

The Athanasian Creed, The Church's Confession of the Holy Trinity

Early in the fourth century, a new teaching appeared which claimed that Jesus was not true God. Arius, the north African priest who first proposed this theory, was extremely persuasive, and soon the controversy was so widespread that a church council was called to settle the matter. Out of that meeting in A.D. 325 came the Nicene Creed, which clearly confesses Jesus to be true God. That creed, which was expanded in A.D. 381 in order to defend the divinity of the Holy Spirit, is still widely used today as a confession of the triune faith. Despite the clarity of the Nicene Creed, the controversy continued for some time. Toward the end of the fifth century, another creed was written that marveled at the mystery of the Trinity in a way that no creed had ever done. Though attributed to Athanasius, a fourth-century opponent of Arius, this anonymous creed clearly came at a later stage in the debate. The Athanasian Creed proclaims that its teachings concerning the Holy Trinity and our Lord's incarnation are the catholic faith. In other words, this is what the true church of all times and all places has confessed. More than 15 centuries later, the church continues to confess this truth, confident that the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has given himself for our salvation.

Opening Hymn: God of Our Fathers by Daniel Roberts

(Choir arrangement by Mary McDonald at 8a and 10:30a)

5p Congregation sings all 3 verses

Choir and Congregation

God of our fathers, Whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

8a and 10:30a service - Choir only:

Thy love divine hath led us in the past,
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast,
Be Thou our Ruler, Guardian, Guide and Stay,
Thy Word our law, Thy path our chosen way.

Choir and Congregation:

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,
Lead us from night to never ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

stand

Athanasian Creed

- L Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith.
- C **Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.**
- L And the catholic faith is this,
- C **that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.**
- L For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.

- C **But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.**
- L Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:
- C **the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;**
- L the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;
- C **the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.**
- L And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,
- C **just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinities, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.**
- L In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;
- C **and yet there are not three Almightyies, but one Almighty.**
- L So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
- C **and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**
- L So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
- C **and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.**
- L Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.
- C **The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.**
- L The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.
- C **The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.**
- L Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.
- C **And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;**
- L but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.
- C **Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.**

sit, stand for final verse

Hymn 905 Come, Thou Almighty King - (8a and 10:30a Choral Arrangement by Burkhardt)

*Following stanzas 1, 2, and 3, there is a choir interlude in which the choir repeats the text to an Early American melody. **5p service congregation sings straight through the verses.**

- 1 **Come, Thou almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing;
Help us to praise;
Father all-glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.**

(choir interlude)*

- 2 **Come, Thou incarnate Word,
Merciful, mighty Lord;**

**Our prayer attend.
Come and Thy people bless,
And give Thy Word success,
And let Thy righteousness
On us descend.**

(choir interlude)*

**3 Come, holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour!
Thou, who almighty art,
Now rule in ev'ry heart,
Never from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.**

(choir interlude)*
stand

**4 To Thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be
Hence evermore!
Thy sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
Love and adore.**

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Athanasian Creed continued:

- L But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C **Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.**
- L He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages; and He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age:
- C **perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;**
- L equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
- C **Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:**
- L one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
- C **one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.**
- L For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
- C **who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,**
- L ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He

will come to judge the living and the dead.

C **At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.**

L And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.

C **This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

505 Triune God, Be Thou Our Stay



Tri - une God, be Thou our stay; O let us per-ish nev - er!



Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, And grant us life for - ev - er.



Keep us from the e - vil one; Up - hold our faith most ho - ly,



And let us trust Thee sole - ly With hum-ble hearts and low - ly.



Let us put God's ar - mor on, With all true Chris - tians run - ning



Our heav'n - ly race and shun - ning The dev-il's wiles and cun - ning.



A - men, a - men! This be done; O Lord, have mer - cy on us.

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us

steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31*

¹Does not wisdom call?

Does not understanding raise her voice?

²On the heights beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her stand;

³beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:

⁴"To you, O men, I call,
and my cry is to the children of man.

²²"The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of old.

²³Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

²⁴When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.

²⁵Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth,

²⁶before he had made the earth with its fields,
or the first of the dust of the world.

²⁷When he established the heavens, I was there;
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

²⁸when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,

²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,

when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

³⁰then I was beside him, like a master workman,
and I was daily his delight,

rejoicing before him always,

³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the children of man."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading *Acts 2:14a, 22–36*

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.

²²“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—²³this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;
²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
my flesh also will dwell in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One see corruption.

²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. ³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,
³⁵until I make your enemies your footstool.’

³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁸The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?"
⁴⁹Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." ⁵²The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.'" ⁵³Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" ⁵⁴Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.'" ⁵⁵But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. ⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." ⁵⁷So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." ⁵⁹So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
 C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day:

498 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest - stand for final verse



1 Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest, And make
 2 To You, the Coun - sel - or, we cry, To You,
 3 In You, with grac - es sev - en - fold, We God's
 4 Your light to ev - 'ry thought im - part, And shed
 5 Drive far a - way our wi - ly foe, And Your



our hearts Your place of rest; Come with Your grace and
 the gift of God Most High; The fount of life, the
 al - might - y hand be - hold While You with tongues of
 Your love in ev - 'ry heart; The weak - ness of our
 a - bid - ing peace be - stow; With You as our pro -



heav'n-ly aid, And fill the hearts which You have made.
 fire of love, The soul's a - noint - ing from a - bove.
 fire pro - claim To all the world His ho - ly name.
 mor - tal state With death - less might in - vig - or - ate.
 tect - ing guide, No e - vil can with us a - bide.

And You, from both, as Three in One
That we Your name may ever bless
And in our lives the truth confess.

(stand)

7 Praise we the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, with them One,
And may the Son on us bestow
The gifts that from the Spirit flow!

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Sit

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and

pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

C **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.

P In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

960 Isaiah, Mighty Seer in Days of Old



I - sa-iah, might-y seer in days of old, The Lord of all in spir-it



did be-hold High on a loft-y throne, in splen-dor bright, With robes that



filled the tem-ple courts with light. A-bove the throne were flam-ing ser-a-phim;



Six wings had they, these mes-sen-gers of Him. With two they veiled their



fac-es as was right, With two they hum-bly hid their feet from sight,



And with the oth-er two a-loft they soared; One to the oth-er



called and praised the Lord: "Ho - ly is God, the Lord of Sab-a-oth!



Ho - ly is God, the Lord of Sab - a-oth! Ho - ly is God, the Lord of



Sab-a-oth! His glo-ry fills the heav-ens and the earth!" The beams and lin-tels



trem-bled at the cry, And clouds of smoke en-wrapped the throne on high.

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Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

☐ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
 world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
 tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
 world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution - Please refer to the inside cover of the back of the bulletin for prayers before and after taking communion, and for the policy regarding taking communion.

940 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

1 Ho - ly God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a -
 3 Lo, the a - pos - tles' ho - ly train Join Thy sa - cred
 4 Thou art King of Glo - ry, Christ; Son of God, yet
 bow be - fore Thee. All on earth Thy scep - ter claim,
 bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; Proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 born of Mar - y. For us sin - ners sac - ri - ficed,



All in heav'n a - bove a - dore Thee. In - fi - nite Thy
 In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the heav'ns with
 And the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low, And from morn to
 As to death a Trib - u - tar - y, First to break the



vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign.
 sweet ac - cord: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!
 set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.
 bars of death, Thou hast o - pened heav'n to faith.

(stand)

- 5 Holy Father, holy Son,
 Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;
 Though in essence only one,
 Undivided God we claim Thee
 And, adoring, bend the knee
 While we own the mystery.

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507 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 of sin - ful man 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!

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Stand

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus and Benediction

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P 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 T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

805 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly



host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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