

Welcome to Worship at
Trinity Lutheran Church, Osceola, WI
Pentecost 1 - Trinity Sunday - June 7, 2020

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer. Amen.

Hymn #188 - "Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid"

**Creator Spirit, by whose aid
The world's foundations first were laid,
Come, visit ev'ry humble mind;
Come, pour your joys on humankind.
From sin and sorrow set us free;
May we your living temples be.**

**O Source of light, our Counselor,
The Father's help to us assure.
Come down, as promised, with your fire,
And hearts with heav'nly love inspire.
Your sacred, healing message bring
To sanctify us when we sing.**

**Giver of grace, descend from high
In answer to our earnest cry.
Help us eternal truths receive
And practice all that we believe.
Give us your wisdom that we see
The glory of the Trinity.**

**Immortal honor, endless fame,
Attend th' almighty Father's name;
The Savior-Son be glorified,
Who for all humankind has died;
And equal adoration rise
To you, O Spirit, in the skies.**

Confession of Sins:

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace and forgiveness for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. O Lord, have mercy on us!

P: Upon this your confession, I as a called servant of Christ and His Word announce to you the grace of God, and in the place of 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.

First Lesson: Genesis 1:1 - 2:3

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (The earth was undeveloped and empty. Darkness covered the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good. He separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." There was evening and there was morning - the first day. God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters, and let it separate the water from the water." God made the expanse, and he separated the water that was below the expanse from the water that was above the expanse, and it was so. God called the expanse "sky." There was evening and there was morning - the second day. God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together to one place, and let the dry land appear," and it was so. The waters under the sky gathered to their own places, and the dry land appeared. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathering places of the waters he called "seas." God saw that it was good. God said, "Let the earth produce plants - vegetation that produces seed, and trees that bear fruit with its seed in it - each according to its own kind on the earth," and it was so. The earth brought forth plants, vegetation that produces seed according to its own kind, and trees that bear fruit with its seed in it, each according to its own kind, and God saw that it was good. There was evening and there was morning - the third day. God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to divide the day from the night, and let them serve as markers to indicate seasons, days, and years. Let them serve as lights in the expanse of the sky to give light to the earth," and it was so. God

made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He also made the stars. God set these lights in place in the expanse of the sky to provide light for the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. There was evening and there was morning - the fourth day. God said, "Let the waters swarm with living creatures, and let birds and other winged creatures fly above the earth in the open expanse of the sky." God created the large sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their own kind, and every winged bird according to its own kind. God saw that it was good. God blessed them when he said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the waters of the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." There was evening and there was morning - the fifth day. God said, "Let the earth produce living creatures according to their own kind, livestock, creeping things, and wild animals according to their own kind," and it was so. God made the wild animals according to their own kind, and the livestock according to their own kind, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its own kind. God saw that it was good. God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that crawls on the earth." God created the man in his own image. In the image of God he created him. Male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." God said, "Look, I have given you every plant that produces seed on the face of the whole earth, and every tree that bears fruit that produces seed. It will be your food. To every animal of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. There was evening and there was morning - the sixth day. The heavens and the earth were finished, along with everything in them. On the seventh day God had finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had been doing. God blessed the seventh day and set it apart as holy, because on it he rested from all his work of creation that he had done. (EHV)

Psalm 150:

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God in his sanctu'ary;

Praise him in his mighty 'heavens.

**Praise him for his acts of ‘power;
Praise him for his surpassing ‘greatness.**

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Praise him with the sounding of the ‘trumpet,
Praise him with the ‘harp and lyre.**

**Praise him with tambourine and ‘dancing,
Praise him with ‘strings and flute.**

**Praise him with the clash of ‘cymbals,
Praise him with resounding ‘cymbals.**

**Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let everything that has breath ‘praise the LORD.
Praise ‘the LORD.**

**Glory be to the Father and ‘to the Son
And to the Holy ‘Spirit,
As it was in the be’ginning,
Is now, and will be forever. ‘Amen.**

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 13:11-14

Finally, brothers, rejoice. Set things in order. Be encouraged. Agree with one another. Be at peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (EHV)

Verse of the Day: Alleluia. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some hesitated because they were uncertain. Jesus approached and spoke to them saying, “All authority in

heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and gather disciples from all nations by baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and by teaching them to keep all the instructions I have given you. And surely I am with you always until the end of the age.” (EHV)

The Apostles’ Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn #598 - “My Maker, Be with Me”

**My Maker, be with me
The light of life to give,
And guide me patiently
While here on earth I live.
To you my heart I tender
And all my pow’rs surrender;
Make it my one endeavor
To love and serve you ever.
Help me your loving care to see;
My Maker, be with me.**

**My Savior, wash me clean
With your most precious blood,
That takes away all sin
And seals my peace with God.
My soul will rest securely,
For you still love me dearly;**

Now I find full salvation
And freedom from damnation.
Without you, lost, defiled by sin,
My Savior, wash me clean.

My Comforter, give pow'r
That I may stand secure
When in temptation's hour
The world and sin allure.
The Son to me revealing,
Inspire my thought and feeling,
His Word of grace to ponder
Nor let me from him wander.
On me your gifts and graces show'r:
My Comforter, give pow'r.

O Holy Trinity,
To whom I all things owe,
Your presence graciously
Within my heart bestow.
Though I am weak and lowly,
I am your temple holy.
My praise shall rise unending
For grace so condescending.
Oh, heav'nly bliss, your own to be,
O Holy Trinity!

The Sermon: Genesis 1:1 - 2:3
“What Can We Learn From God’s Creation?”

History has **value**. When we study the **mistakes** which were made by people in the **past** we can learn not to **repeat** them. When we study the **good things** which were done by **God** in the past, we can learn to look forward to **more** of them. The Book of **Genesis** is a book of **history** - the **earliest** history which **exists** - the history of the very **beginning** of our universe. The very first words of the Bible tell us, “*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth*” - and He did it **perfectly**. Even though His perfect world has fallen victim to the ravages of **sin**, this creative work of God still has **value** for us today. **What Can We Learn From God’s Creation?** It certainly has **historic** value, because it reveals to us something which we would have no other way of **knowing** - that is, what God **did** “*in the*

beginning” - before there were any human **eyewitnesses**. But it also has value for the **future**, because God tells us in His Word about a **new** heaven and earth which He has prepared for all those who put their trust for salvation in His Son, **Jesus**. The way that God made the heavens and the earth we **live** in, can only deepen our **desire** for the **new** heaven and earth which is yet to come.

In the beginning, at the time of creation, God the Father **existed** - and so did God the **Son**, and so did God the **Holy Spirit** - **one** God in **three** persons - a God who has **no beginning**, and who has **no end**. The very first verse of the Bible tells us, *“In the beginning, **God** created the heavens and the earth.”* Verse 2 of our text tells us, *“the **Spirit** of God was hovering over the surface of the waters,”* and on the **very first day** we’re told, *“**God said**, ‘Let there be **light**,’ and there was light.”* At the beginning of John’s Gospel he tells us that those words *“**God said**”* refer to **Jesus**. He wrote, *“In the beginning was the **Word**, and the Word was **with** God, and the Word was **God** ... Through him **everything** was **made** ... The Word became **flesh** and **dwelled** among us. We have seen his **glory**, the glory he has as the **only-begotten** from the Father, full of grace and truth.”* So, all three persons of the Triune God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - were **present** and **active** in the creation of the universe.

But **how** did He carry out that work of creation? The **first** thing we learn from God’s creation is that He has almighty **power**. God made things which **didn’t exist**, to come into being at His **command** - by the **power** of His Word. By the power of **Jesus** - the eternal **Word** of God - God caused the universe we know to take **shape** over the course of six 24 hour days. God divided each day into two parts - **day** and **night** - just like the days we have **now**.

The creation also shows us God’s great **wisdom**, as He continues on each successive day to further **develop** His creation in an extremely **orderly** way. On the **second day** He gave us the **sky** - our **atmosphere**. On the **third day** He separated the **dry** land from the **water**, making the **continents**, and the **rivers** and **oceans** - and then **later** on the **same** day He put **plants** and **trees** on the land. On the **fourth day** God made the **sun**, **moon**, and **stars** - providing light for the **day** and light for the **night**, and at the same time giving a way to measure the passing of **time**. On the **fifth day** God put **fish** in the **water**, and **birds** in the **air**. And then on the **sixth day** God created all the **other** animals - the **wild** and **domestic** ones - along with all the creepy, crawly things. And God wisely made every living thing with the ability to **reproduce** - each according to its own **kind**.

But then, **later** on the sixth day, came the **crowning masterpiece** of God's creation - human beings - **man** and **woman**. God **made** these unique creatures in a very unique way. The first **man**, Adam, was formed from the **dust** of the ground, and then God breathed **life** into him. The first **woman**, Eve, was formed from Adam's **side**, and then God **brought** her to the man instituting the world's first **marriage**. **Both** man and woman were made in the **image** of God. To be made in God's **image** doesn't mean that they physically **looked** like God. That's **impossible**, because God is a **spirit**. Rather, they were made to **be** like God in **character** - **holy** and **pure** - living in perfect **innocence** and **peace**.

Another thing we can learn from God's creation is His great **love**. God **blessed** Adam and Eve with a beautiful **home** in which to live - the Garden of Eden. And He supplied that home with **everything** they would need to live their lives. God also gave these special creatures great **privileges** and **responsibilities**. We're told, "*God said, 'Let them have **dominion** over the **fish** of the sea, and over the **birds** of the sky, and over the **livestock**, and over **all the earth**, and over **every creeping thing** that crawls on the earth.'*" Human beings were to be the **stewards** or **managers** of everything which God had made. Unfortunately, we haven't always been the **best** stewards of God's creation - starting already with Adam and Eve. Nevertheless, when we make **mistakes** in the way we take care of God's universe, we need to try and **correct** those mistakes as best we can.

With that final creation in **place**, Moses goes on to tell us, "*The heavens and the earth were **finished**, along with everything in them. On the **seventh day** God had **finished** his work that he had done, and he **rested** on the seventh day from all the work he had been doing.*" That sounds a bit **strange**, doesn't it? The all-powerful God **rested**. But it's not really as strange as it may **seem** to be. God **rested**, not because He was **tired**, but because His creating work was **finished**. God saw everything He had made, and it was exactly the way He **wanted** it to **be** - total **perfection**. He **also** rested in order to give **us** a **pattern** to follow. In the Third Commandment God said, "*Six days you are to **serve** and do all your regular **work**, but the seventh day shall be a sabbath **rest** to the LORD your God. Do not do any regular **work**, neither you, nor your sons or daughters, nor your male or female servants, nor your cattle, nor the alien who is residing inside your gates, for in **six days** the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them, but he **rested** on the **seventh** day. In this way the LORD **blessed** the seventh day and made it **holy**.*"

This **perfect** world which our Triune God **created** doesn't seem like the world we **live in** today, with all of its **diseases** and **illnesses**, and with all of its

dangers and **perils**, and with all of its **violence** and **corruption**. There's a good **reason** for that. It's not because **time** has passed, and things have just **naturally** started to fall apart. This **world** and the **people** of this world are not like God's original creation because of **sin**. Sin has ruined **everything**. Precious metals have been turned into **false gods** - **idols** for people to worship and serve - uranium and plutonium are used to make **weapons** of mass destruction - **tornadoes** and **hurricanes** and **earthquakes** and **floods** unleash their devastating fury all over the world. The Apostle Paul described it in Romans, chapter 8, with these words, "*All of creation is **groaning** with **birth pains** right up to the present time.*" In other words, the world is anxiously **waiting** for the arrival of **Jesus** on the **Last Day**.

And Paul goes on to say, "*And not only **creation**, but also **we ourselves**, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, **groan inwardly** while we eagerly await our **adoption** as sons, the **redemption** of our body.*" Sin has ruined our **lives** here on the earth. We are not what God **intended** us to be. We've **lost** the image of God, and we're no longer **innocent** - we're **guilty**. We **long** for a **new** beginning, a **new** heaven and earth, and only **Jesus** can make that **happen** for us.

Actually, He already **has** made it happen. **Jesus** - the same Son of God who **created** all things in the beginning - took on human flesh and blood to put Himself under the **law**. He then lived a **perfect life** here on the earth, so He would be able to **offer** that life as the **perfect sacrifice** which the heavenly Father demanded to **pay** for our sins. When **we** came into this world, Jesus led our parents to have us **baptized**, thus **connecting** us by **faith** with **His** life, death, and resurrection. And Jesus **continues** to send the Holy Spirit to us through His Word and Sacrament, to keep us **strong** and **united** in the Christian faith. Our sins are **forgiven**, and we have a **new self** living within us - a self which strives to be **like God** in righteousness and holiness.

All these things should make the **seventh** day in today's text - the day of **rest** - all the more **precious**. It's so **important** for us to set aside one day **every week**, to **rest** - to rest our **minds**, and our **bodies**, and our **souls**. It's a day to **worship** our **Triune God**, and to **thank Him** for the wonderful **creation** which He has given to us, and for all the **other blessings** which He showers on us day after day. And even when it sometimes **feels** as though life here on the earth is **out of control**, and getting **worse** by the minute, we need to remember what Jesus has promised us about that life of **perfect peace** which still lies **ahead** for us. Near the end of his book of prophecy Isaiah **described** it for us. He wrote, "*The former things will not be **remembered**. They will not come to **mind**. Instead, **rejoice** and **celebrate forever**, because of what I am creating ... The sound of **weeping** will not*

be heard in her again, nor will the sound of crying ... Even before they call, I will answer. While they are still speaking, I will hear ... They will not harm or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain.” Sounds pretty **wonderful**, doesn't it? Our eternal life in **heaven** will be a life of perfect **harmony** - a life where we will **rest** from all our labors, and where we will experience the **love** and **beauty** of our **God** and **Savior** in all His **glory**. I can hardly wait! Amen.

Prayers:

Merciful God, today we thank You for watching over our sister in the faith, **Sandy Wellumson**, during her knee replacement surgery. As she recovers at home we ask that You would continue to be **merciful** to her. Grant her comfort, strength, and **healing** in all the days ahead. May Sandy continue to seek her greatest comfort in **You** and Your **Word** and **Sacrament**. And finally, we thank You for Your **greatest** gift to us - Your Son, Jesus Christ. Accept all our thanksgiving and prayers, O God. Pardon our **sins**. Help us in our **weaknesses**, and receive us at last into eternal **glory**, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

**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.**

Hymn #487 - "O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sky"

**O Lord of heav'n and earth and sea,
To you all praise and glory be!
How can we thank you properly
Who gives us all?**

**The golden sunshine, springtime air,
Sweet flow'rs and fruit your love declare;**

**When harvests ripen, you are there,
Who gives us all.**

**For peaceful homes and healthful days,
For all the blessings earth displays
We owe you thankfulness and praise,
Who gives us all.**

**You did not spare your only Son,
But gave him for a world undone,
And freely with that blessed one
You give us all.**

**We have your Spirit ev'ry hour,
The Lord of life and love and pow'r,
He will his sev'nfold graces show'r
Upon us all.**

**For means of grace, for sins forgiv'n,
For souls redeemed and hopes of heav'n,
What can to you, O Lord, be giv'n,
Who gives us all?**

**We lose what on ourselves we spend;
We have as treasures without end
Whatever, Lord, to you we lend,
Who gives us all.**

**Dear Lord, from you we all derive
Our life, our gifts, our pow'r to give.
Oh, may we ever with you live,
Who gives us all!**

P: Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your Word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit! As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Blessing:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn #584 - "O Blessed, Holy Trinity"

**O blessed, holy Trinity,
Divine, eternal Unity -
God Father, Son, and Holy Ghost-
Be all this day my guide and host.**

**My soul and body keep from harm;
O'er all I have extend your arm.
Let Satan cause me no distress
Nor bring me shame or wretchedness.**

**The Father's love shield me this day;
The Son's pure wisdom cheer my way;
The Holy Spirit's joy and light
Drive from my heart the shades of night.**

**My Maker, hold me in your hand;
Redeemer, be my dearest friend;
Blest Comforter, stay at my side,
That faith and love in me abide.**

**Lord, bless and keep me as your own;
Lord, look in kindness from your throne;
Lord, let your favor rest on me,
And give me peace eternally.**