemption.

C: We pray that the love You have shown to us might be known through us.

P: We commend Your Church into Your hands, O Christ.

C: Protect it from all attacks by the enemy, and renew its zeal for the proclamation of the gospel.

P: O Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with Your presence.

C: Enlighten us with Your gifts, and keep us in the one true faith.

P: Continue to nourish our faith as You have promised, through Word and Sacrament,

C: and bring us at last to that place prepared for us, where we will dwell with You, the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ forever.

(Special intercessions for those with particular needs may be offered at this time.)

C: Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

DOXOLOGY – LSB #805 "Praise God, from Whom"

BENEDICTION

HYMN – LSB #794 “The Lord, My God”

ANNOUNCEMENTS/POSTLUDE

† † **VISITORS and MEMBERS** † †

Sometime during the service we ask that everyone fill out one of the cards found in the pew racks so that we might have a record of your worship with us today. For our visitors we ask that you please sign our Guest Register on the table next to the front door as you leave. We are pleased to have you join us this morning as we praise our great God, and encourage you to visit us again when possible.

Trinity Sunday

May 31, 2026

8:00 & 10:45 A.M. Non Communion Services



make disciples of all

~ **NATIONS** ~

baptizing them in the name
of the Father and of the Son

and of the Holy Spirit,

teaching them to observe everything

I HAVE COMMANDED YOU,

~ ~ ~
And remember,

I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS,

to the end of the age.

MATTHEW 28:19-20

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Rev. Paul Kaldahl, Pastor