

## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; May 31-June 5, '21

**Mon Isaiah 6:1-8** When we read chapters 1-5, we may begin to wonder: Did the Jews deserve all that scolding? How could Isaiah read their hearts and pronounce judgment on them? God settled such questions, for His triune Holiness not only rules the Universe (3), but merits universal worship, for He is generous to sinners (5-7), inspiring hearts to serve Him (8).

**Tues John 3:1-17** We resemble Nicodemus in being spiritually backward, so God endeavors to enlighten us: we become His children via spiritual rebirth accomplished by His Holy Spirit (1-8). Let's not sell God short on this (9), for we have it on the highest authority (11-13) that God is so merciful and compassionate that He did what He alone could do: pay off humanity's spiritual deficit with His own life-blood (14-17).

**Wed Romans 8:14-17** As we read these few verses more over again, we catch the drift that God is Triune, for The Holy Spirit appears in v. 14, the Father in v. 15, and Christ in v. 17. Note that Christ is referred to as an *heir* of the Father (which happens by right of son-ship), and that as co-heirs with Jesus we not only share in His suffering, but we will also share His glorification in heaven. [It's only natural that the Holy Trinity appears throughout His Bible.]

**Thurs Psalm 150** Who praises the covenant God, Jehovah? Both the angels in heaven (1) and the saints on Earth praise Him (2). By what means or method does our praise rise to Him? By using the loudest brass and the sweetest stringed instruments, by the piping of flutes and clanging of cymbals, and by using our own lungs, too (6) – for it is right and proper to praise the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Praise the LORD!

**Fri Luke 2:25-32** We might study many chapters in the Gospels before we come across a reference to the Holy Spirit. Doesn't the Spirit show up prior to Pentecost? Yes, but prior to Pentecost He occupied the hearts and lives of believers without fanfare—as He did with old Simeon. We appreciate that. Next, the Spirit has made Simeon's prayer a favorite with us, for He has brought us also to *see the Lord's salvation*. Thank You, Holy Spirit, for living in our hearts and keeping us close to our Savior, Jesus.

**Sat Acts 26:19-32** Paul saw that he had touched a sore spot in the heart of Festus (24), so Paul eased him along by presenting the facts (25-26) and encouraging him to yield to God's Word, the Holy Scriptures (27) to get free of his sin-bondage (29). This was getting too personal and up-close for the heavies, so they recessed the hearing (30). Behind closed doors they figured that Paul was not guilty of any civil crime, and he might be set free – if he had not made a federal case of it to begin with. [Man proposes, God disposes.]

**May 30, 2021**

Whoever...  
not keep this fa...  
Now this is the true Christian faith...  
one God, without mixing the persons or dividing...  
the Son, and the Holy Spirit—is distinct, but the deity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit is equal in glory and coeternal in majesty. What the Father is, the Son is also, and the Holy Spirit. The Father is uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit also uncreated; the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite; the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal; yet they are not three who are eternal, but 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, and the Holy Spirit is almighty; yet they are not three who are almighty, but there is one who is almighty. The Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God; yet they are not three Gods, but one God. For just as the Father alone has eternally existed, so the Son alone has eternally existed. The Father is neither made nor begotten of anyone; the Son is neither made nor begotten, but proceeds from the Father and the Son. So there is not three Gods, but one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits. Within this Trinity, none comes before or after; none is greater or inferior, but all three persons are equal in every way, as stated before, all three persons are to be worshipped as one God. Whoever wishes to be saved must have this conviction: that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are one God. Furthermore, no one can be a true Christian until he truly believes in our Lord Jesus Christ, who was born in human flesh. Now this is the true Christian faith: to believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God, is both God and man. He is eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and He is man, born in time from the nature of his mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh, equal to the Father in his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity; and He is both God and Man, but is not two persons but one, one, not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the human nature into God, by mixture of the natures, but by remaining one person; for just as the Father rose the third day from the dead, so the Son also rose the third day from the dead, and from there will come with their own bodies.



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## PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION

Ps. 150

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! <sup>2</sup> Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! <sup>3</sup> Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! <sup>4</sup> Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! <sup>5</sup> Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! <sup>6</sup> Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

### ✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

#### OPENING PRAYER

**P** Pastor

**C** Congregation

**HYMN: TLH #36**

**“Now Thank We All Our God”**

1. Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done, In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, And still is ours today.
2. Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven:  
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven adore!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

*We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

**P** God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

**C** If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

## PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER, and BENEDICTION

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

**C** Amen!

**HYMN: TLH #625**

**“Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall”**

1. Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall, Where Jesus Christ is all in all! Yea,  
if He were not dwelling there, How dark and poor and void it were!
2. Oh, blest that house where faith ye find And all within have set their  
mind To trust their God and serve Him still And do in all His holy will!
4. Blest such a house, it prospers well, In peace and joy the parents dwell,  
And in their children's lot is shown How richly God can bless His own.
5. Then here will I and mine today A solemn covenant make and say: Tho'  
all the world forsake Thy Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!

### ✠ Announcements ✠

**Call Received** – Pastor has received the call to become the pastor of Redeemer Lutheran in Cheyenne, WY. Please keep him in your prayers and feel free to offer any thoughts or feedback or criticism that you think might help his call deliberation process.

#### Looking Ahead...

- ✠ **June 6:** Masks-On Service 9 am
- ✠ **June 6:** Communion Service
- ✠ **June 13:** Orlando Service 8 am
- ✠ **June 24-27:** CLC Convention
- ✠ **July 11-17:** Katie Naumann Move
- ✠ **July 18:** Teacher Installation
- ✠ **July 19-23:** Vacation Bible School

**Lutheran Spokesman and Daily Rest Renewals** are due at the end of June. If you **have been** receiving either of these periodicals and would no longer like to receive them, please speak with pastor. If you **have not been** receiving these periodicals and would like to start receiving them, please speak with pastor. The Lutheran Spokesman is \$14 for 12 issues. Daily Rest is \$15 for 12 issues. You can pay for the next year of subscriptions in your regular offering by marking it on the envelope.

**The Property Improvement Fund** is still at a deficit, reflecting the cost of re-roofing the parsonage and much-needed septic work across all properties. If you are able to contribute to the **Property Improvement Fund** to help off-set the current deficit, please do so. Thank you!

**Last Week:** WH – 80

**Total Offering** = \$1,091

General = \$931 | Tuition Grant = \$10 | ILC Scholarship = \$50 | Property Improve. = \$100

**Cleaner (6/5):** Bernthal | **Acolyte (6/6):** Grant Ream

**HYMN: TLH #250:1,4** "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

1. Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.  
All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heaven above adore Thee.  
Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.
4. 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.

**SERMON – Deuteronomy 6:4-9** "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup> You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. <sup>6</sup> And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. <sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. <sup>8</sup> You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup> You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

**We All Believe In One True God—Don't We?**

- I. Do we confess the one, true, Triune God?
- II. Do we offer the love that is due Him?
- III. Do we keep His Word in our hearts?

**OFFERTORY**

*WS p.16*

*In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.*

- G** ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

**HYMN: TLH #246:1,3-4** "Holy, Holy, Holy"

1. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; Holy holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee, Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see, Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, Perfect in power, in love, and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

- P** Let us pray.

**G** Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

- P** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**G** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**INTROIT**

*Ps. 16:8-11; Liturgical Text*

*A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.*

- P** Blessed be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity. Let us give glory to Him because He has shown His mercy to us!
- G** I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
- P** Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.
- G** For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.
- P** You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

**Response: TLH #644 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

1. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

- 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.

**G** Amen.



**GOSPEL READING – John 3:1-17** Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

**EPISTLE READING – Romans 8:14-17** For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

✠ Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

✠ **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### CONFESSION OF FAITH

*The Athanasian Creed (Excerpts)*

*The Athanasian Creed proclaims the Bible's teachings about the Trinity.*

✠ **Whoever will be saved must hold to the true Christian faith. Now this is the 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, Son and Holy Spirit – is distinct, yet 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 – infinite, eternal, almighty. So the Father is God, the Son God and the Holy Spirit God – Yet they are not three Gods, but one God. And within this Trinity none comes before or after; None is greater or inferior, but all three Persons are coequal and coeternal. Whoever will to be saved must have this conviction of the Trinity.

It is furthermore necessary for eternal salvation truly to believe that our Lord Jesus Christ also took on human flesh.

Now this is the true Christian faith: We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and Man. He is God, divinely existing from all eternity, and He is Man, born of His mother in time – fully God and fully Man. Yet Christ is not two Persons but One – One not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God. He suffered for our salvation, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. All who believe in Him will enter eternal life and all who do not will enter eternal hellfire. This is the true Christian faith in which all who believe this will be saved.

