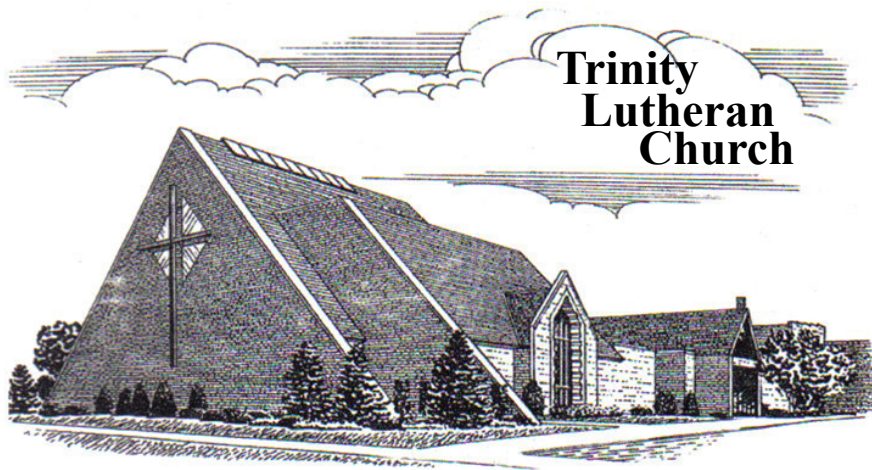


# Holy Trinity



**May 25-31, 2026**

# Weekly Outline

## **Invocation**

L: O Lord, open my lips.

**C: And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

L: Almighty, everlasting God, Lord, heavenly Father, whose Word is a lamp to our feet and a light on our way: Open and enlighten my mind that I may understand thy Word purely, clearly, and devoutly, and then, having understood it aright, fashion my life in accord with it, in order that I may never displease thy majesty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **Scripture**

**May 25: Genesis 1:1-2:4a**

**May 27: Acts 2:14a-22-36**

**May 29: Matthew 28:16-20**

## **Devotion**

### **Closing Prayer**

L: Faithful God, whose mercies are new to us every morning, we humbly pray that you would look upon us in mercy and renew us by your Holy Spirit. Keep safe our going out and our coming in, and let your blessing remain with us throughout this day.

Preserve us in your righteousness, and grant us a portion in that eternal life which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## Monday

If you ever met someone who did not know of any being called God, what would you tell him about your God? What is it that makes God, God? Many Lutherans would begin with the death of Christ for the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life. And that is a good thing to communicate, but it isn't the best place to start because it doesn't tell a person who God is. In fact, it leaves the main question unanswered. I understand that a man called Jesus died for my sins, but who is this being who would judge my sins? Who is God?

When Scripture introduces us to God, it doesn't begin with Jesus. It begins with creation. It is there that we first meet this being called God and learn who he is. God is the one who created all things. Apart from God, there would not be light, but only darkness. Apart from God, there would not be heaven or earth, but a formless void. Apart from God, there would not be life, and not even death. There would be nothing. God is the one who brought all things into existence. Everything exists because of him, and he alone exists without dependence on anything. That is God.

When speaking with someone who does not know God, creation is still the best place to begin. Who is God? He is the one who created you. He is the one who brought you into being and willed your existence. And then we can add, "He is the one who loves you." Because, as we read the creation account, all of it culminates in the creation of life, with human life at its peak. God brought the physical world into existence for the sake of the living things he made to inhabit it. God intended to create something that could receive his love and rejoice in it eternally, you and me. God is the one who made us. He is the one who loves us. And yes, he is the one who redeems us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Wednesday

This Sunday is Trinity Sunday. It is the only Sunday of the church year that is dedicated to a doctrine. And while it may seem strange to us, the doctrine of the Trinity is what makes the church unique. As Christianity continued to grow in the second, third, and fourth centuries, it was confronted with questions about God. The most pressing of which was Jesus' relationship to God. Was he a man whom God adopted as his Son? Was he a second, lesser God? Was he the Father but appearing under a different form? Today, we would say that Jesus is what makes the church unique. But we are only able to say that because of the teaching which lies at the root of who Jesus is, the doctrine of the Trinity.

In Acts 2, we see the doctrine of the Trinity appear. Peter is preaching. The Holy Spirit has just been given, and Peter focuses his audience on the work of the Trinity for their redemption. The first person of the Trinity is God the Father. God is the one who testified to the identity of his Son through the miracles he gave Jesus to do. It was the Father's plan that Jesus was to be delivered to lawless men and crucified. The Son of God is Jesus Christ. He was the one sent by the Father to carry out the Father's plan. After Jesus was raised from the dead, the Holy Spirit was sent into the world to bear witness to the salvation the Father accomplished in his Son. Three persons, but only one God.

As the church reflected on the identity of Jesus Christ, it was led to the confession of the Trinity. Jesus is not the adopted son of God. He is the true Son of God. Jesus is not a second, lesser God. He is coequal to the Father. Jesus is not the Father appearing under a different form. He is one God with the Father, yet a person distinct from the Father. The Trinity is what makes the church unique because it is only through this doctrine that we are led to a right understanding of who Jesus is. As revealed in Scripture, we worship one God, but three persons. We worship three persons, but receive one salvation. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Friday

Before Jesus ascends into heaven, he says to the apostles, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." Only then does he commission them to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching. The order matters. Before Jesus commissions the Church to make disciples, he places the Church on an eternal foundation. His authority.

This is what makes the Church unlike any other community on earth. Every other institution exists by some lesser authority. A government exists by the consent of the governed or the power of the sword. A business exists by the laws of the state and the demand of the market. A family exists by the bonds of nature and law. But the Church does not exist by consent, law, market, or nature. It exists by the authority of Christ. All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Him. Strip away the buildings, the budgets, the programs, and even the permission of the state. The Church still stands. None of those things are the foundation of the Church. Without any of them, the Church continues. It makes disciples by baptizing and teaching because it is founded by Christ. He created it. And nothing can destroy it.

Empires rise and fall. Cultural moods shift. Governments at times protect the Church, at times tolerate it, and at times persecute it. None of this changes the Commission. The same Lord who said "All authority has been given to me" also said, "I am with you always, to the end of the age." As long as Christ is Lord, the Church stands. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Evening Prayer**

You may pray one or more of the following after dinner or before bed:

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day; and I pray you that you would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.



Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray thee, Lord, my soul to keep; if I should die before I wake, I pray thee, Lord, my soul to take; and this I ask for Jesus' sake. Amen.



Visit, O Lord, our home, and drive from it all the snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell in it to preserve us in peace, and may your blessing be upon us evermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

## **A Parent's Blessing**

You may place your hand on the head of your child before kissing them goodnight and say:

My loved one, rest securely,  
for God this night will surely  
from peril guard your head.  
Sweet slumbers may he send you  
and bid his hosts attend you  
and through the night watch o'er your bed. Amen.

## Memory Verse

MEMORY VERSE

**Put on then, as  
God's chosen ones,  
holy and beloved,  
compassionate  
hearts, kindness,  
humility, meekness,  
and patience.**

COLOSSIANS 3:12



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