



Grace Lutheran Church
Yorba Linda, California

June 4, 2023



Today's Theme:

Know What God is like
– and live!

Today we begin a summer sermon series on the attributes or characteristics of God. In other words, we want to get to know God better. And when we get to know God, we will get to know real life and real living. Know God – that he is 3-in-1 and 1-in-3, and know the One who gives life, restores life, and breathes life!



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace
in Yorba Linda, California, the land of gracious living*

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Christ with me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, Christ in me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
Christ when I arise,

Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of every one who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

I arise to-day
Through a mighty strength,
The invocation of the Trinity,
Through belief in the Threeness,
Through confession of the oneness
Of the Creator of Creation.

The Lorica (St. Patrick's Breastplate) attr. Patrick of Ireland (ca.377)

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

First Article

Heavenly Father, Creator of all things, you give us all that we need for body and life.

Every good and perfect gift comes from you, the Father of heavenly lights. *James 1:17*

Second Article

Lord Jesus Christ, by your suffering and death you have opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

We approach your throne, O God, with confidence, for mercy and grace in our time of need. *Hebrews 4:16*

Third Article

Holy Spirit, counselor and guide, you have raised us from death by your powerful Word.

You, O Spirit of God, have made us. Your breath, almighty One, gave us life. *Job 33:4*

Lord, fill our hearts with thanksgiving for your mercy and love.

Move us with our hearts to believe and with our mouths to confess your saving name.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 28:16-20
Baptized in the name of God!

¹⁶Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

HYMN OF THE DAY

Holy Spirit (by Keith & Krysten Getty)

SERMON

Genesis 1:1- 2:3

Father, Son (The Word), and Spirit create creation for His crown "in our image."

Know God – the Trinity Who Gives Life – that you may live!

Selected Portions of the

ATHANASIAN CREED

A Confession of Faith for Trinity Sunday

This creed is named after St. Athanasius, a staunch defender of the Christian faith in the fourth century. It was prepared to assist the Church in combating two errors that undermined Bible teaching. One error denied that God's Son and the Holy Spirit are of one being or Godhead with the Father. The other error denied that Jesus Christ is true God and true man in one person. The Athanasian Creed continues to serve the Christian Church as a standard of the truth. It declares that whoever rejects the doctrine of the Trinity and the doctrine of Christ is without saving faith.

Whoever wishes to be saved must, above all else, hold to the true Christian faith.

Whoever does not keep this faith pure in all points will certainly perish forever.

Now this is the true Christian faith:

**We worship one God in three persons and three persons in one God,
Without mixing the persons or dividing the divine being.**

For each person—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—is distinct,

**but the deity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one,
equal in glory and coeternal in majesty.**

What the Father is, so is the Son, and so is the Holy Spirit.

The Father is uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;

The Father is infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;

The Father is eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal;

**yet they are not three who are eternal, but there is one who is eternal,
just as they are not three who are uncreated, nor three who are infinite,
but there is one who is uncreated and one who is infinite.**

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

yet they are not three who are almighty, but there is one who is almighty.

So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;

yet they are not three Gods, but one God.

So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
yet they are not three Lords, but one Lord.

For just as Christian truth compels us to confess each person individually to be God and Lord,

so the true Christian faith forbids us to speak of three Gods or three Lords.

The Father is neither made nor created nor begotten of anyone.

The Son is neither made nor created, but is begotten of the Father alone.

The Holy Spirit is neither made nor created nor begotten,
but proceeds from the Father and the Son.

**So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons;
one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.**

And within this Trinity none comes before or after; none is greater or inferior,
But all three persons are coequal and coeternal,

**so that, in every way, as stated before, all three persons are to be worshipped as one
God and one God worshipped as three persons.**

Whoever wishes to be saved must have this conviction of the Trinity.

OFFERING

Offerings are part of our worship life and our life in the church. Moved by the three-fold blessing of God, Christians cheerfully give and give generously so others may know the precious message of Jesus. Your offering may be left at the door or mailed or you may give online at www.gracelutheran.church.

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.



THE BLESSING

Another blessing from God. Notice the threefold blessing (Numbers 21).

- L:** The LORD bless you and keep you.
 The LORD makes his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The LORD look on you with his favor and give you his peace.
- C:** **Amen.**