

Order of worship

Trinity Sunday

May 30, 2021

Call to worship *(Psalm 29)*

Worship the Lord in holy splendor!

In God we live and move and have our being.

The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty!

Let us open our hearts to listen.

May the Lord give strength to the people!

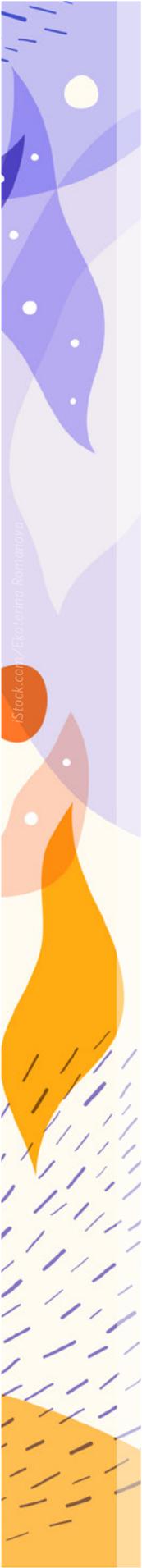
May Holy Three-in-One bless the earth with peace! In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Call to confession

The doctrine of the Trinity is a mystery, yet we believe that God is our creator, redeemer and sustainer. With humility, faith and hope, we confess the things we have done and left undone as well as the shortcomings and injustices in our society and world. Let us pray.

Prayer of confession

Holy Triune God, you so loved the world, continue to love the world and will always love the world. Forgive us for our abuse of your created order and its intended harmony. Forgive us for our violence against our fellow creatures, including those made in your image. Forgive us for our indifference and cynicism, and our callousness. Cast out our fear with the faith that you can do all things, and renew a right spirit within us. Amen.



Declaration of forgiveness

Hear the good news: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we are forgiven.

Prayer for illumination

Holy Trinity, your word is a lamp unto our feet. Yet, there are great mysteries in life that we do not understand. We may ask with Nicodemus of old, "How can these things be?" Give us just enough light that we would step out in faith and do the next right thing. May it be so. Amen.

Affirmation of faith *(Nicene Creed)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Call for the offering

Through the Trinity, God has blessed us with more than we could ever give in return. Our response should neither be in fear nor compulsion, but out of gratitude and gladness for the grace given by the One who so loves the world.

Prayer of dedication

Holy, holy, holy Lord Almighty, may our gifts and offerings praise you and bring grace to your world. Make us instruments of your peace, for you are merciful and mighty. To God in three persons, blessed Trinity, we pray, amen.

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

O blessed Trinity, we praise you as creator, redeemer and sustainer of our world and the cosmos beyond. We remember that we did not receive a spirit of fear but a spirit of adoption that allows us to call you: "Abba! Father!" We believe that your love is stronger than our fear. You invite us into the biggest story there is — the old, old story of your love for the world that is renewed each and every morning.

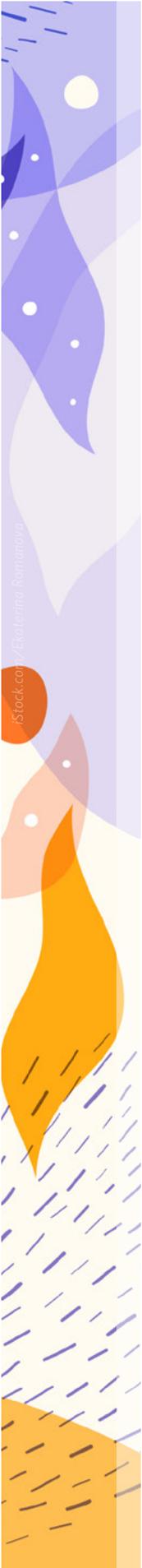
While your identity as three persons is a mystery, we know the terrible realities of violence and suffering. As our nation remembers our dead, we place our faith and hope in the vision that nations shall not make war against one another.

We praise you for the grace of being called as children of God. We ask for the courage to live into our calling, and for our hearts and minds to be opened to your Spirit in our place and time, including by the empowerment of others.

We pray for healing and wholeness from the pandemics of COVID-19, white supremacy and climate change. We pray for those who can't breathe due to air pollution and oppression. We pray that your church, through truth and reconciliation, will join together across divisions and divides to exhibit the diversity and unity that is your gracious intention.

Spirit of the Living God, move again in our time like a breath of fresh air, giving life and liberty. Make us instruments of your peace and harmony. Through spiritual disciplines and acts of contemplation, kindle our holy imaginations and guide us into ministries of healing and wholeness.

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For you, O Holy Three in One, are in relationship with your own self. May your children be led by the Spirit to be in right relationship with one another. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we pray the words Jesus taught us, saying: *Our Father ...*

Charge and benediction

Go forth in the world that God so loves, remembering that the love of God is stronger than your fear, remembering that you are a child of God, and that the Triune God is with you, now and always.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all, now and forever.

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Liturgy written by Andrew Taylor-Troutman, pastor of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and provided for free distribution.

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