

St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
North Tonawanda, NY  
May 31, 2026  
Holy Trinity



**AS WE GATHER**

On Trinity Sunday, the Church rejoices that the one true God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has revealed Himself not as a puzzle to solve, but as the God who saves. In Holy Baptism, the Triune Name was placed upon you. You are not defined by your sins, failures, fears, accomplishments, or what the world says about you. You are baptized. The Father created and adopted you. The Son redeemed you by His cross and resurrection. The Holy Spirit gave you faith and new life. This baptismal identity calls us daily to repentance and faith, drowning the old Adam and rising in Christ. And Jesus’ promise remains sure: “I am with you always, to the end of the age.”  
You belong to God. Amen.

*Welcome to all of our Members, Guests, and Visitors today, if you are a visitor, please introduce yourself to the pastor after service in the Narthex. We here at St. Matthew pray that you enjoyed your time worshipping with us today.*

## Hymn of Invocation TLH 246 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

*Stand*

# CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C** *Amen.*

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** *who made heaven and earth.*

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** *and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** *Amen.*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### Introit

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity.

Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mercy to us.

I have set the LORD always before me;

because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;

my flesh also dwells secure.

For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,

or let your holy one see corruption.

You make known to me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity.

Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mercy to us.

**C** *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

### Kyrie

LSB 186

**C** *Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.*

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

**Gloria in Excelsis**

*LSB 187*

**P** Glory be to God on high:

**C** *and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.*

*We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.*

*O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.*

*O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;*

*O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,*

*that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.*

*Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have  
mercy upon us.*

*For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.*

*Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,*

*art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** *And with thy spirit.*

**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.*

## Old Testament Reading

*Genesis 1:1—2:4a*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup>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, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And

God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>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.” <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>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. <sup>25</sup>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.

<sup>26</sup>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.”

<sup>27</sup>So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>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.” <sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>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. <sup>31</sup>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.

<sup>1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>These are the generations  
of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

*Acts 2:14a, 22–36*

<sup>14</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

<sup>22</sup>“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— <sup>23</sup>this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup>God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. <sup>25</sup>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;

<sup>26</sup>therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
my flesh also will dwell in hope.

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

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

<sup>29</sup>“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. <sup>30</sup>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, <sup>31</sup>he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. <sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord,  
Sit at my right hand,  
<sup>35</sup>until I make your enemies your footstool.’

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

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Alleluia**

*LSB 190*

**C** *Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 28:16–20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

**C** *Glory be to Thee, O Lord.*

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them,

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>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, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** *Praise be to Thee, O Christ.*

### Athanasian Creed

**L** 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.**

**L** 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.**

**L** 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.**

**L** 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;**

**L** the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;

**C** **the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.**

**L** 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.**

**L** In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;

**C** **and yet there are not three Almighty, but one Almighty.**

**L** 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.

**L** 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.

**L** 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.

**L** 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.

**L** 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;

**L** 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.

**L** 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.

**L** 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;

**L** 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:

- L** 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.**
- L** 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,**
- L** 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.**
- L** 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.**

*Sit*

Hymn of the Day TLH 245 God Loved the World So that He Gave

Sermon

*Stand*

Offertory

*LSB 192*

- C** *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.*
- Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.*
- Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.*

*Sit*

## Offering

*Stand*

### Prayer of the Church

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

Holy, holy, holy, Lord of Sabaoth, we bless Your name. You have called us out of darkness into Your marvelous light. Guard Your Church, purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Keep her in the true faith, without error, schism or compromise, until that day when You welcome her home as Your spotless bride. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord, as You have delivered us from the domain of darkness into the kingdom of Your Son, help us to walk in a manner worthy of Him. Bless the floor committees who prepare the work of our Synod convention, that all they decide may be guided by Your Word and undertaken in prayer, and that Your good and gracious will be done among us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Creator God, You ordered this world according to Your good and gracious will, crowning Your creation with man and woman. Give us faith to cherish the holy estate of marriage, its union of husband and wife, Your call to be fruitful, and the promise that You will bless what You have made. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Almighty God, You are over all things. We pray for nations and governments, for leaders and civil servants, and for peace and justice here in our own land and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Loving Lord, You promise to be with Your people always, to the end of the age. Comfort those afflicted in body or mind, soul or spirit [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Give them grace to entrust themselves into Your Son's loving hands and await relief according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Father, in the blessed Sacrament Your Son gives His body as the bread of heaven and His blood as the cup of salvation. Help us to receive this blessed Sacrament with faith and show forth the fruits of the Spirit in lives of faith, repentance and goodness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord Most High, in six days You created all that has been made and commanded us to fill the earth and subdue it. Grant us wisdom, that we may govern Your creation as faithful stewards, using the earth's resources in a manner that is pleasing to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord God, heavenly Father, You have called Your Church from every tribe and nation. Grant that Your people throughout the world would rejoice in the death and resurrection of Christ and live as those who have died and risen with Him in Holy Baptism; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives

and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** *And with thy spirit.*

### Benedicamus

*LSB 202*

**A** Bless we the Lord.

**C** *Thanks be to God.*

### Benediction

*LSB 202*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** *Amen, amen, amen.*

**Hymn to Depart TLH 47 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise**

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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