

# BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

*You have a place here!*

*"Joyfully we profess our faith through God's unconditional love.  
Here and now God dwells in all of our lives,  
bears our sins on the cross, and forgives us all."*

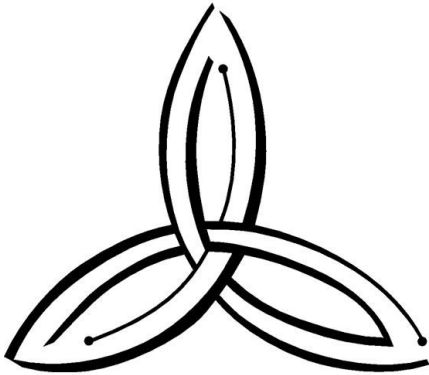
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## THE HOLY TRINITY

**9:00 am Sunday, May 31, 2026**

*Pastor David Johnson*

### TODAY'S REFLECTION



Though the word trinity is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

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*All baptized and confessing believers are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

*We hope that your worship experience is spiritually fulfilling  
and your day begins with our Lord's gifts of peace and joy*

▼ **Prelude Reflections for Meditation**

▼ **Welcome Greeting—Prayers and Praises**

▲ **Opening Hymn**

*“Holy, Holy, Holy” page 9*

▲ **Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence for Reflection*

Compassionate God,

**we confess to you all our sins.**

**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**

**In your mercy, call us back to you.**

**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**

**Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray,**

**Amen.**

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary

and are carrying heavy burdens,

and I will give you rest.” In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

**Amen.**

▲ **Prayer of the Day**

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.**

**▼ God's Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)***The First Reading is from Genesis 1:1-2:4a*

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon 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—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and

Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

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 air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air 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. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

▼ **God’s Word from the Psalms (NRSV)**

*Psalm 8*

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

**Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

**what are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?**

Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

**You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,**

all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

**the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

▼ **God’s Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)**

*The Second Reading is from 2 Corinthians 13:11-13*

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in 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<sup>5</sup> Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

▼ **Children's Sermon**

▲ **God's Word from the Gospel (NRSV)**

*The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 28:16-20*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they 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 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

▼ **Sermon—God's Word Applied to Life**

▼ **Hymn of the Day**

*"Come Join the Dance of Trinity" page 10*

▲ **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the Church**

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

*A brief silence*

Holy God, we are in awe of your creative work. Continue that work in your church, making us a new creation that proclaims your presence and love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, nature reveals your power and glory. Protect water sources, vegetation, and wildlife as reminders of who you are. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Redeemer God, you call us to pray for those in authority. Guide our leaders to pursue the work of fostering peace and community. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, you are mindful of your people in every circumstance. Heal those who are sick. Provide for all who hunger. Protect those in harm's way. Comfort any experiencing hardship, especially for those we name before you now (either in silence or out loud). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we pray for the children of our church and community. Provide for their needs. Support their caregivers. Nurture their faith. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we give thanks for those who have died and claimed their baptismal promises. Strengthen us to live as they did in communion with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

▲ **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace.*

**THE MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

▼ **Offering and Presentation of the Gifts**

Mission Designation April—June—**Fortune Lake**

▼ **Offering Prayer**

Loving God,

**we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.**

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.**

▼ **The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

▼ *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.**

▼ *Invitation and Distribution of Communion*

Heaven has come near.  
Come, share in the feast!

Let Us Break Bread Together



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

▼ **Post Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace until He comes again. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

▼ **Post Communion Prayer**

Compassionate God,  
**through the gifts of bread and wine**  
**our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.**  
**Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,**  
**may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.**  
**We ask this in the name of Jesus,**  
**through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**THE SENDING**

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

▼ **Closing Hymn**

*“Canticle of the Turning”, page 11*

▼ **Announcements**

*Anyone is welcome to make announcements at this time*

▲ **Blessing and Dismissal**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
 In the name of the Father and the † Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

**Thanks be to God.**

# Holy, Holy, Holy



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

## Come, Join the Dance of Trinity



- 1 Come, join the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun—  
 2 Come, see the face of Trin - i - ty, new - born in Beth - le - hem;  
 3 Come, speak a - loud of Trin - i - ty, as wind and tongues of flame  
 4 With - in the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun,



the in - ter-weav - ing of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.  
 then blood - ied by a crown of thorns out - side Je - ru - sa - lem.  
 set peo - ple free at Pen - te - cost to tell the Sav - ior's name.  
 we sing the prais - es of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.



The u - ni - verse of space and time did not a - rise by chance,  
 The dance of Trin - i - ty is meant for hu - man flesh and bone;  
 We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;  
 Let voic - es rise and in - ter-weave, by love and hope set free,



but as the Three, in love and hope, made room with - in their dance.  
 when fear con - fines the dance in death, God rolls a - way the stone.  
 go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!  
 to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trin - i - ty.

Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

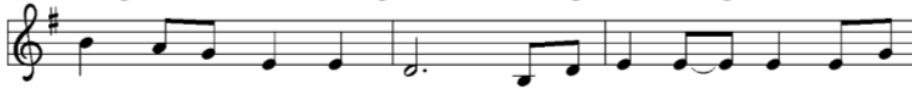
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## Canticle of the Turning

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat  
 Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional  
 Text: © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



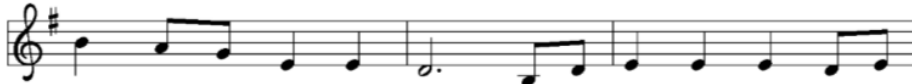
God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

## Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

130 O'Dill Drive, Norway, Michigan 49870      www.norwaybethany.org  
OFFICE PHONE 906-563-8472      EMAIL bethanyoffice@norwaymi.com

### Pastor Dave Johnson

PHONE/TEXT 651-769-3365      EMAIL ftp565@yahoo.com

## ONLINE BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH OFFERING DONATIONS

are available following these easy steps from our secure Website or Facebook Page

**norwaybethany.org:** Click the donate button on the upper right side of the page to directly access Bethany's secure PayPal Account.

**facebook.com/BethanyLutheranChurchElca:** Click the "Shop Now" button on the upper right corner to directly access Bethany's secure PayPal Account.

## MORE SPECIAL WAYS TO GIVE THROUGH YOUR TIME AND TALENTS

Sunday Worship Lectors and Communion Assistants are needed

Service Assistant to advance projected bulletin slides

Maintenance chores around the facility

Christian Education Volunteers

## BETHANY WEEKLY EVENTS CALENDAR

**Sunday**      9:00 am Worship, in the Great Room and Facebook Live-Stream/Video

**Tuesday**      9:00 am Community Coffee in Great Room  
9:00 am Cover Girls in Classroom

**Wednesday**      10:30 am Women's Bible Study via ZOOM

**Thursday**      7:00 am Men's Breakfast and Bible Study in Great Room  
11:00 am Women's Bible Study in Conference Room  
6:30 Pub Theology

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